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**Opinions:** Addressing the State of the Union







No. 1 Non-Daily College Newspaper in the Nation

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2014

THE OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCE OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

VOLUME 49, ISSUE 17

# Conquering Chi-beria

**KATHERINE DAVIS** 

**Assistant Campus Editor** 

DANGEROUSLY COLD TEMPERATURES greeted students on the first two days of the spring semester, forcing some to stay home and others to endure delayed commutes.

Although neighboring institutions such as Roosevelt and Robert Morris universities cancelled some classes Jan. 27 and 28, Columbia's administration only closed the campus after 7 p.m. on Jan. 27. Classes resumed the next day when temperatures reached a wind chill of minus 28, according to Weather Channel reports. DePaul University kept its campus open during the nippy weather as well.

President Kwang-Wu Kim, who made the final decision to keep the college open, said the weather was simply not harsh enough to warrant closure.

"There has to be a really, really significant reason to close," Kim told The Chronicle. "People make significant sacrifices to be students at Columbia College Chicago, and the only way they get what they are expecting is if we're here for them."

Columbia's campus closed Jan. 6 during the city's first encounter with the polar vortex, cancelling the first day of J-Term classes. Kim said he decided to close the campus that day because the cold was accompanied by a significant amount of snow and wind that made streets, sidewalks and public transportation nearly inaccessible. He said the more recent severe weather did not hinder students' ability to get

to class, adding that even he commuted to campus on the Red Line those days.

"There is no denying that it is cold right now, but the transportation systems were running smoothly," Kim said. "The hassle was the fact that it was cold, but actually the Red Line was fine."

The Chicago Transit Authority announced Jan. 27 and 28 that it was experiencing delays on the Red, Blue and Purple lines because of electrical track switch jams. The Metra also cancelled trains on both days, making it difficult for commuters to reach their destinations.

Robert Koverman, associate vice president of the Office of Safety and Security and head of the Incident

» SEE CHI-BERIA, PG. 9



### Columbia names provost finalists

**TATIANA WALK-MORRIS** 

Campus Editor

AFTER NEARLY THREE years without a permanent provost, the college has named two finalistsboth of them deans at prominent Midwestern universities.

Chris K. McCord, dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at Northern Illinois University, and Stanley T. Wearden, dean of the College of Communication & Information at Kent State University in Ohio, were introduced in a Jan. 28 college-wide email from the President's Office, as reported online by The Chronicle on the same day. Both candidates will visit the college to meet with

students, faculty and staff in the coming two weeks.

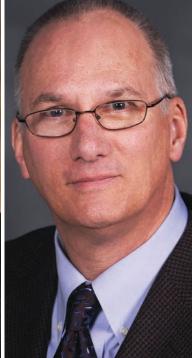
McCord's presentation is scheduled for Feb. 4 at 3 p.m. in Film Row Cinema in the Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Wearden will give his presentation Feb. 11 at 3 p.m. in the Getz Theater in the 11th Street Campus Building, 72 E. 11th St. Both candidates will speak to the topic of "Challenges facing higher education in the 21st century."

Unlike Kim's inauguration last semester, the provost presentations will not be streamed online.

McCord has been dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

» SEE **PROVOSTS**, PG. 9





Photos courtesy NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY & KENT STATE UNIVERSITY

Chris McCord (left) and Stanley Wearden (right) were recently announced as the finalists in Columbia's provost search. They will each be giving presentations to the college community Feb. 4 and Feb. 11, respectively.

### Packing bongs, not heat

**NATALIE CRAIG** Assistant Metro Editor

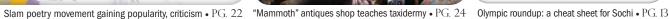
ILLINOIS RESIDENTS ELIGIBLE to receive medical marijuana may have to choose between the right to own a handgun and their prescriptions.

The Illinois Department of Public Health proposed on Jan. 21 that a qualifying medical marijuana patient or caregiver may not own a firearm, even if they have a State Firearm Owner Identification card or concealed carry permit.

The IDPH is seeking public input on the proposal via MCPP.Illinois. gov through Feb. 7. The proposal will be submitted to legislators at the end of April.

» SEE **WEED**, PG. 41









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

#### Administrative decision puts students on ice

I TRIED REALLY hard not to be mad about the college not closing Jan. 27 and 28 but it was difficult while standing on an El platform for 15 minutes, wearing half my wardrobe and still feeling like the wind was cutting through every layer, freezing every inch of my body.

What's worse is that I didn't have it as bad as some of my peers. One student The Chronicle interviewed for the Front Page story "Conquering Chi-beria" said his commute requires him to walk outside for 40 minutes, and in the dangerously cold temperatures on Jan. 27 and 28, that walk put him at risk for severe frostbite.

The college's decision not to close the campus on those days despite wind chills of nearly 30 degrees below zero fell primarily on President Kwang-Wu Kim. It was irresponsible and dangerous, especially considering the logistics of Columbia's campus.

Not only is the college's campus close to the lake, making it susceptible to bone-chilling lake effect winds, but the student body is made up of a large population of commuters.

According to Columbia's Office of Institutional Effectiveness, a whopping 75 percent of Columbia students lived outside of Residence Life halls last semester. That leaves approximately 7,600 non-dorm dwellers who probably commute

to campus every day, an already arduous task that was undoubtedly complicated by the perilous weather conditions. Many of those who were commuting from Chicago's suburbs had to navigate the Metra, which was cancelled on some lines and extensively delayed on others. Those of us who rely on the Chicago Transit Authority to get to the Loop were also waiting on delayed trains and busses.

Keeping the school open despite debilitating delays and frigid cold forced students, particularly commuters, to decide between attending their first day of class or staying safe at home. Making students choose between safety and attendance was unfair of administrators. Even more perplexing was Kim's decision to cancel evening classes Jan. 27 and close campus buildings after 7 p.m. but leave the college open Jan. 28, when temperatures at 7:30 a.m.the time I had to leave home to get to class on time—were just as low as the previous night.

I agree with the decision to close the college that night, but the fact that the college remained open at a time just as cold and arguably harder to commute shows just how arbitrary and flawed the decision-making process is among administrators. Not only did the administration put students in danger last week, but they did so



without much reason. If it was cold enough to close the evening of Jan. 27, it was cold enough to close both days.

To top it all off, the administration sent out a warning telling students that safety is a priority and to take extra precautions. The patronizing message was ironic and only iterated the college's willingness to send its students into danger.

To offset the initiative of keeping the college open, the college should forgive students who were absent those two days.

Closing the campus is a decision that shouldn't be taken lightly, but unfortunately, the administration and President Kim made the wrong choice. Cancelling two days of school is a small concession for student safety, and the syllabus readings could have waited.

lwoods@chroniclemail.com

# COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

Marketing communication major chosen for national ad program. PG. 4

Freshman author working on third novel for publication • PG. 8



Study shows caffeine may enhance short-term memory • PG. 16

Scientific developments allow lasers to enter art conservation • PG. 17



proves to be an awkward romantic comedy • PG. 29

Logan Square eatery serves German cuisine with modern twist • PG. 28

Colleges shouldn't punish students based on social media posts • PG. 34

Hipsters hunting for organic meat threaten rural way of life • PG. 35

Pullman residents hope national park designation boosts economy • PG. 37

Aldermen, workers hold conference for minimum wage increase • PG. 38





### **FEATURED**PHOTOGRAPH



Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

Pulitizer Prize winning photographer John H. White (left) and Beijing Film Academy Professor Liu Xuguang (center) talk with one of the Chinese students who visited Columbia Jan. 24-Feb. 3. Professor Xuguang and five others arrived Jan. 24 to partner with Columbia students on a Global Digital City Interactive Documentary Project, a collaboration between students in the college's Interactive Arts + Media and Cinema Art + Science Departments and students from the Beijing Film Academy.

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CORRECTIONS

The Jan. 27 story "Sheahan bows out after four months" incorrectly stated that Deborah Holdstein, dean of the School of Liberal Arts & Sciences, left her position on Jan. 21. Holdstein will be stepping down as dean effective July 1. The story "Holdstein steps down as dean" incorrectly stated that Andrew Whatley's title is assistant to the dean. Whatley is associate dean of the School of Liberal Arts & Sciences and associate director of the Honors Program. The same article stated that Holdstein helped create the Childhood Education Department, formerly known as the Graduate Education Studies and the Early Childhood Education departments. The current department is the Education Department, and the former units were the Educational Studies Department and the Early Childhood Education program. The Chronicle regrets



# Students grab coffee with Kim





Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

During the first session of President Kwang-Wu Kim's Conversations with the President series, students discussed diversity and inclusion. Kim will host three additional sessions throughout the spring semester to address topics such as college affordabilty and student spaces.

#### TATIANA WALK-MORRIS

Campus Editor

MORE THAN 50 students gathered Jan. 29 to grab free food and coffee at President Kwang-Wu Kim's first installment of the Conversations with the President series, one of several presidential initiatives aimed at connecting directly with the student body.

Kim notified students via email Jan. 27 about his Coffee with the President initiative along with new student office hours, during which students can schedule one-on-one time with Kim.  $\,$ 

Each of the seven office hour sessions will last approximately 20 minutes, and the sessions will be held once a month, according to an email from Dayle Matchett, Kim's chief of staff.

All of the available slots for the semester have already been filled, Kim said.

The first of four planned conversations between Kim and the student body, which was held in the Office of Multicultural Affairs in

the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, dealt with diversity and inclusion. From February through April, Kim will address topics such as student spaces, college affordability and departmental collaboration, he said.

The topics were chosen based on concerns that students brought to his attention, Kim said.

"[Diversity] is one of the main topics that students have brought up to me, and it's one of the primary reasons why I came to this school as president," Kim said. "It's one of our

advantages, but it's also something we really have to get right."

Nicole Carroll, president of the Student Government Association and a junior fiction writing major, said in the past it has been rare to have such interactions with administrators, but Kim wants to have conversations before making decisions.

Carroll said students may feel as though their concerns are not always taken into account, but participating in these events and asking questions will enable students

to express their opinions on how to improve the school, she added.

"I would encourage [students] to come, ask questions and be open to discussions because it's a rare opportunity to get the chance to have an open dialogue," Carroll said. "Sometimes people discredit how important their views are ... in the scheme of a large school."

During the Jan. 29 discussion, students spoke about their different interpretations of the meaning of

» SEE COFFEE, PG. 11



# Happy students attract more happy applicants

JENNIFER WOLAN

Assistant Campus Editor

A STUDY CONDUCTED by the American Educational Research Association found that colleges' "happiness" ratings increase college applications.

The study, titled "True for Your School? How Changing Reputations Alter Demand for Selective U.S. Colleges," published by the Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis journal on Jan. 16, found when a college is published on Princeton Review's top 20 list for "happiest students," the college's number of applications increases by 2.9 percent.

Although the study did not examine student success and its correlation to happiness, it did find that happiness makes a difference in the beginning of a student's college career by narrowing down the search process, according to Molly Alter, the study's author and assistant data manager and research analyst for Research Alliance for New York City Schools.

"[Colleges] received more applications, but that didn't necessarily correlate with the academic competitiveness in a class," Alter said.

» SEE **HAPPINESS**, PG. 11

# Rodriguez represents Columbia in New York

**CARLEIGH TURNER** 

**Assistant Campus Editor** 

AFTER LEARNING SHE was the only Columbia student accepted into the American Advertising Federation Most Promising Minority Students program, senior marketing communications major Janet Rodriguez created the hashtag #Driven-ByMyTalents to describe her plans for her career.

The hashtag represents how Rodriguez hopes to obtain her goal of changing the way people perceive Hispanics.

"I've always wanted to make a change in the world, and one of the things I want to change is how Hispanics are portrayed in the media," Rodriguez said. "I think it's a huge problem and I pretty much just want to make it a norm and not something that is unheard of."

Rodriguez will fly on an all-expenses-paidtripto New York City on Feb. 11 and will be meeting with top advertising companies in a recruiters expo put on by the program. Companies participating in the expo will be Wieden+Kennedy, Leo Burnett and Draftfcb Chicago.

Rodriguez is participating in the Most Promising sessions as part of a week-long program in New York.

There, she will join other AAF Most Promising Minority members and share her plans to address Hispanic representation in the media. Rodriguez was nominated by one of her professors and joined a pool of 80–90 other applicants, according to Melissa Wong, assistant vice president of the AAF. Then five to eight AAF judges selected 50 applicants as finalists to represent the organization, according to Wong.

"We look for someone who shows a lot of potential, a high achiever in the advertising industry," Wong said. "We are looking for students who have exceptional passion for marketing and have started to show evidence of significant contributions you expect them to make as they embark on their career."

To be eligible for the program, a student must be a college senior and nominated by a faculty advisor, advertising professional or AAF member, in a letter of reccomendation Wong said.

The federation also considers the applicant's GPA, resumé and essay responses, Wong said.

Peg Murphy, a professor in the Marketing Communication Department and advisor to Columbia's chapter of the AAF, said she nominated Rodriguez because of Rodriguez's drive and work ethic.

"Janet is a terrific go-getter, inside and outside of Columbia," Murphy said. "[During] the first-ever advertising camp that we did here at Columbia, she was a great help working with the two main sponsor

agencies. She is a shining example of what a woman can do."

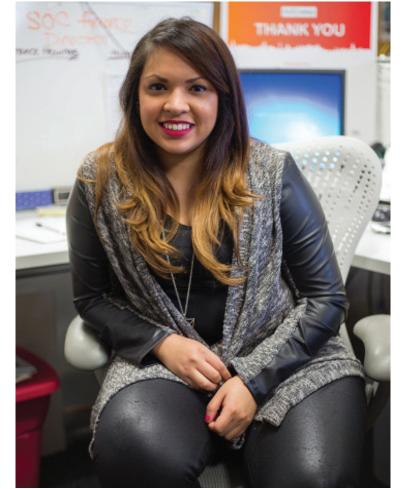
When Rodriguez arrives in New York, she will give a presentation that communicates her vision for a more accurate Hispanic representation in advertisements and media for ad companies.

"I'm excited now because I'm going to be doing something that is going to benefit me in the end," Rodriguez said. "I feel like I've accomplished a lot at Columbia because I've been so active and it's finally paying off so I'm going to make the best of it, just rock it out, make a great impression on people and see where that leads me."

Rodriguez was not always interested in marketing. She transferred to Columbia in the spring of 2011 from the College of Lake County to take advertising classes, which taught her to conceptualize campaigns and ideas and how to write copy, she said.

Rodriguez said she noticed in her previous internships that there was a lack of diversity in the marketing field and she believes the Most Promising Minority program will allow her to address that issue.

Rodriguez plans on working in media planning, where she hopes to advise companies on more accurate ways of portraying Hispanics in advertisements and how to integrate more cultures in advertising offices across the country.



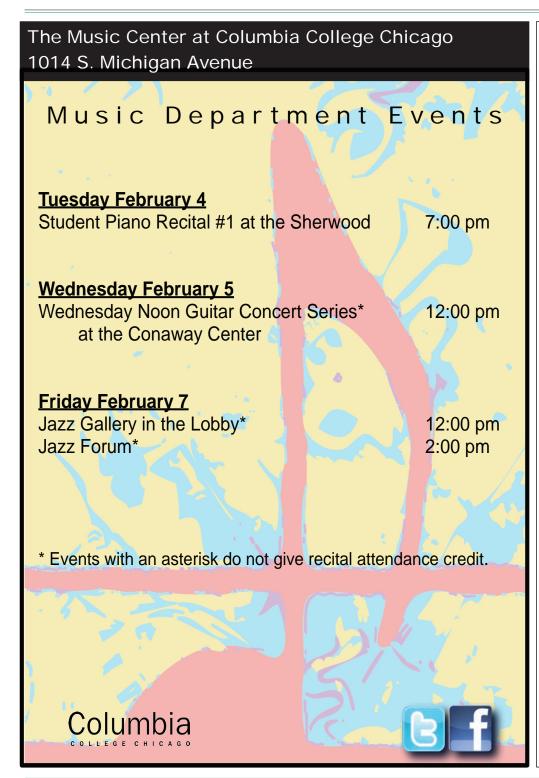
Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

Senior marketing communication major Janet Rodriguez will use her admission into the Most Promising Minority program to share her vision of how Hispanics should be represented in media.

"I can definitely see myself working in an agency that focuses on multiculturalism," Rodriguez said.
"That is what I want to get out of being the most promising minority

student—to feel comfortable about where I will be working and really know that this is for me."

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# SOMEONE YOU

# SHOULD KNOW

# Noted Chicago photographer reflects on achievements

**CARLEIGH TURNER** 

**Assistant Campus Editor** 

ART SHAY PICKED up his father's Kodak camera at the age of 14. Now, 77 years later at age 91, he has published 30,000 pictures and photographed 1,100 covers for prominent magazines such as Time and Sports Illustrated. He has authored approximately 60 books and at 26 years old was working in San Francisco as Life Magazine's youngest bureau chief.

The Chicago-based photographer is now bringing his talents together for his exhibit "My Florence," which debuted at Columbia's Museum of Contemporary Photography, 600 S. Michigan Ave. Jan. 27 and will run through May 24.

The exhibit is laid out like a storybook, walking through Shay's 67year marriage to his late wife Florence, who passed away a year ago from ovarian cancer. This exhibit is Shay's way of commemorating their time together, he said.

During his prolific career, Shay photographed many notable celebrities including JFK, Elizabeth Taylor, Judy Garland and famed Chicago mobster Tony Accardo, nicknamed Big Tuna.

Shay's picture of Accardo was hung as an exhibition piece, which the Accardo family later bought six copies of. "They must have really liked the picture," Shay said.

Although photography is his main trade, Shay has dabbled in many media including print journalism and creative writing. Throughout World War II, Shay wrote 15-20 articles for the Washington Post, which printed a full-page of his blank verse poetry after the war.

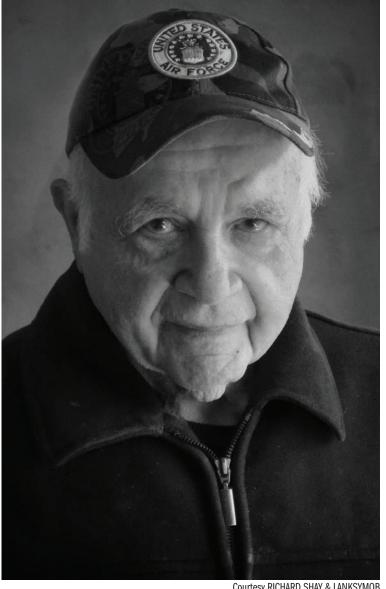
Shay flew 52 combat missions as a navigator in World War II and never abandoned his camera. Being a navigator took up most of his photography time, he said, making it difficult to keep up with his pictures, so Shay would write whenever he could. Shay also had one of his wartime poems about his first solo flight published in the American Poet Magazine.

Shay also taught an advanced photojournalism class at Columbia, which eventually made him realize that education was not something he wanted to continue in the future.

The Chronicle sat down with Shay to chat about Chicago, his favorite subjects and "My Florence."

#### THE CHRONICLE: What inspired you to pursue photography?

**ART SHAY**: I shot pictures in the neighborhood where I grew up. It was about two to three miles from the Bronx Zoo. There, I would take pictures of animals and kids and



Courtesy RICHARD SHAY & LANKSYMOB

Art Shay's exhibit "My Florence" is being shown at Columbia's Museum of Contemporary Photography through May 24 and features Shay's (shown as a young man Top Left) 67 year marriage with his late wife.

sports, whatever interested me. I worked my way through high school, taking snapshots of the plays that my local grade school was performing. I sold them for 25 cents apiece.

#### How did you end up in Chicago?

I took a magazine job and did three years on Life as a reporter and the bureau chief of San Francisco. I had got in an argument with Gov. [Earl] Warren, who was running for vice president, because we tried to take a picture of him voting for himself. They sent me to Chicago to mature. So I stayed and matured here for a year, and then I left the magazine and went out on my own.

#### What kind of stories were you known for writing?

I began to specialize in crime stories. I must have done about 50 or 60 of them for Time, Life, Fortune, Sports Illustrated and Saturday Evening Post. I became known for that kind of story.

#### What was your relationship like with award-winning author Nelson Algren?

Nelson Algren was a lifelong friend of mine; he was the godfather of my first son. I wrote two books on Algren. We wandered the city for 9–10 years taking pictures. Algren had a very tough life, but he was a great writer—one of the greatest writers Chicago ever produced.

#### What was it like teaching a photography class at Columbia?

[The students] had been doing great work in emulating famous photographers, so I gave them an assignment to cover everything that was happening at Columbia that night. In the next classroom, about seven feet from the door sat a young woman who was nursing a baby and reading a book at the same time. And every one of those photographers looked at that scene and just walked by it—nobody took a picture of it. In that moment, I knew I could never be a teacher. I just couldn't stand the aggravation of it.

#### What inspired "My Florence?"

I was always taking pictures of my Florence and my five children. I decided to put these pictures together to portray an upbeat view of her life. I did include some pictures of her in the last stages of her life, but my wife was a joyous, very successful person, and I just wanted to show the joy I felt in being her husband.

#### What is something we should know about the exhibit?

The very first picture of her is one of the first I ever took when we were both 20, and she's jumping in the air in a dance step against a sky background at a summer camp in New York. One of the few downbeat pictures I made is of her choosing her coffin from a brochure the Rabbi had given to the family. I was against her choosing it, but she liked to take charge and was in control. So, I show her choosing the coffin, and then the very next picture shows the coffin halfway into the grave, with people throwing

#### How does the story end?

Near the end of the exhibit is the picture of the 15-year-old daughter of a friend of mine, who is the only non-family person in the exhibit. She inherited a lot of Florence's clothes, including her favorite skirt and jacket. Her father called me up. He's a good friend of mine; he collects my pictures and he is a good amateur photographer. He called me from the botanical garden to say that his daughter, India, was wearing Florence's favorite skirt and jacket and climbing up

the rocks and he just got a picture for me. I am hoping to use it. I don't know how they've edited it, but that should be near the end of the story.

#### What do you hope your audience gets from the exhibit?

The same feeling they would get if they were reading a short story by [Anton] Chekhov. I want people to get a view of my life, my wife's life and my children's lives and I hope that people can relate it to their own lives.

#### Do you have any advice for aspiring photojournalists?

Most photographers or writers for that matter-who are just starting out, like the idea of being a photojournalist, but very few are prepared to do all of the hard work necessary. You should be going out and shooting pictures that show your world the way it actually is. It is not always going to be easy job, but it is something you are going to have to do. There are lucky breaks involved in working in the field, but there are no shortcuts through the hard work of becoming a great professional photographer or writer.

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Columbia



Ehi lke, who is a freshman fiction writing major, has written and published two novels, each more than 200 pages, about a young girl's kidnapping.

#### **JENNIFER WOLAN**

Assistant Campus Editor

MOST STUDENTS GROUSE about writing a three-page paper, but Ehi Ike, complains when she isn't allowed to write more. When she was 13, Ike completed an outline for her first novel, "Taken Away," about a 14-year-old girl from a low-income family who is violently taken from her home because her parents make

less than \$50,000 per year. By 14, Ike had her book published and on the shelves. "Taken Away" sells for \$11.69 on Amazon.

Ike said she has been her own a freshman fiction writing major, motivator since the sixth grade, when she first began the novel, although she credits her elementary school for expanding her imagination and critiquing her writing.

> At 18, Ike published the sequel, "Hidden," about the kidnapped

teen's rescue and fight for safety and government reform.

Now, Ike spends her time focusing on her outline for her third novel while holding book signings for her previous two.

Her next signing is on Feb. 8, from 5-7 p.m. at The Book Cellar, 4736 N. Lincoln Ave.

The Chronicle spoke to Ike about the struggles of publishing, coming up with story ideas and achieving her life's dream at an early age.

#### THE CHRONICLE: Who encouraged you to write?

**EHI IKE**: A lot of it was me. I was always writing and the elementary school I went to had an emphasis on writing and reading as well. My third grade teacher made us read a lot of books in her class, and my fourth and fifth grade teachers made us write a lot of stories. Those were things we would do three times a week or every day.

#### How did you get the idea to write a violent novel like "Taken Away"?

I don't feel like I wrote stories that were like that. I used to love reading the Harry Potter series, so a lot of the time I would just write for fantasy. One day in class there was a history lesson, and we were discussing the Trail of Tears. The teacher asked us what we would do if we were taken away from our home, so I immediately started coming up with ideas. I guess I was just visualizing like a little girl would and having the main character and her friends having to escape something. I thought about it more and [it] developed into a story.

#### How difficult was it to get your first book published?

Most publishing companies don't look at you unless you're [with] a literary agent, and the publishing company I'm with, Tate Publishing, accepts manuscripts, so I just

sent in a manuscript and then six to eight weeks later they responded back. For me it was just luck, to be honest. But to become published in a larger publishing company, it is much harder. As a 13-year-old, I was just looking for someone to publish my book.

#### What made you write a sequel?

I always knew that I was going to write a sequel. At first I thought it would be a trilogy, but the second book ended the story. I wanted to write a series because books that I read at the time were series, and those were the books that I enjoyed reading the most.

#### What is the hardest part about writing

Honestly, it was not hard at all and I think it was just because of my age and the free time I had. I was very energetic and passionate at 13, but the sequel was definitely harder [because of] my schoolwork with writing and trying to still be social.

#### What are you working on now?

I don't read series [of books] at all now so I'm just working on a novel. I'm not that in depth with it yet but I'm working on it in one of my classes. I'm still coming [up] with the characters and how I want it to be structured.

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#### » CHI-BERIA Continued from Front Page

Assessment Task Force—a committee composed of five administrators and faculty members that prepares a recommendation for Kim on how to proceed during severe weather conditions—said the committee presented information and options to Kim.

Koverman said the committee examined temperatures at commuter times as well as at different Chicago locations when formulating recommendations.

"It's not something that we take lightly," Koverman said. "We exhaust as much possible information as we possibly can [and] I look at a variety of different weather reports. We just go with the best data that we possibly can that provides the best safety for our staff, faculty, students and guests."

While Kim did not have trouble with his commute, many students were frustrated trying to get to campus and some even chose to stay home.

Dominick Balestri, a commuter from the Southwest Side neighborhood Garfield Ridge and sophomore cinema art + science major, said he did not go to class Jan. 27 or 28 because of the weather conditions. Balestri said his commute to campus takes more than an hour and he spends a significant amount of time outside waiting for both the Orange Line and a bus,

adding that he thinks the decision to open the college only considered on-campus students. upset about the college remaining open, some students understood the administration's decision.

# Schools around the country were closing because of the crazy weather."

- Drew Lodarek

"It's extremely disheartening because I really [wanted] to go to class because I love what I am studying," Balestri said. "The administration is making me pick between having to be safe and marked down for an absence or show up to class and literally put myself in danger."

Drew Lodarek, a commuter from the northwest suburb of Lake Zurich and a sophomore audio arts & acoustics major, also said he thinks the college should have shut down, adding that his commute requires him to walk outside for 40 minutes.

"The weather was nothing to be trifled with," Lodarek said. "Schools around the country were closing because of the crazy weather."

Despite the subzero temperatures, Lodarek made it to class on Jan. 28 by driving and taking the Metra but said it was a struggle and took longer than usual.

"Just putting money into the box for parking, my fingers in 30 seconds were automatically numb," Lodarek said. "Not long after that, they started stinging and they were bright red [and] purple."

Although many students were

David Jenkinson, a junior interactive arts & media major who lives in the 777 S. State St. residence hall, said he supported class being in session because it was the first days of the semester and he didn't want to get behind.

"I can feel for the commuters," Jenkinson said. "[But] it was the first days of classes, which I do feel are important because you go over all the course procedures."

Jenkinson said there were not a lot of students missing in his classes on those days and students did not appear to have issues getting to campus.

Kim said it is helpful for him to hear both good and bad student input about the situation but that he stands firm in the decision he made.

"Obviously nobody wants people to be unhappy at a decision they make," Kim said. "But my basic position is that our obligation, if and when possible, is to remain open because that's what our students need from us."

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#### » PROVOST

**Continued from Front Page** 

at NIU for more than six years. He holds a doctorate in mathematics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelors of Science in mathematics and physics from Bowling Green State University, according to NIU's website.

According to his curriculum vitae, an outline of his educational and professional history, McCord was responsible for working with other deans on cross-college initiatives, engaging with employers and partners in DeKalb, Ill. and managing a budget of approximately \$68 million.

Wearden has been dean of the College of Communication & Information at Kent State for more than four years. As dean, Wearden managed a \$31 million dollar operating budget and established a college fund balance of more than \$4 million, which he used to increase the size of the college's School of Library and Information Science, according to his CV.

Wearden holds a doctorate in mass communication research from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as well as a Master of Science in journalism from West Virginia University, according to Kent State's website.

During the candidates' presentations, attendees are encouraged to ask each candidate questions, according to a statement from President Kwang-Wu Kim. Kim could

not be reached for comment as of press time.

Nicole Carroll, a junior fiction writing major and president of the Student Government Association, said she wants to see a new provost with a background in the arts and the ability to foster cross-departmental collaborations. Carroll said she hopes the new provost will create curricula that provide more options for students and gather more student input before making significant decisions.

"[The provost] should be open to suggestions and take into account what students are saying," Carroll said.

McCord and Wearden stood out from their competitors because of their previous leadership roles in academia and their understanding of the structure of higher education, said Onye Ozuzu, a member of the provost search committee and chair of the Dance Department.

Ozuzu said it is important that the provost has a forward-thinking attitude about forming new curricula and that he can work with Kim to design curricula for students.

"[McCord and Wearden are] prepared for the post as provost based on their resume," Ozuzu said. "While the two men are very different, they're unified in their intelligence and ... being very visionary in looking at a changing landscape for higher education."

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# THE FITTIPE OF THE SEAS!

Presented by Dr. Steven H. Corey, scholar of urban studies, Professor, and Chair of the Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences at Columbia College Chicago

When: Thursday, February 20, 2014, at 5:30 p.m.

Where Music Center Concert Hall, 1014 S. Michigan Ave.

**Cost:** This lecture is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. RSVP to Rebecca Flores by Monday, February 17 at rflores@colum.edu or 312.369.8217.

What can we do about the growing and hugely consequential problem of environment waste? Join **Dean Deborah H. Holdstein** for the Spring 2014 LAS Dean's Lecture as she welcomes **Dr. Steven H. Corey**, who will provide a lively overview of issues surrounding the urbanization of the shore and our use of oceans as dumping grounds, despite laws, treaties, and contemporary environmental ethics to the contrary.

Roughly half of all the people on Earth live and work within one-hundred miles of a shoreline. As a result, our oceans have become waste sinks. Trash and other forms of solid waste are disposed in—or allowed to flow unabated into—estuaries, bays, rivers, and other waterways that lead to the sea. Over time, islands of garbage form in our oceans. One is estimated to be larger than Texas.

Dr. Corey will also list several scenarios for the future ecological health and environmental value of the seas, while suggesting possible solutions about how to mitigate the urbanization and contamination of coastal zones. A Q&A will follow Dr. Corey's lecture, followed by a reception with food and refreshments.

Columbia

**Steven H. Corey, PhD,** is Professor and Chair of the Department of Humanities, History, and Social Sciences at Columbia College Chicago. His areas of teaching and research include environmental and urban history and public policy. He coedited *The American Urban Reader: History and Theory*, and he is the coauthor of *Garbage! The History of Politics and Trash in New York City*. His forthcoming book is titled, *America's Urban History* (Routledge).



Carolina Sanchez THE CHRONICLE

During President Kwang-Wu Kim's first Coffee with the President event, students discussed their different interpretations of diversity. Kim will host three additional events in the next three months.

#### » COFFEE

Continued from PG. 3

diversity such as health, they expressed their concerns about the efficiency of the college's mental health services, resulting in students discussing their positive and negative experiences with the college's counseling center as well as possible solutions.

Brandon Hammer, the SGA senator for the Marketing Communication Department and a marketing communications major, said the forum provided an opportunity for students to express their individual concerns and address the needs of the college community.

Hammer said he was grateful for howavailablethepresidenthasbeen to students, adding that students should attend these events to voice their concerns.

"I believe that [Kim] has done a great service to the student body by making himself accessible and by engaging in this open platform for communications," Hammer said. "When you're in an environment that is in transition ... you always want to know what's going on."

Jesus Iniguez, a junior art + design major, said the discussion went well and encouraged students to attend future sessions.

"I feel like the issue of diversifying the curriculum was addressed very well," Iniguez said. "If you have the opportunity to go to another question-and-answer[session] with the president, do it. Get your voice heard."

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#### **HAPPINESS**

Continued from PG. 3

Although student happiness can be a draw for applicants, Columbia does not focus on making students happy but on fostering an environment of student satisfaction, said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs.

"It's not that I want students to be unhappy," Kelly said. "But happiness is simply an emotion. Happiness can be created because the professor gives little homework, but that doesn't challenge the student and hence the student may or may not be happy."

Instead, the college measures students' satisfaction and relies on institutional research and websites such as CollegeProwler.com to gauge student input, Kelly said. However, Columbia does not look at other review websites such as Yelp. com or Cappex.com.

Columbia currently has 54 reviews on Yelp.com with a 3.5 star overall rating.

"Pushing [Columbia students] beyond boundaries, intellectually and emotionally, means sometimes students have to be in a place where there is discomfort," Kelly said.

According to Kelly, students are pretty satisfied.

"We are always looking at national survey data on how our students are looking at life at Columbia compared to students at other colleges," Kelly said. "That data is imperfect but it's important to look at and we want our students to be generally satisfied with their time here."

CollegeProwler.com and similar sites, such as Cappex.com, RateMy-Professors.com and StudentsRe-

view.com, compile student ratings of a college's educational quality, social life and university resources.

On CollegeProwler.com, Columbia rates average or above average in every category except athletics and Greek life.

Kelly said this is a good sign because it means the students are reviewing accurately and paying attention on what to review.

Alter said the study did not look at review websites because they had issues of biases such as fake reviews and information or profiles that could not be verified.

"We say at the end of the study that there should be an independent organization that reviews [the websites] to have a third party look at them and make sure they are accurate," Alter said.

Statistics from Columbia's Office of Institutional Effectiveness show students are happy with their intellectual growth. However, students are notably unhappy with on-campus food service, Residence Life and Columbia's sense of community, according to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness Statistics.

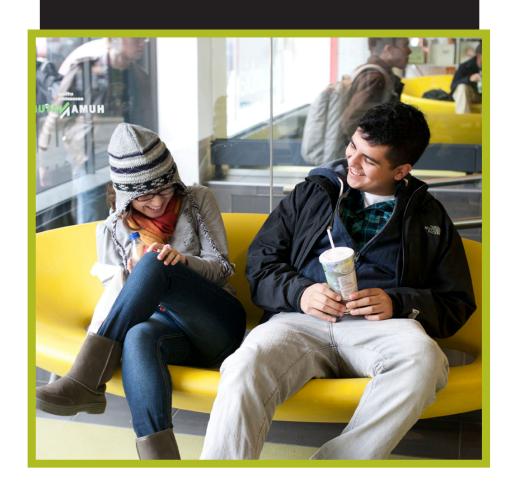
Natalie Jordan, a sophomore art + design major, said although she does not like living on campus and in The Dwight, she is pleased with the connections Columbia teachers have to the professional world outside the classroom.

"I hate the noise of the Loop," Jordan said. "But my teachers have worked for Time Magazine and that's incredible."

Jordan said she only looked at websites to gauge if it was likely she would be accepted.

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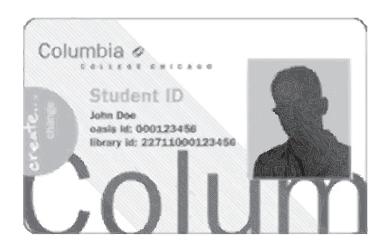
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# 2014 Olympic Roundup

#### **VANESSA MORTON**

Assistant Sports & Health Editor

AFTER MUCH POLITICAL ado and doubt about its readiness, the 22nd Winter Olympics will finally commence Feb. 7, hosting 98 events in 15 winter sport disciplines in Sochi, Russia.

This will be the first Winter Olympics held in Russia since the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991, and despite controversy surrounding Russia's ban on "gay propaganda" as well as growing safety concerns after numerous terrorist threats, more than 2,500 athletes from 85 countries will come together for 17 days and celebrate one of the world's most beloved traditions.

The Chronicle broke down the games' most highly anticipated events that we know you typically never watch so you can impress your winter-sport-loving friends while rooting for USA gold.

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**HOCKEY** 

The Bolshoy Ice Dome and Shayba Arenas, located 300 miles apart, will house both the men and

The women's teams include No. 3 Finland, No. 4 Switzerland, No. 5 Sweden, No. 6 Russia, No. 8 Germany, No. 11 Japan, with top-ranked team Canada and second-ranked USA looking for a finals rematch after Canada topped the Americans in 2010.

women's ice hockey games from Feb. 8-23.

The men's division will feature top-ranked Russia, which will challenge No. 6 Slovakia, No. 7 United States and No. 18 Slovenia in the first round of the tournament, while No. 2 Finland, No. 5 Canada, No. 8 Norway and No.15 Austria battle it out. The third group of teams include No. 3 Czech Republic, No. 4 Sweden, No. 9 Switzerland and No. 11 Latvia.

The U.S. team includes 25 NHL athletes, with right wing Patrick Kane representing the Chicago Blackhawks. Also returning for another shot at the gold is Buffalo Sabres goaltender Ryan Miller, who helped the men's team to silver in 2010 but lost overtime in the final round to Canada.



BOARDING

Snowboarding competitions will be held Feb. 6-22 at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park. The events for both men and women include halfpipe, parallel giant slalom, snowboard cross, slopestyle and

Danny Davis, named 2006 Rookie of the Year by Snowboarder Magazine, will be a top Team USA competitor after winning the Winter X Games superpipe weeks before the Olympics. Two-time Olympic gold medalist Shaun White also shares a spot on the team and is the only U.S. athlete to have made both the Olympic halfpipe and slopestyle teams.

The women's team is a strong contender with Jamie Anderson, a silver medalist in the 2014 X Games, competing in slopestyle. Others include Kelly Clark, a halfpipe snowboarder, who won bronze in 2010 Winter Games and Kaitlyn Farrington, halfpipe competitor and first-time Olympic contender.



**ALPINE** SKIING

The Alpine skiing competition, also known as downhill skiing, will consist of 10 events: five each for the women and the men, and will be held Feb. 9-22 at the Rosa Khutor Alpine Resort. The downhill slope will feature the longest course of the games and promising speeds up to

The 20-member U.S. team will be led by fivetime medalist Bode Miller, who was one of the most successful U.S. athletes in the 2010 Winter Games, winning a gold, silver and two bronze medals. This will be Miller's last Winter Games, as he will undergo knee surgery.

The team will be missing American World Cup alpine skier Lindsey Vonn, who was the first American woman downhill gold medalist. She will be at the Opening Ceremony instead of participating during the games because of a serious knee injury in early January.



CURLING

The curling competition, which dates back to the 16th century, is scheduled for Feb. 10-21, and will be held at the Ice Cube Curling Center.

Among the women is Ann Swisshelm from Chicago, Erika Brown and Debbie McCormick, all of whom combine for seven Olympic appearances. The men include Craig Brown, Jeff Isaacson, John Landsteiner, Jared Zezel and 2006 bronze medalist John Shuster.



#### **FIGURE SKATING**

Figure skating, one of the oldest events in the Olympic Winter Games dating back to 1908, will be held at the Iceberg Skating Palace Feb. 6-22. The program will include single skating competitions for men and women, pairs events, ice dancing and team events.

Among the men is U.S. Figure Skating Championships silver medalist Jason Brown, a 19-yearold from Highland Park, Ill., and 2010 Olympian Jeremy Abbott, who won his fourth U.S. title at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships Jan. 12.

Among the women is first-time Olympian Ashley Wagner, who won fourth at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, 15-year-old national silver medalist Polina Edmunds and 18-year-old Gracie Gold, who won gold in the 2014 U.S. Championships.



#### LUGE

The luge, considered one of the most dangerous winter Olympic sports, will be held at the Sliding Center Sanki from Feb. 8-13. The course involves sliding at high speeds, reaching over 140 kilometers per hour. The program will include single competitions for men, women and doubles. In addition, the Olympic Games sports program has added a relay competition for the first time, during which men and women will compete on the same track.

While Americans have never won a gold medal in an Olympic luge event, this year's lineup makes for stiff competition.

The U.S. women include two-time Olympian and 2009 World Champion Erin Hamlin; and Kate Hansen, 2013 USA Luge National Champion. The men include Preston Griffall and Aidan Kelly.



#### BOBSLEIGH

The bobsleigh competition for both men and women will be held in three events at the Sliding Center Sanki from Feb. 16-23. Steven Holcomb, who won the gold in the

The women in this year's lineup include Jazmine Fenlator, Jamie Greubel, Lolo Jones and Aja Evans, a five-time All-American and a three-time Big Ten champion at the University of Illinois, who won a silver medal at the 2013 Bobsleigh World Cup and was named USA Bobsled's

Rookie of the Year. comeback after winning a qualifier for the twoman competition, ending its 12-year absence from the Winter Games.



#### SPEED SKATING

The speed skating competition will consist of 10 individual distance events and two team pursuit races for both men and women. The long track competition will be held at the Adler Arena four-man bobsled event in the 2010 Vancouver and the short track competition will be at the Iceberg Skating Palace from Feb. 8-22.

The men's division features five competitors from Illinois, including 2010 silver medalist Brian Hansen and Olympic Champion Shani Davis, who became the first black athlete to win an individual gold medal in the 2006 games, winning

The women's division includes Heather Rich-The Jamaican bobsleigh team is making a ardson, a World Sprint Champion, and Brittany Bowe, 2013 Astana World Cup gold medalist and



Name: Shani Davis Hometown: Chicago, III. Sport: Speedskating (Long Track) Olympic medals won: 4

Name: Brian Hansen Hometown: Glenview, Ill. Sport: Speedskating (Long Track) Olympic medals won: 1

Name: Megan Bozek Hometown: Buffalo Grove, Ill. Sport: Ice Hockey (defenseman) Olympic medals won: 0

Name: Aja Evans Hometown: Chicago, III. **Sport: Bobsled** Olympic medals won: 0

Name: Ann Swisshelm Hometown: Chicago, III. Sport: Curling (Lead) Olympic medals won: 0

Aly Dodds THE CHRONICLE

#### MONDAY, FEB. 3

Chicago Bulls vs. Sacramento Kings

Time: 9 p.m. Place: Sleep Train Arena Where to watch: CSNC

#### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5

Chicago Blackhawks vs. Anaheim Ducks

Time: 9 p.m. Place: Honda Center Where to watch: WGN

# THIS WEEK IN

#### FRIDAY, FEB. 7

DePaul Blue Demons vs. Creighton Bluejays

Time: 8:07 p.m. Place: CenturyLink Center Omaha Where to watch: FS1

#### **SATURDAY, FEB. 8**

Northwestern Wildcats vs. Nebraska Cornhuskers

Time: 12 p.m. Place: Welsh-Ryan Arena Where to watch: ESPN

# NCAA challenged

I'M ALL FOR challenging the status quo, but college athletes are in for an uphill battle that'll only get steeper as they begin to fight for representation.

ESPN's "Outside The Lines" first reported that Ramogi Huma, president of the National College Players Association, filed a petition demanding labor union representation on behalf of an undisclosed number of Northwestern University Wildcats football players. The petition, filed with the National Labor Relations Board, is the first move in a fight to give student athletes an equal voice in decisions that affect them. The move grabbed the national spotlight last week.

Northwestern quarterback Kain Colter, who helped spark the movement, said the attempt to start a union is not meant to disrespect his university, but is instead about "protecting [student-athletes] and generations to come" from the "dictatorship" of the NCAA.

Initially, only Division I football players and men's basketball players would be eligible to join the College Athlete Player Association, which makes sense—they are the two NCAA sports that make the most money. Furthermore, the NLRB only represents private entities so public universities

would not have to recognize a player's union if one is formed.

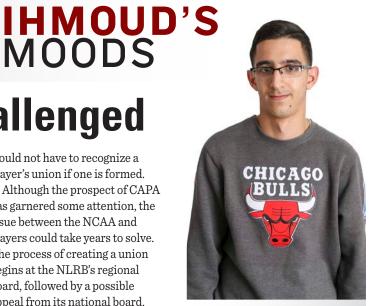
Although the prospect of CAPA has garnered some attention, the issue between the NCAA and players could take years to solve. The process of creating a union begins at the NLRB's regional board, followed by a possible appeal from its national board.

However daunting this may be, Colter and company should continue the fight. True, a lot of student athletes receive full-ride scholarships and stipends for playing, but college education and stipends will not cover medical bills resulting from serious sports injuries.

The NCAA is a billion-dollar corporation, which could see its profits double by 2020, according to the Sports Business Journal, so the least it could do is take care of players' health, education and financial issues.

Students may be given access to an education and stipends but a career-ending injury could be an insurmountable loss.

Only a select few collegiate athletes go on to play professional sports and sign lucrative contracts, so not giving them some kind of security seems unreasonable because these athletes generate millions of dollars for their



**NADER IHMOUD** Media Relations Editor

individual programs and the NCAA. Up until now, the NCAA has avoided taking responsibility for lingering injuries its athletes have suffered. An organization with as many resources as the NCAA should not be given any financial breaks.

As unreasonable as allowing the NCAA to profit at the expense of student athletes sounds, the attempt to start a union is going to be difficult to achieve, but anything worthwhile takes time and effort. It's obvious that these players provide a valuable service to their schools, and it would only be right for them to provide athletes with a fair protection plan.

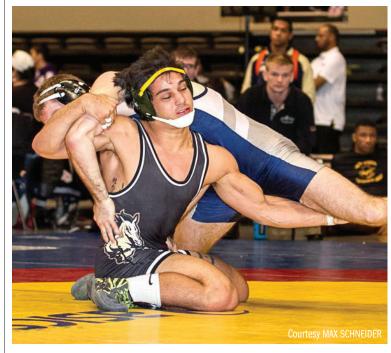
Listen to Nader Ihmoud Mondays from 7-9 p.m. as he hosts the Benchwarmers Show on WCRX 88.1 FM.

nihmoud@chroniclemail.com

# FEATURED ATHLETE

#### MAX SCHNEIDER

Sport: Wrestling Team/School: Free Agent



**NADER IHMOUD** 

Media Relations Editor

MAX SCHNEIDER IS a three-time Illinois State Finals placer and twotime wrestling champion. He was ranked No. 3 in the nation at the 152-pound weight class when he graduated from Lane Tech College Prep High School in 2012, and was the first Chicago Public League wrestler in more than six decades to win multiple state titles.

Born in California, Schneider decided to return to his home state for college and was red-shirted by the California Polytechnic State University Mustangs. During his first official season as a Mustang, Schneider began with an 8-0 record and took first place at the Road Runner Open Nov. 17, 2013. He did not have a blemish on his record until the Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational tournament, Dec. 6-7, where he lost to the University of Michigan's No. 16 Brian Murphy.

Schneider told The Chronicle he decided that Cal Poly's coaching staff was not the right fit for him and he is now looking to transfer to a different university.

The Chronicle spoke to Schneider about why he left the Mustangs, what he's looking for in a coaching staff and the process of transfering

#### THE CHRONICLE: How has the transition been since moving to California?

MAX **SCHNEIDER:** The transition has been hard. It's definitely further away from home than I would like. I'm transferring schools. I'm leaving [because of] disagreements with the head coach. The wrestling was fine, it's just a really touchy subject. I wasn't learning.

#### Where are you hoping to transfer?

I have a recruiting trip set up to [Pennsylvania State University] the first weekend of April. [I'm also looking at] North Carolina, [the University of Missouri], possibly Lehigh [University].

#### How does collegiate wrestling differ from the high school level?

I don't think it's really that different. People who make it out to be different [from high school] are just kind of.... Yes, it is definitely a step up in competition and the quality of opponents, but you face quality opponents in high school, too. For your skill level then, they were quality opponents. Ultimately it's just going out there and still having fun and going for it.

Were you scratched from wrestling recently because of the disagreement with the head coach?

No, I had sustained an injury during a match. I tore my hamstring, but I actually just got cleared [Jan. 30].

#### How long ago did you tear your hamstring?

Seven weeks ago. There's a wrestling tournament [called] the Cliff Keen Invitational in Las Vegas. It happened the second day, [Dec. 7].

#### What are you looking for in the universities to which you'd like to transfer?

Ultimately I'm looking for a really knowledgeable coaching staffcoaches I can really learn from. I really respect coaches who still step on the mat and will roll and beat the s--t out of me.

#### Are you leaving the university before the semester ends?

I'm finishing off my quarter here and then I'm heading back to Chicago for some training.

Where are you going to train? Any main gym that you use or are you going to train at home with your dad?

All around. Everywhere. I'm probably going to go see my personal trainer a bit, probably going to do a bunch of judo; I'm probably going to probably hit up Izzy Style [Wrestling].

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### Biologists keep eye on icy lake

**LEE BERGQUIST** 

MCT Newswire

THIS WINTER'S FRIGID temperatures have produced the largest amount of ice to cover the Great Lakes in 25 years.

Roughly 62 percent of the lakes are now under a cover of ice, according to the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich.

The ice cover could help lake levels this summer, but that is far from certain and biologists are keeping a close eye on northern Lake Superior in hopes that an ice bridge will link Ontario to Isle Royale National Park.

The island is home to a struggling gray wolf population in desperate need of new genetic stock and more

One possible effect of so much ice this winter is a potential summer "lake effect," making cities such as Chicago, Milwaukee, Wis. and Duluth, Minn. even cooler.

The ice cover this winter is in stark contrast to last winter, when the five lakes only had 38 percent coverage, according to the research laboratory, which tracks ice conditions on the Great Lakes. The long-term average of the lakes is about 50 percent, according to George Leshkevich, a scientist with the laboratory, which is



part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Of all of the lakes, Lake Michigan currently has the smallest amount of ice at approximately 38 percent, but Lake Erie is almost entirely covered. Leshkevich said Lake Erie often gets the most ice because it is the shallowest of the Great Lakes.

To the north, 57 percent of Lake Superior is covered with ice. As the deepest of the Great Lakes, Lake Superior takes more sustained cold air to freeze, and because it produces considerable wave action from prevailing westerly winds, ice is slower to form, according to Leshkevich.

With record low water levels on Lake Michigan and Lake Erie, the massive amount of ice could have a beneficial effect by slowing evaporation from the lake, but other factors could limit the effect.

Last February, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reported that Lake Michigan and Lake Erie hit their lowest recorded levels. Last summer, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported on 14 years of below-average water levels on the lakes.

But the relationship between ice cover, evaporation and water levels

Researcher Jay Austin of the University of Minnesota-Duluth said that the ice "acts like a giant piece of plastic" over the lake, meaning water cannot evaporate as readily from sunlight.

Austin said this season's cold weather in late fall and early winter, combined with relatively warmer water, creates conditions that are "tremendously evaporative."

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# TECH TALK Work Work out at work

**SARAH SCHLIEDER** 

Assistant Sports & Health Editor

**BEING A WORKAHOLIC** or serial Netflix binger is no longer a good excuse for skipping exercise.

The Stamina 55-1610 InMotion E1000 Elliptical Trainer, created by Stamina Products Inc., has tension-adjusted foot pedals that allow users to work out anywhere, even in the office or in front of the TV. The device includes a fitness monitor that displays the number of strides, exercise time and calories burned, according to StaminaProducts.com.

"We recommend it for people who haveatightspace[when]they'relooking for a way to get a cardio workout," said Taylor Hutchens, Stamina's director of marketing.

The machine was made to address the issue of limited workout space, according to Hutchens.

"A lot of us are using it at the office," Hutchens said.

An independent study published in the February 2013 Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport revealed that 86 percent of participants using the trainer for an hour a day burned enough calories to prevent weight gain. The study measured the participants' energy output, as well as interest in using the device while performing sedentary tasks. Participants used the elliptical while seated in a stan-

Courtesy STAMINA PRODUCTS

dard office chair and selected their own intensity level while watching one hour of television. The majority of participants expressed interest in using the device while watching television but surprised the research team when they said they were not interested in using it in office meetings.

"It always seemed to me that while I'm sitting in an office meeting it would be great to have one of these devices to pedal," said Liza Rovniak, assistant professor of Medicine and Public Health Sciences at Pennsylvania State University's College of Medicine.

The device also offers the benefit of compactness. It can be kept under a desk or in a closet, making indoor physical activity more accesible than going to the gym, according to Rovniak.

"Research has shown that the more steps it takes to get from point A to point B, with point B being the gym, the less likely going to the gym [will] happen," Rovniak said.

The convenience of not having to go to the gym is leading the recent trend of exercising at work and home, according to Andy Stephens, head personal trainer of Bad Andy Fitness in Chicago.

Fitness has evolved during the last 30 to 40 years into a collection of various ability levels, bringing bodybuilding to the center of the fitness world, according to Stephens. However, body weights and obesity rates continue to increase.

"If you can provide something that people need and it meshes right, then you should deliver that product to as many people as you can because we are in dire need of fitness," Stephens said. "Especially in the office environment, where we're very sedentary."

But Rovniak warned that the In-Motion cannot replace a regular gym routine.

"No one is going to become an elite athlete pedaling one of these devices under their desk," Rovniak said. "For that I think the gym would be a better venue."

The overall benefits of using these types of devices depend on the user's goal, according to Stephens.

"Endurance training at work, in my opinion, is not going to be as effective," Stephens said. "I would imagine that if you were on the elliptical for eight hours a day, you would probably develop some type of either muscular imbalance or some type of stressed hip, knee, ankle, or joint just because it is a lot of repetitive motion."

As a relatively new product, more studies should be conducted to measure its long-term health benefits, Rovniak said.

"I think we need to explore more if people would use them over longer periods of time and their health benefits," said Rovniak.

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FADED, A NEW all-in-one photo editing app for the iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, is perfect for taking your creativity to the next level.

It includes a wide array of features, including 34 free filters and 36 filters available for purchase including color gradients, unique frames and overlays. Faded's camera offers tools such as manual exposure, compositional grid, square formats, split exposure and focus points.

#### FEATURED APP

FEATURED PHOTO

There are 12 professional adjustments that can be made to your photos and all can be saved as custom presets called ACTIONS and saved to your history to be accessed at any time. The high-resolution photos are automatically exported to camera roll and can be uploaded to social media and email.

The 99-cent app was created by Vintage Noir and is perfect for anyone who enjoys photography, ages 4 and up. — **S. SCHLIEDER** 



Courtesy HOOPTRACKER

# **The Hoop Tracker**

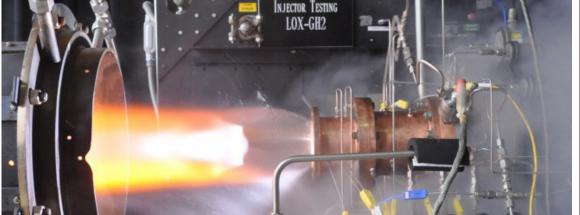
THE WIRELESS SPORTS Hoop Tracker allows basketball players of all skill levels and ages to track their game wirelessly.

Before shooting, attach the watch to your non-shooting wrist, place the shot detector on the rim of the hoop and select your shooting program. The sessions are built around the typical shooting areas of the court.

The watch and shot detector work together to track each shot as you follow the game or shooting ses-

sion selected. A paddle placed on the rim of the hoop registers successful shots while an accelerometer senses the vibration of the misses. The programs can also be customized if you want more or less of a challenge.

After shooting, upload your data to HoopTracker.com and track your progress, analyze strengths and weaknesses, win milestone trophies and share your success on Facebook and Twitter. The tracker costs \$199. — S. SCHLIEDER



IDDITIVE MANUFACTURED

Courtesy WIRED

A 3D printed rocket engine is being used to power part of a nano-satellite launcher that is scheduled to be completed by September 2014.

# Caffeine enhances memory, study shows

**VANESSA MORTON** 

Assistant Sports & Health Editor

IT IS NOT news that caffeine is used as a resource for staying awake and alert. But new findings suggest that it is not just an energy booster—it may also aid memory.

According to a study published Jan. 13 in the journal Nature Neuroscience that was conducted by researchers at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md., caffeine helps enhance memory for up to 24 hours after consumption.

"We've always known that caffeine has cognitive-enhancing effects, but its particular effects on strengthening memories and making them resistant to forgetting has never been examined in detail in humans," said Michael Yassa, senior author and former assistant professor of psychological brain sciences at Johns Hopkins University in a Jan. 12 press release.

The researchers conducted a double-blind trial over a two-day period that focused on individuals who did not regularly drink caffeinated products.

During the first part of the study, subjects were asked to look at a series of computer images and indicate whether the image was an indoor or outdoor item. The subjects were then administered either a placebo or 200-milligram caffeine

tablet, equivalent to a 16-ounce cup of coffee. The subjects provided saliva samples to measure their caffeine levels, and samples were taken again one, three and 24 hours later.

The next day, the participants were tested on their ability to recognize images from the previous day. However, while some of the images were the same, some were new and some were similar but not the same, according to Yassa.

To evaluate their level of discernment, they were asked to recall whether the images were old, new or similar, Yassa said. The researchers found that those who took the caffeine tablet were 10–12 percent more likely to identify an image as similar.

The brain's ability to recognize the difference between similar items is called pattern separation, which reflects memory consolidation.

According to James Mastrianni, associate professor of neurology and director of the Memory Center at the University of Chicago Medicine, the human memory center is located in the hippocampus, an area in the medial temporal lobe of the brain. In order for a memory to form, the information that is taken in registers with the brain's cerebral cortex, which then funnels into the hippocampus where it processes and stores the information for

long-term and short-term memory, he noted.

"It's kind of a two-way street, I'd say," Mastrianni said. "You have to learn something first to put it into your brain to store it for long-term, then you have to be able to retrieve it."

Yassa said previous studies suggest caffeine has little to no effect on long-term memory, but those results were due to poor controls and lack of technology, he argued. Most importantly, the studies always administered the caffeine before the subjects were given a task, which prevented researchers from properly eliminating other complicated effects caffeine has on cognition such as attention, alertness and vigilance, Yassa said.

"The problem is if I give you caffeine before or during, I don't know what the particular mechanism is," Yassa said. "It can be any of those things, so if I find an enhancement the next day, it's hard to say what was actually enhanced. The only way that caffeine can have a potentiating effect is if it strengthens what memories already have been made."

After the two-day study, the group of researchers began additional studies with dose manipulation. The participants were given a placebo, 100, 200 or 300 milligram caffeine pill. The data showed no



difference with the lowest dosage but saw retention results for the 200 and 300 milligram doses. However, as the higher dose saw a boost in memory, the individuals started to show side effects such as jitteriness and headaches.

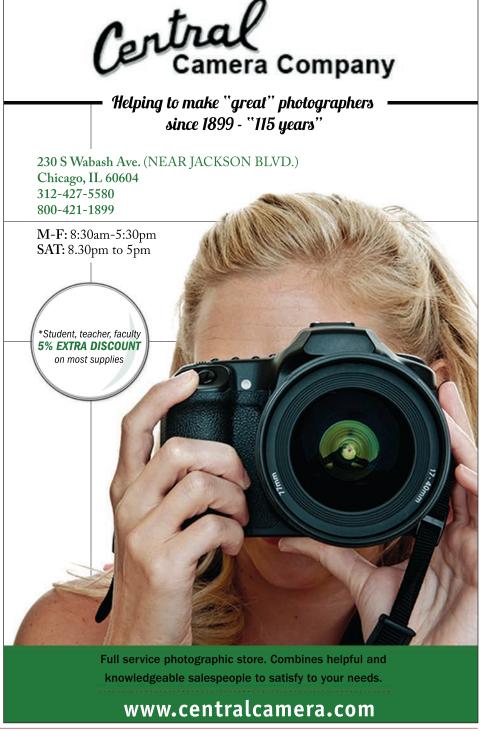
Yassa said although the mechanism by which caffeine enhances memory consolidation is unclear, there are some possibilities. For example, he said caffeine might act indirectly through norepinephrine, a chemical known to affect memory.

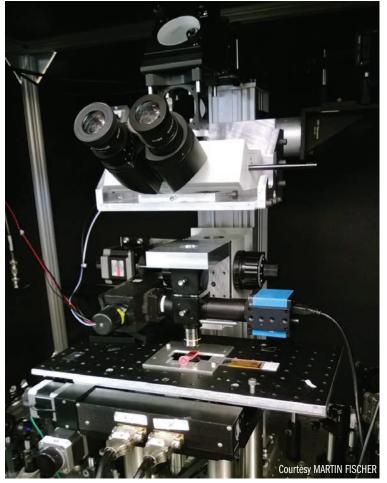
Further research observing caffeine when it enters the brain using methods such as magnetic resonance imaging are currently being planned, according to Daniel Borota, lead author and college senior at John Hopkins University.

"It's a behavioral study so we just saw the effects," Borota said. "It doesn't really tell us the mechanism behind that, so the next step would be to try and figure that out."

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SARAH SCHLIEDER

Assistant Sports & Health Editor

**CHIPPING AWAY AT** paintings with a scalpel is the conventional way to study pigments used in a piece of art, but researchers are developing new, noninvasive methods to replace this art conservation technique.

Methods in conservation have become more sophisticated over time, according to Rolf Achilles, curator at the Smith Museum of Stained Glass Windows and an adjunct faculty member at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Today, art conservators use certain liquids such as distilled water to clean artwork without damaging the pieces.

"It used to be you could clean a painting just by smudging some cigarette ashes on it and rubbing across it," Achilles said.

# Art conservation gets laser treatment

But not anymore. The latest development in conservation technology was explored in a December 2013 study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. It detailed a custombuilt, pump-probe laser microscope that was used to explore the molecular properties of Puccio Capanna's "The Crucifixion."

The machine uses intense laser pulses shaped like a picket fence to measure different molecular signatures that absorb light in a way that cannot be gathered with conventional methods, according to Warren S. Warren, a Duke University professor in chemistry, radiology, physics and biomedical engineering.

"People paint with things that absorb light," Warren said. "If you can use a method that exploits the contrast that you get with visible or near-visible light, you're going to be getting out contrast, which is more relevant to understanding what the artist actually did."

Other advanced techniques such as X-rays, infrared and ultraviolet photography have been used to study paintings, but they do not give any 3D information for pigment composition, according to Tana Villafana, a Duke graduate student and senior research assistant.

"Figuring out that kind of composition is really important in studying paintings particularly," Villafana said.

Apart from paintings, Warren hopes to extend the use of pump-probe microscopy to pottery, such as terra cotta, and manuscripts that cannot be unrolled.

The research team is also creating a database of pigment responses to the microscope in various paintings.

The most important benefit of this method is that it is noninvasive, according to Villafana.

"So far, everything that we've done has been visually nondestructive," Villafana said. "Of course, sometimes with pigments, in order to say something was completely nondestructive we'd have to go back after 50 years and make sure that no degradation has occurred."

There are drawbacks to using pump-probe microscopy, including a high operation cost and immobility. But the research team is working to build a smaller, portable system, Warren said. The method does not replace the process of cleaning a piece of art.

"Whenever you start removing grime from something, it's not only the grime that you're taking off, it's also taking off a microscopic layer of whatever's underneath the grime in all probability," Achilles said.

Researchers are continuing to improve methods that allow lasers to clean delicate works of art. Lasers have already been used to clean the exterior of buildings such as the Driehaus Museum in Chicago and medieval churches in Germany, according to Achilles.

"It took months and months and cost an enormous amount of money ... but the results are just amazing," Achilles said. "[It] allows you to restore or repaint the building in a way that you would've never thought possible before the laser invasion."

These new methods for studying and conserving art are being taught in art history curriculums across the country, according to Achilles. Warren is teaching a course at Duke this semester on the pump-probe microscopy method.

Art deteriorates over time and in order to preserve it for future generations, it needs to be taken care of, Achilles said.

"The way to do that is to conserve it, to restore it," Achilles said. "Not to embalm it but to take care of it."

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# Out with the old





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OVICE SOUS

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#### Potato-crust quiche

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 8 ounces frozen hash browns
- 2 tablespoons melted butter (optional)
- 3 eggs
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1 cup shredded cheese
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 6 ounces frozen broccoli, thawed

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
- 2. Grease pie plate. Thaw hash browns and press into plate. Bake for 25 minutes.
- **3.** Mix eggs, soup, flour, milk and ground pepper in a large bowl until blended. Set aside.
- **4.** Remove piecrust from oven. Reduce heat to 350 degrees.
- 5. Place green pepper, broccoli and cheese into piecrust.
- **6.** Pour egg mixture over piecrust.
- 7. Bake for 45-50 minutes or until center is set.
- 8. Cool and enjoy!

# FAVORITE recipes



**ELIZABETH EARL** 

**Opinions Editor** 

DURING HIGH SCHOOL, it was just my mom, my little brother and I, and because my mom worked full-time, it often fell on me to cook dinner. For a year or so, we ate really simple meals, and then I realized cooking wasn't as hard as the Food Network made it out to be. After years of honing my craft, I found that quiche is a fancy meal but also one of the easiest to make. Even four-star restaurants serve high-quality quiche for brunch, utilizing a multitude of ingredients to create new combinations of quiche goodness.

At some point in my experimentation, my mother and I found it easier to make quiche with hash

browns as a crust instead of using a pastry crust because it makes a crunchy, delicious pie.

To begin your quiche, preheat the oven to 425 degrees. To make the crust, thaw the hash browns in the microwave for about six minutes. Once they are soft, press them into a greased pie plate and, if you really want to get professional, brush melted butter on the crust for shine and a little added flavor.

To save on calories, feel free to skip this step. Bake the crust for 25 minutes or until golden brown around the edges.

While the crust is baking, beat the eggs, soup, flour, milk and ground pepper together in a large bowl until the mixture is an even yellow color. Set the mixture aside

and chop up the green pepper and broccoli. Chicken, ham, bacon, red peppers and onions are some other common quiche ingredients, but you can use whatever you want.

Remove the crust from the oven after 25 minutes and reduce the heat to 350 degrees. Let the crust cool for a few minutes, then place the chopped pepper, cheese and broccoli into the center of the pie and pour the egg mixture over them. The pie dish should be about 3/4 full to allow for it to rise while baking. Bake the quiche for 45–50 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Wait until the quiche is cool, and then serve in slices.

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Nominations accepted from November 25, 2013 to February 14, 2014

Columbia



# Chicago Theatre Week's second act



Chicago Theatre Week.

THESPIANS AND THEATER aficionados alike will celebrate the rich tradition of the Chicago theater scene during the city's second annual

Starting Feb. 11–16, popular productions such as "Blue Man Group" and "Million Dollar Quartet" will be featured in the week's focus on Chicago's theater community.

Deb Clapp, executive director of the League of Chicago Theatres, said Chicago's theater scene is more diverse than New York's Broadway, the premier venue for U.S. theater.

"We really thought Chicago theater was worth celebrating," said Clapp. "And definitely worth having its own week."

With more than 250 theaters across the city, five of which have been honored with Regional Tony Awards, Chicago is a leading force in the U.S. theater industry. According to the League of Chicago Theatres website, Chicago has the largest Broadway touring organization in the nation and attracts five million audience members every year with a budget exceeding \$250 million.

"The first year [of Chicago Theatre Week] was fantastic. We sold 6,000 tickets," Clapp said.

This year, the League of Chicago Theatres partnered with tourism agency Choose Chicago to offer Theatre Week patrons discount hotel rooms and ticket packages in hopes of attracting out-of-towners.

"[Choose Chicago] was very keen to work with hotels and try to increase business to the hotels as well as to the theaters with that special promotion," Clapp said.

Marc Chevalier, a lecturer in Columbia's Theatre Department, said Theatre Week is a chance for people to explore the many stages.

"My fiancée's family and a lot of their extended family and family friends are from the South Suburban area," Chevalier said. "They're avid [theater-goers] for the most part, but [around this] time they really binge a little bit."

Chevalier describes Chicago's theater scene as an intricate puzzle of differently sized pieces. The larger pieces are popular plays such as "The Book of Mormon" and "Wicked," surrounded by a slew of higherend regional theaters like the Goodman and numerous college theaters that regularly turn out talented acting students.

"Our theater scene is one of the gems of the city," Chevalier said.

Barbara Robertson, veteran actor and adjunct faculty member in the Theatre Department, plays Tessie Tura in the Chicago Shakespeare Theater production of "Gypsy."

Robertson describes herself as a freelance actor with an array of experience ranging from Shakespeare to Kabuki.

"Theatre Week is a great way to give [people who enjoy the performances] venues they wouldn't normally go to," Robertson said.

#### 2014 TheatreWeek Highlights

- "French With Me 4: French Quarter," Strangeloop Theatre, 1802 W. Berenice Ave.
- "Number the Stars," The Theatre School at DePaul University/ Chicago Playworks Strangeloop Theatre, 60 E. Balbo Drive, Chicago
- "Ramona Quimby," Emerald City Theatre, 2540 N Lincoln Ave.
- "The Phantom of the Opera," Broadway in Chicago, 151 W. Randolph St.
- "Tom Jones," Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie
- "Tribes," Steppenwolf Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St.
- "Chicago's Golden Soul," The Black Ensemble Theater, 4450 N. Clark St
- "Contemporary Choreographers," The Joffrey Ballet, 50 E. Congress Pkwy.
- "Improv All-Stars," UP Comedy Club, 230 W. North Ave.
- "Moth," The Theatre School at DePaul University, Healy Theatre, 2350
  N. Racine Ave.
- "Old Jews Telling Jokes," UP Comedy Club, 230 W. North
- "Port Authority," Writers Theatre, Books on Vernon, 664 Vernon Ave., Glencoe
- "Rasheeda Speaking," Rivendell Theatre Ensemble, 5779 N.
  Ridoe Ave.
- "Seven Guitars," Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave.

Robertson said she is actively preparing for the anticipation of the upcoming week by constantly stretching, and doing vocal warm-up exercises and strength training to capitalize on the hype of Theatre Week's promotion.

"Theater is an extraordinary opportunity for people to just become more conscious and to embrace being present in a space with many other people," Robertson said.

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Photos courtesy of Cathy Taylor

Chicago Theatre Week, Feb. 11-16, will feature performances around the city, including: (Top) Amelia Hefferon as the Little Prince and Louise Lamson as Rose in Lookingglass Theatre Company's "The Little Prince;" (bottom left) "Million Dollar Quartet" at the Apollo Theater; (bottom right) Julia Udine as Christine Daae and Mark Campbell as The Phantom in "Phantom of the Opera" at Cadillac Palace Theatre.

# by Emily Ornberg Managing Editor

# Thug tearz

TEN YEARS AGO, rappers couldn't dream of becoming mainstream unless they fit exactly under a predetermined prototype: equipped with violence, misogyny and a braggadocio so pretentious that most of their lyrical content centered around just how awesome they are.

However, from its inception and throughout its evolution, the persistence of actual human emotion in hip-hop has grown as a result of the genre's focus on authenticity. Rappers are expected to express themselves legitimately, and to tell it like it really is.

Enter "sad rap."

Embracing their vulnerability and rhyming about their somber tendencies, 21-year-old Brooklyn emcee Little Pain and 16-year-old Swedish rapper Yung Lean have spearheaded the daring sub-genre that is sappy rap.

Without further ado, here are some of the most notably depressing hip-hop tracks, so emotional that you might want to grab some tissues before you throw them on your melodramatic Spotify playlists. Cry on, rappers, cry on.



1. "SMH (Broke Boyz Anthem)" -Little Pain

The father of tear-jerk

rap, Little Pain, aka Sobbin Williams, emulates pure sadness by pairing the lyrical sorrow of a dying puppy with the literal sound of sadness—whimpers are used as a sample over a beat in the song's intro as he begins his dismal declaration with, "Little Pain the thug, I'm the saddest out."



2."Hurt"-Yung Lean Yung Lean hails from the Södermalm district of Stockholm,

where I imagine it is pretty sad. Although he doesn't take us as deep into his sad psyche, Yung Lean delivers his rhymes on this track with a melancholic demeanor that earned him a front-running spot on Sweden's Sad Boys crew.



**3. "I Love You" – Lil B**Based God shed some genuine Based Tears in the music video for

"I Love You," when he expressed his love for his fans. Above a charming '90s ballad, Lil B reminds his listeners that it's "OK to cry:" "I'm crying for everybody, and for real love."





4. "Coldest Winter"-Kanye West

Yes, this album

came out long before sad rap was a thing, but it would be impossible to ignore Kanye West's emotional cleanse 808s & Heartbreak. An homage to his late mother, Donda, this song is basi-

cally what a good cry session would

sound like on autotune.



**4. "When Thugs Cry" - 2Pac**And how could I
write this column

without mentioning hip-hop's first crybaby, Tupac Shakur?
"See they ask me if I shed a tear, I ain't lie/ See you gotta get high or die, cause even thugs cry."

eornberg@chroniclemail.com



#### YOUTH CODE

Cobra Lounge 235 N. Ashland Ave. 9 p.m. \$8

#### Tuesday, Feb. 4

Monday, Feb. 3

#### HOSPITALITY

Schuba's 3159 N. Southport Ave. 8 p.m. \$12

#### Wednesday, Feb. 5

#### THE BLACK ANGELS

Park West 322 W. Armitage Ave. 8 p.m. \$26

#### Thursday, Feb. 6

#### NEUTRAL MILK HOTEL

Riviera Theatre 4746 N. Racine Ave. 8 p.m. \$36+

#### Friday, Feb. 7

#### 2 CHAINZ

Chicago Theatre 175 N. State St. 6:30 p.m. \$35+

#### Saturday, Feb. 8

#### DAVID CROSBY

City Winery 1200 W. Randolph St. 8 p.m. \$66+

#### Saturday, Feb. 8

#### JOHN BUTLER TRIO

Vic Theatre 3145 N. Sheffield Ave. 8 p.m. \$34

#### Sunday, Feb. 9

#### **PIXIES**

Riviera Theatre 4746 N. Racine Ave. 8 p.m. \$49

#### Tuesday, Feb. 11

#### NORA O'CONNOR

The Hideout 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 9 p.m. \$10





WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE SNOW?
"I like how it glistens in the light."



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE SNOW?
"It gives you a chance to layer up with your clothing."



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE SNOW?
"I don't like it."



WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE SNOW? "The snow has the beauty the city lost."



















ART+ACTIVISM is an ongoing, college-wide program that facilitates dynamic conversation between Columbia's students, faculty and staff around the critical and sometimes controversial issues of our time. Through increased on and off-campus interdisciplinary engagement with these topics and the artists who make work about them, we further explore the relationship between our own art and activism. We define the roll that we as artists play in shaping our own and the public's opinion on the roles and responsibilities of art, artists and activists to incite change in the local community.

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Application and guidelines are available at

COLUM.EDU/ARTANDACTIVISM.

Spring proposal deadline:

**FEBRUARY 7, 2014.** 



a podcast produced by Art + Activism: Columbia College Chicago, explores the intersections of multi-disciplinary creative actions, the artists involved, and the language, tools, and inspiration they use to create works that fulfill their artistic or activist goals. By featuring in-depth interviews, engaging stories, and student voices, PUSH is a unique resource for artists, activists, and idealists in Chicagoland and beyond.

Follow us on iTunes (search for Art + Activism: Columbia College Chicago) OR, stream from our website, colum.edu/artandactivism.

#### **AVAILABLE PODCASTS:**

**Stephen Reynolds** "I think that making a mark is the most direct form of expression, as well as talking, moving space."

**Conway** "And the way that I've heard a lot of folks who do spoken word talk about it is they talk about the way you can bring music into the delivery."

**Cole Robertson** "So manifesto is where the rubber hits the road between thought and practice or action. It's that first step in action or the last culmination of the thought process, sort of the bridge between them."

**Panty Pulping** "I feel like seeing those threads broken down you see that that's all the underwear really is. At essence it's just threads, and we're all sort of bound together by them in a way."

**Colleen Plumb and Jess T. Dugan** "I wanted it to be woven and by that experience of going through all of the pictures can someone's guard be set down because of that ride through the pictures?"

colum.edu/artandactivism



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Concern rises over the authenticity of a Chicago-born art form

Written by Nicole Montalvo, Assistant Arts & Culture Editor Design by Keenan Browe, Graphic Designer

### IT ALL STARTED IN CHICAGO

with a construction worker named Marc Smith. Although he spent most of his day working with power tools and nails, Smith provided the nuts and bolts for one of the nation's fastest-growing poetry movements: slam.

Smith pursued his poetry while on the job, but in 1985 he began performing at poetry readings. The notion of memorizing poems instead of reading them was scandalous at the time, but Smith defied the norm by performing his prose with distinct voices, inflections, tones, gestures and facial expressions.

Smith eventually gathered like-minded artists and started the Chicago Poetry Ensemble, hoping to enliven the staid poetry readings of the day. The troupe worked hard and performed anywhere the members could until they landed a gig at the Get Me High Lounge, 1758 N. Honore St. Their show was soon picked up by the Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway, in 1986 and has been a Sunday night staple ever since.

Today, slam poets and their devout followers pack dive bars, jazz clubs and college lecture halls for poetry slams around the country. The poet-performer hybrids fill venues with a sense of community, the sounds of poetry, cheering applause, snaps and compliments.

Slams—events where original poetry is performed rather than just read aloud—are often competitions. At a typical slam, audience members rate the poems on a scale of I—IO, and scores are averaged through each of the four or five bouts to decide the winner. There are both individual and team competitions. Team competitions have become so

popular that there is now a National Poetry Slam in America and a similar slam in Europe, especially in Germany.

"The first national poetry slam [was between] a team in Chicago and a team in San Francisco," according to J.W. Basilo, director of Slam Works, a nonprofit that organizes slam events and programs in Chicago. "And now the national slam competition accommodates a minimum of 17 teams."

Pulitzer prizes, such as Patricia Smith, who Basilo described as the "Michael Jordan of slam poets."

"There's always that page-versus-stage argument, and one of the beautiful things about [slam poetry] is that recently that line has become more and more blurred all the time," Basilo said.

In 2014, slam is facing criticism for entirely different reasons. Jennifer Karmin, a part-time professor in Columbia's Creative Writing Department, said she finds the

"There's always that page-versus-stage argument, and one of the beautiful things about [slam poetry] is that recently that line has become more and more blurred all the time."

— J.W. Basilo

But slam poetry has a history of being slammed as a genre, garnering criticism since it first gained popularity. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, slam poetry was frowned upon for its use of everyday language and informality, Basilo said. Slam was also criticized by the poets of the Beat generation, the 1950s movement influenced by jazz that saw poetry readings as a social event rather than an elite academic gathering. They disliked slam because it combined poetry with overthe-top performance instead of letting the poems speak for themselves, he said.

However, the objections to slam by its early critics are fading, as many slam poets are publishing books and winning

competitive aspect of slam detrimental, a caveat she says separates it from performance poetry. She curates the performance poetry series Red Rover in Wicker Park.

"The actual idea of slam itself I find very problematic because the word 'slam' itself means to 'put down," Karmin said. "And slam means that someone is a winner, or a team is a winner, but there are also losers."

Tony Trigilio, also a professor in the Creative Writing Department at Columbia, likewise sees flaws in that aspect of slam. Trigilio, who was heavily involved in the spoken word community in Boston in the 1990s, said that while performance and poetry are connected, he thinks the slam community's judging methods are unsound. But Basilo argues that who wins is unimportant.



get people excited. It's to have the performers play at a higher level. When they know they're going to be judged, they work a little harder. Audiences know that judging is happening so they pay a little closer attention. It's just a gimmick, and it's been working, so we'll stick with it."

Slam is one of the fastest growing poetry movements in the nation, according to Basilo. New slam poetry competitions, public school programs, workshops, teams, television specials and movies are popping up all over the world. But while some see the rise in popularity as a slam dunk, others think it marks the genre's transition from an underground art form to a commercialized fad.

Karmin thinks slam poetry is becoming commodified, citing HBO's "Brave New Voices," a series about teenage slam poets, as an example. She said slam's commercial rise is ironic, considering its emphasis on unstable economic situations.

"It's very interesting that slam has actually been picked up by the mainstream," Karmin said. "It's a very commodified form and for me that implies this level of economics and I think that's the problem in 2014 because of serious economic situations." Basilo insists, however, that there

are a very small number of shows and films that portray slam poetry, rejecting the notion that slam is becoming commodified at all.

"In the rare instance that it pops up in the mainstream media, people just kind of notice because it's different," Basilo

In urban areas, particularly in Chicago, poetry slams become stages for people to express their feelings about serious issues and personal hardships. Topics such as politics, poverty and general heartache are recurring themes, which some say lead to performances that are too often replicated and therefore less honest, said Will Grucza, a slam poet.

"The common themes in slam poetry are personal trauma, political didacticism and hip-hop ... and some people really have an issue with that," Basilo said. "When somebody goes on stage and is incredibly inspiring and wonderful and amazing to watch and is rewarded with scores, people are naturally going to start gravitating toward that style.'

Grucza said he thinks slam poetry is a safe place to express himself. He said he enjoys combining writing and performing to fully express his thoughts in a new way and engage an audience with them in a way he couldn't by simply reading his poems aloud.

Benicia Blue, a creative writing alumna, helped found Columbia's performance poetry team, Verbatim. Blue is no longer heavily involved in slam because she does not like its competitive aspect, but she has no problem with performance poetry. In fact, she said she thinks performing a poem is a great way for writers to perfect their work and take it to the next level.

"It's pretty thrilling and it's nice to make someone's day," Blue said. "There's excitement and nervousness and the butterflies and there's practicing I have to put into it because I have to have it memorized to add in gestures to the piece."

feels the need to critique.

"I've often made fun of slam poetry myself," Grucza said. "There's a certain cadence that you hear with just about every person that performs; it's very sing-songy. It tends to drone on a little, and, especially in the Chicago area, there tends to be a handful of go-to subjects and I think that's also a pretty prominent point of ridicule that I tend to agree less with."

Regardless of the criticism, the slam poetry movement is gaining followers, particularly in its birthplace. Smith is the man behind the legend, but Basilo is the man carrying on the slam poetry mission. On top of running Chicago Slam Works, Basilo created and teaches the workshop series Poets with Class, a poetry slam workshop taught in high schools across the country to increase literacy, and has recently launched Lit Mash, a curated show of slam poets, storytellers, essayists and other performing writers to compete.

As slam poetry gains popularity and attracts more criticism, it continues to enrich lives and connect people in a stronger way than ever before, according to Basilo. Active slam poets are still passionate about the form because it not only feeds their need to write and perform but gives them a place to commune with other artists and poets in a fulfilling way that cannot be done by simply writing a poem on the page.

"I think that it's an easy thing to make fun of," Grucza said. "But if you spend some more time with it, on the side of the person writing and performing, there's less room for that."

### Antiques, oddities, stuffed critters

**NICOLE MONTALVO** 

Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

FULL OF BONES, teeth, old medical instruments, art pieces made of human hair and numerous taxidermy mounts, Woolly Mammoth Antiques and Oddities certainly lives up to its name, a title reinforced by the store's new mammal and bird taxidermy workshops.

Just as the newly popular Discovery Channel show "Oddities" introduces new audiences to the world of taxidermy, Woolly Mammoth Antiques and Oddities, 1513 W. Foster Ave., is offering taxidermy classes for beginners interested in dabbling. On Jan. 25 and 26, the store convened its fourth edition of taxidermy classes, focusing for the first time on birds instead of mammals.

The popularity of "Oddities," which is primarily about a store in New York, has boosted business immensely, said Skye Rust, Woolly Mammoth co-owner and 2006 interdisciplinary arts Columbia alumna. The show even filmed in the Chicago shop a year ago for an episode that is scheduled to air in the future.

The store is home to many taxidermied animals, including an armadillo, rats, birds, fish, deer and even the bust of a giraffe named Sir Necklace.

"It just made a lot of sense that we offer taxidermy workshops because it's something that you can't really find and it's very appropriate to the shop," Skye Rust said.

During the most recent taxidermy class, students worked on pheasants. Skye Rust said all the birds, which were purchased from a pheasant farm in Wisconsin, had experienced "post deaths," meaning they committed suicide by running into posts.

Working on farm-raised pheasants requires no formal training or permits in Illinois. Six students, mostly beginners, attended the class and took two days to resurrect the birds. Skye Rust said the project attracted a full roster.

One beginner, who completed the class a week prior as a test run, is store manager Audrey Waltey. Waltey said although the class was a little rushed for her, it was a great experience. Taxidermy is a way of facing her fears.

"I always had this weird obsession with death and never dealt with it well as a kid," Waltey said. "I think most people don't, so I just threw myself in it."

Isabella Rotman, a cartoonist who makes small comic books and



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

Woolly Mammoth Antiques and Oddities, 1513 W. Foster Ave. hosted its fourth taxidermy workshop on Jan. 25 and 26. In the workshop, six students, mostly beginners, worked on farm pheasants, All of the pheasants had experienced "post deaths," meaning they ran into posts,

runs the popular blog ThisMight-Hurt.Tumblr.com, taught her first taxidermy class on Jan. 25 which she was qualified to teach because of her time studying taxidermy at The Field Museum.

Skye Rust assisted Rotman.

"My husband and I, who are total over-the-top animal lovers, kind of see it as a way of rescuing them ... [and giving them] to a loving home who don't necessarily see them

as a hunted mount but more like a beautiful animal that deserves the respect that they are willing to offer." Rust said.

nmontalvo@chroniclemail.com



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\*\*\* TO PERFORM FROM \*\*\*

6:00-6:30PM

We will randomly select 12 performers who registered.

### **DOORS**

TO THE CONAWAY OPEN AT

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SHOW

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Early arrival is suggested. Student I.D. required for entry.

Big Mouth is an open mic night that showcases Columbia's diverse group of talented songwriters, singers, rappers, bands, comedians, spoken word artists, + more. For more information visit spbcolumbia.com/events/BM.

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# 

# Where the Wild Families are

**EMILY ORNBERG** 

Managing Editor

A FAMILY IS a group of individuals who are affiliated by birth, marriage or a nurtured kinship. However dysfunctional, supportive, or awkward they may be—we all have a group of whack-jobs to call our own.

What The Wild Family shares, however, is more than just DNA.

United by an appreciation for timeless folk melodies, lush vocals and steel guitar jams, the four-piece indie-rock band The Wild Family—led by biological brothers Jake and Zack Schweitzer—will drop their first studio EP Empty Promises Feb. 4 after their Jan. 29 release show rocked the Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., in Evanston.

After growing up together in their hometown of Genoa, Ill., Jake, vocalist, guitarist and junior music major, and Zack, bassist, began collaborating with guitarist and vocalist Graham Young, sophomore music major, at Columbia in 2012. In 2013, drummer Kevin Kore-

man, senior music major, joined the band to complete the multi-faceted indie folk-rock family. Since recording their first EP, The Wild Family was nominated for The Deli Magazine's Best Chicago Emerging Artist of 2013 on Deli Magazine's website.

The Chronicle caught up with Jake over the phone to discuss working with his sibling, what Columbia really taught him and Jolly Ranchers.

THE CHRONICLE: What is the best part about being in a band with your brother?

JAKE SCHWEITZER: It's great because we're incredibly comfortable around each other; I can give him feedback, he can give me feedback and it's just a really comfortable situation and it always has been. We've always been really close, so it's just like having your best friend [as a bandmate], but it's also really frustrating probably more of the time actually because we get in really big arguments and

we aren't afraid to mouth off to each other. It's great and it's trying at the same time.

Your music explores many facets of folk-rock, bringing a range and depth not usually found in such a baby band. How do you stay fresh?

It's really interesting to work with two primary songwriters in the band—me and Graham—we both have really different influences, so I will write a portion of the song and he might come in and comment on it and give me different ideas and gives me something fresh. [He brings up] things I wouldn't have thought of based on my musical background and influences so that always keeps our songs evolving, which is really great.

What was it like being nominated for Best Chicago Emerging Artist of 2013?

It made us feel really good [and] really appreciate being nominated. It was a good thing for us, just get-

ting that support and being recognized for that. Even just being in the running with some of the bands that were in it, because there were some really, really great bands in it. So we really appreciated that. We gave ourselves a really big pat on the back.

If we were to spend an entire night backstage with you, how should we mentally prepare for it?

You'd probably have to expect a lot of dirty jokes. You'd have to not eat all day because we'd probably eat four or five pizzas, and just a lot of rowdiness, hijinks and goofy stuff.

If The Wild Family were a Jolly Rancher flavor, which one would it be and why?

Is "banana" a Jolly Rancher flavor?

I don't think so.

Then probably watermelon, because it's almost too sweet. It's

almost off-putting it's so sweet. Our music is so sweet and soulful that we basically reflect a watermelon spirit fruit.

What is the best lesson you've learned from Columbia?

To network and put yourself out there. I think everyone in the band was probably pretty shy and not ready to go for it when we came here, but being around other people who are motivated and doing the things you want to do gives you a really big push. I think that's probably the best thing that I've gained from Columbia is just being surrounded by people who are always doing the same thing that you're doing and you want to compete and be the best you can possibly be; that's given us the drive to accomplish what we have so far.

For more information, visit Wild-FamilyMusic.Bandcamp.com.

eornberg@chroniclemail.com



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

Formed in 2013, The Wild Family was nominated for Deli Magazine's Best Chicago Emerging Artist. Members (left to right) Kevin Koreman, Zack Schweitzer, Jake Schweitzer and Graham Young bring their own personal brand of contemporary indie folk to Columbia.

# "The Class-Isn't-Cancelled Blues"



Elizabeth Earl, Opinions Editor
EYES CLOSED The Narrative
MALLEABLE BEINGS The Paper Kites
THE COLDHARBOUR ROAD Stornoway
ME The 1975

YOU WILL PULL THROUGH Barcelona



Tyler Eagle, Associate Editor
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I WISH Skee-Lo
TEAM Lorde
MONEYGRABBER Fitz and the Tantrums
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Kayla Koch, Graphic Designer SPOOKY, SCARY Spraynard CRUEL St. Vincent BOYS DON'T CRY The Cure EVERYDAY IS LIKE SUNDAY Morrissey DAMP FEATHERS Snowing



Kaley Fowler, Managing Editor
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THE FOX IN THE SNOW Belle and Sebastian
ROMAN CANDLE Elliott Smith
LUA Bright Eyes
AFTER HOURS The Velvet Underground

# COMPAGNIE KÄFIG/ CCN CRETEIL ET VAL-DE-MARNE

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Compagnie Käfig's intoxicating fusion of hip-hop, samba and capoeira dance styles, bossa nova and electronic music, culminates in Correria (Running) Agwa (Water)—a sensational double bill of two heart-stopping works by Mourad Merzouki showcasing the dazzling virtuosity and acrobatic skills of his all-male ensemble of 11 Brazilian dancers.



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The Dance Center's presentation of Compagnie Käfig is funded, in part, by the New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project, with lead funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and The Andrew Mellon Foundation. Additional funding provided by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions

from the Illinois Arts Council and General Mills Foundation. Special thanks to t Cultural Service at the Consulate General of France in Chicago.



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Columbia

PHOTO: AGWA, COMPAGNIE KÄFIG, PHOTO BY MICHEL CAVELCA

#### Radler serves up German comfort food

**TANISHA WALLIS** 

Contributing Writer

A FEW BLOCKS north of the California Blue Line stop, the Radler, a German restaurant born of chefs Nathan Sears and Adam Hebert, is a warm respite from Chicago's miserable weather.

The Radler opened in Logan Square in December with the promise of traditional German food and it delivers, serving up delicious comfort dishes perfect for a chilly winter evening.

With its comfortable, rustic atmosphere, long, wooden communal tables and exposed brick wall, the interior of the restaurant echoes the overall aesthetic of popular bars and restaurants in the area. Patrons at the bar face a bold painted mural that looks like it could be original to the building. Numerous tea lights on the tables warm up the dim, tavern-like room. Savory scents waft throughout the space whenever a dish leaves the kitchen.

The menu offers a wide variety of choices from snacks and small plates to larger Bavarian dishes. Homemade sausages (\$9–17) are on the menu, alongside such dishes as cauliflower custard (\$12) and braised rabbit (\$16). The Ra-

dler also boasts a solid selection of German beer and wine, as well as a few local beer options and signature cocktails.

The German Gluhwein (\$7), a mulled wine also known as glögg, is served warm and spicy in a bootshaped mug. The first sip was bitter but had a sweet finish. Chunks of chopped apple float at the surface, soaking up the wine and leaving a savory treat.

The German onion pie (\$11) has the perfect piecrust: flaky on the outside and soft on the inside. The onions were cooked so they were sweet but retained their natural savory flavor beneath the crust, which was laden with bacon-another savory complement with the addition of a little salt. The mini pie sat atop a Pilsner soubise, a French sauce of pureed rice, onions, butter and cheese, which lent a hint of earthiness. Simple, shaved Brussels sprouts topped the pie and spilled onto the plate adding the necessary fresh, green crunch. The dish combines simple flavors and textures into the perfect recipe for a meal to be endlessly enjoyed.

As a go-to German dish, the Haus Pretzel (\$6) comes with two sauces—blackberry jam and barley malt butter, aka heaven on earth.







Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

The Radler, 2375 N. Milwaukee Ave, which opened in December 2013, offers a variety of German dishes. One such delicious dish is the popular Haus Pretzel.

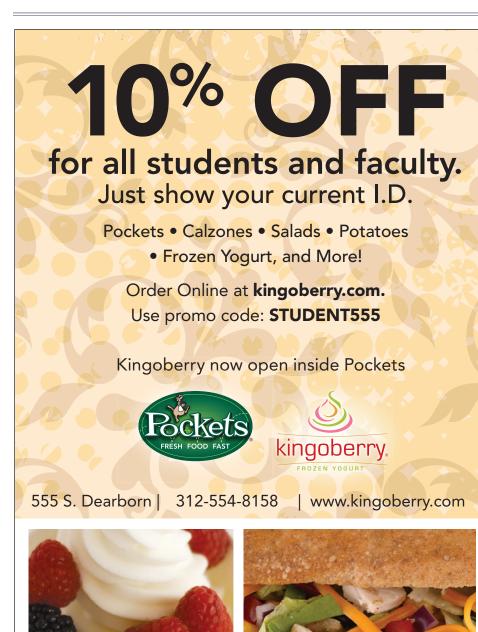
Malt and barley are cereal grains, giving the butter a wholesome flavor with strong notes of brown sugar and maple. The jam was bright and fruity but couldn't compare to the butter in the neighboring dish. The pretzel itself was pretty standard, brushed with a light layer of butter and sprinkled with coarse salt. It wasn't super fluffy, as some pretzels tend to be; instead, some

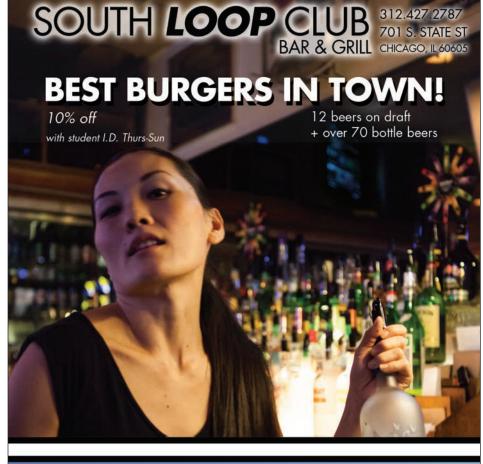
parts were more thin and spindly, creating a crunchier, chewier contrast. An extra \$2 buys a trio of different mustards to accompany the pretzel.

The Radler was half-full on a weeknight. The service was fast and friendly, and many patrons were sharing dishes. The restaurant seems to be popular—it was partially funded through a success-

ful Kickstarter campaign started in April 2013. The project sought \$25,000 in donations and completed its campaign in June 2013 with 187 donors providing \$28,927. With its relaxed, comfortable vibe and contemporary twist on an über-German menu, the Radler is here to stav.

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An 'awkward' romantic comedy

**STEPHEN HALL** 

Film Critic

ROMANTIC COMEDY NARRATIVES tend to be the most simplistic. Audiences who attend these films generally do not expect Shakespeare. They want predictability and flawed yet endearing characters that become likeable over the length of the film, hopefully with a few laughs along the way.

However, in the case of "That Awkward Moment" written and directed by first-timer Tom Gormican, rom-com audiences may be confused. The film is far from funny and the characters are unlikable misogynists who make dumb decisions over and over again.

The plot is predictable to the extreme. Three men in their late twenties, Jason, Daniel and Mikey (Zac Efron, Miles Teller and Michael B. Jordan, respectively), decide they will have flings with random women to build their collection of booty calls. Jason and Daniel are not sacrificing much, considering they already live the "player" lifestyle.

The first night out, all three guys, not surprisingly, find girls they start to like and they spend almost the entire remainder of the film hiding the relationship from their friends in absurd ways so as not to break the no-strings-attached pact. Why men this age would be against their supposed best friends being in

a healthy relationship is never explained. It sets up potentially comical and awkward moments when the guys lie to one another and downgrade women in attempts to fool themselves. This series of events is supposed to develop the characters and make them appealing. It does neither.

As expected, the female roles of Ellie, Chelsea and Vera (Imogen Poots, Mackenzie Davis and Jessica Lucas, respectively) are underdeveloped. Their only purpose in the film seems to be to help the men through their immature growing process, sometimes through action so unrealistic that it borders on absurd. Throughout the film, Jason treats Ellie like she is expendable and at one point he even calls her a prostitute because she has condoms next to her bed, yet she keeps going back to him for no apparent reason—aside from his looks. Casting Efron in a role with such an uncaring personality essentially tells women to lower their standards to nice hair and a six-pack. Teller's character instructs audience members to stay with their significant other, even if they constantly use you for sex and treat you to penis jokes.

It is groan-inducing for an audience to have to try and root for characters they should hate. The brief exception is Jordan and Lucas' sensible relationship where they grow to appreciate each oth-



Miles Teller, Michael B. Jordan and Zac Efron co-star in first time writer and director Tom Gormican's new film "That Awkward Moment" which hit theaters across the United States on Jan. 31.

er's talents and quirks. This should have been given more attention. The actors are generally allowed very little screen time to develop the feelings they supposedly have for one another.

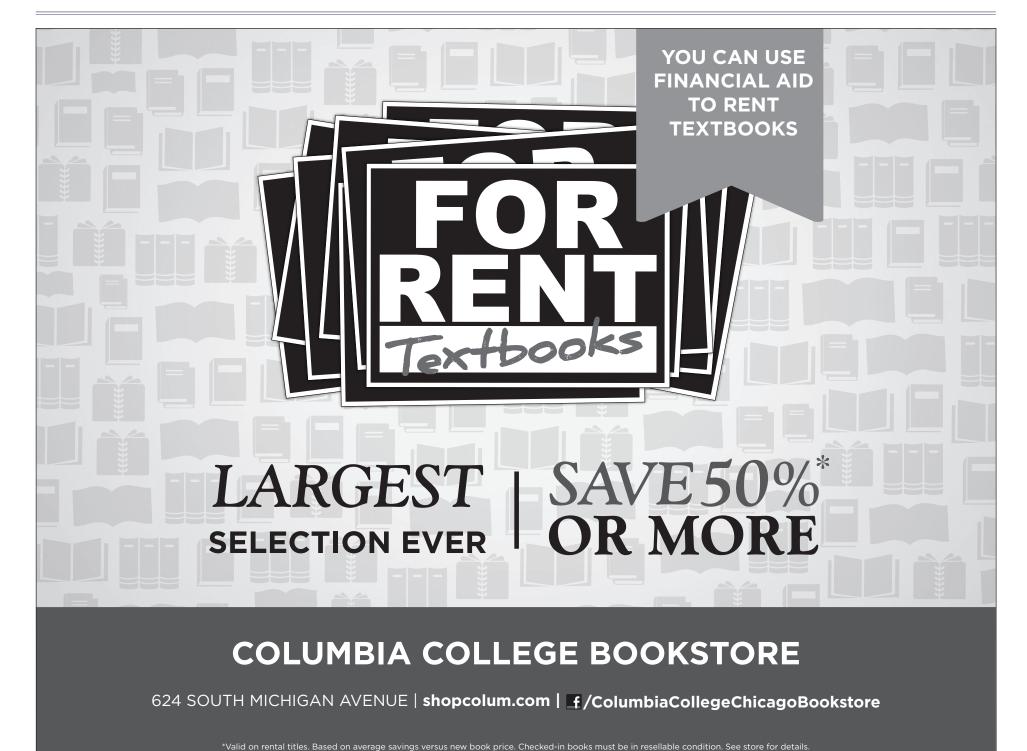
These are proven young actors who have shown in previous films that they have the ability to give great performances. Efron was brilliant in "The Paperboy" and Teller shined in "The Spectacular Now." It is disappointing that they are hampered in this current film by poor writing and a

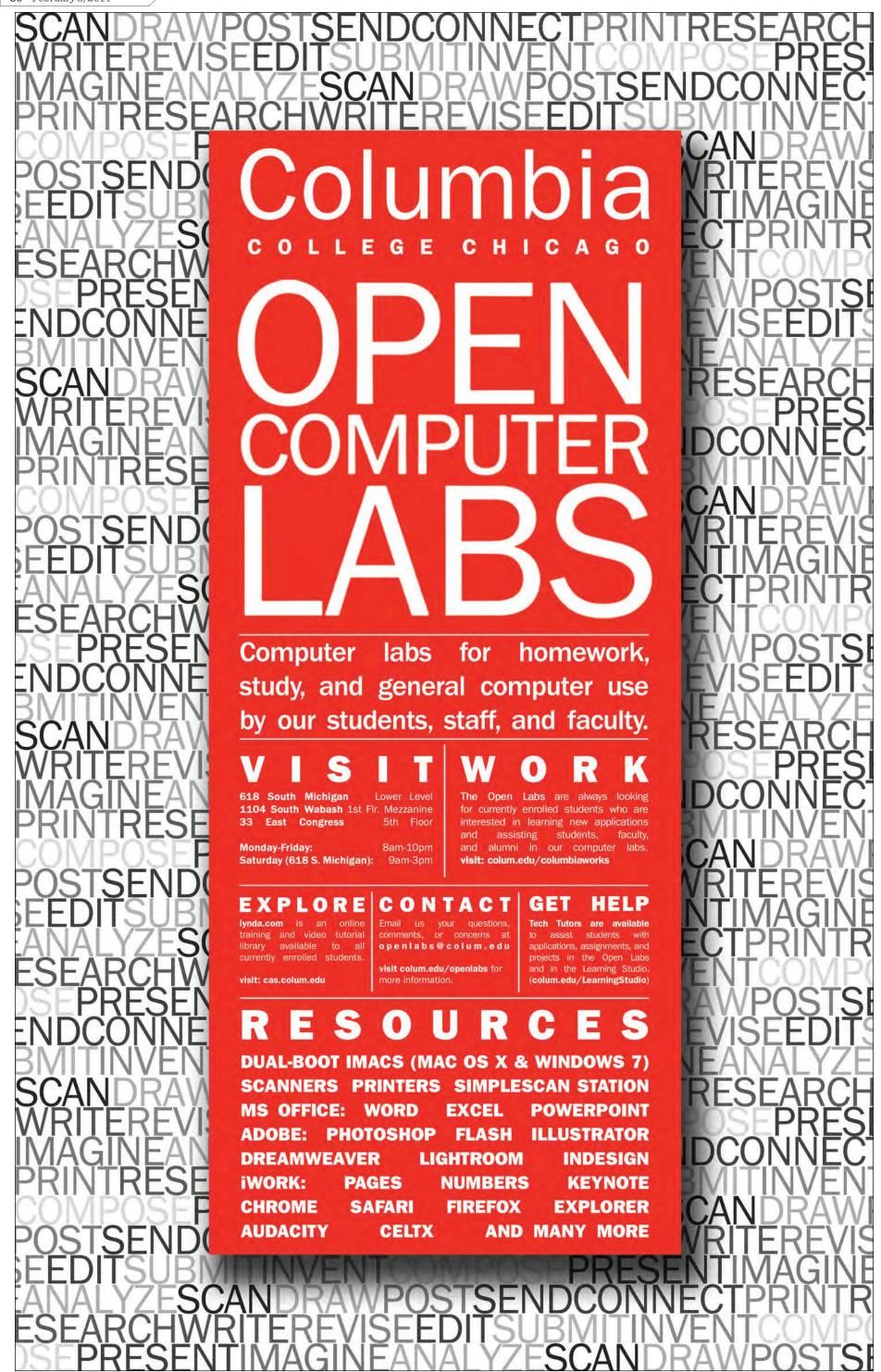
plot that could have been written in two sentences: "Bros before hoes," and "Just kidding, I really want a girlfriend."

The movie title seems to refer to the time in a man's late twenties when he has to decide whether he wants to keep living the detached, party lifestyle or grow up and commit to a relationship. This is a fine premise for a romantic comedy, and with better execution this film could have been the classic buddy comedy the makers may have intended it to be. "That Awk-

ward Moment" only seems only interested in cashing in on its protagonists' looks and more than a few crude jokes though. For every moment that is supposed to be emotionally moving, there are three more moments when someone's shirt comes off gratuitously. The only lesson to be learned from this film is how to continue being a juvenile male well into your late twenties or even your early thirties.

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# Meet the 'Neighbors' at SXSW

**GINA MCINTYRE** 

MCT Newswire

"NEIGHBORS," THE RAUNCHY Seth Rogen comedy about a married couple living next to a frat house, will premiere alongside Jon Favreau's restaurant comedy "Chef" and Rob Thomas' kickstarter-funded "Veronica Mars" movie as part of the 21st edition of the South by Southwest Film Conference and Festival in Austin, Texas, organizers announced Jan. 30.

The 115-film lineup at the fest, set for March 7-15, includes new movies from David Gordon Green, who will bring his adaptation of the Larry Brown novel "Joe," starring Nicolas Cage and Tye Sheridan. Diego Luna will screen his biopic "Cesar Chavez" and Patrick Brice, will premiere "Creep," starring Mark Duplass as a videographer who answers a want ad for a job only to discover the client is not what he appears to be.

Filmmaker Wes Anderson will also be present for a screening of his new film, "The Grand Budapest Hotel," followed by an indepth discussion about his career.

"I feel great about the range of work we're able to premiere this year," said Janet Pierson, film conference and festival producer. "It's a lot of films that I think are really intriguing across all budget sizes [and] sensibilities. As programmers, you look for work that just sort of speaks to you. You're looking for a point of view, perhaps, a singular voice, a directorial hand."

This year's event will showcase a range of new television series with an episodic section spotlighting high-profile shows such as HBO's "Silicon Valley" from Mike Judge; Showtime's horror romance "Penny Dreadful;" AMC's period-set take on the dawn of the personal computing age, "Halt and Catch Fire;" Hulu's supernatural-themed show, "Deadbeat;" Fox's

"Cosmos: A SpaceTime Odyssey;" and "From Dusk Till Dawn: The Series," debuting on Robert Rodriguez's El Rey Network.

"It's something we'd been interested in putting together for quite a while and finally the work caught up with being able to create a section dedicated to premiering one or two episodes of a new series," Pierson said.

The full music lineup for the festival has yet to be announced, but potential breakouts or notable appearances so far include folkrock singer/songwriter Angel Olsen, the duo of Broken Bells (Danger Mouse and James Mercer of The Shins), the vintage-sounding Dum Dum Girls, young rapper Vince Staples and Annie Clark, who performs under the moniker St. Vincent.

Although documentaries make up a smaller portion of the roster than in years past, a number of high-profile titles will screen at SXSW, including "Supermensch," Mike Myers' chronicle of legendary manager Shep Gordon, and "Manny," a portrait of boxer and Philippines congressman Manny Pacquiao, which is playing under the SXsports banner, a new sports-focused category that will include programming for festivalgoers and attendees of SXSW's Interactive conference.

Special events will commemorate the 40th anniversary of "The Texas Chain Saw Massacre," and the legacy of the original 1954 "Godzilla." Gareth Edwards, who is directing the new "Godzilla" movie scheduled to be released this summer, will appear for a Q-and-A about the Japanese release.

Overall, the lineup includes 68 titles from first-time filmmakers and 76 world premieres. Festival organizers said they received a record number of 6,482 submissions this year, up 14 percent from 2013.

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Seth Rogan's "Neighbors" will premiere at the annual South By Southwest film festival. The film features Rogan and Rose Byrne as a married couple with a newborn baby living next to a fraternity house led by Zac Efron. Audiences can assume director Nick Stoller took as much footage of a shirtless Efron as possible.



# TOP



Matt McCall Assistant A&C Editor

Nicole Montalvo Assistant A&C Editor

**Lorenzo Jackson** Assistant A&C

#### **NOT SAFE FOR WORK**

YOUR ONLINE TIME WASTERS OF THE WEEK

**BLOG: Craigslist Mirrors** 



While Craigslist may be known for its crazy advertisements and its even craigslistmirrors crazier posters, Craigslist Mirrors delves into an even creepier world

that lives within the classified sites: people looking to sell their mirrors. While it may not seem that odd, pages upon pages of photos of people reflected in the mirrors they are trying to sell provides more than enough laughs at both their hilariously poor attempts at photography and their total lack of self-awareness.

Check it out at CraigslistMirrors.com

VIDEO: Stephen Kardynal's Youtube Channel



Kardynal's channel delivers some of YouTube's most hilarious videos with the most popular uploads featuring Kardynal creating parody music vid-

eos of chart-topping songs by music's popular divas such as Lady Gaga, Mariah Carey and Miley Cyrus. The caveat: Kardynal performs his parodies on the video chat website Chatroulette with unsuspecting -and somewhat creepy- viewers as his audience. The unsuspecting chatters' reactions are equally horrifying and amusing.

Check it out at YouTube.com/user/SteveKardynal

#### **REGIONAL FOOD JOINTS CHICAGO NEEDS NOW**

In-N'-Out: This California burger joint may just be heaven on earth, even if the fries do totally suck. Placed on freshlybaked sourdough buns, the delicious 100 percent beef patties are topped with oozing American cheese and lathered in a generous helping of Thousand Island dressing. In-N'-Out isn't reinventing the wheel, but it is making it tastier.

Yats: A Cajun food place originating from, of all places, the Midwest, offers all the spicy Cajun classics, including Mach Coux, red beans and Andouille sausage, Jambalaya and etoufee. If you see a Yats, pull over immediately.

Whataburger: At Columbia, you'll find a lot of Texans like me walking around; If you listen closely enough, you'll hear a roar of stomachs aching for Whataburger, which offers patrons the juiciest, biggest, most artery-clogging motherf---er they've ever had. Best consumed between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m., their Honey Butter Chicken Biscuit is a national treasure.

Jack-in-the-Box: Don't knock it until you try it. Reasonably priced with a variety of menu items, you very well may come for a burger and leave with something else. If the tacos look totally wrong to you, eat them anyway. Inauthentic deep fried godliness, with an anglicizing slice of American placed inside it, is what this country is all about.

An authentic BBQ shack: A distinct Texas favorite is the BBQ shack. A steamy, side-of-the-road garbage bin that serves the sweetest, largest-portioned good eatin' and meatin' you could imagine. Chicago has its nicer sit down restaurants but they lack the ambience of those teeny, rundown buildings that make a southern man miss home.

#### **REASONS I LOVE DARK CHOCOLATE**

Rich and satisfying taste: Obviously, I enjoy eating it because I enjoy its taste. Dark chocolate has a bitterness that neither white nor milk chocolate possess. It is richer and bolder. Milk chocolate is too weak and white chocolate has a creamy sweetness that my taste buds are not fond of.

**Lots of antioxidants:** It's full of them! Antioxidants help your body in all sorts of unbelievable ways, including eye health and skin health. They can even prevent cancer, immune dysfunction, cataracts and Alzheimer's. Studies have shown that while antioxidants cannot actually cure any ailment, they can help greatly with prevention.

Much tastier than a vitamin: Potassium, copper, magnesium and iron are all present. Who needs to swallow a big, nasty pill when you can just let a delectable hunk of dark chocolate melt on your tongue?

Lowers blood pressure: With all the caffeine I consume and because high blood pressure runs in my family-probably because of the aforementioned caffeine problem which also runs in my family-I need to watch my blood pressure closely. I could stop drinking coffee ... But what would be the fun in that? So instead, I just eat dark chocolate! In moderation, of course.

Makes me smarter: It increases blood flow to the brain, so I'm convinced that it's helpful to eat a small amount of dark chocolate while writing a paper, doing a project, sitting through a long meeting or something else that requires a lot of "mind muscle." Gotta keep the blood flowing to seize the day!

#### **REASONS POETS MAKE BETTER LOVERS**

**Pillow talk:** Have you ever been with someone who just didn't know what to whisper to you? Silence may be fine for some, but nothing completes a cuddle session better than someone telling you how much closer they would like to be with you, even if you're already breathing their oxygen.

**Sexy comparisons:** "You're beautiful" can certainly do the job, but to compare someone to the feeling of cool waters after a barefoot jaunt through hot sand just seems more heartfelt.

**Hot and steamy vocabulary:** Words are a poet's bread and butter, so why not butter your partner's bread? Reciting some kinky lyrics for your lover can definitely set the mood like good wine, chocolate-covered strawberries and a bed full of rose petals.

**Immortality:** Many people forget that words can survive lifetimes. Imagine a poem written about you now resurfacing generations later. Before that poem the person reading it might not have known who you were, but now you've become someone's Mona Lisa, a picture of beauty and undying love from long ago.

Save money on Hallmark cards: In a relationship, wouldn't you rather have money for an extra cheddar biscuit at Red Lobster? I'm talking extra date money, moving your monthiversary from McDonald's to Olive Garden. Poets make those cards everyone buys last-minute for special events anyway, so why not cut out the middleman? Most of the time you get rid of the cards afterward. Why not just save money with something more memorable, like a warm meal from a guy with a lot of nice words?

# FEATURED PHOTOGRA



Angela Conners THE CHRONICLE

Lord Huron, a band from Michigan, performed Jan. 30 to a sold-out show at Chicago's Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. The band will perform in music festivals, most notably at the Shaky Knees Music Fest in Atlanta on May 10 with bands like Modest Mouse and the National.

# 

#### SCREEN



"American Horror Story" Finale

The series finale for "American Horror Story: Coven" was underwhelming at most. I was hoping for a complete witch bitch brawl but was left with a disappointing performance of the seven wonders. The ending also had more holes than a brick of swiss cheese. -A. Soave











"Chicago Fire" season 2

"Chicago Fire" season 2 has been a whirlwind of drama. It has lived up to expectations and evaded sophomore slump. The everyday life of the firemen of House 51 is a constant rollercoaster of emotions and I am totally along for the ride. -G. Wiley











"2 Days, 1 Night"

This Korean variety show takes you to different places to vacation in South Korea. With mini-challenges along the way, you never know what to expect. Not only that, it's free and available on the KBS YouTube page!











"Can't Remember to Forget You" Music Video

A little over-the-top or a little too topless? Shakira proves yet again her hips do not, in fact, lie in her newest, latest and arguably greatest video featuring Rihanna. This exotic duo heats up the screen in multiple scenes.

-A. Conners









#### PRINT \_



#### "Buzzfeed turns celebrities fat"

I thought this was going to be hilarious, but they literally just stretch down the celebrities' skin to give them a double chin. If you have high hopes like I did, they will soon be ironically distorted.

#### -S. Tadelman











"An Open Letter to Macklemore: Please Stop Saying You're Sorry

Complex Mag goes after Macklemore for apologizing to Kendrick Lamar via text because he believed the Grammys snubbed the rapper. Complex is right. You shouldn't apologize. Quit apologizing and adapt to the game. -N. Ihmoud









CLOUD NOTHINGS I'M NOT PART OF ME





"Tip and the Gipper" by C. Matthews

If you're into politics, then you should give this book a whirl. It tells the story of President Ronald Reagan and Tip O'Neill, who was the Speaker of the House during Reagan's term. It's about how both sides of government last worked together. -C. Jefferson











"Don't Fear the Reaper"

In Grantland's weekly NBA roundup, more emphasis was placed on Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant and his monster month of January. It's certainly an interesting read as other classic NBA nicknames are revisited. -K. Rich











#### MUSIC \_



#### Cilvia Demo by Isaiah Rashad

As Kendrick Lamar has garnished the most attention as a member of group Top Dawg Ent, softer-spoken, soulful-native Tennessean Isaiah Rashad looks to take the spotlight with the Cilvia Demo, which includes 14 tracks no sane person would skip over. -K. Rich











fuzzy. Since 2012's "Attack on Memory," which is my driving-too-fast-at-night anthem, the band's creativity has stalled. The new single is true to form with raspy vocals and a punkinfluenced track. -E. Earl











#### Along the Way by Dead Oceans

I need chill music, and this album fits the bill. Mark McGuire, formerly of Emeralds, has his instrumentation chops out and revved up for this entire guitar-and-synth-based album, and it's now free on Soundcloud, which is another thumbs up from me. -E. Earl











"Spaceships II" by Alex Wiley

Who better to be on the seguel to Kanye West's hit "Spaceships" but Chance the Rapper and GLC. The song belongs to Alex Wiley, but the additions of GLC and Chance make this song hit max volume as you cruise through Chicago. -N. Ihmoud









#### RANDOM



#### **Moving**

I'm moving and I'm not super excited. I am super excited to be living back in Logan Square again, but I'm not looking forward to packing all of my crap up only to unpack it hours later. I can think of so many wonderful things I'd rather do. -V. Morton



















Vanilla Chobani yogurt

vanilla Chobani yogurt has changed my mind.

the feeling that I'm eating something healthy

has gotten me in the habit of buying Chobani

I used to absolutely hate yogurt, but the

The tart vanilla flavor, smooth texture and



#### **Subway sandwiches**

Everyone always says Subway is gross and they can't stomach it anymore, but I absolutely love their vegetarian sandwiches on Italian herbs and cheese bread. It makes me feel all good inside for being really cheap and only sort of healthy. -J.Wolan











#### imma always let you finish

Stroms.



#### **Tumblr Valentines**

Asking someone to be your Valentine is difficult. With the new Valentines taking over Tumblr, I can do it with today's most popular references. If you want to make your sweetheart laugh uncomfortably, these Valentines should do it. -S. Schlieder















Uhmmm, WTF?



It's whatever.



I can dig it.





CITY FDITORIA

# Charter schools do not redeem system

WITH RESPONSES RANGING from great fanfare to angry outcry, the Chicago Board of Education approved seven out of 17 applications for new charter schools during its Jan. 22 meeting. The wave of charters may increase the number of classroom seats, but it won't necessarily improve the system for all students.

In the wake of 47 neighborhood school closures in the summer of 2013, the district is facing overcrowding. With too many students and no place for them to go, the district drafted a plan to add more charter schools immediately after the August 2013 closures. While charter school students often score higher on standardized exams, starting new schools rather than improving existing ones seems to serve the city's best interest, not the children's.

Charter schools are publicly funded, but they are exempt from some of the regulations that apply to public schools because they are run by nonprofits or charitable organizations that sign contracts with the Chicago Public Schools system. The Chicago Teachers Union opposes building more charter schools because such a quick turnaround from the 47 closures seems to be an evasive measure against the CTU's hiring negotiations, because new charters would not be required to hire back teachers who worked at the closed schools. CTU may be oversensitive, but it is on the right track—opening more schools is counterproductive when better solutions are available.

The 47 empty schools are in more convenient locations for students and many have supplies and existing infrastructure, as reported Sept. 23 by The Chronicle. The Board's plan to erect brand new buildings is an enormous investment when the 47 closed school buildings could be rehabbed and reopened as charter schools, particularly considering CPS is entrenched in \$1 billion in debt.

Charter schools may offer many students a better education than they might receive at the

neighborhood public schools, but charters have limited seats, and a student's admission hinges on his or her number being drawn in a lottery. The students who are not chosen must either attend public school or pay to enroll in a private academy, which many cannot afford to do-the 2011 tuition at the private Catholic schools in Chicago was \$13,078, according to the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Schools. The children whose families cannot pay tuition must go to public schools, and while the education there is often equitable, the schools receive fewer resources. Because of the disparity, this system creates two classes of education, setting up some kids to succeed and others to fall below those who had access to better opportunities.

Adding more charter schools to the city's system may seem like an attempt to equalize education, but every family wants their children to attend the school with the most resources to help them succeed, which, in Chicago, often means one of the charter schools. Unless the entire CPS system improves its resource allocation and information to equal those of the charter schools, there will always be education disparity. Instead of building more charter schools, the Board of Education should step back, reevaluate resources and devise a plan to make education in all schools equal.

Reopening some of the shuttered buildings would ease public anger toward the closures and save the district money. The money saved on additional charter schools could instead go to new textbooks and other learning materials, which the district desperately needs.

The Chicago Board of Education seems to favor a philosophy of tossing everything out the window and starting over rather than trying to repair an ailing school system, but its system is not made of machinery. Experimenting with children's educations can permanently damage the future of the city and its children.



CAMPUS EDITORIAL

### Colleges contend with social media

AFTER PICTURES OF a "black-themed" Martin Luther King, Jr. Day party thrown by an Arizona State University fraternity surfaced on Instagram, university administrators announced the frat would permanently lose its charter because of its inappropriate behavior, according to a Jan. 24 statement from ASU.

Although the party was hosted in an off-campus apartment unaffiliated with the university and unendorsed by the fraternity, the photos of frat members dressed in basketball jerseys and drinking from watermelon cups were deemed publicly offensive and groups demanded the university take action. The situation illustrates a cringe-worthy lack of judgment but also highlights the issue of colleges' freedom to monitor online behavior.

As a rule, colleges should not track students' social media. Social media is a public space, but each person's participation in it is a personal choice, and following students' social media accounts without cause is unjust.

The students should not have held such a party to begin with, and to then publicly document it only cemented their ignorance, but punishing students for ignorant

and offensive behavior violates the First Amendment. The frat is currently disbanded and the members are under investigation before further action is taken. The chapter issued an apology on its Facebook page Jan. 31, saying the members who held the party violated the frat's rules. The pictures were offensive because they portrayed a stereotype of a specific group, but it did not happen on campus, so ASU should hold its fire until the photos are determined to be more dangerous than stupid. The fraternity has been thoroughly shamed by the publicity surrounding the event, and the university does not need to carry on any further to teach it a lesson about social media use.

ASU has social media guidelines rather than policies because it is a publicly funded university, which means it has less autonomy to determine campus policies than privately funded colleges. The listed guidelines include only vague descriptors such as "use common sense" and "be respectful."

Columbia, on the other hand, is a private college. While it does not specifically monitor students' social media, administrators can discipline students if inappropriate behavior is brought to their

attention, according to the Student Handbook. Once reported, the students meet with the Behavioral Threat and Violence Assessment Team for possible disciplinary action, as reported April 13 by The Chronicle. The guideline is typically included in syllabi, where it says offensive language or racial slurs can result in discipline.

Posting racially stereotypical or offensive slurs on social media is grounds for termination from a job. In the case of faculty, the university should be strict because the faculty is the face of the institution. Students are the face of the college as well, but they are not permanently attached, so censoring their social media is more invasive. Colleges should be allowed to look into a student's social media if they receive complaints about threatening behavior, but they should not be able to investigate students for offensive behavior. It limits students' freedom of speech when they believe someone is watching.

Perhaps the frat members learned a lesson about responsibility in social media, but they should not have their academic futures permanently damaged because of a stupid mistake they made at a frat party.

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

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

-The Columbia Chronicle Editorial Board

# Hipsters poaching livelihood from subsistence hunters



**ELIZABETH EARL** 

**Opinions Editor** 

**EVERY YEAR, A** new "superfood" rolls across social media and into the pantries of health-conscious Americans. The organic obsession has recently reached a new height: Trendy omnivores are now hunting for their own wild meat.

During the past several years, hunting has attracted the attention of more females and urbanites looking to kill for sustenance. From 2006-2011, hunting participation grew 9 percent in the U.S., according to a 2011 report from the Census Bureau, a number that could be attributed to the growing popularity of eating locally-raised produce and meat, and hunting is as local as it gets.

According to a 2011 study from the Organic Trade Association, local-focused eating has increased steadily during the past decade. But while hunting and gathering in the "natural" way may sound like a romantic idea, we are not Paleolithic nomads, and the trend could damage both the animal population and consumers.

Subsistence hunting, or depending on wildlife as a primary or secondary food source, is fairly widespread in the rural U.S. Hunting is a way of life for rural residents—the Census bureau estimates that 58 percent of all U.S. hunters live in rural or small towns. If more metropolitan residents venture into the wilderness to collect their meats, the longstanding rural and small-town ways of life could be threatened by a passing fad.

A number of books and documentaries illuminating the less than idyllic food industry of the U.S., such as the documentary "Food, Inc." and the book "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan, have increased ethical food awareness in recent years. Some people have transitioned to purchasing local produce from farmers markets and inquiring about the treatment of an animal

before it was killed. But killing their own food isn't the answer, either. If more locavores and organic hunters take up rifles to obtain their all-natural meat, not only would wildlife populations likely dwindle, but those who depend on hunting could see a rise in competition, too.

Hunting is not the first or only victim of the health-novelty craze. Quinoa, the much-acclaimed super-grain imported from Peru, has skyrocketed in U.S. popularity in the past several years. The incredible demand has raised the price of the grain in Peru, however, making it too expensive for people who depend on it, according to a February 2013 Food and Drug Administration report.

Coffee has also suffered the aftermath of increased popularity, according to Fair Trade USA. As higher quality beans have increased in price, coffee farmers are treated poorly and paid little. Fair-trade coffee farmers may not be much better off, according to a decade-long study released in 2009 from Germany's University of Hohenheim, which found fairtrade Thai coffee farmers were just as poor as their commercially available counterparts.

The international food industry

is a web of supply and demand, complicated by commercial agricultural-company politics contending with the more traditional family-business model that has dominated the agricultural industry for thousands of years.

Monsanto, the seed distribution giant, has been at war with small farms for years over copyright infringement on its customdesigned genetically modified seeds, and small farms don't have the money or time to spend in court to contend the lawsuits. But some of the blame for the jeopardized agricultural industry can be attributed to soccer moms and hipsters, who follow health trends with blind faith without taking time to research their newest gourmet obsession.

The Internet is brimming with information about ethical eating, and digging up under-the-radar information should be a challenge readily taken up by gastronomic hipsters. While they may not want to eat the suspiciously perfect produce, every state in the U.S. has an organic farm of some kind where produce is sold at a price that will support the farm. There are nearly 13,000 organic farms in the U.S. that do not use genetically modified organisms or inject

hormones into their livestock, according to the Organic Farm Research Foundation.

Approximately 2 percent of the U.S. food supply is grown on organic farms, according to the OFRF. Playing by the simple rules of economics, if more people demand organic meats and produce, more farms will have to comply with those standards. Organically raised meats and produce are not significantly more expensive than their packaged equivalents: Purchasing them from a farmers market ensures that the person who grew them can verify the growing or living conditions and guarantees that they are the ones who profit.

While a few more hunters would not devastate the country's wildlife population, stalking a deer for organic venison is a half-baked idea. Instead of sinking money into a hunting license and high-grade equipment, trend-hungry locavores should spend the extra money at a market that carries meat raised on a small farm, which is a little pricier but better than what can be found at a chain grocer. It is also better than digging around for the bullet in the deer afterward.

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#### Should colleges be allowed to monitor students' social media activity?



I understand the safety, but I don't agree with having teachers look at all the negative things that you can

Chassidy Spencer sophomore ASL-English interpretation major



No, they shouldn't monitor social media at all. As far as monitoring it, what could they possibly want to know? It's public information and they can look it up but not monitor it.

Colin Stiscak junior arts, entertainment & media management major



Not if it's nothing concerning the school. It is your privacy and your personal life. Some people like having their school life and personal life separate. That would not be a good idea.

Anna Ramirez junior fashion studies major

# State of the Union becomes #StateOfAwful



Copy Chief

**THE CONSTITUTION STATES** that the president "shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." Though its forms have varied across American history-written messages, radio addresses-the State of the Union is a hallmark of the presidency. It is an opportunity for the commander-in-chief to set standards and expectations for the political year, as well as a chance to rally support and inspire change.

But in a world of disillusioned, disgruntled and tech-savvy

individuals, the State of the Union hardly holds any weight among Americans—at least according to the buzz on Twitter.

Approximately 2.1 million SOTU-related tweets were sent through the Twittersphere on the evening of Jan. 28, according to Nielsen SocialGuide. From average Joes and Janes to congressmen and B-list celebrities, everyone had something not-so-clever to say about President Barack Obama's State of the Union address.

rhetoric: "Get this motherf\*ckin constitution off my mother\*ckin agenda!' - Obama #SOTU."

"Imagine how much Obama's approval rating would skyrocket if he and Michelle came out and reenacted Jayoncé's 'Drunk In Love' performance," tweeted @jwoodham, who is both a "Human Bean" and "2Pac without

And last but not least, @TXRandv14. real-life Texas Congressman Randy Weber,

make people chuckle and retweet, but are as vapid as any tweets about Miley Cyrus, Justin Bieber or any other washed-up teenybopper who strays from the path of righteousness. While Obama is a powerful speaker who has incredible speech writers at his beck and call, this SOTU-which had the potential to move a nation—and the possibility for real discussion will be lost to the Library of Congress' Twitter archives and the media cesspool.

Yes, the State of the Union address is a publicity sham. It is a charade that all presidents must play: pontificate on the work that should be done but won't be; cut the opposing party down to size; lull audiences into complacency with quaint anecdotes dug up by interns; parade around guests of honor as tools to prove points that are then lost in the ups and downs of Republicans and Democrats choosing what to stand and applaud for. After a frustrating 2013 with endless back-and-forths across Washington, D.C., any speech the president could have written would have inevitably been a stab at Congress, and Obama's macho attitude was more a threat than a promise. The State of the

Union is inherently pointless because if Congress was actually doing its job, the president would not have to tell the Representatives how all their "hard work" is going.

But even if all these things are true, the barrage of mocking and irreverent #SOTU tweets are a sign of the times. Too many people are too quick to judge, too quick to condemn, too quick to get in their two bits before someone else comes up with something more clever. There may have been articulate, constructive #SOTU tweets that offered opinions and ideas that could shape America's future, but sifting through the slimy Twitter attention whores leaves one more hopeless than before the president even opened his mouth.

The hour of futile flexing and pointless political spanking in front of Congress was nothing more than Twitter bait couched in a televised spectacle. If he wanted to waste an hour, Obama might as well have taken to Twitter, delivering his presidential sermon with snarky hashtags and sassy selfies. Because if everyone else was doing it, why shouldn't he?

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#### The State of the Union has become a pointless national publicity circus

"I wish my boyfriend dressed like Joe Biden. #helookscrisp," tweeted @HuntsmanMame, a self-proclaimed "Political Junkie, Classical Pianist, World Traveler, and Foodie."

@TheBrandonMorse, a "Texas born. Interweb cowboy conservatarian" who claims to have "weaponized ADD" translated for those of us lost in President Obama's repetitive political

likened the president to something of a Nazi cook: "On floor of house waitin on 'Kommandant-In-Chef'... the Socialistic dictator who's been feeding US a line or is it 'A-Lying?"

The State of the Union, like any other largely-viewed televised event-33.3 million people watched the speech, according to Nielsen.com—is an opportunity for anyone with Internet access to spit out quick one-liners that

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# Possible national park title creates hope

**MARIA CASTELLUCCI** 

Metro Editor

WITH THEIR COMMUNITY burdened by high unemployment rates and stagnant development, residents of the Pullman neighborhood, located on Chicago's South Side, are looking to revitalize the area and honor its rich history.

U.S. Sens. Mark Kirk and Dick Durbin and U.S. Rep. Robin Kelly introduced legislation in Congress to create a national park in Pullman's historic district near the 95th/Dan Ryan Red Line stop in hopes that it will create jobs and preserve the neighborhood's place in U.S. history, according to a press release from Kelly's office. Congress is expected to vote on the bill during its Feb. 3 session.

Pullman was created in 1880 for the employees of the Pullman Palace Car Company, providing them housing in the same place they manufactured rail cars, as reported Dec. 6 2010 by the Chronicle. The important history of the African-American labor movement has allowed the National Park Service to designate the area as historically significant enough for a national park title, according to a July 2013 National Park survey.

Most Pullman residents are supportive of the possible designation, said Lorraine Brochu, president of the Pullman Civic Organization. She said residents hope a national park would draw businesses to the area and lead to job growth.



Anthony Soave THE CHRONICLE

Hotel Florence, 11111 S. Forrestville Ave., is one of many historic Pullman buildings slated to be part of the neighborhood's possible national park.

"We see this as a potential economic boom," Brochu said. "We're looking forward to the jobs and the support organizations that might come with this, and of course, if it is a national park, there is a lot more attention both on the local and the national level."

The National Park Conservation Association determined that a Pullman National Park would lead to more than 300 jobs, six times the number of jobs Pullman historic sites currently provide, and would generate \$40 million in revenue within 10 years, based on the success of other national parks and tourism sites.

Pullman's city location and proximity to the 95th/Dan Ryan Red Line stop improve the park's economic potential because it is widely accessible, said Lynn McClure, Midwest director of the NPCA.

"The thing about putting a national park in a city is that all of a sudden you make a national park experience reachable for a lot of people who might not otherwise head out to Yellowstone or the Grand Canyon or even the Statue of Liberty," McClure said.

The national park title would place Pullman's public historic buildings under the ownership of the National Park Service, allowing federal funds to go toward maintenance costs, according to Kelly's press release.

If legislation is passed, the first building the National Park Service is likely to take up will be the Pullman Factory Complex, the historic building where Pullman factory cars were made.

For David Peterson, president of the financially struggling A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum, 10406 S. Maryland Ave., the national park title would provide economic stability for his museum.

"For 19 years we've operated under an entrepreneurship model,"

Peterson said. "We do not receive any city, state or federal funding ... I would like for the next generation of the museum to move forward a little more comfortably."

Not everyone supports the title, however. Steve Stanek, researcher at the conservative Heartland Institute, said he does not think the federal government should invest in such projects when the nation is in debt and can't currently pay for its national parks.

"I think this is just a way for Kirk and Durbin to throw money to Pullman," Stanek said. "The federal government is already struggling with huge amounts of debt and it should not go to new commitments when it cannot sustain the commitments it currently has. They can barely pay for the historic sites they have now. How can they possibly go looking for money to spend on new sites? It's fiscally irresponsible."

Despite concerns about the national debt, Peterson, a life long Pullman resident, said the community would benefit immensely from increased financial support.

"If resources are poured into cultural institutions that will help disseminate and interpret information from an African-American perspective, I think it will improve the community more," Peterson said. "The facts still remain, the majority [of Pullman] is African-American, so whatever needs to go on needs to cater to them to a degree."

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# Liquor moratorium dries up West Town

**NATALIE CRAIG** 

Assistant Metro Editor

EVEN IN A city with a growing number of breweries, liquor moratoriums and dry precincts hamper brewers in opening up tasting rooms and bars, an obstacle that is preventing one West Town brewery from making its debut.

Plans to open Forbidden Root craft brewery at 1746 W. Chicago Ave. are on hold while owners Robert Finkel and B.J. Pichman seek to have a liquor moratorium lifted on that stretch of Chicago Avenue. Aldermen have the power to lift the bans, but Alderman Joe Moreno (1st Ward) has vowed that he will not lift any more liquor moratoriums during the remainder of his term, which ends in 2015.

According to Neal McKnight, president of the East Village Association, Moreno is working with the EVA to reduce vagrancy and substance abuse in his ward, which is why he vowed not to lift any more bans until the end of his term.

The community does not want to deal with the nuisances of alcohol use or create an opening for businesses that are not consistent with residential uses, McKnight said. He noted it wants to foster the development of locally owned businesses that mix well with the rest of the neighborhood, which is primarily residential.

"The concern isn't directed toward Forbidden Root because we don't have an objection toward them," McKnight said. "We are concerned about the loss of any planning tool for the development of businesses along Chicago Avenue."

Finkel and Pichman declined

Trent Holton, manager of Half Acre Brewery, 4257 N. Lincoln Ave., said liquor moratoriums are more likely to be in place in areas with a high concentration of families.

"We have an excellent relationship with our neighbors, and we try to reciprocate and help them out as much as we can with community events, and they have been very supportive of us," Holton said.

Liquor moratoriums span two blocks on either side of a street, said Raymond Valadez, chief of staff for Moreno's office. When a moratorium is lifted, other businesses in the immediate area can apply for a liquor license.



Angela Conners THE CHRONICLE

Forbidden Root plans to open at 1746 W. Chicago Ave. if West Town's liquor moratorium is lifted.

"If [the moratorium] would be lifted at the location, [Forbidden Root Brewery] would be a good business to come into the community," Valadez said.

Using his power to lift moratoriums for certain businesses, Moreno granted a liquor license in 2012 to Garden Gourmet Market, 1130 N. Ashland Ave., which sells bottled beer and wine. He took the action

because the owner worked with the EVA to reach an agreement, McKnight said. The owner declined to comment.

McKnight explained that the moratorium was lifted in that instance because it is a store owned by someone who has lived in Chicago for years. However, some

» SEE **BREWERY**, PG. 41

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

# **Conceal and scary**

THE NEWLY EFFECTIVE concealed carry law has taken off in Illinois, with 33,361 applications filed as of press time. Allowing average Joes to carry their guns has obvious risks, making background checks paramount. However, the number of individuals police have flagged is alarmingly minimal.

According to a Jan. 30 Chicago Sun-Times report, local police stations statewide have challenged less than one percent-a disconcerting 236-of concealed carry applications. Perhaps 99 percent of applicants are goodnatured, law-abiding citizens who truly want to exercise their Second Amendment right to bear a firearm, but it's more likely that the standards for approval are a bit too lax.

Grounds for rejection for a gun license are three or more gangrelated arrests within seven years, five or more arrests of any type

within seven years or a history of mental illness. While these qualifications provide a little leeway for those with a spotty history, they aren't strict enough to ensure dangerous criminals don't slip through the cracks.

For instance, the Cook County

Sheriff's Office filed an objection on a highranking Latin Kings leader who has been arrested 12 times but never convicted. Although Sheriff Tom Dart's office expressed concern, the gang leader was still issued a state firearm owner's identification card, which allows him to own a gun and is the first step in a concealed carry license. It's unsettling that a man with known gang ties and a record littered with arrests, regardless of whether or not he was convicted, was given

days, but the Second Amendment doesn't protect the public from a Latin King.

A state licensing board, which includes a former judge, two former prosecutors, three former FBI agents and a psychiatry professor, will review the 236 objections that have been filed and decide if the applicants have been rightfully denied concealed carry permits. The board will meet monthly to consider denied applicants.

Concealed carry has the potential to run effectively, but it can't do so until the requisites are stringent enough to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

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a permit to own a gun. One could

debate his constitutional rights for

Alderman Bob Fioretti (2nd Ward) advocates raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour on Jan. 30 at the Chicago Temple, 77 W. Washington St.

# Alderman, workers fight for \$15 wage

**MARIA CASTELLUCCI** 

Metro Editor

MINIMUM WAGE REFORM is gaining momentum as local workers ask voters to support a city referendum that would increase the city's minimum wage to \$15 an hour.

Low-wage workers, community groups and the City Council Progressive Caucus, including Alderman John Arena (45th Ward) and Alderman Scott Waguespack (32nd Ward), gathered Jan. 30 at the Chicago Temple, 77 W. Washington St., to urge voters to approve a March 18 referendum that would raise the minimum wage to \$15 for employees who work at major corporations that earned more than \$50 million in the 2013 fiscal year.

Increasing the minimum wage would dramatically improve the communities and lives of residents of low-income neighborhoods on the South and West sides, said Gloria Warner, presi- work minimum wage jobs live in dent of Action Now and an poverty explaining a full-time mini-Englewood resident.

"When people make a living wage, they have more money to spend at their local businesses," Warner said. "This will help lift up the whole community. If people had jobs that they could support their family [with], then they wouldn't have to turn to illegal means to try to support their family ... this will cut the violence and the crime down."

Warner said increasing the minimum wage would not only improve living conditions for low-wage adults, but their children as well.

"Our children suffer the most from parents with low-wage jobs," Warner said. "When children are hungry and don't have a stable place to live, how can they be expected to do well in school? So their education suffers."

Warner said single parents who mum wage worker in Chicago who earns \$8.25 an hour has an annual salary of approximately \$17,000. According to the Economic Policy Institute's budget calculator, to live modestly in Chicago a worker should make more than \$50,000

However, many groups have spoken out against raising the minimum wage on a federal and state level. The Republican Policy Committee released a report May 7, 2013 stating that raising the minimum wage will take jobs away from youth, whom minimum-wage jobs were originally meant for, and corporations will be forced to reduce their number of employees to compensate for the increased wages.

» SEE WAGE, PG. 41

# NOTABLE native

#### SETH KRAVITZ

Occupation: Founder of Technori.com Neighborhood: The Loop



Courtesy SETH KRAVITZ

**NATALIE CRAIG** Assistant Metro Editor

SETH KRAVITZ GREW up in Youngstown, Ohio, where he dreamed of being an architect and filled notebooks with drawings of buildings. But as he followed in his sister's footsteps to Ohio State University, he realized that neither architecture nor traditional schooling were right for him.

After dropping out of college, Kravitz, 31, started a company called InsuranceAgents.com, which was ranked 24th in the INC 500, a magazine that honors prestigious start-ups. Kravitz was making millions before he moved to Chicago.

But Kravitz's success ended in 2009 when he and his college sweetheart divorced, and poor business choices led to extreme revenue loss. Today Kravitz runs Technori. com, a platform that provides curated content, advice on starting up new companies and a network for tomorrow's startup leaders to connect and collaborate. Technori. com hosts the third largest monthly starter in the country called Nori Pitch, where 500 people gather at the Chase Auditorium, 10 S. Dearborn St., to watch five companies launch onstage.

Kravitz also enjoys taking pictures, writing and is a self-proclaimed beer fanatic. He recently opened a brewery called Strange Pelican, 5435 N. Wolcott, and a coffee roasting company called Bow Truss, 406 N. Wells St.

THE CHRONICLE: What attracted you

**SETH KRAVITZ:** I think most people in the Midwest, when they choose to move somewhere but want to stay in the Midwest ... migrate to Chicago. I just wanted to be in the big city full of friendly people.

When did you realize you would need to make changes in your life to become successful?

There were a lot of points like that. I dropped out of Ohio State my third year ... and I realized that people would actually pay me to do web design. I wasn't really good at dealing with bosses, so it all just kind of clicked at that point in my life, that

I would rather go out and create a company rather than work for one. The second [point] would be the pretty profound change when everything happened in 2009.... I built a company that was growing crazy in 2008 ... It was the greatest time of our lives. Then I got divorced. [The company] was bankrupt by the end of the summer.... There was a lot of growing up that happened that year, really quickly. It just changed my outlook completely.

#### How did you come up with the idea for Technori.com?

Half of it was because I wanted to meet people, friends and the community around myself while helping out at the same time. The other half was [because at the] time, being an entrepreneur in Chicago was still kind of a lonely thing in the sense of everyone was operating in pockets all over the city, but there wasn't one cohesive community that was coming together. I just realized I could kill two birds with one stone.

What made you want to open a brewery and a coffee shop?

After doing about a decade of tech companies, I decided I didn't want to do tech for a while.

What is it like running these businesses?

I would say 80 percent of it is all the same, as far as hiring really amazing people, operating lean and all sorts of things where it doesn't matter if you are doing a tech company or a coffee company. It's fundamentally different in the sense of for the first time I actually can visit it; it's tangible. I have never had anything really tangible before, so that's really nice.

What inspires your work?

I just love the creative process in the beginning. It has always been my favorite part of any company, the first year and a half of actually taking nothing and turning it into something that is actually a company. That has always been the really fun part.

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# Teachers union vows to fight pension cuts

NOREEN S. AHMED-ULLAH

MCT Newswire

CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION President Karen Lewis said at the Jan. 29 Chicago Board of Education meeting that negotiations on a pension overhaul with the school district are at a stalemate, and her members are ready to aggressively fight proposed cuts to their retirement benefits.

According to Lewis, the latest proposal from the district would eliminate annual cost-of-living increases for retirees and cut total pension payments for retirees by about a third.

"We are concerned about what it looks like," Lewis said. "What they want are benefit cuts and cuts to the cost of living, and that is what they claim is going to save a lot of money. It's a very shortsighted approach to the problem."

Negotiations between Chicago Public Schools and the CTU about pension changes have gone on for months, but Lewis said the district is refusing to meet with them. CPS said that is not the case.

"For the last two years, the district has been working to reach an agreement with CTU on meaningful pension reform that protects the retirement security of our teachers while avoiding dramatic cuts to the classroom," said CPS spokesman

Joel Hood. "We have always been willing to sit down for discussions with the CTU."

CPS officials declined to discuss the district's latest offer on pension changes.

Likewise, Lewis declined to provide details of the union's offer to solve the pension problem. The union said it has offered solutions that include restoring the pension levy, which was removed after the mayor's office took control of public schools in the mid-1990s.

The Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund, along with four city pension funds, face a combined debt of \$27.4 billion. The CTU plans to join with unions representing city firefighters, police and laborers in Springfield on Feb. 19 to fight for their pensions.

Ballooning pension payments, have sapped the CPS budget, which rose to \$613 million this year, while a "pension holiday" that saved the district money in previous years was not extended by state legislators last year.

The district has said it will again face a budget deficit next year of approximately \$1 billion unless the pension problem is fixed. The pension costs are expected to rise to \$750 million in the coming year.

The cash-strapped district closed almost 50 schools and cut budgets



Samantha Tadelman THE CHRONICLE

The Chicago Teachers Union is at odds with the Chicago Board of Education, headquartered at 125 S. Clark St., over retirement benefits and pensions.

for individual schools by an estimated \$160 million in the summer of 2013.

CPS said it has addressed its budget shortfall by "reducing central office, administrative and operations spending, while protecting the critical investments necessary to allow our students to thrive."

Lewis was quick to criticize CPS for investing in more charter schools—the school board approved seven new charters this month. For more information on charter schools, see the editorial on Page 34.

"The notion that the pension is driving this [budget deficit] is an excuse," Lewis said. "Stop opening up new schools. Every new school you open up, there's significant start-up money required. They want to spend the money the way they want to, and they do not want to spend it on pensions."

Education policy expert Rod Estvan of Access Living and the Civic Federation criticized the district for not creating a multiyear strategy to address the deficit. Estvan said the district's expenses grow every year.

"Even if they reduce the pension holiday expenditure, they're still in long-term financial trouble because of rising costs such as teacher salary increases, charters, additional magnet schools and International Baccalaureate programs and school expansions," Estvan said. "I think [Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the district] are hopeful that pension reform ... will save them a significant amount of money and free up cash to pay for these programs."

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#### WEED

#### **Continued from Front Page**

If enough of the public disapproves of the proposed rule, it can be changed, said Dan Linn, executive director of the Illinois Chapter of the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws.

"Even if it isn't changed, I think that you will probably see a court decision being made on it down the road anyway," Linn said.

Patients may resort to purchasing marijuana illegally from the underground market in order to preserve their right to own firearms, he said.

Colleen Daley, executive director of the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence, said the proposed rule is similar to a policy in the Right to Carry law that states when someone is under the influence of alcohol they may not carry firearms.

"I think it's probably a reasonable measure," Daley said. "I think the individuals who are on certain medicines shouldn't be carrying firearms, the same way we don't want individuals who are drinking [to do it]."

Daley said the guidelines for legalizing marijuana should be thoroughly evaluated.

Federal law states that anyone who is an unlawful user or addicted to a controlled substance is prohibited from shipping, receiving, transporting or possessing a firearm or

ammunition. Although medicinal marijuana is now legalized in Illinois, federal law dictates that no exceptions will be made for medicinal marijuana patients, even if state law sanctions it, according to a Sept. 21, 2011 open letter from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Ali Nagib, assistant director of NORML, said the IDPH's proposal is an illegitimate attempt to meet federal law criteria that seems ironic because state laws contradict the federal laws.

"The state is perfectly happy to write a 200-page bill that says you can violate federal law when it comes to cannabis and the Controlled Substances Act, but you can't violate the Federal Gun Control act at the same time," Nagib said.

Some gun rights advocates believe the proposal is a political effort to decrease the number of guns in Illinois.

"The state of Illinois under Gov. Pat Quinn seems to have an antigun bias," said John Boch, president of Guns Save Life. "They would just assume to disarm as many people as possible, and they think that is going to make our streets safer when in fact all we have to do is look at Chicago, where they have strict gun control. We can all see that crime is out of control in Chicago."

While the marijuana law went into effect Jan. 1-making Illinois one of 21 states to legalize medical cannabis—it will take the next couple of months to draft rules to accompany the law. The Medical Marijuana Law states that adults who have any of 33 specified medical conditions including cancer and AIDS may apply to get a patient registry identification card to purchase medicinal marijuana. With this card, an annual fee of \$150 and a background check, patients can purchase 2.5 ounces of marijuana every two weeks.

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STOCK PHOTO

Medicinal marijuana patients may have to waive Second Amendment rights to receive medicine.

#### BREWERY

Continued from PG. 37

instances of lifting the moratorium have not been as successful.

According to McKnight, throughout the past decade residents of that stretch of Chicago Avenue have seen liquor license holders acting irresponsibly.

"Some of those licenses were operated by people who weren't responsible, and sometimes those licenses are meant to prey on people who had substance abuse [issues] and also to facilitate sales to minors," McKnight said. "We wanted to put an end to that and to a certain extent we have."

Forbidden Root's owners took their plans to a Jan. 23 community

meeting where they attempted to negotiate with community groups and more than 300 residents. Although McKnight said both the EVA and Forbidden Root are working to meet each other's needs, Finkel and Pichman may have to take their case to the City Council.

"I think [Finkel and Pichman] understand that we have broader issues than just Forbidden Root," McKnight said. "We have come to understand that they're pretty committed to the neighborhood and being good neighbors. That's a great thing I think we are trying to find a solution that is in the best interest of the neighborhood and then allowing them to open."

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#### WAGE

Continued from PG. 38

Leslie Hairston Alderman (5th Ward) said increasing the minimum wage is the starting point for improving Chicago's poor neighborhoods.

"This is a conversation that needs to be had and it needs to be out there in the open," Hairston said. "We need to have an intelligent conversation about how to support our community ... and it starts with paying \$15 an hour."

Alderman Bob Fioretti (2nd Ward) said most economic development has been focused on downtown, excluding neighborhood

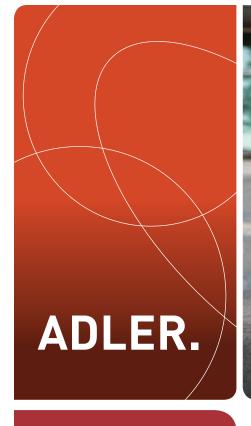
development and leaving many residents unemployed and reliant on low-wage positions. He said it is only fair that low-wage workers receive pay raises.

Katelyn Johnson, executive director of Action Now, said she understands the claims made by the Republican Party but the minimum wage is not a living wage.

According to Johnson, workers have been waiting too long for the wage increase and are losing patience.

"Poverty crushes everyone," Johnson said. "The time for asking is over. It is time to demand."

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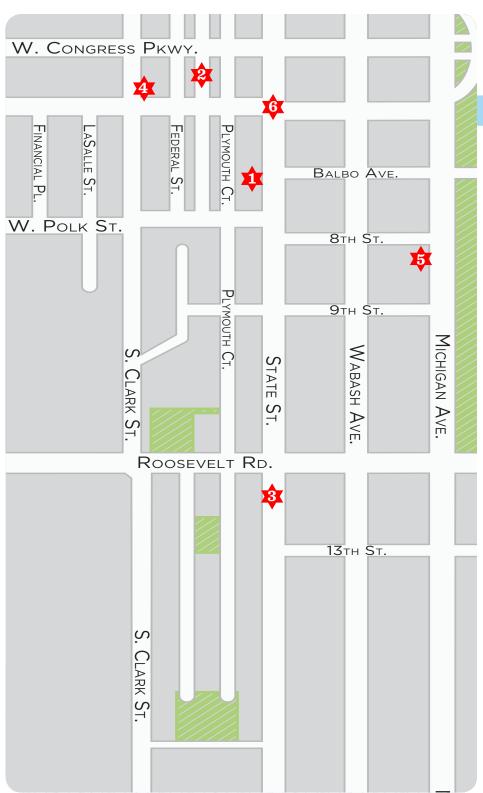
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# **FEATURED**PHOTOGRAPH



Grace Wiley THE CHRONICLE

Locals Zac Tiknis and Scott Bish toast over a beer tasting at Jerry's, 5419 N. Clark St., featuring the newly unveiled Half Acre Brew Company's Big Hugs Imperial Stout, which was aged for two years in Jerry's sandwich shop basement for improved taste.





#### Unbe-weave-able

A 29-year-old woman was arrested for battery Jan. 29 after she grabbed a 30-year-old classmate's head in a classroom on the 600 block of South State Street. The woman pulled the victim's hair weave and earrings out, resulting in a scratch on the victim's right ear. The victim left the classroom to report the incident to police.



A legally parked gray Acura at 536 S. Dearborn St. was stolen Jan. 27 while the 21-year-old owner was visiting the city. The doors were locked and the keys were not left in the ignition. There were no witnesses to the theft. Police have no knowledge of the car's location and were unable to identify the offender.

### 3 Don't text me bro

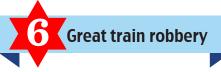
A man who had previous altercations with his 26-year-old brother-in-law received a series of texts on Jan. 28 while sitting in his vehicle at 1167 S. State St. One of the texts reads, "I told you one day you are going to regret how you talk and treat me." The victim called police for fear of being attacked.



A computer hard drive was stolen on Jan. 29. out of a gray 2001 Mazda parked at 611 S. Wells St. The 28-year-old victim said the thief broke into the car through the rear passenger window and stole the computer hard drive which was in the back seat of the vehicle. The offender has not been identified as of press time.

# Family feud

A 31-year-old woman and her 32-year-old husband got into an argument Jan. 26, which resulted in the man punching his wife in the face in a hotel room on the 800 block of South Michigan Avenue. When the woman called police to report the incident, she refused to press charges against her husband. His whereabouts were unknown.



A 19-year-old woman's wallet was stolen from her backpack Jan. 29. The woman reported to police that she was standing in a packed CTA train car and noticed her wallet was missing when she exited at the Harrison Red Line stop, 608 S. State St. It contained her Bank of America credit card and \$205 in cash. The wallet has not been recovered.

#### COMICS FROM COLUMBIA'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST.

Edited by Chris Eliopoulos





















































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Irreverently written for our readers by

#### The Chronicle Staff Oracles

ARIES (March 21-April 20) A teacher's mispronunciation of your name, which forces you to correct it out loud, is not grounds for withdrawal from the course.

TAURUS (April 21-May 20) You miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take. Therefore you need to take more shots when you go out drinking.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21) It is the second week of school and you are probably feeling very cold. Keep your friends close but your space heaters closer.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) In order to find happiness, Panda Express cannot be your first choice. **LEO** (July 23—Aug. 22) Today you're going to run into your ex and he or she is going to

say hello to you—whatever decisions you make will determine your future. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This week, your social life will be quite plentiful; however

your academic and work environment will suffer. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23–Oct. 23) Your secret crush is going to make the first move by poking

you on Facebook, like it's 2005. SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Like your neglected fish bowl, your life needs some cleaning up.

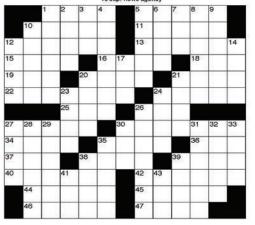
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23—Dec. 21) That selfie you thought you deleted was accidently Instagramed with a Brannan filter.

 $\textbf{CAPRICORN} \ (\text{Dec. } 22-\text{Jan. } 20) \ \text{Tomorrow your significant other will wake you up by}$ popping the zits on your forehead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21—Feb. 19) Don't get that crispy chicken sandwich from that fast food joint today. The price matches the amount of feathers you will find in your meal.

PISCES (Feb. 20—March 20) This week a call from your parents will transform the way you see financial responsibility.

### ACROSS



### Columbia

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Feb. 1, 1975

Newhouse and Hanrahan Speak here on the issues

ON THIS DAY in Chicago history, there was a snowstorm leaving 11 inches of snow on the ground. This is the 12th largest amount of snowfall in a calendar day in recorded Chicago history, according to the National Weather Service. The most recent snowfall of 10 or more

inches was Jan. 21-23, 2005.

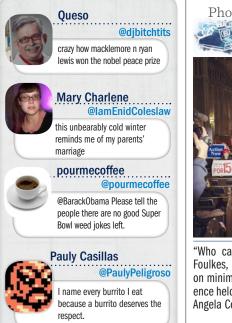
Feb. 3, 1896

THIS WEEK IN 1975, The CC Writer reported that Columbia students voted to elect a student senate at the college. Student representatives were previously selected by the Dean of Student Services, but would now be chosen by the student body. Two of the elected candidates would also sit on the Board of Trustees.

Inside

Students to vote for reps



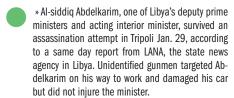


TWEETS OF THE WEEK



"Who can survive on \$8.75?" Ald. Toni Foulkes, 15th ward, voices her opinion on minimum wage Jan. 30 a press conference held at the Chicago Temple. Photo by Angela Conners.

BY @CCCHRONICLE JANUARY 30, 2014



» On Jan. 27, at least 10 inmates died in a fire at a prison in Barranquilla, Colombia and more than 40 were taken to the hospital to be treated for burns after guards fired tear gas to break up a fight, causing a fire. Seven fire engines worked to extinguish the 39-foot high flames, according to a Jan. 28 BBC news report.

"At least 37 Islamist fighters were killed in an offensive strike Jan. 29 against rioters protesting in the nation's south in reponse to a peace deal between the Philippine government and the main Islamist armed group. Military officials said they put an end to a "key rebel stronghold," according to a same day Al Jazeera America report.

» The death toll from a fire in a Quebec seniors' residence reached 17 on Jan. 28, according to a Jan. 30 Al Jazeera America report. Quebec police said 15 people remained missing and were presumed to be dead after the sixth day of their search through the ashes and rubble. Police officials said the search will continue until all missing people are found.