

2-8-2010

## Columbia Chronicle (02/08/2010)

Columbia College Chicago

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# THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

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The Official News Source of Columbia College Chicago

February 8, 2010

Volume 45 Number 18



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

The Media Production Center, 1632 S. State St., officially opened Feb. 5, with a ribbon cutting ceremony that included (left to right), Columbia President Warrick L. Carter, Mayor Richard M. Daley, Chairman of the Board Allen Turner, 3rd Ward Alderman Patricia Dowell, and Dean of the School of Media Arts, Doreen Bartoni.

## Columbia's Moment

### Student Affairs efforts gain national merit

Student Loop, ShopColumbia awarded for outstanding outreach initiatives

by Benita Zepeda  
Campus Editor

COLUMBIA'S STUDENT Affairs office has worked hard to create a sense of community at the college, and its efforts have been recognized through three NASPA 2010 Excellence Awards.

NASPA, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, is a nationally recognized organization in which roughly 1,400 various institutions are members.

This year, Student Affairs was recognized through two different initiatives—

ShopColumbia and The Student Loop.

Both initiatives are relatively recent additions to the efforts made by Student Affairs. ShopColumbia was founded in October 2008 and The Student Loop launched in January 2008.

The Office of Student Affairs was recognized with three awards this year. The first was a silver award for ShopColumbia in the category of Career and Academic Support.

The Student Loop won a gold award in the Best in Category and then was awarded the grand silver award, which means they rank second overall nationally.

Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Affairs, said that members in the department are very excited for both initiatives to have received awards.

"As far as we know, this might be the most successful and innovative digital college communication system that's being read and embraced by the students," Kelly said. "And that's in the country."

Kelly will be presenting at the national convention along with Louise Love, vice president of Student Affairs, which is

» SEE AWARDS, PG. 7

### Class cancellations less severe than perceived

by Ciara Shook  
Assistant Campus Editor

THOUGH DEPARTMENTS across campus experienced more class cancellations for the spring 2010 semester than in fall 2009, the cuts weren't as severe and abnormal as students and faculty may have thought.

The Columbia community suspects the class cuts could be part of the college experiencing a drop in enrollment between fall 2009 and spring 2010 semesters. The Chronicle contacted all 22 departments on Columbia's campus. Of the 11 that responded, chairs reported several possible explanations for low enrollment in

their department.

"There has always been lower enrollment in the spring than in the fall," said John Green, chair of the Theater Department.

However, the Theater Department this semester experienced more class cancellations than an average spring, where it would expect to lose two or three sections of a class, Green said. The Theater Department cancelled 12 classes, all of which had other sections available to affected students.

As was the case with most of the other departments surveyed rarely were entire courses wiped from the Oasis map.

Bonnie Brooks, chair of the Dance Department, said her department keeps a close eye on class enrollment during the fall semester to see how the sections are filling for spring and what students are taking.

"By the end of the semester, with the exception of incoming students, we have a pretty good idea [of what sections will not be cancelled]," Brooks said. "We make some effort to see if we can get additional

» SEE CUTS, PG. 8

**Diabetic risks high among blacks**

H&F

» SEE PG. 12

» SEE PG. 23

A&C

**Rush Limbaugh! The Musical**

Results are in

METRO

» SEE PG. 34

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

## Hole in Whole Foods' discount incentive



by Bethany Reinhart  
Editor-in-Chief

WHOLE FOODS Market, the world's largest retailer of natural and organic foods, announced on Jan. 20 a new, optional employee incentive program that rewards staff members who meet criteria related to significant health measures. The program, called the Team Member Healthy Discount Incentive, will give full- and part-time employees enrolled in the company's health care plan up to an additional 10 percent discount, on top of the standard 20 percent if they meet certain criteria, including low body mass index.

The new employee incentive has enraged numerous advocacy groups, including The National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, a group founded in 1969, whose mission is to help "build a society in which people of every size are accepted with dignity and equality in all aspects of life."

Peggy Howell, spokeswoman for The National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance, said the new incentive is discrimination and, like similar advocacy groups, is urging consumers to boycott Whole Foods Market.

For a company that puts a strong emphasis on encouraging a healthy lifestyle and core values—including supporting team-member happiness and excellence—this new approach seems out-of-touch, and a bit

backward. Although it does reward employees who appear to live a healthy lifestyle, as outlined by the guidelines in the incentive program, it does not do enough to encourage staff members who do not meet the criteria to improve their own health.

While I understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle and health-conscious choices, Whole Foods Market would serve its employees better by revamping this incentive. The people who are most in need of the healthy, natural and organic food that the grocery chain sells are those who are overweight or who suffer from other health problems, such as hypertension or high cholesterol. Denying them the additional discount percentage doesn't act as a means of incentive, but rather one of punishment.

If Whole Foods Market wants to continue with the staggered discount program, they should allow employees who do not meet the outlined medical criteria to have deeper discounts on healthy food items that will promote weight loss and other health benefits. If overweight individuals choose to participate in the program, they should not be offered the additional discount on items such as ice cream or potato chips, but should be given the deeper discount on fruits, vegetable and other healthy food items.

I have shopped intermittently at Whole Foods Market for several years and was ecstatic when one was built just a few blocks from my home. Although I will not go so far as to boycott the store, I do think bringing the issue to light is important to encourage the grocery chain to rethink its strategy to one that truly exemplifies its core values.

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## NEWS FLASH

2/8/10

## Critical Encounters: "Why Evolution Is True"

Dr. Jerry Coyne from the University of Chicago discusses his book, "Why Evolution Is True," as part of the Critical Encounters: Fact & Faith series. The event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Ferguson Auditorium, Alexandroff Campus Center

2/10/10

## African Heritage Month: Making it in the Show Biz: Profiling Women in the Blues

In loving memory of KoKo Taylor, the Chicago Blues Scene is hosting a free, candid evening discussing the ins and outs of the music business. Join the Queens of the Chicago Blues Scene, along with some of the industry's best friends, as they talk in an intimate environment about everything from musician health care to copyrights to publishing to making a living. Starts at 7 p.m.

Music Center  
1014 S. Michigan Ave.

2/11/10

## CEO Panel Discussion

Hosted by the Entrepreneurial Club, Columbia welcomes the head honchos of Solemates Chicago Boutique, Yors Fashion, MidWest Gap Enterprise and WVON 1690-AM host Chris Base for a panel discussion. The panel begins at 6 p.m. in room 401 of the Alexandroff Campus Center.

Alexandroff Campus Center  
600 S. Michigan Ave.

through 2/13/10

## "Dis/Believer: Intersections of Science and Religion in Contemporary Art"

"Dis/Believer" is an exhibition of art expressing the commonly conflicting elements of science and religion. The Glass Curtain Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and Saturdays by appointment.

Glass Curtain Gallery, 1104 Center  
1104 S. Wabash Ave.

through 2/13/10

## "At Close Distance: Labyrinth of Self"

"At Close Distance" explores how the concept of home reinforces the sense of self. It is the path of separation, the coming and going that creates and shapes identity and memory. Located in the C33 Gallery, open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

C33 Gallery  
33 E. Congress Parkway Building

through 2/13/10

## "Framed: The World of Comics"

"Framed" is an exhibition of comic book art and comic-inspired murals and installations created by Columbia students. As part of the exhibition, students from Keith Pitts and Jacqueline Penrod's set design classes designed and constructed stage sets. The exhibition is located in the Hokin Gallery and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Hokin Gallery, Wabash Campus Building  
623 S. Wabash Ave.

Want to see your Columbia-related event mentioned in News Flash?  
Contact The Chronicle at (312) 369-8999.



C

campus

# 'Your art is going to be about soul'

Famed choreographer Debbie Allen speaks, encourages Columbia's budding artists

by Laura Nalin  
Assistant Campus Editor

TO KICK off Columbia's Multicultural Affairs 2010 Black Heritage Celebration series, Debbie Allen, world-renowned choreographer, actress, humanitarian, director and producer, spoke to students about life as a black woman in the field of the arts and media.

The event was held at the Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., and opened with BreeAnn Ashley, freshman dance major, freely dancing in an elegant, fluid-like white dress to the song "Jezebel" by Sade. Following Ashley's self-choreographed dance, Allen took the stage and received a warm welcome with a standing ovation by the audience.

"This is a cosmic ecosystem nurturing a generation of young people and creative minds," Allen said. "I looked you all up and I found they were determined for you to study academics in order for you to understand the philosophy of life, understand human conditions and author the culture of your time. You all will be rewriting the cultural landscape of America by writing music, all you journalists, creative writing people. This is remarkable what we have here."

Allen described her time growing up as a black woman and emerging artist as "very difficult" in her hometown of Houston. She recalled being perceived as someone who would not be able to master the fine arts.

"My mother told me that we were members of a community called the universe, not Houston, Texas," Allen said. "With

## CAMPUS POLL

Did you vote in the election last week? Why or why not?



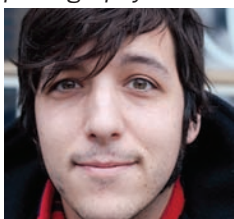
**Shannyn Neuner**  
Senior, graphic design

"No I actually didn't because I still have an ID from Missouri."



**Amanda Melissa Avilez**  
Sophomore, photography

"No I did not vote because I don't see what the real point is in voting for anyone and I don't see any changes in anything."



**Vince Desantiago**  
Junior, graphic design

"No I didn't because I didn't know enough about the candidates. I will leave enough time to learn more before the next one."



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Debbie Allen speaks at the Conaway Center, 1104 S. Wabash Ave., on Feb. 2, discussing life as a black woman in the arts and media in today's society.

my mother's words, I grew up knowing things can change."

Lacressia Wilderness, sophomore journalism major, said that she was happy that she came to see Allen speak. "I had known a little bit about her; I saw her on 'The Cosby Show,' but didn't know too much," Wilderness said. "She is so inspirational and I enjoyed every minute of it. She was great."

Katy Carlson, junior cultural studies major with a minor in black world studies, added that she had also enjoyed the discussion.

"I heard some things about her, but I didn't know a whole lot," Carlson said. "Not having known a whole lot before, it was sort of amazing learning how much she's done and I think it's a testament to race relations in America."

Throughout the discussion, Allen encouraged the audience to be active in what is going on in the world around them in order to gain a better understanding of what they want their art to become

and how they want it to affect their artistic worlds.

"What is gonna wake you up in the morning or keep you up at night that you're passionate about that you have to do something?" Allen asked. "You know, I grew up in a time different than yours. I couldn't go to any movie theater, restaurant or dance class I wanted to. The time in which I grew up, the racial divide in this country made the Republican standoff in Congress look like a polo match."

As Allen concluded the discussion, she recalled a conversation she had with a producer of a show that she was participating in. According to Allen, the producer had congratulated her on a nomination for an award for the show, but reminded her, "every day she woke up, she was going to be black."

"I looked in the mirror. I saw myself, sister, mother, grandmother, Katherine Dunn, Cleopatra ... I saw God," Allen said. "So [the producer's] telling me because I'm

black, I'm carrying a weight. My curvy, wavy, nappy hair helps me to have more energy. Everything about me works for me. I was nominated for that award because of who I am, not his perception of me."

She added, "You have to know who you lookin' at when you look in the mirror. You are DNA that goes back for generations—own up to that. It's not just you, it's generational. If you can get in tune with that, if you can believe that, then your art is going to be about soul."

Allen is a three time Emmy Award winning choreographer, and has choreographed for renowned artists such as Michael Jackson, Mariah Carey, Whitney Houston, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Janet Jackson, along with the Academy Awards for 10 years.

She was also appointed by former President George W. Bush in 2001 as a member of his committee on the arts and humanities.

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# Columbia sees 'best of times, worst of times'

Carter, Turner look at the scope of Columbia at Feb. 5 College Council meeting

by Ciara Shook  
Assistant Campus Editor

WARRICK L. Carter, president of Columbia, and Allen M. Turner, chairman of Columbia's Board of Trustees, joined the College Council during the Feb. 5 meeting on the 8th floor of the 1104 Center at 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Carter talked about Columbia's recent accomplishments, but also called attention to the effect the poor economy has had on the college.

Carter mentioned the open house for Columbia's first new structure, the Media Production Center, and predicted it won't be the only structure the college builds from scratch.

Carter said the college plans to increase scholarship funding by 100 percent for fall 2010, as Columbia will offer 900 scholarships to freshman.

He also said interest in the college is the highest it's ever been. Fall 2009's open house welcomed more than 8,000 parents and prospective students, and 753 more freshmen were admitted to the college than a year ago.

He gave a head nod to the students in the television, fiction writing and Arts, Entertainment and Media Management who won awards and the awards alumni and Student Affairs have received, all of which mark 2010 as the "best of times."

"You look at all the wonderful things that



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

President of Columbia, Dr. Warrick L. Carter, spoke at the College Council meeting the morning of Feb. 5, to discuss the lack of enrollment the college is facing and ways to not only induce more students to apply, but to also provide them with money to make the cost of college more affordable for everyone.

are going on and you think, 'Wow, this place is on fire,'" Carter said.

He said with the best of times comes the worst of times, and that the college has not been immune to the state of the economy.

Though Columbia doesn't face the financial challenges state institutions are having, such as University of Illinois, private institutions are losing enrollment because students can't afford to attend.

"People want to be here, they're excited about this place because they know about our faculty and what alums are doing and they want to be here, but they can't always afford it," Carter said.

Among items the college is required to take care of, including building facade repairs and additional scholarships, Columbia is adjusting the budget for the spring 2010 semester to accommodate such monetary priorities, but is looking for new ways to do so because of enrollment and whether the Monetary Award Program Grant will be disbursed to the college.

"What happens if [the state of Illinois] doesn't give [the MAP Grant] to us?" Carter asked the council. "What happens if they don't send the check to the institution? We continue to balance things as much as possible."

Turner said the council should not consider changing Columbia's current mission

as a liberal arts college, but to think about the council's unique position as educators that allows students to participate in society.

"There's a pejorative saying going around called 'tuition driven,'" Turner said. "We are not a for-profit school."

Turner said because the phrase doesn't exemplify the mission of the college, faculty should ban it from their thinking.

Turner addressed faculty's questioning of stability among the college's leadership, saying he's not finished with sharing his ideas about how to make Columbia the place to be.

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# Dean proposes new scholarship

Liberal Arts and Sciences students to be offered new aid in honor of graduate

by Laura Nalin  
Assistant Campus Editor

A NEW scholarship initiative is in the works for students studying within the Liberal Arts and Sciences Department. The scholarship was created by Deborah Holdstein, dean of the LAS Department at Columbia, in honor of her husband, Jay Boersma, a 1974 Columbia graduate.

The scholarship will be granted annually to one or more students who are selected by a committee of LAS faculty members. The students would each be awarded a maximum amount of \$5,000 depending on the accumulated interest in the scholarship's endowment.

Each of the student recipients are required to be at junior or senior level in their studies, as well as have maintained a 3.5 or above cumulative grade point average and demonstrated their need for funding through Free Application for Federal Student Aid applications.

Holdstein said that she named the scholarship after her husband because not only did she want to surprise him with a unique gift, but also because he is a strong supporter of the college giving the students a broad and deep education.

"My joke is that there are just so many shirts you can buy the man you love every

year for the holidays that it gets to the point where you have to do something really special," Holdstein said. "It seemed like the appropriate thing to do because this is such a student-centered institution and I know that my husband struggled with tuition during his time at Columbia; I struggled with tuition in my studies and I figured if there was one small thing I could do I wanted to do it."

Holdstein surprised Boersma at dinner with the proposal. Boersma said he was extremely overwhelmed.

Boersma, the senior creative director for Playboy.com, graduated from Columbia with a degree in photography. He is supportive of the liberal arts education that comes out of Columbia, and credits the college for creating such a strong learning environment for its students.

"I like the fact that a student at Columbia can begin studying the areas they're most interested in pretty quickly without a lot of jumping through hoops," Boersma said. "Students get to participate on a very high level very early on in the process. It's a very high quality, experiential learning and prepares you tremendously well for the job market."

The scholarship will be primarily geared toward students in the LAS discipline, which includes studies in American Sign Language/English Interpretation; English, which includes creative nonfiction and poetry majors; early childhood education majors; and Humanities, History and Social Sciences, which includes cultural studies. Holdstein added that she hopes that a complete approval



Courtesy JULLIAN WOODS

The scholarship is named after Jay W. Boersma, a 1974 Columbia graduate and Holdstein's husband.

for a future Science and Mathematics Department major, art and materials conservation, will be added to the curriculum as well.

Students double majoring within the LAS curriculum will also be considered eligible to apply for the funding.

Holdstein has been in discussion with Nancy Rampson, director of development for the LAS Department, regarding the funding of the scholarship. Although all of the planning

has not been fully hatched, Holdstein hopes that the scholarship will be available within the next few years.

"I hope that [the scholarship] grows and that it conserves more people," Rampson said. "I also hope that it brings more attention to LAS and LAS majors and that it becomes a very supportive thing for our students."

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## » AWARDS

Continued from Front Page

hosted in Chicago in March, to honor the student communications of Columbia and the innovation of The Loop.

“Our system sounds like it’s students to students, and it is students to students,” Kelly said. “It doesn’t sound like the voice of the administration. It’s a very different tone and very different way of delivering it.”

According to Kari Sommers, assistant dean of Student Life, The Student Loop is ground-breaking mostly because of its approach and readership. The standard readership among other institutions is roughly 10 to 20 percent according to Sommers, and The Loop has more than 40 percent readership.

“We do a lot of the same things that other colleges do, but we do them in really innovative and interesting ways,” Sommers said. “What we wanted to do for the student experience is to make sure that our students were first and foremost informed and secondly, that students were engaged both with us and each other.”

Sommers said that the approach the college is taking to communicate with the students is to create a sense of community online. Because Columbia’s urban campus lacks a student center, they try to create that sense of networking online.

“All the things that you would do at a student center is what you do here,” Sommers said. “We felt like the most productive thing would be to try and replicate those student center ideas [online], and that is sort of the approach we have taken. That is really due to Matt Green and his team.”

Matthew Green, director of Online Student Communications, said that Columbia is one of the first colleges that are starting to build student communities online, whether it is through the student newsletters or the Columbia on Facebook application.

“In a way, we feel it’s sort of funny that we already won this award because we feel like most of the really good things that we have are just about to be released in the next six months to a year,” Green said.

Even though their system is recognized on a national level, Green said he and his team feel that they still have the most basic system going. They know that they could be operating at a much better level.

“It feels great. It’s nice to know that something you put so much time into is noticed and we appreciate it,” Green said.

He also said that they know the Loop still needs improvements.

“Our biggest goal is we know that students at Columbia that use The Loop think it’s OK,” Green said. “And we think that we can make it great.”

Sommers also said that ShopColumbia is great because it is not only a place for students to sell their creative work, but it works closely with classes as well.

Sam Grimes, senior film and video major and sales assistant at ShopColumbia, said he was excited when he came into work and saw the award.

“Especially in a time when economically the country isn’t doing that great, students can make money doing what they want to do,” Grimes said. “To be an independent and smaller business during times like that, make money doing that, and then get awarded for it is awesome.”

bzepeda@chroniclemail.com

## FEATURED PHOTO



Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE

Students put on a show in the motion capture room for the media and Mayor Daley after the Media Production Center ribbon cutting ceremony on Feb. 5.

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## » CUTS

## Continued from Front Page

enrollment in some lower enrolled classes.”

The Dance Department saw approximately five class cancellations out of the 100-plus sections offered this spring, most of which were technique-related, Brooks said.

“Cancellation is one of the hardest and most frustrating things the [Theater] Department is faced with, so we are extremely careful about making sure if we have to cancel a class, the student has another class to go into,” Green said. “Our policy was to keep the classes open as long as possible to see if numbers would rise.”

Most departments made efforts to fit students into other sections, if their class was in danger of being cancelled, by prompt e-mails and phone calls.

Angelo Luciano, associate Arts, Entertainment and Media Management professor, said the AEMM Department took a proactive approach when students registered before the semester break, combining classes with low enrollment by suggesting students switch classes, most of which were introductory classes, which resulted in less than three class cancellations.

In a previous interview with The Chronicle, Associate Professor and acting Chair of the Journalism Department Len Strazewski report-

ed the department had cancelled 15 courses, but insisted that the department kept the courses necessary to students’ curriculum.

Bruce Sheridan, chair of the Film and Video Department, said his department cancelled sections where the demand was insufficient for the faculty to provide the necessary educational services, but situations of the like happen every semester as part of the department’s responsibility to best use available resources across the curriculum.

“If enough students enroll for a given section, we move heaven and Earth to be able to deliver that section,” Sheridan said.

Though the Film and Video Department saw a slightly higher number of class cancellations than normal, Sheridan said there was no quantum change.

Randy Albers, chair of the Fiction Writing Department, said his department was especially energetic about helping students who were approaching graduation to help them satisfy required courses. Albers said that of the 88 sections offered by the Fiction Writing Department, 11 were cancelled, with eight sections and three stand-alone courses, which are classes in which only one section is offered in the semester.

Albers said the department cancellations were less this spring than last, but the department saw an odd registration rate because it appeared some students didn’t register until the last minute.

“We were very worried about [enrollment] two weeks before the semester began,” Albers said. “Less worried a week before the semester began, and then had a rush in the last week, some of it occurring after we’d cancelled classes. It was difficult to plan, in some ways more difficult than in other semesters.”

“

Cancellation is one of the hardest and most frustrating things the [Theater] Department is faced with, so we are extremely careful about making sure if we have to cancel a class, the student has another class to go into. Our policy was to keep the classes open as long as possible to see if numbers would rise.”

-John Green

Jay Wolke, chair of the Art and Design Department, said though two sections and two upper level courses were cancelled, his department is up in student enrollment compared to last spring as 10 more sections are being offered.

“There were classes cancelled but [also] classes added,” Wolke said. “It’s a matter of preference on the students’ part. We don’t like to stuff classes.”

Wolke and Pantelis Vassilakis, chair of the Audio Arts and Acoustics

Department, have been working to reduce class caps in certain courses that demand more one-on-one attention from the faculty, but Vassilakis said the decreased caps is what has caused the cancellations this semester.

The Audio Arts and Acoustics Department had roughly three classes cancelled this spring, including a section of Audio Production II and the course CSI: Practices for Graphical Documentation, which Vassilakis said would only be offered once a year in the future.

The English Department cancelled 11 classes this semester, all of which were multi-section courses except for the Literary Magazine Production class, compared to four that were cancelled last spring.

Kenneth Daley, chair of the English Department, said planning for multi-section courses can sometimes be difficult.

“It’s true that last spring we had four classes that were cancelled, as opposed to 11 [this year],” Daley said. “The year before that, in ’08, we had 14. It’s so far from an exact science.”

Annette Barbier, chair of the Interactive Arts and Media Department, had 14 class cancellations in her department, but said regardless of the present circumstances the classes would not have run.

“It’s a bigger problem than just this semester, I know the college is working on that,” Barbier said.

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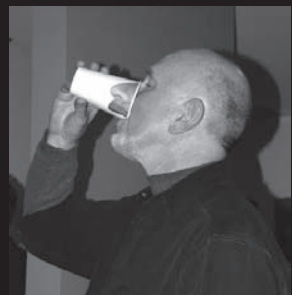
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create... change

**SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI:**

**Jay Boersma**  
BA '74 - Photography



Jay is a creative director at Playboy.com, and will be featured as the Student Alumni Association's (SAA) "Spotlight on Alumni" presenter on Friday, October 2nd at 5pm in the Portfolio Center. To RSVP, please contact Michelle Passarelli at 312-369-6987 or mpassarelli@colum.edu.

**How did your education at Columbia help prepare you for your future?**

I graduated from Columbia in 1974. This was still very much the time of hippies, protests, anti-establishment thinking and doing art solely for the sake of doing art. "The Future" was the last thing on my mind and I primarily just wanted to explore my creative potential in whatever directions my interests and inclinations took me. Columbia allowed me to concentrate on photography, which was my primary interest, while also taking a large number of courses outside of the photo major - including four or five writing courses and quite a few ceramics and printmaking courses. As I look back on it, the courses outside of my discipline helped me a great deal in providing a richer, more expansive range of experiences and I wish I had taken more of them.

**What was your first job after graduating from Columbia?**

In my senior year at Columbia I decided to go to grad school so I didn't jump right into the workplace after graduation. During the time between finishing Columbia and starting on my MFA, however, I worked as a photo assistant at a studio in Chicago that specialized in food photography. This position falls into the "Jobs I Have Hated" category. I found food photography to be very unpleasant, a kind of visual lying that did not jibe with my idealistic notions of what the fine art of photography was about. Remember that this was a time when art was supposed to change the world, not sell canned pasta.

**What is your best memory from Columbia?**

I have many very positive memories of Columbia, mostly involving particularly good classes or instructors. A few that come to mind are David Avison's Advanced Photographic Techniques class, Phyllis Bramson's screenprinting class and a number of ceramics classes taught at a storefront workshop on north Halsted called The Clay People. Bruce Jacobson, Sam Burns and other Clay People staff became like a second family to me.

**Do you have any advice for students heading out into the job market today?**

Advice is easy to give and pretty much useless because everyone's path is different. With that in mind, here's mine:

- Learn to play a musical instrument. This may never help you get a job but it will help you keep your sanity while looking for one.
- Take as many courses outside of your major as you can. Photographers, for example, have to be able to talk about something other than silver versus digital.
- Read some books and learn to spell. Can't emphasize enough how important it is to learn to write well.
- This is difficult for artists who tend to be isolationists but try to enjoy meeting people and taking an interest in them.
- Build the best portfolio of work ever created by anyone. When it is perfect, make it more perfect.
- Persist.
- Never take a job that truly compromises your integrity. This doesn't mean passing over a low-level job when you have to pay the rent; it means not taking a job that makes you hate yourself.
- On the other hand, it's perfectly ok to hate your job. It is a great motivator for finding a job that you don't hate.
- Knock on doors. After a while, go back and knock on them again.
- Collect rejection letters, collect "No's," collect "Sorry, not at this time's." Try to amass the biggest collection of these things that you can.
- According to Woody Allen, "Eighty percent of success is showing up."
- Show up.

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**CRITICAL ENCOUNTERS  
FACT & FAITH**

**SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE**

**Jewish food**

**True/Believer:**  
Critical Encounters' personal narratives on Fact & Faith

by **E.J. Greenawalt**  
*Junior, Creative Nonfiction*

FOOD, NO lie, is one of my favorite things about Judaism. That's not the only reason I see myself as Jewish, but I certainly do enjoy it. I eat matzo year-round—not the kosher-for-Passover matzo, but all the same. And the banana bread that the bakery near my house makes kosher for Passover is better than regular banana bread. But by far, my typical Jewish food is bagels. I would happily eat plain bagels with plain cream cheese for every meal if it were healthy.

Perhaps the idea that food is my favorite part of my religion might offend people. I grew up in a very Jewish neighborhood. During Passover, the high school sold matzo in the cafeteria, otherwise, no one would eat. When I went away to college for my first two years, I went to a Lutheran school (though not because it was Lutheran). Out of 2,500 people, there were probably about 10 Jews, one of them being the head of the theater department and my professor, Herschel. The good news was that there was an Einstein Bagels on campus—something superbly Jewish and we could use our swipes for meals there instead of the cafeteria. Unfortunately, even Einstein's didn't have matzo during Passover and I was forced to hoard some in my room.

It was then I realized, though I had always considered myself to be no religion in particular, I was Jewish. In high school, I had struggled with the idea of Christianity. I could not understand the concept of hell, nor the fact that everyone who did not believe was going there. Most of my friends then were homosexual and that did not make my struggle to find religion any easier. However, toward the end of high school, I learned from a friend that the reformed synagogue held events for gay youth. Still, I had been averse to religion for too long to decide on Judaism then.

I hate science, but I do believe in it. The idea of people coming from nothing just doesn't click with me. But I also understand that this idea came about long before we truly understood what evolution was. Some of the more stubborn religions stand by it, but I know a lot of people who have no problem admitting that, though they are religious, they also believe in science.

Going away to college was like an eye-opener. I met people who had never seen a Jew before. I earned the nickname "Bagel" because of my fondness for them and because I was Jewish. Music recitals were sometimes in the chapel, where I found myself supremely uncomfortable in a way I had never been when in synagogues for friends' B'nai Mitzvahs.

I was raised neither Jewish nor Christian, as my mother was the former and my father the latter, but my mother's relatives had been around more and I'd gone to Jewish preschool. I remember asking my mother if Jews were the majority in the world and being surprised when she said no, that Christians were. But I never truly realized that fact until I was away at college and I discovered how lonely I was. I had no one to say "Happy Pesach" to on Passover, and when I went to visit with friends, they did not have matzo at their house.

A friend who went to high school with me and ended up at college with me as well said, "I miss Jews and their food," and I agreed. I realized later though that I did not just miss Jews. I missed being one. And that's why I know I'm Jewish.

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## Jazz'd Up

# Celebrating Black History Month



by Jazzy Davenport  
Managing Editor

THIS MONTH, we celebrate the lives of the legendary trailblazers and life-changing events of the people of the African Diaspora. It is Black History Month.

This celebration, which Carter G. Woodson initially started as a one-week event, is enjoyed by millions of people throughout the country because in one way or another, people of African descent have influenced everything we do on a daily basis. From sports to education, food and finally manufacturing—black people largely contributed to the foundation of the country we live in.

February is a month of more than just the birthdays of two extraordinary men, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, who had huge influences on the freedom of black people. It is also the month W.E.B. DuBois was born, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or better known as the NAACP, was founded and that the 15th Amendment was passed, granting blacks the right to vote.

In a month that normally only celebrates the most obvious and widely-known black leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and now President Barack Obama, it is time to make an effort to dig deeper.

Sports have not always been a place for people of African descent. There was an idea of black athletic inferiority, so blacks were forced to break color barriers.

There were trailblazers like the fabled Jesse Owens and Muhammad Ali, but there were also Jackie Robinson, who integrated Major League Baseball in 1947; Charles Follis, the first black professional football player; Willie O'Ree, who broke the color barrier in hockey to become the first professional black hockey player. Chuck Cooper became the first black basketball player drafted by an NBA team in 1950.

Also in 1950, Althea Gibson became the first black to compete in professional tennis and Arthur Ashe became the first black to win the Wimbledon tournament.

For a while, golf was different than most other sports. The Professional Golf Association had a "Caucasian Clause," which prevented blacks from participating. The U.S. tournaments didn't necessarily ban blacks from participating, but they claimed it was hard to find courses throughout the country that would welcome black people. The first black to play professional golf was John Shippen, who played in the second round of the 1896 U.S. Open.

Though color barriers have been broken, we've progressed as a country and elected a black president, we still do not live in a post-racial society, contrary to popular belief.

[jdavenport@chroniclemail.com](mailto:jdavenport@chroniclemail.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2/10/10

## Chicago Bulls vs. Orlando Magic

The Chicago Bulls welcome Dwight Howard and the Orlando Magic to the United Center for their last game before heading into the NBA All-Star break. The Bulls recently beat five teams with above .500 records on the road, the first time that has happened in NBA history. Tipoff is at 7 p.m. at the United Center. The game can be seen on Comcast SportsNet.

United Center  
1901 W. Madison St.

2/13/10

## Fitness, Athletics and Recreation Dave &amp; Buster's Outing

Columbia's Fitness, Athletics and Recreation office is hosting an outing to Dave & Busters at 7 p.m. The cost of the event is \$15 in advance and includes a buffet, non-alcoholic beverages and a game card with 72 credits. Students should meet outside 731 S. Plymouth Court at 6 p.m.

Dave & Buster's  
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2/14/10

## Chicago Blackhawks vs. Columbus Blue Jackets

The Chicago Blackhawks head into the Olympic break with a game against the Columbus Blue Jackets. The Blue Jackets and Hawks are on different ends of the standings spectrum, as Chicago currently sits near the top of the Western Conference while Columbus is at the bottom. Game time is 4 p.m. in Columbus, Ohio and the game can be seen on WGN.

Nationwide Arena  
Columbus, Ohio

# Double Crossers, Manic Attackers win season opener

Windy City Rollers welcome fans to 'talk derby' to start new season

by Jeff Graveline  
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

A RETRO sport made its way to Chicago's Congress Theater in 2005 and has since been carving a name for itself amongst major sports in the city. As the Windy City Rollers quickly found their niche in the Chicago sports market, the league realized it would need more space to accommodate its fans. After moving to Cicero Stadium in suburban Cicero, in 2006, they finally found a permanent home at the University of Illinois Chicago Pavilion in 2008.

As the Rollers settle into their new digs, crowds continue to come in droves to their home arena. Fans come to see flat track roller derby action between the four home teams that comprise the Windy City Rollers: The Fury, Manic Attackers, Hell's Belles and Double Crossers. Along with the four home teams, the Windy City Rollers field a developmental team, the Haymarket Rioters, and two travel teams, WCR All-Stars and Second Wind.

Unlike previous roller derby incarnations, the only fake thing about the Rollers are their names. The bouts don't have predetermined winners or moves, and unlike movies such as "Whip It," where the action was staged, people really can get hurt.

"[Working on 'Whip It'] was a lot of fun," said Jackie Daniels, a current Fury player



Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

The Manic Attackers, of the Windy City Rollers, watch their teammates during their bout with The Fury on Jan. 30 at the University of Illinois Chicago Pavilion. The Manic Attackers won the bout 101-83.

and "Whip It" extra. "Playing derby with an outcome and a mix of skaters and actresses was fun ... [But] obviously because it has to have a certain outcome [it was different]."

For the first bouts of the new season, which started Jan. 30, the Rollers pitted the Hell's Belles against the Double Crossers and Manic Attackers against The Fury. The 3,977 derby fans filed into the arena, setting a Windy City Rollers attendance record and filling the lower bowl of the UIC Pavilion.

The bouts featured an eclectic mix of skill

levels from the participating skaters. Many were in their first bout ever, while some had been speeding along the flat-topped track for years, to the delight of fans and friends.

"All of my friends think it's pretty awesome," said Nina Millimeter, a member of the Double Crossers. "It's really rare that I run into anybody who says, 'Oh my gosh, that's so dangerous! You shouldn't do that,' or whatever. Usually people who I come

» SEE ROLLER DERBY, PG. 14

## ROLLER DERBY 101

**BLOCKER:** The blockers job is to defend the jammer. You won't find her wearing a helmet cover, but that doesn't stop her from holding back the opposing team's jammer.

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**PIVOT:** Shes the skater wearing the striped helmet cover. Often called the "last line of defense," her job is to set the pace of the pack.

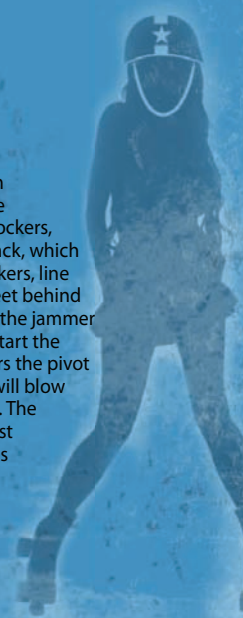
Whips: Blockers whipping a jammer by the arm for a quick burst of speed

Walls: Blockers forming tight groups with each other to hold players back

Take-Out: The jammer goes flying as the blockers hit her

**JAMMER:** This skater wears helmet with a star on it, and scores points for her team. The jammer has to be quick and agile in order to achieve lead jam status

**PLAY:** Five players from each team come onto the track (one pivot, three blockers, and one jammer). The pack, which includes pivots, and blockers, line up at the pivot line. 30 feet behind them are the jammers at the jammer line. A whistle blows to start the pack. Once the pack clears the pivot line, two short whistles will blow and the jammers take off. The jammers job is to race past blockers for points. Pivots and blockers will try to hold back the jammer.



# Prevention is key to disease control

**As rate of diabetes rises, black community hit with highest numbers**

by Ivana Susic  
Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

DIABETES IS currently one of the leading causes of death in the United States. The health care cost for managing the disease runs almost \$200 billion a year and causes countless disabilities.

No population in the country has experienced this more clearly than the black community. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, since 1980 blacks have seen a disproportionate increase in the rate of diabetes, with a 5 percent increase. Whites saw an increase of around 2.5 percent.

Currently 14.7 percent of blacks live with the disease, compared to 9.8 percent of whites and 9.5 percent of Hispanics.

Joan Chamberlain, public liaison for the office of communications of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, a subset of the National Institutes of Health, said the rising numbers are truly alarming and have raised many red flags.

"African-Americans generally have almost double the rate of white Americans," Chamberlain said. "This needs to be signifi-

cantly reduced."

Diabetes comes in two different forms, type 1 and type 2. Formerly called juvenile diabetes, type 1 results from a failure in the immune system, which caused it to attack and destroy the body's own insulin-producing cells in the pancreas.

Type 2 diabetes, formerly called adult-onset diabetes, occurs when the body stops making enough insulin or can no longer effectively use the insulin it produces.

According to the American Diabetes Association, several factors contribute to the onset of type 2 diabetes. After food is consumed, the body begins to break down the sugars and starches into glucose, which is a necessary fuel for the cells. Fat cells release fatty acids, which can interfere with glucose metabolism, preventing the body from manufacturing energy as efficiently.

Eating fried, fatty or overly sugary foods deposits more fat and sugar than the body can break down. Instead of burning off, the energy gets stored and converted to fat.

One factor not often considered is how a mother eats during her pregnancy. Nutrition becomes important because a mother with a poor diet can predispose her child to type 2 diabetes, said Chamberlain.

Genes do play a role in diabetes, as having a parent with it does increase risk, said Dr. Martha M. Funnell, chair for the National



STOCK PHOTO

Diabetes Education Program.

"In African-American communities, multiple family members will have diabetes," Funnell said. "The prevalence is so high."

The increasing rates have led to more knowledge of the disease within the population, but the problem is exacerbated because there isn't enough resolve to show younger generations how to stay healthy. Without a solid example, adolescents follow the same unhealthy footsteps.

She said another problem is that not many people are aware they can fight to keep the disease at bay; it is not a disease one has to live with.

"I think there's an awareness because people know it exists, but they don't know it's not inevitable," Funnell said. "You can prevent it."

While genetics do play a role, lifestyle can determine whether an individual develops the disease. Through a healthy diet and moderate amount of exercise, a person can

lower the risk of type 2 diabetes by 58 percent, according to Funnell.

This amounts to losing 5 to 7 percent of body weight. There is no need for a gym; walking an extra 30 minutes five times a week, for example.

"You don't have to be 100 pounds or run marathons," Funnell said. "The cliché 'small steps and big rewards' really works here."

Dr. Mark Molitch, an endocrinologist for Northwestern Memorial Hospital, said the amount of outreach efforts seems to have raised awareness within the black population, but he still sees more younger people than in the past. The problem has also been more noticeable in women than men, Molitch said.

"Creating healthy habits at a young age can help long-term health," he said. "Eat less, exercise more and don't be obese."

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# The ins and outs of discussing protection

Communicating about condoms, just as important as learning proper use

by Ivana Susic

Assistant Health & Fitness Editor

EACH YEAR in the United States approximately 8 million people under the age of 25 will contract a sexually transmitted infection. Formerly known as sexually transmitted diseases, STIs result from unprotected sex practices.

Researchers have discovered safer sex involves more than insisting on condom use. The fear of facing sexuality head-on often keeps people from speaking up about protection. How a conversation about safe sex is initiated has been shown to have an impact on whether protection is used and how that person is viewed by their partner.

Michelle Broaddus, a postdoctoral fellow for the Center for AIDS Intervention Research at the Medical College of Wisconsin, led a study on the effects of condom proposal among college students.

"What we found is there's this idea of gender roles and sexual scripts," Broaddus explained. "There's this double standard because women believe they're supposed to be passive."

Broaddus and her colleagues showed college students videos of a simulated sexual encounter, changing which partner suggested condom use. They also showed three scenarios of the female suggesting condom use but in three different ways.

What Broaddus discovered was that it



STOCK PHOTO

Insisting on condom use presents a communication barrier for many individuals during intimate moments.

did not matter who suggested protection, but how a woman proposed safe sex greatly affected how she was viewed by the female participants of the study.

In the first two videos, the woman either bluntly refused sex without a condom or explained to her partner why she felt using protection was a good idea. Broaddus said when the video showed a woman "eroticizing" the use of a condom by incorporating it into foreplay, the results were surprising: females in the audience saw the woman as "less nice and less mature," but the male in the video was viewed as more promiscuous.

One theory, Broaddus said, could be explained in economic terms.

"Men are seen as the consumers of sex

and women as the producers or suppliers. They want to keep the value of sex high," she said. "When women eroticized [the condom use], it can be seen as driving the value of sex down because the sexuality is so open."

Dr. Arthur Nielsen, faculty member at the Family Institute at Northwestern University and the Chicago Institute of Psychoanalysis, said while people are willing to have sex they are not as willing to talk about it.

"I think the younger generations are much more comfortable talking about their sexual preference, but still don't talk about what they like," Nielsen said.

He explained that many people fear a

negative reaction from their partner if they insist on a condom. That can lead to people sacrificing their need of protection for the needs of a relationship.

"People have a hard time being straight about what they want," Nielsen said.

Dr. David McKirnan, clinical and social psychologist at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said that some women are afraid their male partner may leave or become hostile if they insist on safe sex.

"Less blunt and absolutist may be more effective," McKirnan said. "It makes it seem less like opposition, there's no battle of wills."

This is not as easy as it seems, he said. It is necessary to communicate clearly, a skill not everyone has. Having an argument during intimacy is a sure way to break it.

"People trade safety to not have to stop momentum," McKirnan said. "They need to make it arousing instead of, 'Let's stop for a minute to put this device on.' Introduce it in the concept of getting laid."

McKirnan echoed Nielsen's concern for the disparity between being willing to engage in sex and the ability to talk about it. He recommended sexual partners of all orientations learn to communicate the desire to have sex. This will lead to a greater ability to speak up and learn to say no when it's appropriate, McKirnan said.

"Take responsibility for your sexuality," he said. "Be sex positive. Know what your boundaries are. There's a real responsibility here."

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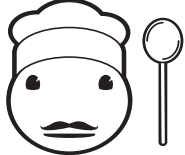
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# Simple Cuban fare

Easy, inexpensive meal, perfect for lunch or dinner



NOVICE

by Stephanie Saviola  
Assistant Metro Editor

I USED to get a dish similar to this at my favorite Cuban restaurant back on the East Coast until I realized how easy and inexpensive it was to make at home.

The dish is vegetarian and it can be vegan if you leave out the sour cream in the last steps. But meat eaters shouldn't be turned off simply because of the vegetarian label—there is plenty of flavor in the beans and the added toppings. The beans are also an excellent source of protein.

If using raw beans, make sure to soak the beans overnight to clean the beans and make them easier to digest. Or to make things simpler, use canned black beans.

In a medium saucepan, bring three cups of water to a boil. Once the water is at a rolling boil, add a cup of white, uncooked rice.

With the rice added, bring the water back up to a boil, then reduce the heat to a simmer and cover the pot. The rice should take about 15 to 20 minutes to cook.

Cook the beans in a small, separate saucepan over medium heat.

For added flavor, smash a clove of garlic



Stephanie Saviola THE CHRONICLE

(Above) This simple, vegetarian dish can be made in just 30 minutes and serves two people. (Below) The ingredients needed for this recipe.

into the beans while they cook.

While the beans and rice cook, take time to prepare the toppings for the dish.

Take one or two bell peppers (yellow or orange sweet peppers will work best for this recipe), a tomato, a sweet onion and cilantro. Chop all the vegetables finely on a clean cutting board. The amount of vegetables chopped should be done to taste.

After the beans and rice are finished cooking, layer the bottom of a bowl with the rice. Place the beans over the top of the rice and add the chopped vegetable mixture last.

Top with sour cream and hot sauce to taste. For extra flavor, squeeze lime over the finished product. This recipe serves two.

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## INGREDIENTS

1 can of black beans  
1 cup white, uncooked rice  
1 - 2 bell peppers (yellow or orange work best)  
1 tomato  
1 sweet onion  
1/4 cup fresh cilantro  
Sour cream and hot sauce to taste

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Bring 3 cups of water to a rolling boil in a medium saucepan.
2. Add 1 cup white, uncooked rice to water and return to boil.
3. Once rice and water are boiling, lower heat to a simmer and cover. Let cook for 15 to 20 minutes.
4. In a small, separate saucepan, cook 1 can of black beans over medium heat.
5. As the rice and beans cook, finely chop 1 or 2 bell peppers, 1 tomato, 1 sweet onion and 1/4 cup cilantro.
6. When beans and rice are done cooking, layer rice, then beans in a bowl.
7. Add finely chopped vegetables over rice and beans.



Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

(Above) Manic Attackers jammer Zoe Troucious (in blue) skates past Fury blocker during the second match of the Windy City Rollers opening night. (Below) Zomba Arthur (in red), jammer for Hell's Belles and Julia Rosenwinkle (in black), of Double Crossers, jostle for lead jammer position during the first bout of the night.



## » ROLLER DERBY

Continued from PG. 11

across and find out I play roller derby are like, "That is so cool!"

The new season saw Hell's Belles taking a fall from their lofty perch last season, when the team battled for the Ivy King Cup championship against the Manic Attackers. Hell's Belles lost their core group of skaters—and looked every bit of it—as they lost to the Double Crossers, 171-48.

The Double Crossers were led by Millimeter, named the HowCool.com player of the game. Millimeter was one of several Crossers who had double figures in blocks during the bout.

"I moved up [to Chicago] and I heard about this roller derby thing," Millimeter said. "It seemed like it would be a lot of fun, and it was a lot of fun, so I've been doing it since."

The Crossers got out to an extremely fast start in the bout, taking a 18-0 lead. However, Hell's Belles jammer Deb Autry rolled up 14 big points in one jam, pulling to within four points.

Unfortunately for the Belles, they would never come any closer to the Crossers. As the Crossers pulled away in the bout, the Belles were helpless to stop the more experienced team from imposing their will during every jam.

In the second half, things went from bad to worse for the young Belles team. The Double Crossers passed the 100 point barrier seven minutes into the half and went on to notch another 71 points in the contest.

The hole the Belles dug for themselves proved to be too deep and the Crossers' experience too much as they went on to win 171-48.

In the second match of the night, The Fury took on the defending Ivy King Cup champion, Manic Attackers, who were skat-

ing with a short bench for the night. Unlike the first bout of the night, the two evenly-matched teams gave the crowd a tightly contested matchup.

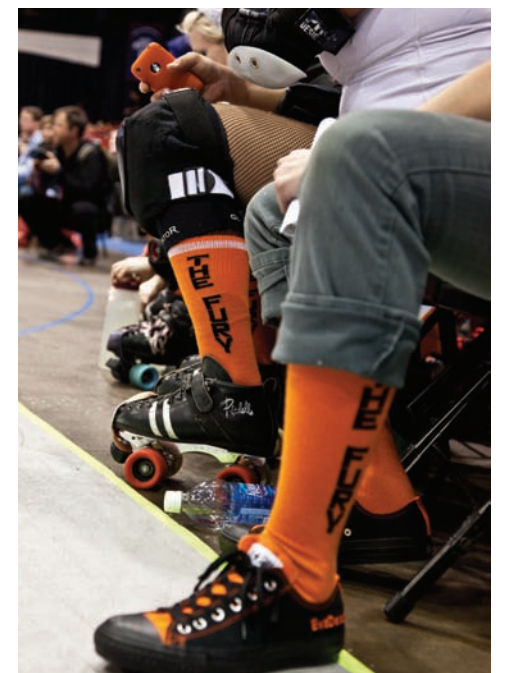
The Attackers built an early lead, up 17 points halfway through the first half, but The Fury wouldn't go away and slowly clawed their way back to 39-33 at the half.

In the second half, the Attackers ballooned to 29 points and put The Fury away. The Manic Attackers started their title defense right, taking the 101-83 victory.

"We had a short bench, so everybody was playing three or four jams in a row," Beth Amphetamine of the Manic Attackers said. "I was just very proud of my team for getting through it and pulling it out. That was one of the closest games we've had in a year and half, The Fury did a great job."

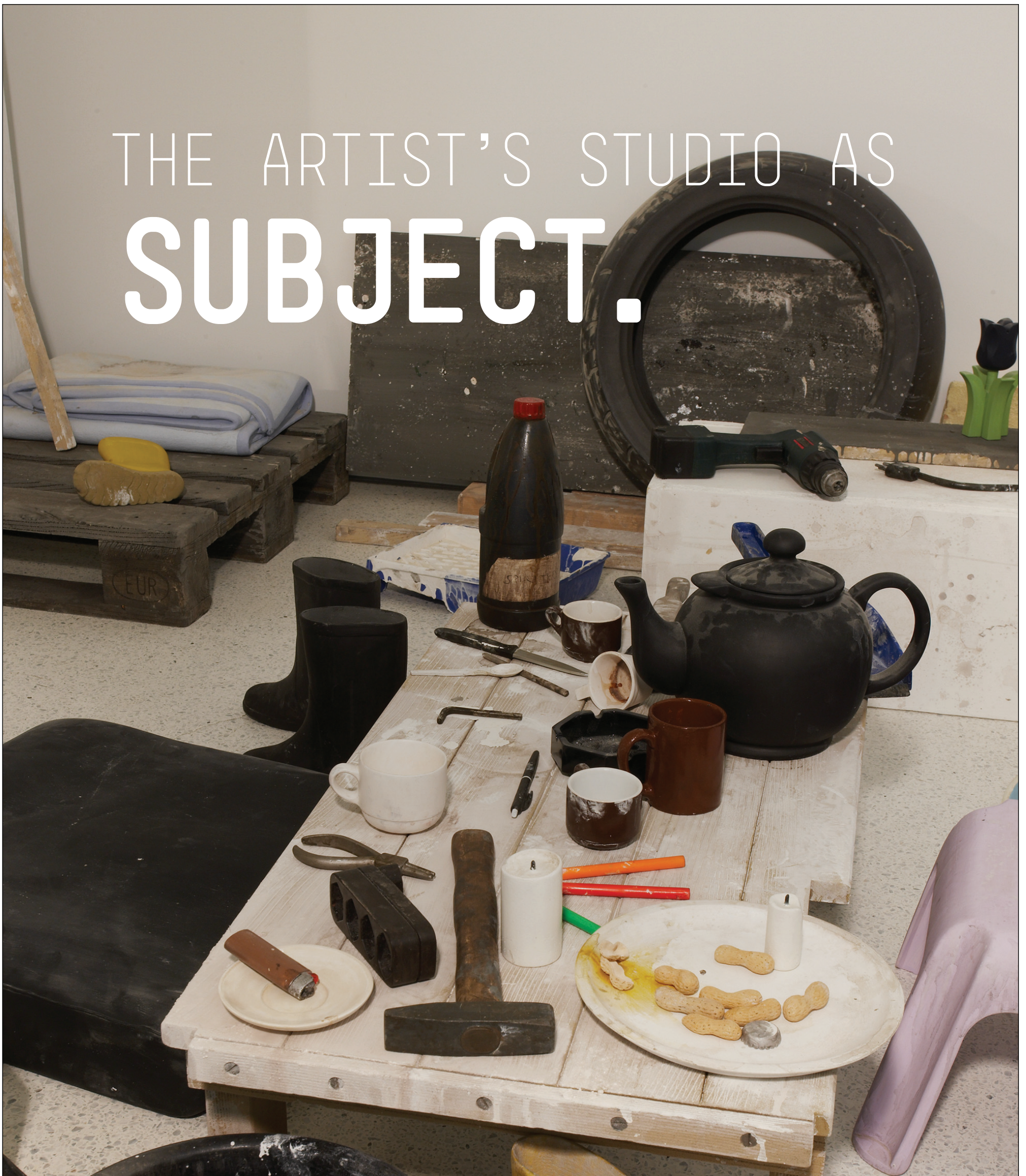
For more information about the Windy City Rollers, ticket information, or tryout dates and times visit [WindyCityRollers.com](http://WindyCityRollers.com).

jgraveline@chroniclemail.com



Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

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Peter Fischli and David Weiss. *Untitled*, 2005. Polyurethane and paint.  
Dimensions variable. Installation view at the Carnegie Museum of Art,  
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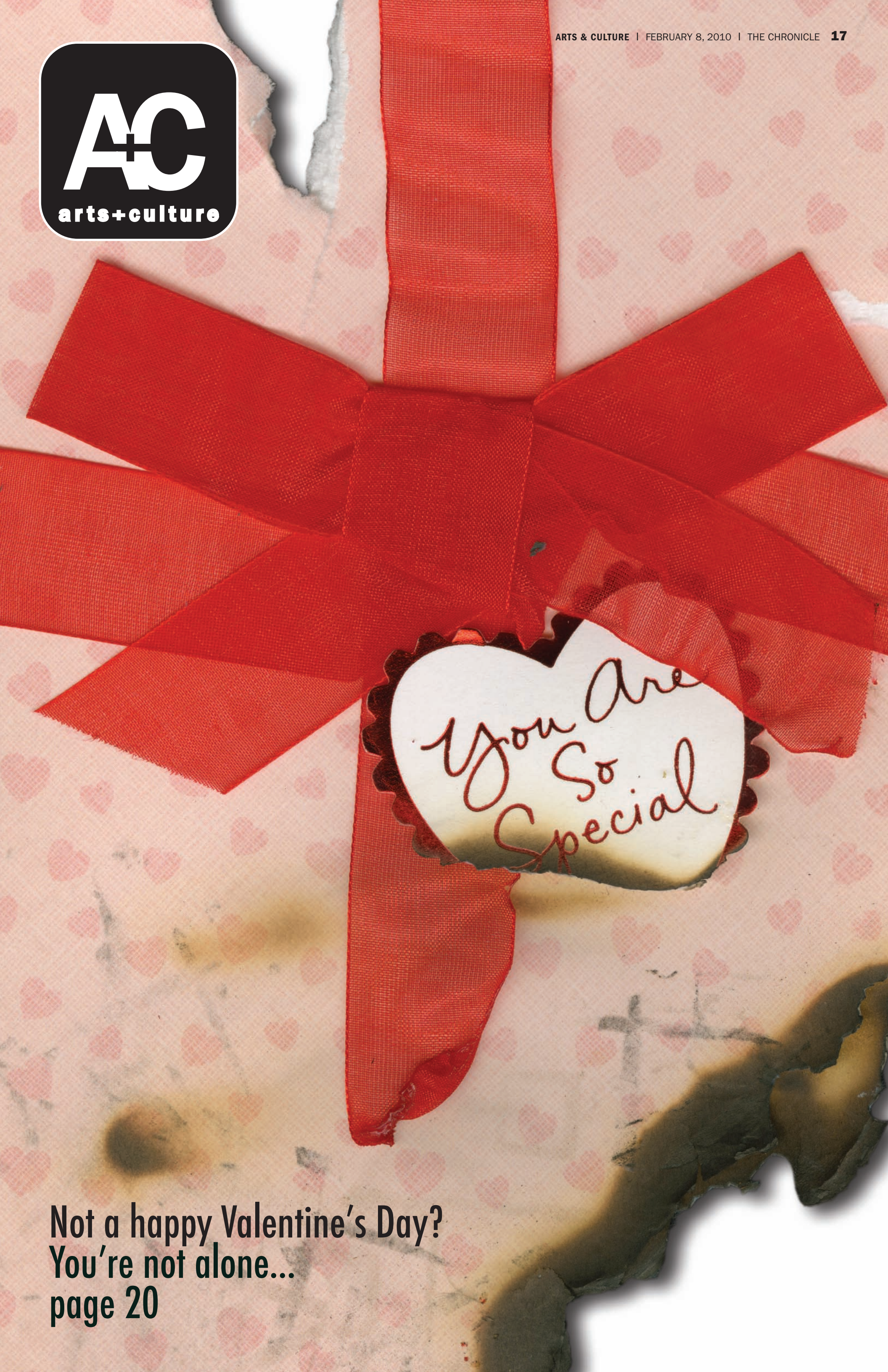
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Not a happy Valentine's Day?  
You're not alone...  
page 20



Photos by Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

(Top) Joseph Blanski, founder of music label Moss Tapes, uses a dubber to copy cassette tapes in his apartment. The artwork on the cases are designed in his apartment as well. (Bottom) A selection of cassette tapes in Blanski's basement.

# Rock 'n' roll covered in Moss

**New Chicago-based music label uses old technology**

by **Mina Bloom**  
by Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

CASSETTE TAPES—perceived as prehistoric artifacts collecting dust in the corner of a harshly-lit thrift store—are considered treasures in 22-year-old Joseph Blanski's Ukrainian Village apartment. Blanski's affinity for the CD's distant brethren, or the vinyl record's slightly younger cousin, led him to create Moss Tapes, an emerging Chicago-based music label that primarily sells reproduced, repainted cassette tapes.

The dubbing, or copying using a recorder, spray painting and designing has taken place in Blanski's apartment just about every day since August 2009 when Moss Tapes began, he said.

"I like the fact that they're not digital," Blanski said. "They're physical and you can hold them in your hands. As things get more and more digital, that aspect fades away and you kind of lose that."

Blanski performs solo as Meester Magpie, as well as with RRRainbow Family Band, both of which produce music under the Moss Tapes umbrella.

Though Blanski claims to never have taken music seriously until college, he now plays everything from guitar and keyboards to didgeridoo and clarinet, devoting all of his free time to practicing music and reproducing tapes for his label.

Other bands that belong to Moss Tapes, all of which comprise friends of Blanski's, are eclectic in genre. Improvisational jazz, blues, noise and lo-fi bedroom urban country are just some of the genres of music that Moss Tapes represents, Blanski said.

In order to reproduce a cassette tape, Blanski said he generally orders 100 cassette tapes online, makes 50 copies for each band, gives 25 of them to the members of the band and keeps 25 to sell on his own. A tape sells for \$4 and a refurbished tape player sells for \$6.

"I sell mine, take the money straight to the bank and order more tapes," Blanski said.

A typical day at Blanski's apartment consists of nonstop dubbing, explained his girlfriend and fellow RRRainbow Family Band member, Laura Bourbon, 22.

"We have two double tape deck doubles in the basement and one upstairs," said Bourbon, who plays the tambourine, organ, etc. "We're running back and forth and doing that, spray painting tapes as soon as they come out, making the cases and making a flyer at the same time—just being creative together. It's all about timing."

The notion that the majority of people don't own cassette tape players anymore hasn't discouraged Blanski one bit.

"Those FM transmitters for iPods and other MP3 players never worked and tape players have started being put in cars again," Blanski said. "I know people who have been buying cassette tape players and dubbers too."

Much of the appeal of seemingly archaic cassette tapes stems from a desire for a grainier, warmer quality of sound, which Michigan native Blanski and Bourbon agree upon.

"It's a scratchier sound," said Bourbon, who works full-time as a waitress at Leona's Restaurant. "You can tell if they're being reused. It clicks throughout. Some of it's much more lo-fi and some of it's hard to master and it makes a more rumbly sound. I think certain people really like that, but some of them are really polished

as well. It's a mixture of both."

Joe Dummitt, friend of Blanski and member of what Blanski calls a bedroom-urban-country band, CMI, said he designed his music specifically for cassette tapes.

"We do tracks that are 25 minutes long each and they all come together with city sounds," said Dummitt, 25, who graduated from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2007. "We're dubbing the tapes so it's not a great quality transfer. I just really like the idea of my music disappearing into the static and deteriorating."

The very first multiple act show Moss Tapes hosted was on Jan. 23 at Blanski's apartment, or what he refers to as Dr. Who's Warehouse, consisting of live music, comedy, theater and art.

CMI sold every one of their tapes at the aforementioned launch party, which he said has to do with the hand craftsman-

ship of their releases.

"It's hard to deny that you're selling a tape for \$4 and it's kind of a beautiful object," Dummitt said. "We've all put a lot of work into our tapes and made a point to make them unique."

Being a fairly new, innovative label, Bourbon said the goal of Moss Tapes is to continue doing what they're doing and hopefully produce three times what they make currently.

"Moss Tapes is really beautiful in the fact that it's really inexpensive and not that demanding," Dummitt said. "It's kind of time-consuming, but we produced my record with maybe \$40 or \$50. We're all doing it really lo-fi."

For more information as well as times and dates for upcoming shows, visit [MossTapes.com](http://MossTapes.com).

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# West Town aims to retain artistic reputation

**Wicker Park, Bucktown turn focus on community, artists**

by Colin Shively  
Arts & Culture Editor

DURING THE past 30 years, the Wicker Park/Bucktown neighborhood has seen drastic changes in the demographic and culture of the area. Originally a Polish neighborhood, the evolution of its culture and community has grown to a mixture of high-fashion, artists and young families. However, West Town is focusing to bring the artists back—and keep them.

In February 2009, the Special Service Area, an organization that funds services and programs for a community, of West Town approved a new Master Plan that is primarily focused on what the community desires to see their neighborhood turn into. To date, the Master Plan gives local artists and galleries the chances they need to return to the independence and creativity for which the neighborhood is known.

“We, as an organization, are trying to be more supportive of the arts that are here,” said Paula Barrington, executive director of the Wicker Park/Bucktown Chamber of Commerce. “We are working with organizations like Flat Iron Artist Association or Around the Coyote to really promote the fact that the arts are still alive in the neighborhood.”

Recently, the cost of living and renting art space has risen due to the influx of higher income families and large fashion companies in West Town. The increased expense has caused artists who once thrived in the area to leave because they could no longer afford the rising prices, Barrington said.

To date, the neighborhood has not seen a decrease in prices but has instead reached a plateau in living costs.

However, Barrington said the artistic groups in the area are working hard alongside the Special Service Area and the chamber of commerce to create affordable living and gallery spaces to help sway artists and art lovers to remain and return to the area.

For this to happen, Barrington said The Flat Iron Artist Association is reinventing its marketing strategy because even if there are less expensive gallery spaces, there needs to be a customer base.

“The Flat Iron said, ‘You know what Paula? We can throw all the art shows in the world we want, but we got to get customers through the door and get them to buy our art,’” Barrington said.

All of this is part of the Special Service Area’s Master Plan to develop the ideas and identify the needs of the surrounding community.

“We wanted to do our Master Plan in line with some locally-determined priorities,” said Eleanor Mayer, a program assistant for the Wicker Park/Bucktown Special Service Area.

The community responded and it was decided that the neighborhood wanted to maintain some of the traditional gritty and artsy elements that make West Town unique,

Mayer said.

A big part of the project, Mayer said, is all the vacant store fronts in the area and how to get art in these empty spaces while they wait for a store to take ownership.

The Special Service Area is in talks with local and possibly some national artists to help “reinvigorate” the streets of West Town.

“We really feel like our neighborhood continues to be a destination for the arts,” Barrington said. “We just want to make it more top of the line for people and to make sure that there are really a lot of choices here, every single weekend.”



Lenny Gilmore THE CHRONICLE

cshively@chroniclemail.com

The Special Service Area and the Wicker Park/Bucktown Chamber of Commerce want to utilize vacant storefronts to display artist’s work until a company takes ownership.

DEAN DEBORAH H. HOLDSTEIN ANNOUNCES THE SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES DEAN’S LECTURE

## WOMEN, CREATIVITY, AND MADNESS

A look at how insanity can contribute to the creative process

Thursday, February 18, 2010

Dr. Jean Petrolle, Associate Professor of English at Columbia College Chicago

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2010

The lecture will begin at 5:00 p.m., followed by Q&A and reception.

MUSIC CENTER CONCERT HALL, 1014 S. MICHIGAN AVE.

Is there a connection between madness and creativity? Is madness always an illness—or is it somehow integral to the creative process? The figures of the “mad genius” and the “tortured artist,” after all, hint at a deeper connection between psychospiritual breakdown and artistic achievement than we’d like to admit.

In this lecture, noted scholar and LAS faculty member Dr. Jean Petrolle explores the thin line between madness and creativity, and how madness might actually serve as an engine of creative production, personal survival, and historical change.

Virginia Woolf, Leonora Carrington, and Zelda Fitzgerald are just a few women whose art, claims Dr. Petrolle, was fueled by their madness. Please join us for this fascinating and provocative lecture, as Dr. Petrolle challenges traditional assumptions about mental illness and constructs an alternate understanding of madness as a viable form of mental labor.

JEAN PETROLLE, PH.D. is a prolific scholar and author. The co-editor of the essay collection *Women and Experimental Filmmaking* (University of Illinois, 2005), she has published articles and essays about post-1960s literature and film, women’s literature, and the teaching of writing. Dr. Petrolle is an associate professor in the Department of English at Columbia College Chicago.

RSVP to Alexandra Garcia by Monday, February 15  
> agarcia@colum.edu  
> 312.369.8217

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Valentine's Day draws near and Cupid is busy hijacking the cultural Zeitgeist. Now single cynics have to figure out a way to celebrate Valentine's Day without a card dipped in sickening sentiment.

Fortunately, haters are finding their own way to make the season bearable with a pitch of sarcastic and dark humor.

John Ferraro has roses perfect for all those not feeling the love—dead, dirty roses. Dirty Rotten Flowers, which started its online business a year ago, sells pristine flowers aged to perfection through their Web site, which arrive inside their own fancy packaging. Customers can give the box of dead flowers their personal touch with a message to their ex-sweetheart or victim. Ferraro said he got the idea for the roses from a Czech florist, now his business partner, and thought it would be funny.

"I know that Valentine's Day puts a lot of pressure on people," Ferraro said. "I have a friend who is single and she doesn't like Valentine's Day [only] because she is single. It just reminds her she doesn't have someone in her life ... You feel like you're supposed to do something about love, and if you don't have it on that day, it makes you feel bad."

Ferraro said people buy the diseased flowers to send a damning statement to lovers or a simple joke to those with the right sense of humor. Customers have the option of sending the dead roses with the heads cut off or whole. Ferraro has found from recent orders that whole, dead roses tend to have more vengeful messages while the headless ones are usually more light-hearted.

"There was one recently, and it was an early Valentine's gift," Ferraro said. "It sounds like it was from a woman to another woman, and it just said Happy Valentine's Day. That's like three weeks ahead of Valentine's Day ... I got the feeling there was something funny going on between them."

The company also gives live

roses to people in the Los Angeles area and would like to expand to other states, but they aren't yet equipped to send the live flowers outside of their immediate area. Any live rose shipped across state lines would arrive dead.

"That's a whole other level of business in terms of companies like FTD [Florists' Transworld Delivery] getting involved," Ferraro said. "But we do send the dead stuff anywhere. There's no problem with it because it doesn't matter if it arrives wilted."

Still, Valentine's Day isn't just about floral arrangements—dead or alive. It needs candy and, for those alone on Valentine's Day, any ordinary sweets wouldn't do. That's why Despair, Inc.

made its very own candy hearts for all the cranks out there. Instead of the normal saccharine, sweet message written on most candy hearts, their Bittersweets feature more realistic messages like "I'm hot inside," "P.S. I love me," or if someone is feeling particularly vindictive, "I got sober."

"One of the things that's true of Valentine's Day is, despite the fact it's a day people are celebrating being in love, there are probably more people who are not in love."

**-Lawrence Kersten**

Three separate containers are available on Despair, Inc.'s Web site, each with a different theme. The three collections, Dejected, Dysfunctional and Dumped, include up to 37 unique messages. The candy comes in six unique flavors: Banana Chalk, Grape Dust, Nappy-Citric, You-Call-This-Lime?, Pink Sand and Fossilized Antacid.

Despair, Inc. was founded in 1998 and started selling their candy in 2001. Lawrence Kersten, chief operating

BITTERSWEETS  
TASTE  
VALENTINE'S



Design By: Jonathan Allen

# THE

# ER

# OF

# INE'S

# AY

Story by: Cody Prentiss



officer, said the inspiration for the Bittersweets came from the candy heart's iconic place in the Valentine's Day tradition.

"One of the things that's true of Valentine's Day is, despite the fact it's a day people are celebrating being in love, there are probably more people who are not in love," Kersten said. "We thought what we need is Valentine's Day for the rest of us."

The company gets the most sales for their bitter hearts around the holiday, but they sell satirical motivational posters, T-shirts, calendars and mugs throughout the year. The company started with Kersten and a few others cracking jokes about the motivational brochures they read while working at an Internet Service Provider in Dallas, Texas. Eventually, they started making their own posters and passing them around to their friends.

Kersten said the Bittersweets are the only Valentine's Day-specific product they sell, but many of their posters make apt gifts for the holiday. He points out one in particular, picturing a lush, red rose front and center with a black border surrounding it. Under the rose, the word "destiny" is written in big, red, capital letters with the message, "You were meant for me. Perhaps as punishment," written under it.

Another possible gift he mentioned was the company's "Dysfunction" poster. The picture shows a chain with a broken link in the middle and under the photo, the word Dysfunction is written in green. Under that the words, "The only consistent feature in all of your dissatisfying relationships is you," are written.

Kersten said he ultimately doesn't care about Valentine's Day, and the best way for bitter singles to celebrate the holiday is to just throw a party. His idea includes prominent use of Bittersweets.

"Get together with ten of your lonely friends, each have their own three tins of Bittersweets," Kersten said. "Then you have a therapy session in which you choose the Bittersweet that you believe each of your friends needs to hear. Then they each give you the Bittersweet they think you need to hear ... or if you're over 21, get a bottle of Scotch."

Columbia students Lana Slaby and Sarah Antonick have similar plans for an anti-Valentine's Day, albeit with less product and fewer lonely people. Theirs will be a metal theme with black piñata hearts ready for guests to smash and appropriately-themed desserts like black cupcakes for guests to munch on. Antonick said having the party should help temper the expectations people normally build up for the holiday.

"We're throwing all caution to the wind," Antonick said. "Just

putting the "anti" on it just so there is no pressure of it having to be a good night. You can flourish in that."

Slaby said her history with the holiday has been spotty at best, but metal should make this year's a standout.

"I can't remember the last time I had a good Valentine's Day," Slaby said. "It's an excuse to have a metal-themed party at my house."

Slaby said she remembers even when she had a valentine to celebrate with, it is still a little disappointing.

"Even if you do have a boyfriend, they think you want to have so much more," Slaby said. "I could just watch 'SpongeBob [SquarePants]' with you all night and that would be great."

Slaby may have to do without a date and SpongeBob, but she'll still have her metal. She said the reason they went with the genre was because most of the songs in it have little to do with love. Celebrating with aggression is the best way to rebel against the holiday focusing on love and capitalism.

"Rage," Slaby said.

"We want people to have fun without the pressure of having a date," Antonick added.

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# Mass transit goes green

Mobile garden project approved by CTA, expected to debut in April

by Mina Bloom  
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

THOUGH A garden on a flatbed car of the Chicago Transit Authority train may seem like a purely aesthetic choice amidst the city's gray, urban environment, University of Illinois at Chicago student Joe Baldwin is designing a mobile garden as a public art installation and, as of Jan. 30, the verdict is in: The CTA is on board.

Currently, the project is estimated to cost roughly \$30,000. The gardens were originally intended for the Green Line, although Baldwin said that they may appear on different lines due to the nature of how cars come in and out of the station. The exact number of cars involved, which are the same type of flat car as the decorated holiday Santa cars, is yet to be determined.

Baldwin, who grew up in Belleville, Ill., said he came up with the idea for the mobile garden when he would sit and observe trains.

"When you take those kinds of freight trains, there are cars, oil, different kind of commerce products," Baldwin said. "I thought, 'Wouldn't it be neat if nature could stop traffic?'"

In a UIC seminar, Baldwin began thinking about a design for a sustainable future, which he developed this past summer as a part of his thesis research.

Baldwin's organization, Noisivelvet, which

is currently applying for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status, is dedicated to providing work for public artists. The mobile garden is Noisivelvet's current project. After assembling a team of experts in sustainability and environmental studies as board members, the legalities of the project are underway with an expected debut of April 22, which is also Earth Day.

"The goal here is to make public art," Baldwin said. "At second glance, there's a lot of brown field and vacant spaces in Chicago and many spaces which can be turned into green spaces and natural habitat corridors. This project can kind of inspire and inform people on how to do that in their own spaces."

Native plants will make up the garden, which Lauren Umek, urban ecology project coordinator at DePaul University, said provide a habitat for native biodiversity.

"Insects, mammals and anything that would be apart of our native ecosystem depends on native plants for pollen, shelter, nesting habitats and various other reasons," Umek said.

Native gardening also prevents long-term maintenance. Tall grass prairie plants or woodland plants, for example, have deep root structure and they don't need the same type of fertilizer or care, she said.

Exposing urbanites who may not be garden-savvy to the relevance of native plants is one of the many goals of the mobile garden project.

Board member Molly Meyer, 27, is a green roofing consultant who runs



Courtesy JOSEPH BALDWIN

An approximation of what the flatbed mobile garden car will look like when it debuts on Earth Day.

three independent businesses: Molly Meyer LLC, Rooftop Greenworks LLC and Ecolknowledge Nexus LLC. Baldwin approached Meyer because her expertise is useful in designing components of the mobile garden.

"Essentially, it's a green roof because it's a plant system that's not on the ground," Meyer said.

They anticipate different reactions to a flatcar with native plants, as opposed to the more obvious Santa cars, board members are hopeful that the project will educate city dwellers.

"I'm sure there will be some people who won't understand it or aren't interested, but

I think that's part of the group of people that we're interested in talking to in order to share the ideas of environmental issues, community connectedness and native plant systems," Meyer said.

In order to do that, those who are riding the train will receive homemade paper pamphlets with seeds embedded in them. The information will teach people about planting, stewardship and becoming more involved in their own environments, Baldwin said.

For more information, visit [TheMobileGarden.org](http://TheMobileGarden.org).

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# 'Rush' captures 'Spirit of Radio' at Second City

Comedy troupe premieres new musical about talk radio personality Rush Limbaugh

by Luke Wilusz  
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

SCATHING POLITICAL satire returned to the Second City stage last week as the company premiered their latest revue, "Rush Limbaugh! The Musical." The company performed its final preview show at Second City's e.t.c. stage, 1608 N. Wells St., on Feb. 2, before officially opening the show the following night.

The show follows talk radio personality Rush Limbaugh's rise from obscurity to fame and extrapolates what might happen with Limbaugh and the conservative movement as far ahead as 2014.

The show's production team, who also wrote last year's successful "Rod Blagojevich Superstar!," wanted to do another political show, said producer Leonard Kelly.

"We were kind of talking about AIG maybe, or a Bernie Madoff show, and we kind of were going in that direction," Kelly said. "And the guys even did partial work on a script and it just wasn't connecting in the same way that the Blagojevich show did. I think we were just going around the room where I'm like, 'You know, it's because we don't have a compelling central figure. I mean, if we had someone we all hated like Rush Limbaugh,' and then it was like, 'Yep, that's it!'"

Kelly, who also serves as the executive vice president of Second City, said that as of the show's opening, he hadn't received much comment on the show from the people it portrays, although



Courtesy BOB KNUTH

The cast (from left): Kevin Sciretta, Karla Beard, Colleen Murray, Mark Sutton, Cayne Collier and Bumper Carroll.

he said Limbaugh did mention the show briefly.

"A reporter in Palm Beach called me," Kelly said. "He had e-mailed Rush to ask him what he had thought of the show, and Rush said it was the first he had heard of it—this was a few weeks ago—and that commenting on that would be like commenting on an article in the Weekly World News. So I think Rush was just sort of minimizing our potential impact with the show, as is perfectly his right to do."

While the show focuses mainly on major conservative figures such as Limbaugh, Ann Coulter and Karl Rove, the cast also took some shots at the left with its portrayal of Democrats Hillary Clinton and Barney Frank.

"It was obviously more smashing on the conservatives," said Tony Lagona of

Chicago. "But that was all right, you know, that was what it was meant to do. They threw in enough of the slamming on the other side to make it, you know, reasonable."

Lagona saw the preview show on Feb. 2 and said he would probably see it again.

Sam Richardson, who played Roland Burriss in "Rod Blagojevich Superstar!" last year, also attended the preview to show support to his Second City peers.

"I thought it was a great lampooning and lambasting of Rush Limbaugh," Richardson said. "It was harsh on both sides of the argument, but a brilliant skewering."

Kelly said the show's writers pay attention to the news in order to update the script as they see necessary, drawing material directly from

Limbaugh's show.

"It's the kind of script that keeps evolving," Kelly said. "Because the minute Rush says something stupid about, say Haiti, we can include it in the show. And he's been very kind to continue to say some stupid stuff for us."

Kelly said the actors have no problems keeping up with these last-minute changes.

"The guys are nimble performers, which is why we're able to hand them lines to insert in the show to keep it topical," he said.

It's not just last-minute script changes that the company had to adapt to quickly. Director Matt Hovde said the cast had been rehearsing for less than two weeks when the show opened.

"It's so fun. And every day is so intense because there's a lot of music, a lot of dancing, a lot of scene work, so we really have to work hard every day to get that thing ready," Hovde said.

Kelly said he noticed reactionary messages on blogs before the show even began.

"One of the things the show talks about is the fact that there seems to be this need, in the sort of Rush Limbaugh camp, to always find hyperbole and exaggerate everything, as opposed to having any sort of reasoned conversation," Kelly said. "And that's exactly what we're finding here. People haven't even seen the show yet, they don't know the content of the show, yet they're saying that we're horrible people for doing the show. Which is kind of the point of the show."

"Rush Limbaugh! The Musical" runs Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. until March 24.

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# Wiseau is in 'The Room'

Actor, producer, director attends Chicago screening of self-made movie

by David Orlikoff  
Film Critic

TOMMY WISEAU'S origins are shrouded in mystery. Very little is known about his life before the release of "The Room" in 2003. Wiseau wrote, directed, produced and starred in "The Room," and he wants to keep it that way. He is 41 years old and speaks with a distinctive Eastern European accent, even as he adamantly professes that he is an American. His refusal to answer what he deems "personal questions" has led to wild speculation about past lives, connections to organized crime and using film production to launder money.

Despite his coyness, or perhaps because of it, Wiseau exudes an indescribable magnetism that alternative comedians like David Cross and Patton Oswalt are eager to parody. The ubiquitous consensus is "The Room" is so bad it's good—a phrase Wiseau rejects though he enjoys when people laugh at screenings.

In many ways, the film rejects traditional criticism and can hardly even be called a film. Going to a screening is an event, like "Avatar" in IMAX 3-D. This is the next level in audience participation after "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

Wiseau will be at the two screenings of "The Room" at the Music Box Theater on

Feb. 12. The Chronicle spoke with him on the phone about the production, the origins of the midnight screenings and the differences between men and women.

**The Chronicle:** How did you first get started in the entertainment and movie industry?

**Tommy Wiseau:** I study acting for many years. My background is stage acting. I've been all over the workshop, I took the classes with famous people like Jean Shelton in San Francisco. So I study in film production, etc. I script in my head, actually, it's supposed to be novel, then I wrote the novel and it's supposed to be a play, actually. That's the novel—the play first. And then I change because I study and I notice that I cannot reach enough people. So I decided to actually make a movie, and that's what you have: the product.

**The Chronicle:** I read that you fired your crew three times when shooting, why was that?

**TW:** Your assumption is incorrect. The crew was replaced four times. It was conflict of my creation. My suggestion is that maybe these negative individuals should see "The Room" at least 10 times in theater environments to discover the symbolisms within "The Room."

Who is right? Who is wrong? That's the question. What do you do if your ship is sinking; do you abandon your ship?



IMDB

Tommy Wiseau stars as Johnny in "The Room," which screens at the Music Box Theater on Feb. 12.

No, I will never abandon my ship with the life in it. Some people will, and some people did.

The fact is, after several years, people who abandon my ship, "The Room," production, like deserters from the battlefield after the victory, they try to come back and want credit for two hours of work. They implied that they worked so hard for it and because of them we have a better project.

Some of them went to the extreme that that they are so happy for me that "The Room" is so popular and they would like to be part of it.

My answer for them and your negative critics is you should look in the mirror and ask yourself the question: "What did you do lately?" If you, such an expert, grab a camera and make your own

movies, don't ask for credit because you will never receive it. It is easy to criticize people, but it's much harder to be nice and understand them.

If someone does something different and people have fun with it, why not give a credit when credit is due.

**The Chronicle:** You had more control than most filmmakers; does the finished film match your vision?

**TW:** Well yeah, I will say I am satisfied. But again, honestly, I always will say that you can have improve. But I am satisfied 99.9 percent. I can say that.

To read the full interview with Tommy Wiseau, visit [ColumbiaChronicle.com](http://ColumbiaChronicle.com).

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# Exhibit tells Honest Abe's true story

'Abraham Lincoln Transformed' documents Lincoln's changing views on slavery, equality

by Luke Wilusz  
Assistant Arts & Culture Editor

MANY AMERICANS know Abraham Lincoln as the man who led our nation in a fight for freedom and equality during the Civil War, but one museum exhibit aims to dispel some common misconceptions about the Great Emancipator.

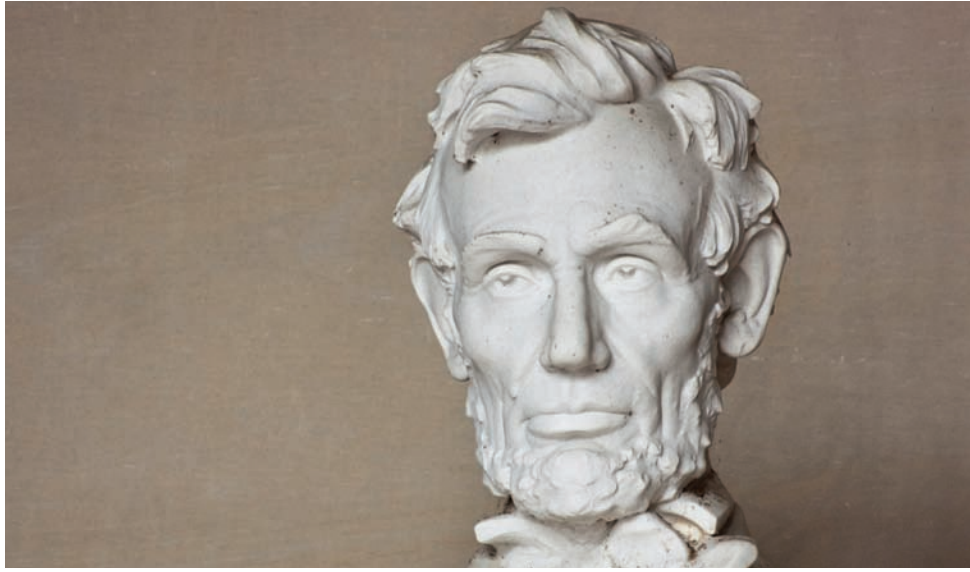
"Rather than a traditional biography of Lincoln, starting with the log cabin, to the White House and so on, I decided to focus on his changing views about slavery and the union, and the change came about during the crisis of the Civil War," said exhibit curator Olivia Mahoney.

The exhibit, "Abraham Lincoln Transformed," opened Oct. 10 and will remain open until April 12 at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St.

Mahoney said Lincoln didn't make abolishing slavery his goal at the beginning of his political career.

"He was willing to allow for its existence in the South [and] to just leave it alone, in order to keep the union together," she said. "Because above all, he revered the union—the country—as established by the founding fathers. And of course, they allowed for slavery. They compromised to keep the union together, so he wanted to continue in that tradition."

Mahoney said that while Lincoln wanted to stop the spread of slavery beyond the states where it was legal, he was not a supporter of equal rights for freed slaves.



Stock Photo

"Lincoln really didn't believe that the two races could ever live together as equals," Mahoney said.

She said Lincoln supported a program of colonization, which would send any freed slaves back to Africa if they wished to go.

"His views are very complex," Mahoney said. "And at times you find in his writings, you know, deep empathy for black people, certainly leaning towards equality but never fully embracing it. It was a very radical thing at that time to talk about blacks as equals. He was not a radical, he was moderate. His views helped him get elected because that's where most people stood."

However, Lincoln's election triggered the secession of several southern states whose citizens were fearful of his views on slavery before he could even take office, Mahoney said.

At the start of the Civil War, Lincoln still had no intention of abolishing slavery, although the

pressures of the war would eventually lead him to reconsider this stance.

"There was a lot of pressure from abolitionists and others in Congress to do something about slavery because they could see that slavery really helped to maintain the South," Mahoney said. "[Slaves] helped to maintain the armies because they were raising the crops and the cotton that was being sold to keep the money flowing in."

Museum patron Zam Munies said he thought the exhibit did a great job clearing up a common misconception about the Civil War.

"Everybody thinks it was a war of slavery, but it wasn't," Munies said. "It was to keep the union together."

According to Mahoney, Lincoln wasn't considering equal rights or citizenship for blacks immediately after he issued his Emancipation Proclamation, although his views gradually

changed as the war went on. A film made by local production company Zero One Projects is part of the exhibit to help explain this shift.

"As the result of black soldiers and their involvement in the war and their service, he came to see them as equal citizens," Mahoney said. "So you can see he's a person in transition."

She said Lincoln first publicly endorsed equality and citizenship for blacks in a speech he made just after the war ended, from the balcony of the White House.

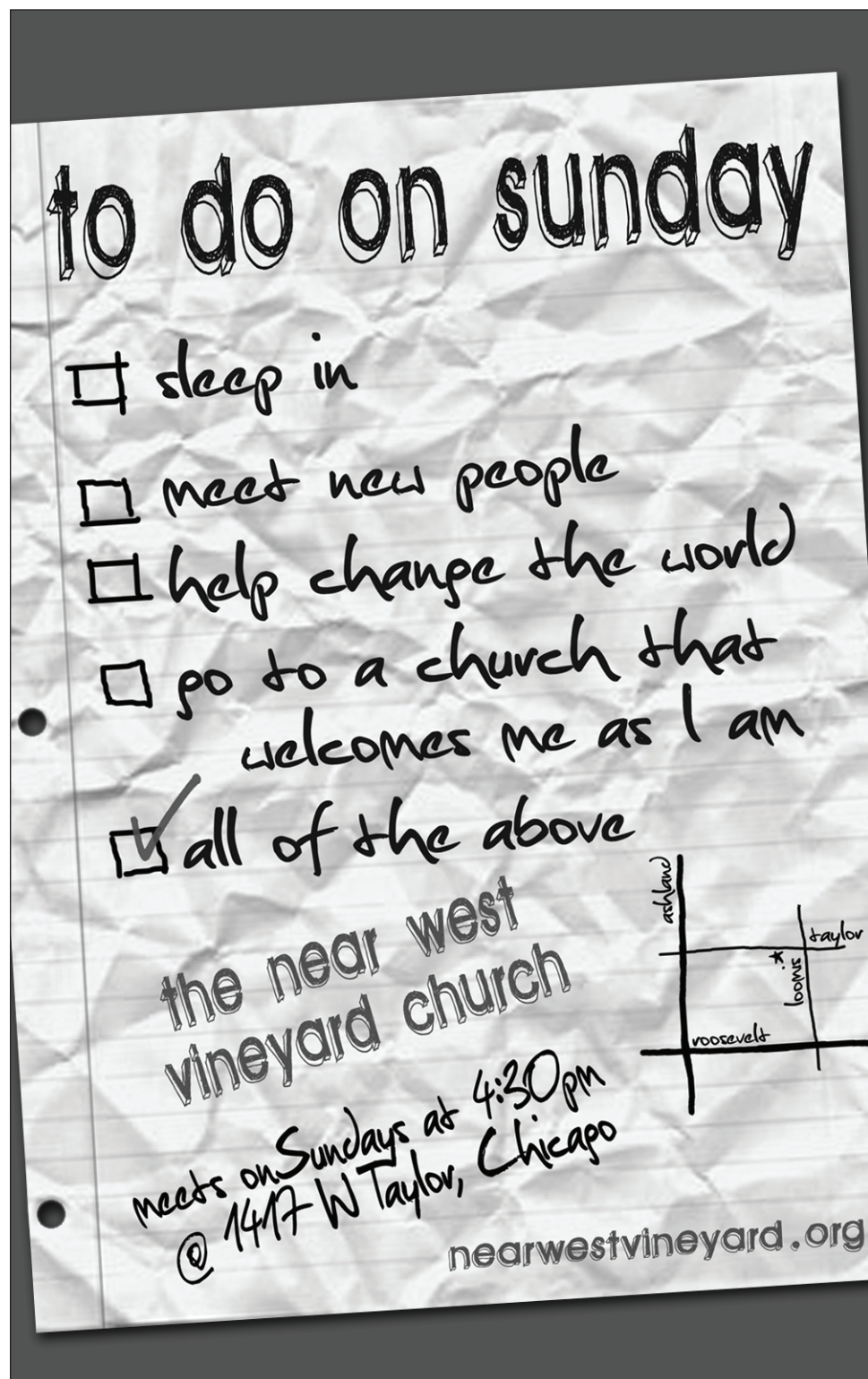
"In the audience at that speech is John Wilkes Booth, who was a well-known actor, Confederate sympathizer and white supremacist," Mahoney said. "And when he hears Lincoln endorse equal rights for blacks, he vows then to put him through, to kill him... Very few people make this connection; they just think Booth hated Lincoln. Well, it was really based on this: equality for blacks."

In addition to featuring informative displays that tell the story of Lincoln's changing views, the exhibit also features hundreds of Lincoln artifacts, such as the bed he died in and the flag his body was wrapped in afterward.

"This is what Lincoln fans really love to see," said Kyle Kazmierczak, who works at the museum's front desk, referring to the countless documents written and signed by Lincoln. "You know, after coming out of Illinois, being a lawyer, working his way into the Senate and the presidency. There are a lot of wonderful things up there to see."

The information presented in the exhibit, along with photos of all the items on display, are available to view online at [LincolnAt200.org](http://LincolnAt200.org).

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FILM REVIEW

# 'Dear John' full of romantic clichés

Movie fails to realistically portray romance between a soldier, student

by David Orlikoff  
Film Critic

WHEN PEOPLE say romance films are addicting, they usually mean that they offer equivalent fantasies and fulfill a person's desires. But "Dear John," directed by Lasse Hallström and starring Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried, seems unreal and incredibly cliché

It follows the same structure in both form and presentation. "Dear John," with its ironic title, is composed of clichés branching out from the seed concept of love letters and long distance love. Usually, great films are not so easily summarized, but "Dear John" is entirely contained within that conceptual framework.

Almost all the plot revelations come as artificial leaps. The happy couple will begin fighting all of the sudden for no clear reason other than it builds drama. Similarly, while they are conversing, it is an eventuality that it begins to rain and they get to make out in the downpour. Because they are artificially injected, "Dear John" has every scene and every emotion a fan of the genre could want, but in the absence of any true motivation, character establishment or real plot work. Things just happen and audiences don't mind too much because the results are what they are paying to see. But to be truly effective emotionally, these typical melodramatic scenes need to appear to origi-

## 'Dear John'

**Starring:** Channing Tatum/Amanda Seyfried  
**Director:** Lasse Hallström  
**Run Time:** 150 minutes

Rating: PG-13



Now playing at local theaters.

nate organically from the characters and their relationship. And it is only with some pseudo-religious faith that anyone could see this film and believe the actions were warranted.

In a world where there are no couples and only broken families, John and Savannah might as well be the last two humans on Earth. The entire film is predicated upon their relationship—built over just two weeks together and meant to last years while John serves in the Middle East. But within that time very little actually happens between them. They never share anything of themselves or build anything together. Instead, all we see of the two is how they each fit a sexual archetype: John being strong, capable and potentially dangerous (he's threatening, though not to her), and Savannah being a warm, virtuous mediator with a natural affinity towards children. The only thing they share together is one insipid motif about the size of the moon, which probably made the trailers.

This is a film about love, but who could love the characters? And then who could believe they love each other? John's time in the mili-



MCT Newswire

Channing Tatum (left) and Amanda Seyfried (right) star in "Dear John" as lovers separated by war.

tary and the film's semi-exploitative use of 9/11 do little to enrich his character. The one relationship that carried any weight at all was between John and his father. But that relationship was partially marred by the awkward subplot of autism in the film. John's father, as well as Alan, the young son of Savannah's family friend Tim, are both autistic to varying degrees. This leads to some haphazard drama and tension, but it isn't until Savannah explains her belief that autistic people have a "horse sense" for bad things about to happen that things get

really bonkers.

Tim, played by Henry Thomas, best known as Elliot from "E.T.," was a quirky delight. Too bad they never found a way to justify his omnipresence, which made him closely resemble a sitcom comic relief. Brief moments of abstract comedy lift the veil of melodrama and reveal a filmmaker with at least some knowledge of realism. And the two leads at least developed strong physical chemistry.

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**OF MONTREAL** // FOR OUR ELEGANT CAST  
**THE COOL KIDS** // 88

MINA BLOOM, ASSISTANT ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR



**NEKO CASE** // DEEP RED BELLS  
**RAINBOW BRIDGE** // BIG WAVE RIDER  
**PHOSPHORESCENT** // A PICTURE OF OUR TORN UP PRAISE  
**AVI BUFFALO** // WHAT'S IT IN FOR

LISA WARDLE, COPY EDITOR



**IGGY POP** // UGLINESS  
**CHARLIE DANIELS & THE CHARLIE DANIELS BAND**  
 // THE DEVIL WENT DOWN TO GEORGIA  
**BLACK SABBATH** // PARANOID  
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## CHICAGO AUDIOFILE



Courtesy WILLIAM DAVID

Rapper William David (above) currently goes by WhoJahSay, but said he has gone through many names.

# MC spits spiritual verse

by Cody Prentiss  
*Assistant Arts & Culture Editor*

WILLIAM DAVID has gone by many names, but his philosophy has stayed the same. His emphasis on pursuing the human condition is ever present in his reggae beats and lyrics. The Philadelphia-born artist is working on his upcoming EP and has a slew of mix tapes already released.

The Chronicle sat down with the busy artist to find out how the EP was coming and his thoughts on religion and the state of music today.

**The Chronicle: How did you get your name?**

**William David:** I actually go through names kind of frequently. My name was I Am because my name is William. I was looking for a name that was similar but more appealing. Who Jah Say is kind of the same as I Am because I see the name William as the will of God. I Am being God, Will being the instrument, Who Jah Say being the same thing.

**The Chronicle: You seem pretty religious. How does that influence your music?**

**WD:** One hundred percent. I feel like people flip the word religion with specific doctrine. Religion is not being Christian or a specific religion. You practice. You practice that all day, everyday. It's your lifestyle, it's your culture. As far as being religious, everything I do is from the same root. It's got the same center. The way I talk is the same way as I eat, is the same as the way I dress, is the same way as I entertain myself or the same books I read. My religion is everything I am, so I'm very religious, yes.

**The Chronicle: How many tattoos do you have?**

**WD:** I have [pauses and counts to himself] about 12.

**The Chronicle: Is there any one of them you would like to get rid of?**

**WD:** I have a girl's name on my back, but I'm not romantic. I love love and I hold loyalty real big. It would be like throwing salt

in someone's eye to take their name off of me. So not really.

**The Chronicle: What are your biggest influences?**

**WD:** Bob Marley. Bob Marley is my father. Bob Marley basically raised me, I could say. When I think back as a young adult, Bob Marley was my teacher and raised me. Another influence would be, I don't know, hip-hop for sure... Anybody really speaking about real, conscious thoughts [and] human awareness.

**The Chronicle: What music do you have out right now?**

**WD:** I'm working on an EP... What I'm actually going to do is release a sampler package because I feel music has to be different. It's a different generation and people have shorter attention spans, so I'm not going to dump a whole CD on somebody. I'm going to give them things that are visually rich or educational and things like that. When I release my music, I release videos and a lot of things like that. I put together a video last week and I just posted it on my site. I have a lot of old material I haven't released. EPs, videos, mix tapes and shows.

**The Chronicle: Do you feel like music is over-produced now?**

**WD:** Absolutely. I feel like music, as a whole, is over-produced because it doesn't have any substance to it. I don't understand why people put such big sound and so much energy into bullshit. It's like I guess that's the difference. We are at a time in the industry where everyone has studios. I don't relate to this personally because I'm not old enough to, but I speak to some of my elders that [say] 20 or 30 years ago everybody didn't have a Macintosh or laptop with a little studio. That's why there are so many MCs. That's why there are so many producers. That's why there are so many people that think they have skills now. Everybody has the tools to do it, but back in the day that had to be what you did every day.

To listen to WhoJahSay's music, go to [MySpace.com/WhoJahSay](http://MySpace.com/WhoJahSay).

wprentiss@chroniclemail.com

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### Top tracks ( ) Last week's ranking in top five

#### United States

<b>Need You Now</b> • Lady Antebellum	1
<b>Imma Be</b> • Black Eyed Peas	(4) 2
<b>TiK ToK</b> • Ke\$ha	(3) 3
<b>Hey, Soul Sister</b> • Train	(5) 4
<b>I Gotta Feeling</b> • Black Eyed Peas	5

#### United Kingdom

<b>Fireflies</b> • Owl City	(1) 1
<b>Under Pressure</b> • Jedward	2
<b>Don't Stop Believin'</b> • Glee Cast	(2) 3
<b>Replay</b> • Iyaz	(3) 4
<b>Empire State ... Broken Down</b> • Alicia Keys	5

#### Spain

<b>Meet Me Halfway</b> • Black Eyed Peas	(1) 1
<b>TiK ToK</b> • Ke\$ha	(2) 2
<b>Stereo Love</b> • Edward Maya & Vika Jigulina	3
<b>Bad Romance</b> • Lady GaGa	(4) 4
<b>I Gotta Feeling</b> • Black Eyed Peas	(3) 5

Source: iTunes

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TOP 5



Stephanie Saviola/Assistant Metro Editor

Reasons I love "Lost"

**Uniqueness:** From day one, when I saw the pilot, I was hooked. It's unlike anything that is or has ever been on TV. The show is like a breath of fresh air in the wave of reality TV. Where else can you find a mysterious island with polar bears, smoke monsters and time travel?

**Characters:** The characters are so well-developed and diverse. No one is ever who you think and every other episode, my favorite character will change. They also do a great job at introducing new characters, which happens a lot throughout the seasons.

**Unpredictability:** Unlike most TV shows it is never predictable. My mind is blown away with every episode. If you make assumptions about what happens next and they are correct, then you are certifiably a genius. The sixth season just started and I have yet to be disappointed.

**Genre:** I don't even know how to categorize the show. Drama—yes. Action—yes. Sci-fi—yes. Romance (Jack/Kate/Sawyer love triangle)—yes!

**Setting:** It is gorgeous. Set in Hawaii, there is always the perfect backdrop for the storyline. In this harsh Chicago climate, who wouldn't want to mentally escape to a beautiful tropical island?



Spencer Roush/Assistant Metro Editor

Random things to remember

**It is personal:** Stop saying that someone should not take it personally while you are busy bashing them. How is it possible not to take something personally that involves someone's character or even business practices?

**Stop lights:** When the light turns red while you're driving, quit looking from side to side to see who the person sitting next to you in their car is. The chances are that person is checking you out too and that just leads to weird, uncomfortable eye contact. You certainly don't want to be caught looking.

**Gift exchange:** Whether it's secret Santa or simply drawing a name out of a hat, don't give the other person some kind of animal as a gift. This forces the gift receiver to either feed and care for an animal they don't want, or push them to flush the cute goldfish because maybe fish aren't their thing.

**Stilettoes:** Girls, when you are looking cute and dressed up for a party, remember a pair of flats or flip flops to shove in your purse for later. There's nothing worse than trying to walk in heels after a night of partying.

**Personal paper:** While traveling, always remember to bring your own set of toilet paper because you never know what brand they'll have available at a cheap hotel.



Patrick Smith/Assistant Metro Editor

Why bragging about not owning a TV is stupid

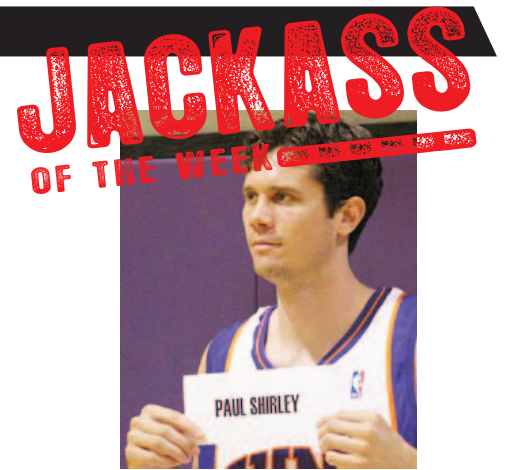
**It's incredibly annoying:** I've only ever met one person who bragged about not owning a TV who wasn't absolutely insufferable. You are probably not her.

**It's the same as bragging about being illiterate:** Yes there are a lot of terrible television shows. But there are even more awful books out there; do you refuse to read because of them? "No, I don't even own books; Clive Cussler is an author."

**It means you don't have any self control:** Are you really so helpless that if you owned a TV you would watch shows you didn't like? Why would you do that? Just get one of those V-Chips and have a person who is not helpless program the TV so you can only watch "quality television."

**It means you have an inferiority complex:** Only people who are stupid find it necessary to brag about not liking things that are fun and make people happy. It is a cheap and unsophisticated way to momentarily feel above someone else.

**Sports are on TV:** Lots and lots of sports, and sports are awesome. If you brag about not liking sports, please see number four.



Courtesy NBA

Personal Foul

BY NOW, most have learned of the earthquake in Haiti and the suffering and devastation it brought to hundreds of thousands of people.

Paul Shirley, a former NBA player, wrote an open letter to the citizens of Haiti as a part of a blog entry at FlipCollective.com, where he blamed the Haitians for their predicament by congratulating them on "developing the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere."

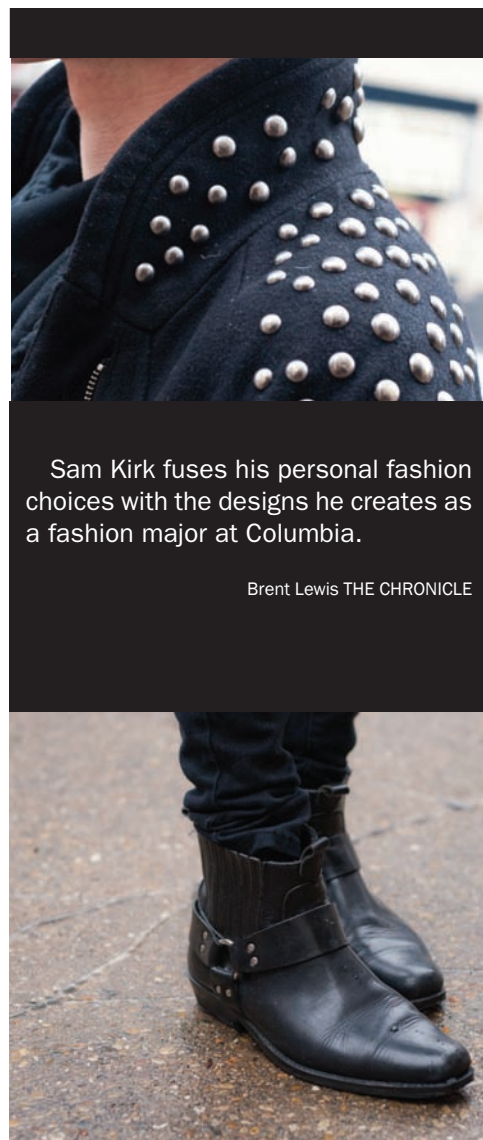
He went on to ask a small favor of the Haitian people in their time of need: "As we prepare to assist you in this difficult time, a polite request: If it's possible, could you not rebuild your island home in the image of its predecessor? Could you not resort to the creation of flimsy shanty- and shack-towns? And could some of you maybe use a condom once in a while?"

Blaming the people of an impoverished nation for their own poverty is like blaming a gunshot victim for being susceptible to bullets. While the Haitian people suffer, Shirley suggests that maybe they shouldn't be so poor and vulnerable.

Shirley was a part-time freelance writer for ESPN, which has since cut all ties with him, and it serves him right.

Because he's a jackass.

—L.Wilusz



Sam Kirk fuses his personal fashion choices with the designs he creates as a fashion major at Columbia.  
Brent Lewis THE CHRONICLE



by Colin Shively  
Arts & Culture Editor

SAM KIRK, a sophomore fashion design major, likes it dark. From his handbag all the way to his shoes, his clothes lack color and offer a sense of style uncommon at Columbia.

"It is darker and edgier," Kirk said. "I like interesting shapes to clothes, and since all my clothes are black they fit together really well."

Kirk's passion for darker apparel started when he first came to Columbia. He started collecting black clothing, which he said slowly became his choice color for his entire wardrobe.

"I have always had a different style that

makes me stand out in a crowd," he said. "Before college, it was still edgy but I wore more color, which would make it a bit more trendy-looking."

With Chicago being a fashion mix of the East and West coasts, Kirk finds it difficult to shop for himself because local stores don't carry his preferred style, he said. Kirk mostly shops online, where the fashion world is much more eclectic.

Wearing a black coat detailed with studs on each shoulder, skinny jeans and dark boots from a local thrift store, Kirk was easy to recognize on Wabash Avenue.

"It is a staple color in the fashion industry," Kirk said. "I love little details like studs and designs on clothing, it brings all my outfits together."

His inspiration is his own because he doesn't want to fit into a specific category, he said.

Apart from reading fashion blogs and magazines to see what others are wearing, he has developed his own trendy ensemble.

"I don't copy what I see in blogs and in magazines," Kirk said. "But I am interested in avant-garde."

Kirk's love and ambition to be apart from the crowd has grown into a desire to become either a fashion editor, or to create a magazine that caters to the style he displays on a daily basis.

cshively@chroniclemail.com

# REVIEWS



SIIIIIICK



SHOULDER SHRUG



NOT BAD, NOT BAD



WORTH A GIGGLE



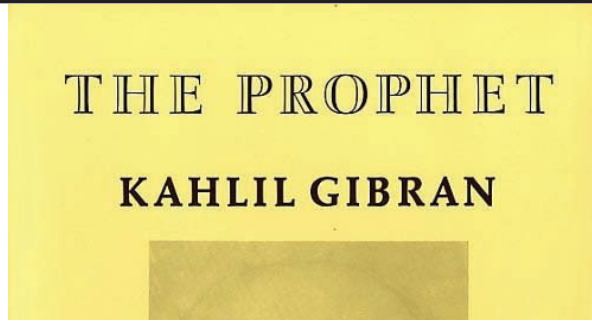
HAPPY DANCE!

## PRINT



### "IN THE WOODS" BY TANA FRENCH

For the author's first novel, it's impressive. Set in the Irish countryside, the story begins with a boy and his friends strangely vanishing. Only the boy is found, and he is covered in blood with no recollection of what happened. The boy, now a detective, is finding bits of his memory coming back to him while he is on a case.—*S. Saviola*



### "THE PROPHET" BY KAHLIL GIBRAN

Gibran speaks of all the building blocks of life in a series of simple, non-dogmatic aphorisms in "The Prophet." Although the book is quite short, the content is something that will linger in the reader's mind for a long time. His teachings give the reader perspective on life and helps find the balance of what is truly important.—*L. Nalin*



### PRINT MEDIA

Most analysts and journalists will say that print media is dead, but I have to disagree. It is only in a state of flux, where new ideas are ready to come forth. With Apple's new iPad, publications and publishers like the New York Times and Conde Nast are taking steps to evolve to the digital age. Maybe this is the first step in revolutionizing traditional media. Now they just have to figure out how to make money.—*C. Shively*



## MOVIES / TV / DVD



### "ARCHER"

Adult cartoons have been gaining ground for some time on cable, and this show continues that trend. With very adult language and themes, this show piles on the raunchy sex jokes and kicks in the door of political correctness. "Archer" has several big laughs every episode and is legitimately laugh-out-loud funny.—*J. Graveline*



### "SOUTHLAND," SEASON ONE

LAPD Officer Ben Sherman and his training officer John Cooper are fresh-out-of-the-academy. Sherman has daddy issues revolving around a traumatic incident at 10 years old. While tough Cooper isn't your stereotypical gay man, he risks his job hiding back pain because he doesn't want a desk job.—*A. Meade*



### "THE UNION: THE BUSINESS BEHIND GETTING HIGH"

The marijuana trade is demystified as the filmmakers follow the operation in British Columbia, well known for its proliferation of the potent plant. They raise the question of whether the marijuana industry is profiting more from being illegal, while proving that either way it's definitely still functioning. Shying away from being a conspiracy theory film, it provides research, facts and solid interviews.—*L. Nalin*



## MUSIC



### BEACH HOUSE: "TEEN DREAM"

A "Teen Dream" is exactly what comes to mind when listening to the newest offering from Beach House. The Baltimore duo's aptly titled third album is a beautifully crafted, dreamy pop landscape of starry-eyed guitar and haunting organ melodies, matched up with singer Victoria Legrand's raspy yet soaring vocals. Standout songs "Silver Soul," "Norway" and "Better Times" will gently sweep you away with their warm and fuzzy vibes.—*E. Peters*



### FLAP!: "FLAP!"

This Melbourne jazz combo is a stunning sensation for the ears. With fast-paced trumpet, uke, double bass, horns, drums and freakishly fantastic lyrics, this album beckons all the Lindy Hopping and Charleston stepping your feet can handle. And the band's Australian accents add an interesting twist to an American genre.—*L. Wardle*



### V.V. BROWN: "SHARK IN THE WATER"

"Shark in the Water" is the third single off British singer/songwriter V.V. Brown's debut album, "Traveling Like the Light." The music is bouncy and fun, in true pop music fashion. The lyrics are relatable and suggest an honest nature about Brown.—*L. Danielson*



## RANDOM



### PARRY GRIPP'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Parry Gripp sets YouTube videos (traditionally containing adorable baby animals just being cute) and sets them to repetitive music. The results: Strange little tunes such as "This is the Best Burrito I've ever Eaten," "Shopping Penguin" and "Soccer Ball to the Face." These are weirdly addictive and never fail to make me smile.—*D. LaCoco*



### CHEESY PICK-UP LINES

"Hey baby! You make me want to stutter, wha ... wha .. what's your name?" Since Valentine's Day is approaching, the key in picking up someone you like is to use pick up lines. I tried various lines on different people, but they didn't seem to work well, even though I was dead serious. Hopefully some of you out there have better luck with this one, "My love for you is like diarrhea, I just can't keep it in."—*C. Aguirre*



### MEN IN THE RESTROOM

One day, I saw a man leave the stall and I didn't hear the toilet flush. Then he left the bathroom without washing his hands. Men like him spread disease because they don't consider the next person who comes into contact with their germs. I have seen many men leave a urinal without washing their hands, which may not be as bad, but it's still nasty. From a man to other men: wash your hands upon leaving the restroom.—*K. Obomanu*



Editorials

# Tougher smog standards needed

IN AN effort to improve air quality and protect people with asthma and other respiratory disorders, the Environmental Protection Agency announced on Jan. 25 that it will begin to limit nitrogen oxide, a chemical responsible for smog formation.

In general, any standards that impose limits on air pollution levels are beneficial for citizens, especially given that the EPA hasn't updated its standards since 1971. The new proposed limit would be 100 parts per billion.

As reported in a Jan. 25 Chicago Tribune article, the EPA measured Chicago's nitrogen oxide content at 116 parts per billion. Other notorious cities such as San Diego and Los Angeles averaged at 87 and 84 parts per billion, respectively.

Taking this information into account, the new national standards are actually quite weak. The EPA should have proposed tighter restrictions that would force other large metropolitan areas to tighten their standards. This could have strongly influenced smog levels nationwide and made a real difference in our air quality.

States will have until 2021 to comply with the new regulations, but that shouldn't deter Illinois from taking action immediately to get its levels below the national average.

The current sensor used to monitor nitrogen oxide in Chicago is located at the high-traffic exchange of the Eisenhower and Kennedy expressways, which may skew the data of the overall air quality. There should be more sensors in different neighborhoods of metropolitan Chicago to better determine an accurate reading of nitrogen levels. The sensors should also be more visible to the public so regular citizens are more aware of the air quality in the city.

Although these measures occur on the state and federal levels, individuals can make a difference to improve the city's air quality. Instead of driving, people can use alternate means of transportation, such as public transit or a bicycle. If a person does drive, he or she should be sure to limit vehicle idling time and keep up-to-date on vehicle emissions certifications.

# Columbia absorbs transfers with ease

TRANSFER STUDENTS entering a new college often face difficulties that continuing students don't have to deal with. Transferring credits and financial aid information while trying to adjust to a new atmosphere doesn't always happen seamlessly.

Transfer students account for a significant amount of the student body at Columbia. According to the official Fact Book, 11 percent of students at Columbia were new transfer students in fall 2009, which is a large portion of our student body when compared to other schools. Because of this high rate, Columbia's attitude toward transfer students is welcoming and accommodating. The college accepts many transfer credits and most students experience an easy transition from their previous schools.

Columbia has a very upfront, straightforward policy regarding credit transfer and acceptance that is clearly outlined on its Web site. It shouldn't be a surprise to any student looking to transfer to Columbia if their credits will be accepted or not.

The college accepts up to 88 credit hours, meaning a student must take at least 32

credit hours at Columbia to graduate. According to the official policy, "Developmental, Adult Education, Continuing Education, ESL, Internships, Independent Study, Topics, Workshop or Seminar courses are not transferable."

One thing the college should consider altering in its policy is accepting introductory level major courses as credit toward a major at Columbia. Many schools that students transfer from have similar introductory courses and if a student can prove a completed course covered the same material, it should count toward their major and not as a miscellaneous elective.

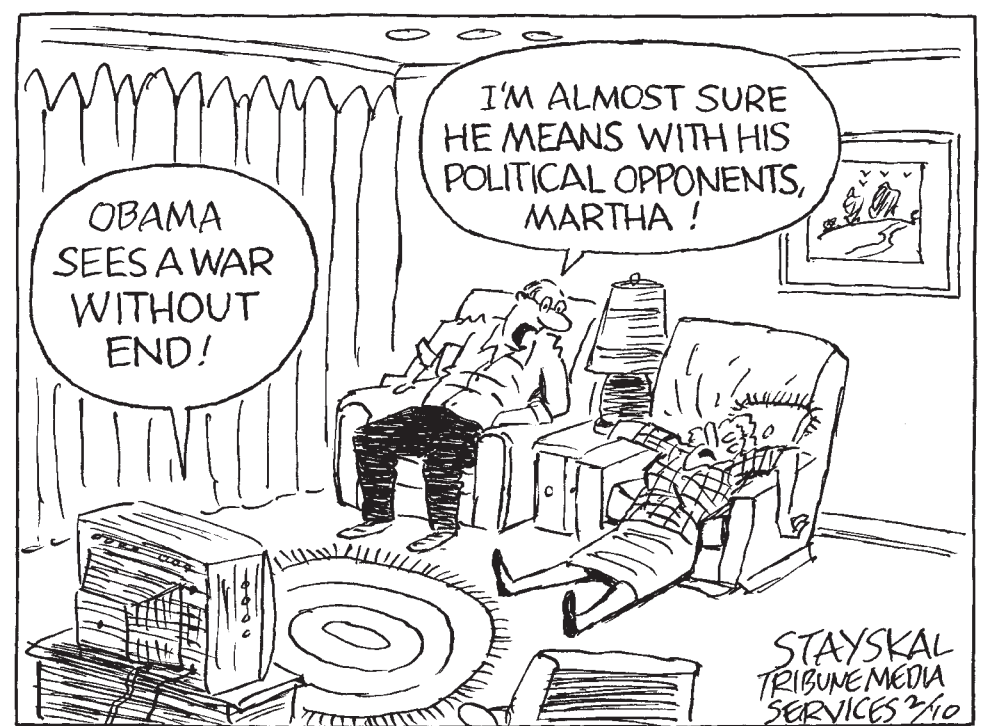
The college does take measures to make the transition of these students happen smoothly by having them attend orientation with new, incoming students before the start of fall semester. This is beneficial so transfer students can become acclimated to Columbia's unique style, culture and location. As a result, the student body becomes more united, creating the strong arts community the college is known for.



MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire



MCT Newswire

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Have an opinion about something you read in this newspaper?

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

# Apple's new gadget won't immediately revolutionize media



by Lauren Kelly  
Commentary Editor

"The device doesn't have enough power and storage to replace the laptop, and the journalism industry needs more than a magic tablet to be saved."

IN THE days leading up to the unveiling of Apple's latest gadget, the iPad, geeks, techies and almost anyone online were engulfed in a massive wave of mystical gossip and speculation about what the device would be capable of. The frenzy surrounding the debut of the top-secret product, whose mere existence had only been a rumor a few months before, dominated the news media for weeks prior to its release. Since its debut on Jan. 27, it has been the subject of praise, criticism, reverence and disappointment.

Speculation circulating the Internet got so ridiculous in the days before Apple CEO Steve Jobs gave the keynote address that

some technology news sites acknowledged it by posting a humorous list of "20 things we already know about Apple's ultra-hyped iTablet/iSlate." On the list were things like, "It will have one really surprising feature," "You'll eventually get over its name" and "Early adopters will be heartbroken when v2 of the product comes out."

The buzz of excitement reverberated over the Wi-Fi waves and got so loud that it nearly drowned out any voice of reason. Apple's press and public relations scheme even sucked me in for awhile. Bombarded with hype and impressed by the device's sleek design once it was finally released, I briefly felt the spell that seemed to have fallen over much of the United States. Luckily, it didn't last long.

While computer nerds were wondering what operating system it would have, how long its battery life would last or if it would have Bluetooth capabilities, much of the public was concerned with how the device would impact the current landscape of media communication outlets and personal electronic devices.

From the claims made on technology news sites, it seemed that the iPad would put Kindle out of business, single-handedly

save journalism, become the new standard laptop and make the printed book obsolete in a few short days after it was made available to the public.

But the iPad isn't going to immediately revolutionize the way media is delivered like some are predicting. Even at a relatively affordable price of \$499, not everyone is going to rush out and suddenly buy an iPad. The device doesn't have enough power and storage to replace the laptop, and the journalism industry needs more than a magic tablet to be saved.

After its release, the iPad is not likely to completely dominate the market for tablet gadgets either. Mere days after the its unveiling, other companies announced plans for similar gadgets. Google Chrome's Tablet may prove to be a big competitor and the famed Kindle will still have a considerable share of the market.

However, tablet devices in general will probably become the new standard of portable media delivery gadgets—eventually. Just like how the iPod contributed to eliminating people's use of portable CD and cassette players by becoming the main device for portable audio, within time, smart tablets will likely become the

dominant devices in portable gaming and media consumption.

But this advancement won't happen overnight. Technology needs time to be phased out. According to Moore's Law, computer processing and memory power doubles approximately every two years. This exponential growth means the iPad, too, will be obsolete sooner than people think.

Old communication devices from the 1980s, such as car phones or pagers, have been long-forgotten. But more recent technologies are starting to fall by the wayside as the speed of technological advancement increases. When can you remember seeing someone with a primitive Nokia brick with a green screen? Today, smart phones are extremely common and the baseline standard for cell phone technology has been raised even in just the past five years.

Although the iPad isn't the best thing since sliced bread, it is a stepping stone along the way to having more advanced technology become the new standard for the general public. The journey it takes will be interesting to witness and I, for one, am excited to see how it plays out.

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## ROAMIN' NUMERALS

Months Ald. Ike Carothers (29th Ward) will spend in jail after pleading guilty to federal corruption charges of bribery and fraud, according to a Feb. 1 Chicago Tribune article. Carothers is the 29th Chicago alderman to be convicted of a crime while in office in the past 40 years.

**28**

Percentage of American adults that have a positive image of "socialism," while 58 percent viewed it negatively, according to a Feb. 4 Gallup poll. According to Gallup, "Americans were asked to indicate whether their top-of-mind reactions to each were positive or negative. Respondents were not given explanations or descriptions of the terms."

**36**

Counts former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was charged with when he was re-indicted in his corruption case, according to a Feb. 4 Chicago Tribune article. The re-indictment was an effort from prosecutors to keep a Supreme Court ruling of "honest services" fraud from delaying Blagojevich's June trial.

**24**

Dollars a three-day pass to Pitchfork Music Festival will cost concertgoers for the 2010 event, while single day tickets will go for \$40. The festival, which takes place each year at Union Park near the Ashland Ave. stop on the CTA Green and Pink Lines, will be held July 16 through 18.

**90**

# MTV's 'Jersey Shore' ridiculous but still addictive



by Ciara Shook  
Assistant Campus Editor

"I watch these shows because of the stupid, yet entertaining antics these ridiculous people do, in disbelief in the existence of such people."

I'VE NEVER been a fan of reality shows, specifically MTV reality shows. Furthermore, I've never been a fan of the "guido" lifestyle and anything it represents.

That said, I can't think of an easy way to explain why I love watching "Jersey Shore," and neither can the mass of Americans who also refuse to admit their likewise fascinations.

Filmed in August 2009, the seven stars live in a summer timeshare in Seaside Heights, N.J. and work in a T-shirt store on the boardwalk, while partying it up every night. In a very "Real World"-esque set-

ting, cast mates Pauly D, Vinny, "JWoww," Sammi, Ronnie, "Snooki" and Mike "The Situation," represent a rock star lifestyle of booze, tans and hot tub affairs.

In my quest to justify streaming the show during every free hour I have between class, work and homework, I realized I don't empathize with the cast of 20-something fist-pumpers. I don't care that JWoww and former cast mate Angelina lose their boyfriends within two weeks of hitting the "Shore." I don't empathize that another hookup for "The Situation" fails when Pauly D is landed with the "grenade," the blonde girl who "don't even look Italian" and consequently ruins the hot tub rendezvous. A sharp stick in the eye would be better for my life than conforming to a glitzy lifestyle that perpetually misrepresents the Italian-American community. But just because I don't empathize, doesn't mean I don't watch the show. Watching "Jersey Shore" is a lot like watching a messy car accident—it's disturbing but you can't look away.

Among the tanned muscles, wifebeaters, neon nails and short shorts, there's no likeable character on "Jersey Shore." Beyond his self-proclaimed moniker "The

Situation," Mike is too aware of how good a cook, salesman and smooth operator he can be.

Snooki comes to Seaside Heights looking for the guido of her dreams to start a life with, but manages to make a spectacle of herself in almost every episode by getting clocked by a guy in a bar, or skinny dipping with her male roommates merely hours after meeting them.

Though Sammi describes herself as a "sweetheart," she often becomes the instigator of drama in the house and is probably the least-likeable female on the show.

Ronnie, the most likeable candidate on the show because of his honest and charismatic approach to his roommates, promises himself not to fall in love at the Jersey Shore, but is taken hook, line and sinker by Sammi.

Pauly D epitomizes the sleaziest breed of douchebaggery with his blowout hair and his strict regimen of gym, tan and laundry.

When describing herself in regards to men, JWoww said she is like a praying mantis, but can't handle her own medicine when her boyfriend ends their relationship.

Vinny "creeps on" the boss' girl, and rather than confront his boss, he continues

kissing her while predicting his eviction from the house.

Cheap shots aside, I can't relate to these people beyond the fact that they're humans. I realize that because the cameras are in front of them, they tend to play up their lives and stir the pot with more vigor and Jager than usual. More than anything, I consider it a human interest piece. Few people, if any, truly live a life of partying every night and alleviate the subsequent hangover by "gym-tan-laundry"-ing or piecing together the events of last night.

I watch these shows because of the stupid, yet entertaining antics these ridiculous people do, in disbelief in the existence of such people. "Jersey Shore," like "Laguna Beach" or "The Real World," has gained a following more secure than Pauly D's blowout hair that has landed each cast member a cool \$10,000 per show.

Regardless of how sleazy I find the show, I watch it. Obviously it also has America hooked, plus the cast and MTV are making millions from broadcasting it. Otherwise, we wouldn't care about "Jersey Shore" or similar reality shows.

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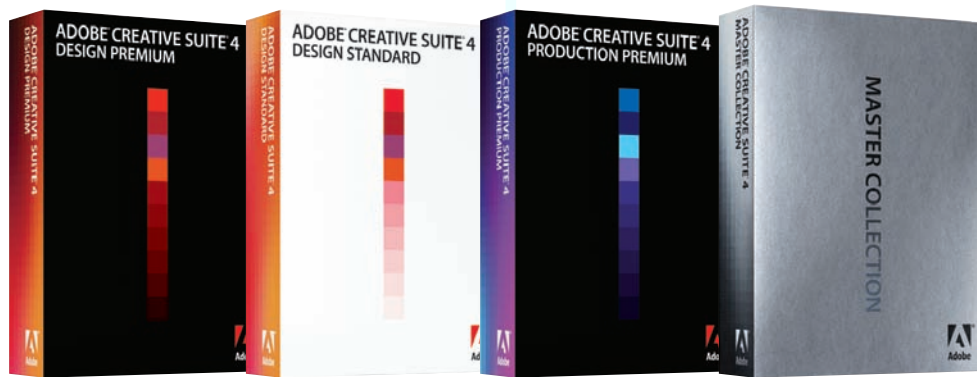
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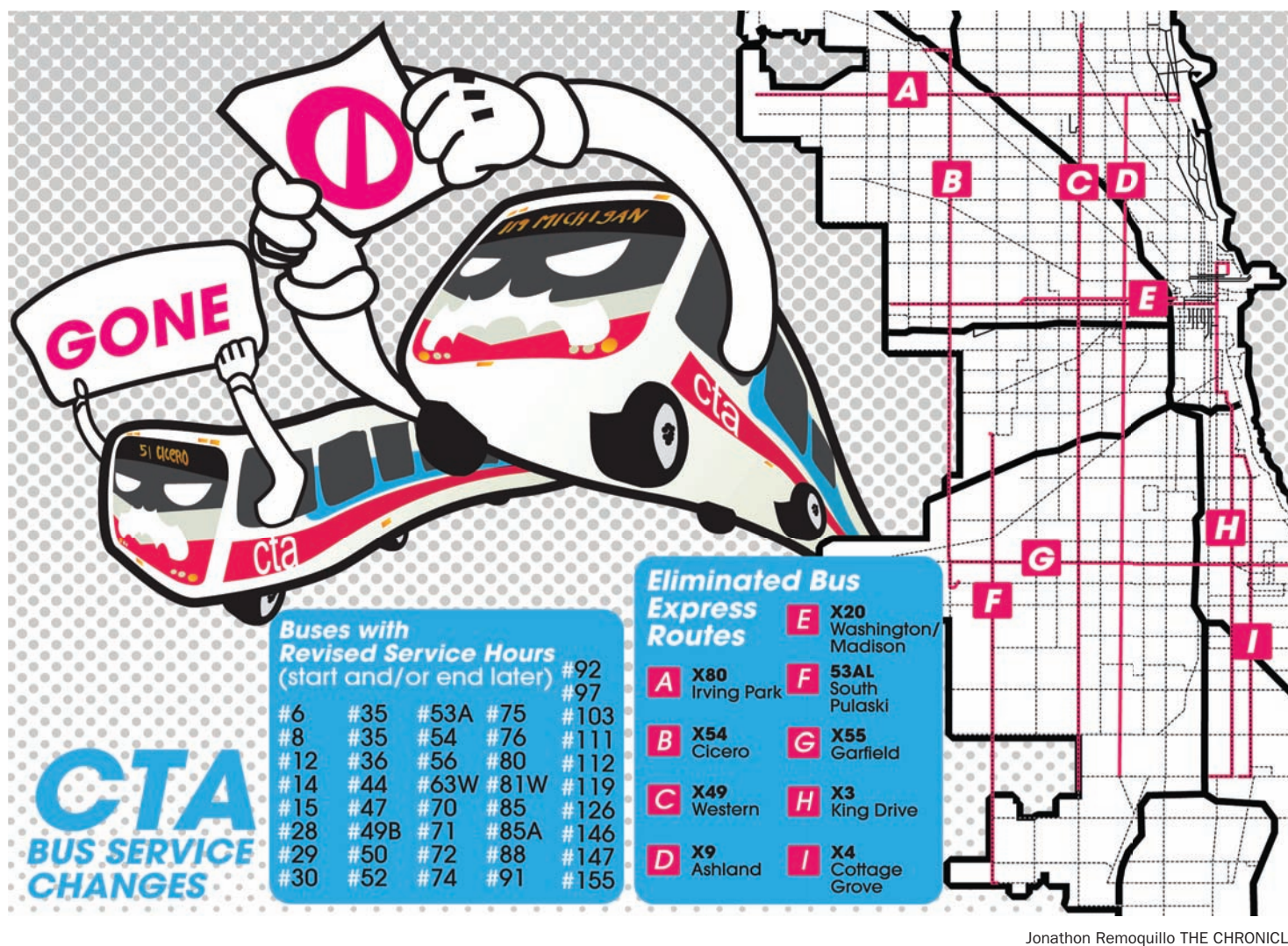
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M

metro



Jonathon Remoquillo THE CHRONICLE

As of press time, the Chicago Transit Authority was still planning to reduce service on 119 bus lines and seven rail lines, despite efforts by Mayor Richard Daley, among others, to broker a deal between the unions and the CTA board. The transit authority is facing a \$95 million budget shortfall this year.

## Riders face cuts, workers face layoffs

Reduced service on 119 buses, seven train lines, hours of operation shortened

by Patrick Smith  
Assistant Metro Editor

MAYOR RICHARD Daley was unable to broker an agreement Friday between the Chicago Transit Authority and its unionized workforce in a last-ditch attempt to prevent service reductions and more than 1,000 layoffs in an afternoon meeting with union leaders.

As The Chronicle went to press Friday night, it seemed that, barring an 11th hour compromise, Chicago's public transit riders will shoulder massive cuts to the city's buses and rail-lines, and 1,100 Chicago Transit Authority workers will lose their jobs due to cutbacks the CTA called necessary because of a lack of funds. According to the CTA, the cuts will inconvenience riders and lead to crowded conditions and longer wait times.

Daley's meeting with Dennis Gannon, head of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and Richard Rodriguez, CTA board president, was put together to bridge the gap between the union and the transit authority and find a way to solve the CTA's \$95 million budget shortfall. In the final days of negotiations, Gannon said in a public statement that the CTA was attempting to bust-up the union, while Rodriguez claimed the union was not doing enough to save jobs and service.

In the proposed changes, service will run less frequently on 119 buses and every train line except the Yellow Line. Nine express bus routes will be eliminated and the service times for 41 other bus routes shortened so that they start later and end earlier. The routes to be eliminated are the express routes for King Drive, Cottage Grove, Ashland, Washington/Madison, Western,

Cicero, Garfield, Irving Park and the South Pulaski Limited.

In a press release, CTA officials said the reductions were unavoidable and blamed the unions for not making concessions, but an advocacy group of citizens and union transit workers said CTA board members had not done enough to protect the transit authority. A spokesperson for the group No CTA Cuts also claimed the CTA was using the tough economic times as a cover for unnecessarily squeezing the union.

"They want the unions to grant concessions, [eliminate] paid days off, no raises and either way they want to lay off bus drivers," said John Beacham, coordinator of No CTA Cuts. "That's no solution to the funding problem because the funding problem wasn't created by riders or bus drivers."

A statement from Rodriguez pointed directly at the unions as cause for the transit authority's woes and said the CTA had been forced into making unwanted cuts.

"We don't want to reduce service or lay off employees—we would rather be adding service, growing ridership and saving jobs. We know that the service reductions will inconvenience our riders and add time to their commutes," Rodriguez said in a statement released by the CTA media relations. "Unfortunately, the harsh reality is that we don't have the funds we need to maintain our existing service. Our largest labor unions have been unwilling to help us reduce costs, even if it means more than 1,000 of their members lose their jobs."

In an advertisement the CTA took out in newspapers across the city, including The Chronicle, a signed letter from Rodriguez and Chairman of the CTA Board Terry Peterson said the CTA's labor costs are "in excess of 70 percent" and noted the labor force is more than 90 percent unionized.

But according to Beacham, the fact that the state was able to raise enough money to stave off fare hikes but not save jobs or preserve service shows the priorities of the government and the CTA.

"We're being told there's no money for public services, but look, where did the CTA get the money to avoid the fare hikes?" Beacham asked. "The priorities are to make sure the wealthy of the city maintain their income."

CTA media relations responded to requests for comment with an e-mail directing riders to the CTA's Web site and transit authority press releases for insight and tips on the service cuts.

According to those press releases, efforts were made by the CTA to reduce the impact on rush hour riders. As a result, those who need public transit during off-peak hours will have longer wait times, and the hours that public transit is available to riders will shrink. Even at rush hour, the CTA cautioned that riders may have to wait for several trains or buses to pass before one has enough space to fit them. Because of that, the transit authority is suggesting passengers allow for more travel time.

Despite the CTA's several statements that the cuts will be an inconvenience, riders who spoke with The Chronicle before the cuts were made were taking a wait-and-see approach to the changes.

"I used to take the bus a lot. Thankfully I don't have to anymore so I don't know if it will affect me," said Cheryl Milner while waiting for the Blue Line. "I do wish this wasn't happening though."

Milner also said she was glad the fares were not being raised, saying she wasn't sure she could afford to spend more. Milner also said she would rather see cuts than fare hikes.

## Abortion debate still unresolved

Parental notification law provoked trials, still undecided

by Stephanie Saviola  
Assistant Metro Editor

THE STATE of Illinois has filed a motion to dismiss a case pitting an anti-abortion group against the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois in a dispute over a parental notification law.

In November 2009, a Cook County Circuit Court judge placed a temporary restraining order on a law that requires minors to notify their parents before seeking an abortion. The restraining order came as a result of the lifting of an injunction on the original 1995 law.

Since that time, there have been short court skirmishes between the two parties in the case, The Illinois ACLU and the Thomas More Society of Chicago, a pro-life, nonprofit law firm.

"March 10 is really the next big landmark in this," said Edwin Yohnka, communications director of the ACLU chapter. "If it goes through, the case will be dismissed."

Peter Breen, executive director and legal counsel for the Thomas More Society, claims that they were denied leave to intervene after the state filed the motion to dismiss.

"One argument we raised was that the state was not arguing the strongest point to the case, which is the Illinois Constitution excluded abortion," Breen said. "The attorney general was playing coy about the argument."

The Thomas More Society also claims that Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan argues the Illinois constitution filings contain the right to abortion.

"The ACLU and the attorney general are on the same side," Breen said. "They both want the right to an abortion. The attorney general has kept us out of the case."

Planned Parenthood of Illinois is preparing for changes in the event the law is enforced. On its Web site, the group has created a form for a minor to give her parents if she decides she will be having an abortion. The organization will also be notifying their patients if the law changes.

According to a press release, Planned Parenthood of Illinois said they are committed to doing everything they can to make this new process as easy as possible for teens if the law goes into effect.

"After a filing on Jan. 29, the attorney general is now claiming and essentially taking the ACLU's side, claiming that the Illinois constitution says there is a right to abortion," Breen said. "That is absolutely ludicrous."

The Thomas More Society also claims that the ACLU's argument is that the Illinois constitution protects abortion more than the federal constitution.

The ACLU, along with other pro-choice lawyers throughout Illinois, has created The Bypass Coordination Project to prepare themselves if the law is enforced. The project provides a free legal service for young women who are dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. It also educates young women on what they will need to do if the law

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» SEE ABORTION, PG. 36



Incumbent Pat Quinn received the Democratic gubernatorial nomination after winning by a few thousand votes.



Republican Sen. Bill Brady holds the lead by a small margin in the unsettled governor's race.



State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias won the Democratic nomination to run for Senate in the November election.



Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) was chosen to run as the Republican Senatorial nominee in the fall election.

# Quinn wins, Republican race unsettled

**Illinois primaries create little buzz among voters, leave small margins between candidates**

by Spencer Roush  
Assistant Metro Editor

AFTER A few surprises, a couple of close calls and low voter turnout for the Illinois primaries, some candidates are looking ahead to November, while others may have to wait several weeks to know if they should continue on the campaign trail.

On Feb. 2, approximately 26 percent of Illinois' registered voters went to the polls. There are a few reasons why analysts are saying the voter turnout was lower than previous years, including "uninspiring candidates," the date change from March to February and Illinoisans who declined to vote because they are discouraged by the state's political system.

After asking Columbia students if they had voted in the Illinois primaries, several students replied "Vote for what?" or with just a simple "No." Research shows younger age groups are increasingly underrepresented in the polls because of their disinterest in politics.

Evan McKenzie, associate professor of Political Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said young people probably don't vote because they don't see how the election of a state representative or governor applies to them.

"As [young people] get older, they have more of a stake in society," McKenzie said. "They get married, they have kids and they have jobs that are affected by this. Then they begin to understand why things like taxation matters to them."

Edtra Flowers, a student at DePaul University and South Side resident, said she is graduating soon and about to join the "real world" and sees how the election of a new Cook County Board president could affect her finances and taxation.

"I didn't vote for Todd Stroger," Flowers said. "I just don't think he was doing a good job. I think it's about time to let someone else take the reins."

After walking into the Spertus Institute, 610 S. Michigan Ave., about 30 minutes before the polls closed, Flowers cast her ballot for each major office.

"This is our city," Flowers added. "We really need to take initiative and focus on the people who can make a difference in Chicago."

Fourth ward Alderman Toni Preckwinkle claimed victory in the Democratic Cook County Board president race and Roger Keats won the Republican nomination. Incumbent Todd Stroger ended up in last place in the Democratic election after being scrutinized for raising taxes.

According to McKenzie, voters may be discouraged this year because of the political corruption and may not know who or what to vote for. It was not just the young people who decided not to vote in the primaries.

"This year, people in Illinois have got to be so completely fed up with this government. They are disgusted with the entire political class," McKenzie said. "That's what I think. I think they're beginning to get the sense that we have one of the most incompetent state governments in the entire United States. Everyone's an insider and they know it."

## The Governor's race

The Democrats' race to the governor's mansion was a close call, with only a few thousand votes separating incumbent Pat

Quinn and Comptroller Dan Hynes. Quinn claimed victory, yet it took Hynes two days to concede.

Quinn announced that he had won and that "the election was a close election, but in my book, one more than the other guy is a landslide."

The final results left both Hynes and Quinn with a 50 percent split.

"This has been a nail-biter of a campaign," said Tom Quinn, the governor's brother. "It's fair to say that we're cautiously optimistic."

Just past midnight, after the majority of the votes were tallied, many black elected officials stood on stage with Quinn, showing their support after Hynes' attack advertisement.

When Hynes was several points behind Quinn, who was leading the polls prior to the election, Hynes released a controversial advertisement with a recording of the late Mayor Harold Washington speaking poorly of Quinn.

William Bike, vice president of ANB Communications, a political consulting and communications firm, said the advertisement was probably being used to turn the black votes away from Quinn. However, he said it would likely have the reverse affect.

"[Voters] don't like the candidate who is in the negative campaign, and they also don't like the candidate who did the negative campaigning," McKenzie said.

He also said negative advertising and the fact that people weren't excited about the candidates and their policies likely affected both the Republican and Democratic races.

"I think people know who Quinn is, but he just does not excite people," McKenzie said. "He's not charismatic. He's not popular. Hynes is not a well-known person either. So there's not a favorite in either of these races."

McKenzie said the Republican race experienced similar results because after months of campaigning and six candidates competing against one another, there still wasn't anyone who stepped out as front-runner because none of them were really well-known.

It may take weeks or even months to determine the Republican gubernatorial candidate for the general election.

The lack of a front-runner resulted in an approximate 400 votes separating the first and second place candidates in the primaries. Leading is Bill Brady with Kirk Dillard trailing close behind. Dillard announced that he is waiting confidently for all the remaining ballots to be counted.

Andy McKenna, who is a self-proclaimed "outsider," was considered the leader in polls before the election. He received third place and congratulated Brady on Feb. 5.

"McKenna was pretending to be an outsider, but that's phony," McKenzie said. "He was the chair of the state Republican Party. How can he be an outsider? They look at all of this and they become very cynical about the politicians who run for office in this state."

Prior to the election, Dillard and McKenna exchanged negative advertisements concerning political controversies. Dillard pursued the accusation that McKenna used state Republican resources for a poll that included potential candidates and included his own name, when he was still the GOP chairman.

McKenna released his own negative advertisement that accused Dillard of wanting to raise taxes and supporting President Barack Obama.

McKenzie said the negative campaigning probably hurt both McKenna and Dillard and helped Brady take the lead. He

added that attack advertisements also cause low voter turnout.

McKenzie said neither the Democrats nor the Republicans had a "favorite" candidate, which is shown in voting results, creating a close race between both parties.

"[Voters] look around and think, 'What do you vote for? There are just a lot of things to vote against,'" McKenzie added. "I think many people regarded the whole choice in both parties as incredibly uninspiring."

## The race for Senate

The results of the Democratic and Republican Senatorial races were decided quickly and without any close calls. Congressman Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) was nominated to run for Senate in the general election after beating candidate Patrick Hughes 57 to 19 percent. Kirk had been leading the polls months before the election.

"I think that Kirk has a very solid resume and he's a moderate Republican," McKenzie said. "Unless the conservative Republicans do their best to sink his ship, I think he's going to run a very strong campaign."

After Kirk announced his victory, David Hoffman, a Democratic candidate who ran for Senate, conceded to State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias. Hoffman offered his support to Giannoulias.

Shortly after Hoffman's concession, Giannoulias took the stage at his own post-election party to announce his nomination to run against Kirk in November. It took no time at all for Giannoulias to switch gears from the primaries to the general election against a Republican contender.

Giannoulias gave a speech thanking his campaign and family members and continued to speak about job creation.

Kirk has also started his general election campaigning and questioned the controversy circling around Giannoulias' family-owned Broadway Bank.

"When you look at Giannoulias, the government program he's most closely associated with is a failure," McKenzie said. "The bank that he based his reputation [on] is in danger of going under, [which] is his family's bank."

According to McKenzie, Kirk has a thicker resume and will be on the attack because he said, "Giannoulias has a lot to answer for."

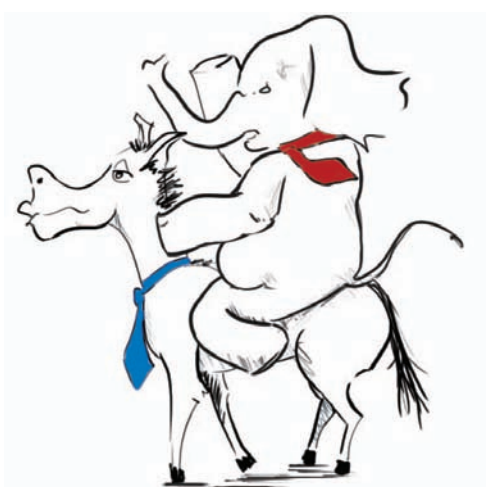
He added that Giannoulias is currently the state treasurer and the state of Illinois is experiencing a major budget deficit.

"[Giannoulias] is an incumbent office holder in the current horribly inept state government," McKenzie said.

However, Giannoulias has already been congratulated by the White House and will get support from the Democratic Party to help maintain Obama's former Senate seat.

The next election will be held on Nov. 2. To find updates on the Republican Gubernatorial nominee, follow The Chronicle on Twitter@ccchronicle.

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Erik Rodriguez THE CHRONICLE

# Overview of CTA Service Changes

## Dear Valued CTA Customer:

With the support of the Mayor and the Governor, we have been able to avert fare increases and manage the current economic conditions which will result in a leaner agency.

Service reductions, however, are necessary because the revenues that help subsidize CTA service are down significantly due to the recession and our labor costs continue to be in excess of 70% of our budget, with a workforce that is more than 90% unionized.

Most customers will experience more crowded conditions and longer wait times between buses and trains. We regret the difficulty these service reductions will cause and are hopeful that as the economy improves, so will our revenues so that we may begin to restore service levels.

Sincerely,



Terry Peterson  
Chairman  
Chicago Transit Board



Richard L. Rodriguez  
President  
Chicago Transit Authority

## The following bus and rail service changes are now in effect:

### Rail

**Red, Orange, Green, Blue, Purple, Pink and Brown lines:** Hours and days of service remain unchanged, but service will operate less frequently.

### Bus

#### Eliminated Express Routes:

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| #X3 King Drive Express          | #53AL South Pulaski Limited |
| #X4 Cottage Grove Express       | #X54 Cicero Express         |
| #X9 Ashland Express             | #X55 Garfield Express       |
| #X20 Washington/Madison Express | #X80 Irving Park Express    |
| #X49 Western Express            |                             |

Local bus routes will continue to operate where express routes are being eliminated. Please use local bus routes for alternate service.

#### Revised Service Hours (service will start later and/or end earlier):

#6	#29	#49B	#63W	#76	#91	#119
#8	#30	#50	#70	#80	#92	#126
#12	#35	#52	#71	#81W	#97	#146
#14	#36	#53A	#72	#85	#103	#147
#15	#44	#54	#74	#85A	#111	#155
#28	#47	#56	#75	#88	#112	

#### Less Frequent Service:

#1	#20*	#48	#55N	#68	#81W	#95E	#123	#151
#2	#21	#49*	#56	#69	#82	#95W	#124	#152
#3*	#22	#49B	#56A	#70	#84	#96	#125	#155
#4*	#24	#50	#57	#71	#85	#97	#126	#156
#6	#26	#51	#59	#72	#85A	#100	#129	#157
#7	#28	#52	#60	#73	#86	#103	#134	#205
#8	#X28	#52A	#62	#74	#87	#106	#135	#206
#8A	#29	#53	#62H	#75	#88	#108	#136	
#9*	#30	#53A*	#63	#76	#90	#111	#143	
#11	#34	#54*	#63W	#77	#90N	#112	#144	
#12	#35	#54A	#64	#78	#91	#119	#145	
#14	#36	#54B	#65	#79	#92	#120	#146	
#15	#44	#55*	#66	#80*	#93	#121	#147	
#18	#47	#55A	#67	#81	#94	#122	#148	

\* These routes only have frequency reductions during periods when the eliminated express routes they parallel are not operating.

For more details, please visit [transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com)  
Transit Information: 312-836-7000 RTA TTY: 312-836-4949



# Artists on the march

Free speech protestors pass out artwork to draw attention to Chicago's Peddler ordinance

by Patrick Smith  
Assistant Metro Editor

A BAND of about 10 Chicago artists took to the streets on Jan. 29 to protest the city's Peddler License law and what they called an infringement on their right to free speech.

Chris Drew led the group, called The Free Speech Artists' Movement. Drew has made defeating Chicago's licensing laws his mission for the past three years because, according to him, they violate the First Amendment. The small but vocal group started its circuitous march for free speech in front of Macy's, 111 N. State St., headed southeast to Columbia's campus and then circled back around to meet up with more protestors in front of the Picasso statue in Daley Plaza, 1 W. Washington St.

The Peddler ordinance includes a long list of areas where selling is prohibited, and has a special "speech peddling" section that regulates the selling of artwork. The speech section requires all people selling "speech" to submit their artwork to the department of business affairs for approval, so the city can ensure the work "communicates a non-commercial message." More information on the license and its alleged First Amendment violations can be found in the Jan. 25 issue of The Chronicle. According to Drew, the prohibited areas in the ordinance and the requirement that all work be submitted are a violation of his rights.

The artists walking with Drew said they agreed the ordinance violated their rights.

"Artists should definitely have the right to sell their art out on the streets," said Anka Karawicz, a member of the Movement.

Along the way, the protestors handed out original screen-printed pieces of art to people as they passed, each one pinned to a paper flyer explaining the group's motive. Drew said he was pleased with the turnout and the effect the Movement was having, especially considering the sub-freezing temperatures.

"It's been going great; I expected two or three people to join me in this kind of weather and we've got a crowd already," Drew said. "It's been a heck of a day."

Artist Jenny Rotten said that aside from the constitutional issues at play, she had a more practical reason to march with Drew.

"I could really use the opportunity to sell my work on the streets [because] I'm unemployed," Rotten said. "Art is free speech no matter if it's for sale or not, and the first step is education."

Columbia photography major Jay Polhill was given one of the group's patches as he passed the protestors on Columbia's campus.

"I'm wondering what I'm supposed to do with it," Polhill said.

But after the group explained their cause and the alleged restriction on free speech, Polhill said he was happy to see them out protesting and that he supported the cause.

"It is a violation of the First Amendment," Polhill said of the Peddler License law.

The Movement participants began their march at 3 p.m. The choice to start in front of Macy's on State Street was an especially meaningful decision. That was the site of Drew's most recent arrest for selling his artwork for \$1 on the streets. That arrest



Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

Chicago artist Chris Drew hands out free art on Columbia's campus on Jan. 29. Drew's group passed out screen-printed patches to raise awareness about the illegality of selling art on Chicago's streets.

eventually led to Drew being charged with a felony for audio taping his arrest, as reported in The Chronicle on Jan. 25.

Hours before the protest began, Drew was in court in connection with that arrest. His attorney, Mark Weinberg, told the judge he and Drew wanted the case dismissed because the eavesdropping law under which he was charged is unconstitutional.

"My lawyer said we wanted to ask for a dismissal and we wanted 30 days to prepare a motion for dismissal," Drew said. "On Feb. 26, we'll be back in court to submit our petition for dismissal. [The court appearance only] took about 10 minutes or less."

Until then, Drew said he and his compatriots will keep going out and trying to raise awareness about the Peddler ordinance,

and to create a vibrant street-art scene.

"I'm definitely sure we're going to make an impact," Drew said. "We're going to continue to give away our art until we get our rights. If we can get this group of people out in this weather, imagine what we can do in May. But it doesn't end in May, it goes on and on until we get our rights."

Lowell Thompson, an artist who unveils his canvasses for free to crowds outside of The Art Institute of Chicago, said changing the law was not his top priority.

"The first issue is the culture," Thompson said. "Because if the culture understands its own freedoms, then the second issue of the police would not be an issue."

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## » ABORTION Continued from PG. 33

is enforced.

The original law was never enforced. A judge initially granted a 90-day grace period in August after a Federal Appeals court lifted an injunction on the law.



The ACLU and the attorney general are on the same side. They both want the right to an abortion. The attorney general has kept us out of the case"

-Peter Breen

The current law does not allow girls 17 and under to have an abortion without parental notification, but it will not be enforced until a final decision is made.

"We have continued to update people on the status of the litigation," Yohnka said. "People who work with young adults and have interaction with them know the kind of harm that these kinds of laws can do."

The motion to dismiss the case will come up in an oral argument scheduled on March 10. The ACLU was originally asking for a permanent injunction, but if the motion is passed dismissing the case, there will be no need for an injunction.

"We look at this situation from the beginning," Breen said. "The attorney general had not played this straight. We do intend to go back to court to try and vigorously defend this law."

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Andy Keil THE CHRONICLE

Chicago street artist Lowell Thompson hands out free screen-printed art patches on Columbia's campus outside of the 33 E. Congress Parkway Building. Thompson was protesting Chicago's Peddler License with a group known as The Free Speech Artists' Movement. The group believes the city's Peddler ordinance violates the First Amendment by regulating where art can be sold and requiring that all art sold is approved by the city.

# High-speed train a-comin'

New rail line from Chicago to St. Louis could reduce travel time for passengers

by Stephanie Saviola  
Assistant Metro Editor

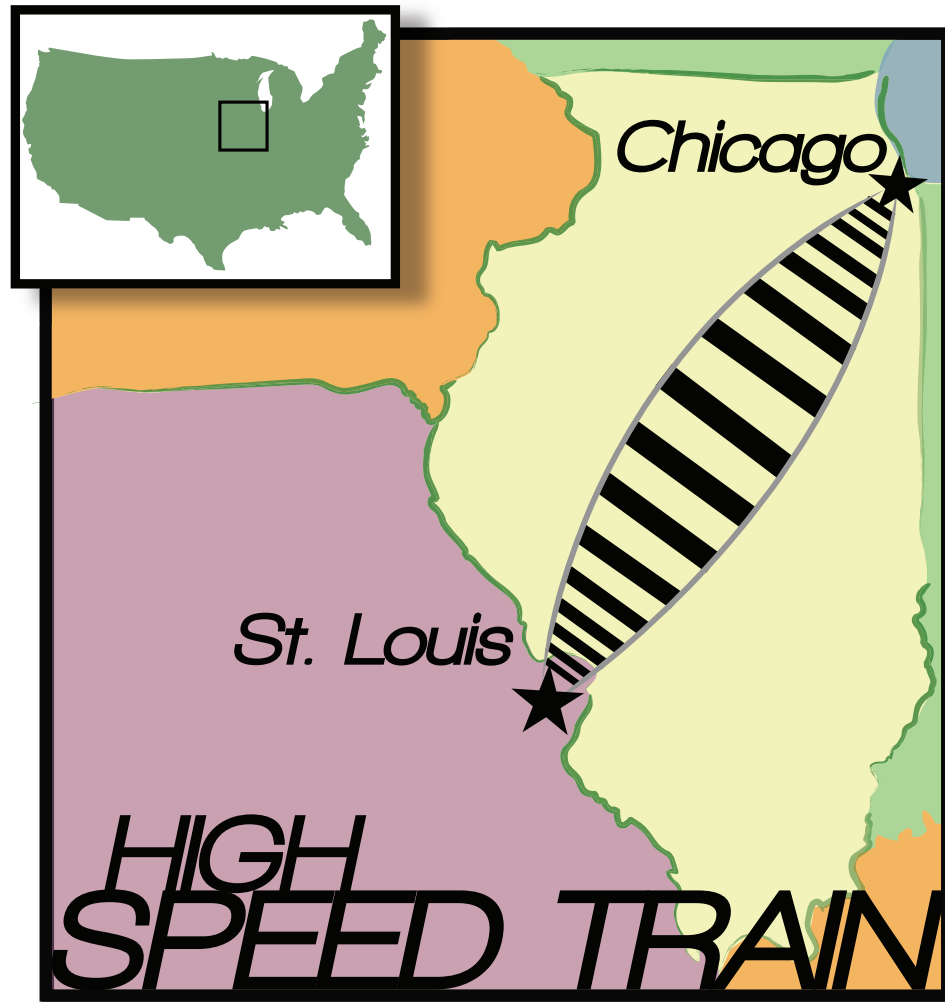
DURING PRESIDENT Barack Obama's Jan. 27 State of the Union address, he introduced plans to use stimulus money for transportation projects, such as high-speed trains, throughout the country.

The federal stimulus money won't be allocated to build a new track, but rather to renovate and upgrade current Amtrak rails. The upgrade plans are still in the works, but according to the Illinois Department of Transportation, the concept is to have a high-speed train route that runs from Chicago to St. Louis.

"The problem is the stimulus money had to be used on projects that were ready to go and nobody in the Midwest had that high-speed project ready to go," said Richard Harnish, executive director for Midwest High Speed Rail Association.

The current Amtrak train on the route travels at a maximum speed of 79 mph. With the upgrades, the plan is to have the train run 110 mph. With the speed increase, the five-and-a-half-hour trip is supposed to be reduced to four hours.

"When a lot of people think high-speed rails, they think China, Japan, France, Spain, Brazil, etc.," Harnish said. "We don't have high-speed rails here and that was one reason that Obama proposed the idea. It will be very valuable, but it is not the kind of



Erik Rodriguez THE CHRONICLE

high-speed rail people think of normally."

Plans for upgrading the tracks are scheduled to begin this summer. It is estimated that the completion will take two to three years. Illinois will be given \$1.1 billion to use for these renovations. The state had originally asked for \$4.5 billion. According to Harnish, there is currently no fare increase scheduled after the renovations occur.

"I think the idea would be phenomenal," said Victoria Patterson, junior film and video major. "It would be extremely convenient and I would definitely use it."

Patterson, who is from a suburb of St. Louis, commutes back and forth on holidays and even some weekends.

The idea is to create jobs with the improvements of the rails and to foresee issues that might be encountered in the future.

"What happens today is there are more passenger trains than there are freight trains, so it's possible for one train to delay another," said Marc Magliari, media relations manager of Amtrak Government Affairs and Communications. "We are facing capacity issues with pas-

senger trains, which can conflict with freight trains since much of the route is single tracks."

Besides train speed, many improvements will be geared toward creating double tracks in certain congested spots along the route so trains may easily pass each other.



We don't have high-speed rails here ... It will be very valuable, but it is not the kind of high-speed rail people think of normally."

-Richard Harnish

There is also a plan for federal stimulus money to be awarded to Wisconsin and Michigan for rail improvements in other major cities such as Ann Arbor, Mich., Milwaukee and Detroit.

"Chicago to Milwaukee is one of our top corridor routes in the country where we have more than 750,000 passengers a year riding," Magliari said. "There is also a plan to extend service which right now ends in Milwaukee out to Madison."

The route from Chicago to St. Louis is named the Lincoln service because it passes through President Lincoln's hometown of Springfield, Ill. The route from Chicago to Milwaukee is titled the Hiawatha train because that is the historic name of the former Milwaukee trains on that route.

As the number of trains increases, there is hope that more long-term jobs will be created. Magliari said that onboard service jobs will be available, as well as jobs inside stations with longer running hours and more frequent trains passing through.

"There is certainly hope that some of the rail equipment will be built and maintained in Chicago," Magliari said. "The purpose here is to make permanent improvements and stimulate the economy."

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## IN OTHER NEWS

### Cohen's legal troubles

According to ChicagoTribune.com, Democratic Lt. Governor nominee, Scott Lee Cohen, said he doesn't think his domestic battery arrest in 2005 will hurt him in the November election and will not step down from his position. Official police reports show that Cohen's ex-girlfriend alleged Cohen pushed her head against a wall and put a knife to her throat. The Oct. 14 report said the police officers noted that they could see "mild abrasions from [a] knife wound" on her neck.

### Cop steals from stiff

A 27-year veteran of the Niles police force was arrested on Feb. 4 after allegedly stealing approximately \$1,700 from a man found slain at a YMCA, ChicagoBreakingNews.com reported. William Christie was arrested and charged with theft and official misconduct after he was allegedly caught on tape stealing the money. Christie responded to the call about the murder and after arriving at the scene, sealed off the room and told no one to enter. Officials were called because the staff became suspicious.

### Haiti changes doctors' lives

Twenty doctors and nurses returned home to their families Feb. 3, after traveling to Haiti, according to SunTimes.com. The emergency mission in Haiti was described as life-changing. The group recalled seeing a woman dig barehanded in rubble for 12 days trying to reach her husband and three children, but she was too late. One doctor said they helped 1,000 Haitians per day in tent cities and refugee camps. Many of the doctors and nurses felt guilty for leaving and are planning a return trip.

### School security beefed up

According to ChicagoDefender.com, Chicago Public Schools have increased their security budget from \$6.5 million last year to \$8 million this year. Public school officials said they understand that in order to learn, students need to feel safe. During the last school year, 116,000 incidents of violence in the schools were documented. These incidents range from food fights in the cafeteria to a shouting match between students. There is a minimum of two Chicago police officers per high school.

## OFF THE BLOTTER



Compiled by Chronicle staff with information provided by the Chicago Police Department.

### 1 Stalking incident

Chicago police reported on Jan. 29 that a woman who works for Cook County Board President Todd Stroger was involved in a minor stalking incident with a co-worker who was terminated in 2009. Alderman Toni Preckwinkle received an e-mail that mentioned the woman in derogatory terms and blamed her for the man's termination. The woman received a message on Facebook and was intimidated, so she contacted the police.

### 3 CTA purse snatcher

A 47-year-old woman from Minnesota was riding a CTA train when a man approached her and engaged her in conversation, according to police. Moments later, the man allegedly unzipped her purse, took her wallet and fled the scene. Police were unable to locate a suspect. The woman claims that \$200 and three credit cards were in the wallet.

### 2 West Loop abduction

A 25-year-old woman who has sole custody of her 6- and 8-year-old sons is claiming that the father of her children has taken them, according to Chicago police reports. The woman allowed the father a temporary visit on Jan. 29. The father met the mother on Feb. 1 at the Cook County Court building and allegedly told the mother "I'll never give them to you." The mother is worried for her 8-year-old son because he is living with a blood disorder.

### 4 DePaul students harassed

According to police reports, two men were harassing DePaul University students around 247 S. State St. When police arrived, suspects fled the scene. A DePaul security guard gave a description. Police searched the area and detained a 30-year-old man that met the description at 1 N. State St. The man is being charged with simple assault.

# games



## SUDOKU

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6				5				

Puzzle by websudoku.com

## CROSSWORD

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40	41	42				43				44	45	
46						47				48		49
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

### ACROSS

- 1 "The Big \_\_\_ Theory"
- 5 Denver or Hope
- 8 Boone and O'Brien
- 12 Woodwind instrument
- 13 King Kong, for one
- 14 "It's a Sin to Tell \_\_\_"
- 15 Actress Patricia
- 16 \_\_\_ Arthur
- 17 \_\_\_ Bator, Mongolia
- 18 Series for Simon Baker
- 21 Trauma ctrs.
- 22 Author Alcott's monogram
- 23 "Splendor in the \_\_\_"; Natalie Wood/Warren Beatty movie
- 26 Angela Lansbury's "Murder, She Wrote" role
- 30 Writing instrument
- 31 Derek and Diddle
- 32 Made a lap
- 33 Dave of "Brothers & Sisters"
- 36 Role on "Cheers"
- 38 \_\_\_ G. Carroll
- 39 \_\_\_ Rather
- 40 Actress on "CSI"
- 46 Margarine

### DOWN

- 1 Jon \_\_\_ Jovi
- 2 Help a thief
- 3 Actor Wyle
- 4 Aspics
- 5 "\_\_\_ in Toyland"
- 6 "\_\_\_ All Night"
- 7 Stars of the movie "Help!"
- 8 Zahn and Abdul
- 9 "\_\_\_ Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth"
- 10 Mowry and Carrere
- 11 Transmitted
- 19 "The 5 \_\_\_ Buchanans"
- 20 Mornings, for short
- 23 School transcript abbr.
- 24 "The \_\_\_ & Stimpny Show"
- 25 Actress Jillian
- 26 "\_\_\_ Millionaire"
- 27 Jerusalem's location: abbr.
- 28 Baseball's Ripken
- 29 "One Day \_\_\_ Time"
- 31 One of the Bumsteeds
- 34 Tipper's hubby
- 35 Mayberry resident
- 36 "\_\_\_ 54, Where Are You?"
- 37 "The Trouble with \_\_\_"
- 39 Martin and Jones
- 40 Greedy people
- 41 Gen. Robert \_\_\_
- 42 Malicious look
- 43 James \_\_\_ 007
- 44 Wicked
- 45 \_\_\_ McEntire
- 49 Q-U connectors

### Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

A	N		B	O	B		C	O	L	D		
L	O	O		E	P	I		A	L	T	E	
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## HOROSCOPES



**ARIES** (March 21- April 20) Forgotten debts, past workplace errors and lost documents may reappear. Monday through Wednesday, watch for key officials to demand new dedication and loyalty. In the coming weeks, business obligations and daily duties will steadily increase. Provide detailed paperwork and complex descriptions of your efforts. After Wednesday, social timing is vital to new friendships. Expect minor disputes, canceled plans and last-minute reversals. Stay focused.



**TAURUS** (April 21 - May 20) Early this week, long-term relationships begin several weeks of open discussion. After Tuesday, expect loved ones to no longer remain silent or avoid difficult subjects. Past financial or business disputes need to be resolved. Ask loved ones for special permissions, revised expectations or new acceptance. Later this week, respond quickly to revitalized vitality in the lower back, ribs or abdomen. Over the next four weeks, fitness will steadily improve. Stay involved.



**GEMINI** (May 21 - June 21) Deeply felt romantic ideals may be revealed over the next few days. After Tuesday, expect loved ones to request added compliments or public displays of trust. Some Geminis will also experience renewed sensuality and a returning faith in long-term commitment. Stay open to unexpected proposals. Serious long-term intentions will require discussion. Friday through Sunday, family finances may be temporarily strained. Avoid excess spending. Budgets are vital.



**CANCER** (June 22 - July 22) Beginning Tuesday and lasting three weeks, work duties and family obligations will compete for equal attention. Although business relations are complex, loved ones need your honest support and continued dedication. Muddle through and wait for reliable change. Before mid-March, others will rely heavily on your example. Later this week, also watch for a sudden increase in social invitations and group events. Stay balanced. Friends will expect fast promises.



**LEO** (July 23 - Aug. 22) Loved ones may discuss home renovations or shared family goals. Over the next nine days, committed relationships may move to a new level of security, intimacy and trust. Unattached Leos can expect unique passions, sudden invitations and powerful romantic overtures. After Thursday, also watch for unusual messages from distant friends or isolated relatives. Relocation and job change may be a key feature. Offer encouragement and wait for further announcements.



**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Vague contracts, revised duties and moody officials may create strained communications. Although consistent rules and permissions will eventually be forthcoming, expect temporary delays. At present, private power struggles and misinformation are strong influences in the workplace. After Friday, romantic passions will dramatically increase. Expect quick overtures from potential lovers and a series of exotic invitations. Trust your instincts. Attractions are deeply felt.



**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Unfinished relationships may reappear and demand resolution. Late Monday, watch for unique requests from friends or messages from the past. Before mid-March, however, loved ones will ask for renewed dedication, public support and reliable decisions. Remain dedicated to present commitments, but expect ongoing social triangles. Thursday through Sunday also accent yesterday's financial obligations and renewed paperwork. Remain attentive to small details.



**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Over the next nine days, controversial workplace methods may trigger silent tensions between colleagues. Previously trusted business tactics will prove useless. Avoid public discussion or group competition if possible. Disputes may be unavoidable. In the coming weeks, team assignments will demand diplomacy. Be prepared. After Thursday, key relationships experience a powerful wave of rekindled attraction. Plan new events and enjoy private encounters.



**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) Withheld emotions and unique observations may challenge a close relationship. Over the next nine days, watch for fast social reversals and bold discussions. The past behavior or outdated opinions of loved ones may need to be publicly addressed and resolved. Don't be shy. Although unsettling, your insights will prove invaluable. Thursday through Sunday, family planning and home renovations are accented. Stay open. Relatives will press for fast changes.



**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) Yesterday's business ideals and postponed career dreams may rise quickly to the surface. Long-term friends and close relatives will expect renewed ambitions and obvious progress. Find positive ways to study new skills or bring added work enjoyment into your life. Late Wednesday, loved ones will gently ask for public compliments or sentimental comments. Be forthcoming. At present, social doubts and fears of abandonment may be deeply felt.



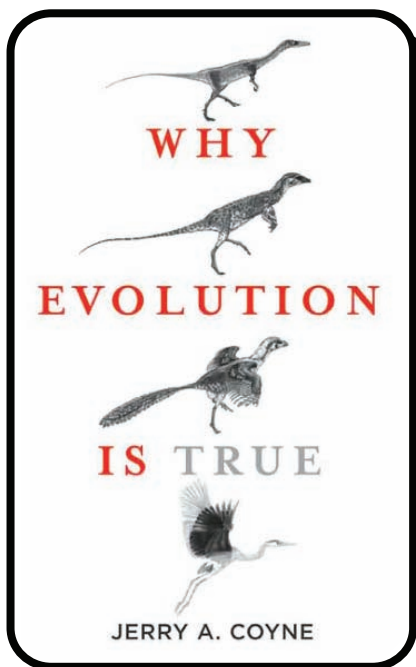
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) Before midweek, a close friend or lover may acknowledge your recent actions, support or accomplishments. For many Aquarians, unique forms of flattery will lead to increased trust and renewed intimacy. Listen to the wisdom of loved ones and accept all genuine invitations. Over the next nine days, social or family disputes can be easily resolved. Later this week, watch also for a rare financial opportunity. Renewed investments and long-term spending are accented.



**PISCES** (Feb. 20 - March 20) Financial discussions may demand special diplomacy over the next nine days. Pay close attention to the continuing expectations of loved ones. Before March, practical decisions, property contracts and outstanding bills will need to be settled. Stay dedicated to small duties. In the coming weeks, your ability to complete difficult assignments will prove invaluable. Late Saturday, romance is pleasing. Enjoy quiet encounters and subtle overtures for your affection.

# monday, 2//8

**Critical Encounters Book Salon: "Why Evolution is True"**  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Ferguson Auditorium // Alexandroff Campus Center  
 600 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 369-7959  
**FREE** - University of Chicago professor and outspoken defender of evolution Jerry A. Coyne will discuss his book, "Why Evolution is True," a passionate defense of natural selection as theory and fact. In his book, Coyne presents, as Publishers' Weekly states, a case that "evolutionary theory makes predictions that are consistently borne out by the data—basic requirements for a scientific theory to be valid."



**Opera in Cinema: "Romeo et Juliette"**  
 7 p.m.  
 Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center  
 1104 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-6709  
**\$20**

# tuesday, 2//9

**"Ad Autopsy: Commercials from the Mad Men Era"**  
 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
 1104 Center  
 1104 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-6843  
**FREE**

**Recycling Program Film Series**  
 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
 Ferguson Auditorium  
 Alexandroff Campus Center  
 600 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 369-7675  
**FREE**

**Student Concert Series**  
 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
 Music Center  
 1014 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 369-6300  
**FREE**

# wednesday, 2//10

**The Art History Council: "Social, Class & Art" Conference**  
 Noon - 5 p.m.  
 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, 2nd floor  
**FREE**

**"The Wild Party"**  
 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 Getz Theater // 11th Street Campus  
 72 E. 11th St.  
 (312) 369-6104  
**FREE**  
 Sex and sin, bathtub gin ... Hot lovin' and cold murder ... the Jazz Age, just before the crash ... Joseph Moncure March's banned epic poem, "The Wild Party," was written in 1928. It was republished in 1998 and by 2000, there were two musical versions of it opening in New York. The New York Amsterdam News called John LaChiusa and George C. Wolfe's "big, splashy, funny, scary musical of a booze-soaked 1920s house-wrecker," an "edgy masterpiece."

**Making it in the Show Biz: Profiling Women in the Blues**  
 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
 Concert Hall  
 Music Center  
 1014 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 369-6300  
**FREE**



# thursday, 2//11

**Susanne Slavick Artist Lecture**  
 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
 Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center  
 1104 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-8250  
**FREE**

**Lunar New Year celebration**  
 5 p.m.  
 Quincy Wong Center // Wabash Campus Building  
 623 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-8664  
**FREE**

**Cinema Slapdown: "2001: A Space Odyssey"**  
 7 p.m.  
 Film Row Cinema, 1104 Center  
 1104 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-6709  
**FREE**

**Silver Tongue: Penny Dreadful**  
 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
 The Court // Residence Center  
 731 S. Plymouth Court  
 (312) 369-7459  
**FREE**

# friday, 2//12

**Silk Road Theatre Project - 7 Playwrights Discuss 'The DNA Trail'**  
 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Television Department Studio A // Alexandroff Campus Center  
 600 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 369-7959  
**FREE**

**Classical Guitar Recital**  
 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 Sherwood Conservatory of Music  
 1312 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 369-3100  
**FREE**

**The Mary Blood Ball**  
 8 p.m. - midnight  
 Conway Center, Film Row Cinema // 1104 Center  
 1104 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-7188  
**FREE**

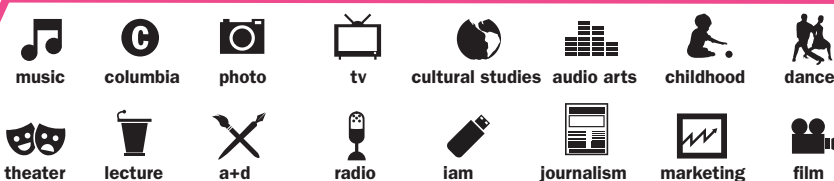
# saturday, 2//13

**Celebrating African Women Writers**  
 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 Film Row Cinema // 1104 Center  
 1104 S. Wabash Ave.  
 (312) 369-8845  
**FREE**

**"The Vagina Monologues"**  
 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building  
 2nd floor, Stage 2  
 Femmes@Loop.Colum.edu  
**\$10, \$5 with donation of canned food or personal hygiene items**

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# monday, 2//8

**“Planet Earth: Shallow Seas”**  
 Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Saturday - Sunday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
 Shedd Aquarium  
 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive  
 (312) 939-2438  
**FREE for kids 3 & under, general admission \$17.97-\$24.95**

**“Millennium Park Ice Skating”**  
 Through March 14; Monday - Thursday,  
 Noon - 8 p.m., Friday, Noon - 10 p.m. &  
 Saturday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
 McCormick Tribune Ice Rink at Millennium Park  
 55 N. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 742-1168  
**FREE; \$10 skate rental**

**National Wet Paint Exhibition**  
 Through Feb. 28; Monday - Friday, 10 a.m.-  
 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
 Zhou B. Art Center  
 1029 W. 35th St.  
 (773) 525-0200  
**FREE**

**Civic Orchestra of Chicago**  
 8 p.m.  
 Symphony Center  
 220 S. Michigan Ave.  
 (312) 294-3000  
**FREE; Tickets required**

# tuesday, 2//9

**“Lost” Viewing Party**  
 7 p.m.  
 Stretch Run Sporting Club & Grille  
 544 N. LaSalle St.  
 (312) 644-4477  
**FREE** - Watch the final season of J.J. Abrams' drama on nine 41-inch TVs and two six-foot projector screens. Drink specials include \$17.50 Corona buckets and \$4 Jack Daniel's and gin cocktails.

**The Free Improv Show**  
 10 p.m.  
 The Playground Theater  
 3209 N. Halsted St.  
 (773) 871-3793  
**\$5**

**Rush Limbaugh! The Musical**  
 Through March 24; Tuesday and  
 Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.  
 Second City  
 1608 N. Wells St.  
 (312) 337-3992  
**\$25**

**Nerd at Heart's Third Annual Love Fest: Gay Nerd Guys**  
 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
 Holiday Club  
 4000 N. Sheridan Road  
 (312) 265-6085  
**\$20 - \$25**



# wednesday, 2//10

**Nerd at Heart's Third Annual Love Fest: Hetero Nerd Guys**  
 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
 Holiday Club  
 4000 N. Sheridan Road  
 (312) 265-6085  
**\$20 - \$25**

**Pre-Valentine's Day Cooking Class**  
 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
 Sabor Saveur  
 2013 W. Division St.  
 (773) 235-7310  
**\$25**

**Spanish for Travelers**  
 Through March 3  
 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
 Greenheart  
 746 N. LaSalle St.  
 (312) 264-1625  
**\$15; \$104 full session**

**Happy Hookers**  
 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
 Mother's Too  
 14 W. Division St.  
 (312) 266-7444  
**FREE** RSVP at MothersToo@SBCGlobal.net  
 Bring your own crochet supplies or pay \$3 - \$10

# thursday, 2//11

**“11:11”**  
 Through March 13,  
 Thursday - Friday, 8 p.m.  
 Victory Gardens Biograph Theater  
 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.  
 (773) 871-3000  
**\$25; \$15 for students**

**Speed Dating for Gay Men**  
 6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.  
 Center on Halsted  
 3656 N. Halsted St.  
 (773) 661-0763  
**FREE**

**Italian Cinema night: “Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”**  
 7 p.m.  
 Salute  
 46 E. Superior St.  
 (312) 664-0100  
**FREE**  
 An Italian movie about the tales of three very different women and the men they attract. Adelina sells black market cigarettes in Naples and faces a jail sentence, while married to unemployed Carmine. In Milan, Anna drives a Rolls Royce, is bored and picks up a writer. Mara, a Roman call girl, turns the head of a naive seminarian, prompting a run-in with his granny and a vow of abstinence.



**“Green Spa for Lovers”**  
 6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.  
 Greenheart  
 1911 W. Division St.  
 (312) 264-1625  
**\$15; RSVP required at Info@GreenheartShop.org**

# friday, 2//12

**MATE: Male Attraction Techniques Exposed**  
 7 p.m.  
 Town Hall Pub  
 3340 N. Halsted Ave.  
 (773) 472-4405  
**\$10**

**Valentine's Day Fashion Show**  
 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.  
 Lumen  
 839 W. Fulton Market  
 (312) 733-2222  
**\$20; FREE before 11 p.m.**

**Congorock**  
 10 p.m.  
 Smart Bar  
 3730 N. Clark St.  
 (773) 549-0203  
**\$10-\$12**

**Chicago Arts District Second Fridays Gallery Night**  
 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
 Halsted and 18th streets  
 1800 S. Halsted  
 (312) 738-8000 ext. 108  
**FREE**

# saturday, 2//13 sunday, 2//14



**Frank Sinatra Jr.**  
 Saturday, 8 p.m.  
 Centre East Theatre  
 9501 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie, Ill.  
 (847) 673-6300  
**\$80**  
 Working for years as his father's music director, Frank Sinatra Jr. absorbed the nuances of Frank Sr.'s timing and delivery of each song. Now Frank Jr. recreates the magic of the original performances, interlacing his own authentic renditions with personal memories of everyone involved in his father's illustrious career.

**'80s Enough**  
 Saturday, 8 p.m.  
 Beverly Arts Center of Chicago  
 2407 W. 111th St.  
 (773) 445-3838  
**\$18-\$20**

**Haven Yoga**  
 Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.  
 Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum  
 2430 N. Cannon Drive  
 (773) 755-5100  
**\$10 - \$15; \$60 for five classes**

**Winter Dance Fest**  
 Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
 Millennium Park, Jay Pritzker Pavilion  
 201 E. Randolph St.  
 (312) 742-1168  
**FREE**

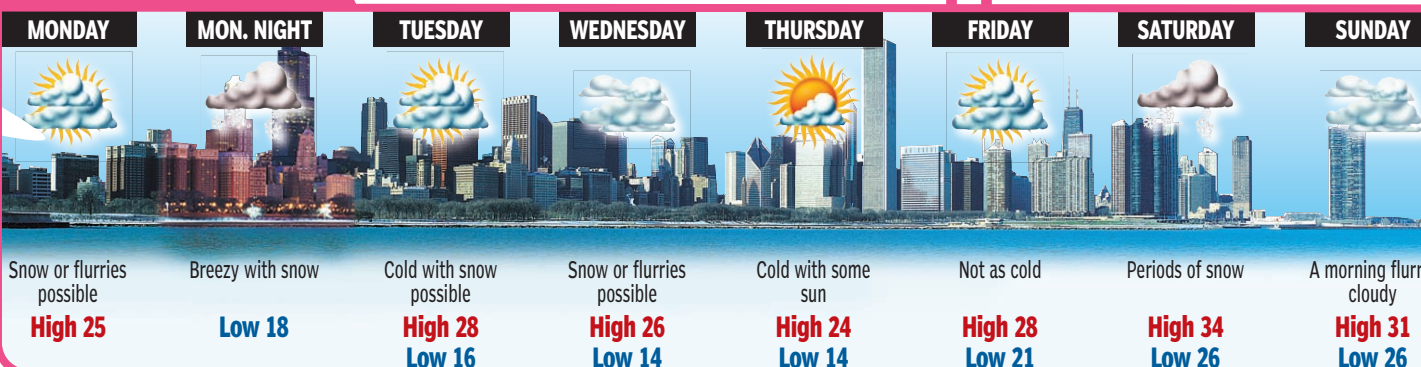
**Chicago Chamber Musicians**  
 Sunday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Northwestern University, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall  
 50 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, Ill.  
 (312) 225-5226  
**\$10 - \$40**

**Valentine's Day Hooley**  
 Sunday, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
 5th Province Pub, Irish-American Heritage Center  
 4626 N. Knox Ave.  
 (773) 282-7035  
**\$12**

**Highland Park Strings**  
 Sunday, 3 p.m.  
 Ravinia Festival, Bennett-Gordon Hall  
 200 - 231 Ravinia Park Road,  
 Highland Park, Ill.  
 (847) 831-8622  
**\$20 - \$40**

**Valentine's Day at N9ne Steakhouse**  
 Sunday, 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
 N9ne Steakhouse  
 440 W. Randolph St.  
 (312) 575-9900  
**\$60 per couple**

## FORECAST



nightlife	music	movie	art
television	cultural studies	theater	dance/dating
sports	food	recreation	fashion