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Recommended Citation

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Arts & Culture: "Try Youth As Youth" opens doors to America's incarcerated young people, see pg. 19

> **Opinions:** Hillary Clinton runs for president, see pg. 35





No. 1 Non-Daily College Newspaper in the Nation

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015

THE OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCE OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 28



Strategic Plan surges forward despite collegewide resistance, concern

MEGAN BENNETT

Campus Reporter

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING Steering Committee met for the final time on April 20 to present the final draft of

to President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim, but it was not until the meeting was adjourned that the discussion about the college's future got heated.

Tensions rose quickly, resulting in a discussion that spurred frustrated shouts, tears and expletives



Lou Foglia THE CHRONICLE

Jessica Iorio, a sophomore business & entrepreneurship major, outlines student concerns about the Strategic Plan's final draft during an April 20 committee meeting with the college's administration.

from concerned students, including Jessica Iorio, a sophomore business & entrepreneurship major, who felt the administration was "brushing off" student, faculty and staff concerns.

"It's aggravating that you sit there at the top of the table and say that these are not things that are up for discussion when we are sitting here at eight in the morning telling you that this is what's going to happen, and you're turning a blind eye," Iorio said before abruptly leaving the meeting.

Following weeks of expressed dissatisfaction among members of the college community regarding recent actions the administration has taken—which included the formation of activist group Save-Columbia and a Change.org petition that garnered more than 1,200

» SEE **SPSC** PG. 11



Lou Foglia THE CHRONICLE

Adult film director Michael Lucas speaks during an April 23 screening of his film, "Undressing Israel."

Porn mogul, documentarian tells of Israel's LGBTQ scene

MEGAN BENNETT

Campus Reporter

NOTED ADULT FILM director Michael Lucas, founder and CEO of Lucas Entertainment, one of the world's largest gay pornography companies, visited the college April 23 to showcase a different side of his career in the film industry: documentaries.

The event was associated with Chicago Israel Week, a series of events at colleges throughout Chicago that commemorate Israel's Independence Day. Lucas attended the college's screening of his 2012 documentary, "Undressing Israel: Gay Men in the Promised Land," at

» SEE ISRAEL, PG. 10



Students honored at 2015 CGT awards • PAGE 3



FEATURE

Outrage Culture: Is it worth the hassle? • PAGE 20



EDITOR'S NOTE

TYLER EAGLE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's time to dispel the myths

AS THE STRATEGIC planning process nears its conclusion, support and lack of it for the current draft and what it aims to accomplish remains a decisive issue, one that is only exacerbated by the impending May 12 board of trustees vote about whether or not to finalize the Strategic Plan draft.

The tension and discourse the plan has created on campus prompted President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim and Senior Vice President and Provost Stan Wearden to release statements to the campus community regarding issues such as average class size and the number of vice presidents employed at the college. The #SaveColumbia movement continues to fight the changes proposed by the Strategic Plan and has drafted a list of demands-including the elimination of any new administrative positions included in the Strategic Plan and a tuition cap based on the year of a student's admittance—that if not met will spur a May 1 sit-in at President Kim's Office.

To add another element to the atmosphere, misconceptions, rumors and confusion regarding several of the proposed initiatives continue to spread amongst students, staff and faculty, often leading to calls for a more transparent budget.

Several students echo one another about tuition freezes and call for increased pay for adjunct faculty members and the maintenance of smaller class sizes.

I have written about the need for a more transparent budget at Columbia several times, more so during the last semester because so many sweeping changes are looming for the upcoming year.

I again must implore the administration to release a more transparent budget, one that shows more in-depth information regarding compensation, program costs and a more comprehensive breakdown of revenue streams.

I do not do so because I think the administration has something to hide or is being dishonest—Kim and his administration are far more communicative than former president Warrick Carter's-but because a transparent, accessible budget could help promote communication between the administration and the larger college community.

It would also aid in dispelling some of the more outlandish rumors that are circulating and offer a deeper understanding of the college's finances and what it takes to run a private college with an enrollment and curriculum similar to Columbia. It could also exhibit why a tuition freeze is financially



illogical and counterproductive to the college, especially when there is a call to increase adjunct faculty pay-and rightfully so-and also to maintain small class sizes.

A tuition freeze, particularly one that restricts cost of attendance based on the year of admittance, creates a culture of inequity between different graduation years. To force a greater financial burden on some just because they come into a college later than others is far from fair.

Above all else, the administration should consider the possibility of holding a town hall or college-wide meeting geared toward letting members of the college community start a dialogue about their concerns or what they like about the college. To date, there has been Civic Commons where most were afraid to post and a small representation of dissatisfied members of the campus community at the final Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting. It's time to change that.

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Nohemi Rosales THF CHRONICLE

Students perform three different staged readings on April 21 as part of the On Tap Festival. Columbia's first student-written, staged reading festival at the 916 S. Wabash Ave. Building.

CORRECTION: In the April 20 article "SaveColumbia coalition determines petition demands" adjunct professor Peter Van Veen was incorrectly quoted. The quotes should have been attributed to adjunct professor in the photography department Peter LeGard.

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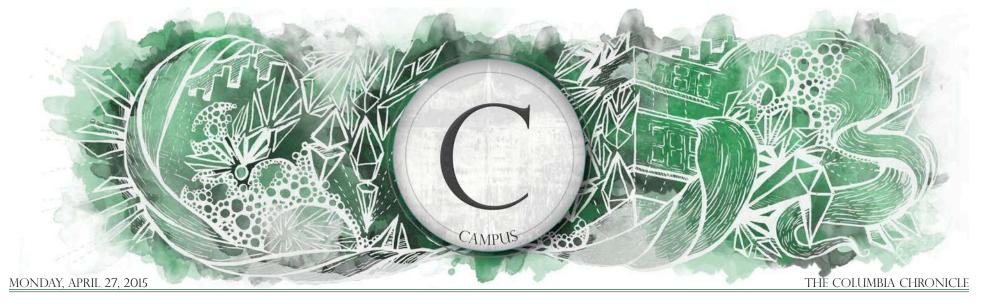
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College honors 5 alumni with honorary degrees

SAM VINTON

Campus Reporter

AFTER GRADUATING SENIORS cross the stage at the 2015 Commencement ceremonies, they will have something in common with the recently announced honorary degree recipients: they are all alumni.

This year's honorary degree recipients, announced in an April 22 collegewide email from President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim, include alumni Josefina López, a playwright, screenwriter and theater producer; Anna Shapiro, the Tony award-winning artistic director of Steppenwolf Theatre Company; Nan Warshaw, co-founder of Bloodshot Records; Len Amato, President of HBO Films; and Chester Gregory, an award-winning actor, singer and songwriter. The degrees will be presented during the May 16 and 17 commencement ceremonies.

Kim said the college wanted to recognize the achievements of Columbia alumni with this year's honorary degrees. After their time

at Columbia, each recipient went on to build extraordinary careers in his or her industry, Kim said. Recipients were chosen through a faculty committee recommendation, he said.

"When I saw the kinds of people who were considered, I was particularly excited because I think this is a remarkable cross section [of Columbia alumni], even to the point of people who are earlier in their years and people who are later in their careers," Kim said. "Hopefully our students will look at this list and feel really proud that these are all people who graduated from Columbia."

López, who is best known for authoring the play "Real Women Have Curves" and co-writing its 2002 Sundance award-winning film adaptation, graduated in 1993. She has had more than 80 plays produced nationwide and is now the founding artistic director of the CASA 0101 theater in Los Angeles. López also received a formal recognition from U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer's "Women Making History in

Hollywood" organization in 1998, the Humanities Prize for Screenwriting in 2002 and The Gabriel Garcia Marquez Award in 2003.

López said she is grateful for her honorary degree from Columbia, especially because she initially struggled to receive an education. Previously an undocumented citizen, López said she was unable to enroll in college for 13 years because of her status. When she was finally able to attend, she was forced to drop out multiple times due to lack of financial aid.

Reflecting on her experiences at Columbia, López said she remembers a place that was both inspiring and accommodating to her situation.

"At Columbia I felt like I really belonged because it was a place that honors artists and understood how [they] think and feel," she said. "Having someone say, 'Hey, we care about your education, we're not here for the money,' was one of my most memorable moments."

» SEE **DEGREE**, PG. 12







Courtesy Chester Gregory, Josefina López, Nan R. Warshaw

Chester Gregory (top left), Josefina López (top right) and Nan Warshaw (bottom), are three of the five alumni to receive an honorary degree from the college at the 2015 Commencement ceremonies



Kelly Wenzel THE CHRONICLE

Shantel Cribbs and Jina Katura of ConSoul perform to a full audience during Columbia's Got Talent on April 22 at Stage Two in the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building.

Standing room only at Columbia's Got Talent

SAM VINTON

Campus Reporter

STAGE TWO, IN the 618 S. Michigan Ave. Building, reached capacity on April 22 as performers took to the spotlight for Columbia's Got Talent, an annual talent competition hosted by the Columbia Urban Music Association.

This year marked the first time the event has followed an award show format, said Greg Owens, a senior business & entrepreneurship

student, vice president of CUMA and winner of CGT's Best Original Song award. The event served as a fundraiser for the Kamoinge-Ferman Scholarship, which was established by the Humanities, History & Social Sciences Department to help finance international travel associated with African or African-American Studies research projects, he said.

CGT is an opportunity for artists from all majors and disciplines to showcase their work, Owens said, adding that CGT gives students

who otherwise might go unnoticed the opportunity to be acknowledged for their contributions to Columbia's artistic community.

"You also get to see students who other people may not have heard of yet," Owens said. "If that student wins an award, they may be able to network with other people, both from Columbia and outside of Columbia."

The show honored nominees and winners in 11 categories, including

» SEE **CGT**, PG. 12

College gets strategic with new vice president

JACOB WITTICH

Campus Editor

THE OFFICE OF Marketing & Communications will soon see new leadership as the search for a permanent vice president comes to a close.

Following a four-month national search led by the college and search/consulting firm Isaacson, Miller, Deborah Maue was announced as the college's new vice president of Strategic Marketing & Communications, according to an April 21 emailed announcement to staff and faculty from President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim.

Maue comes to Columbia from mStoner, a marketing firm for higher education institutions where she served as senior strategist, helping institutions identify their target markets, create effective brand identities and improve internal communications strategies.

"Columbia College has a wonderfully rich history in arts and media education with a robust liberal arts core," Maue said in a press release that accompanied the announcement. "I'm thrilled to join President Kim's leadership team and look forward to helping clarify and share the great story the college has to tell."

The vice president of Strategic Marketing & Communications is a

newly created position at the college, and in this role, Maue will be responsible for helping to rebrand the college and build its global reputation, which could improve its enrollment, fundraising capabilities and alumni relations. She will also work to improve Columbia's internal communications strategies, according to Kim.

» SEE MAUE, PG. 12



Courtesy PHIL DEMBINSKI

Deborah Maue, the new vice president of Strategic Marketing & Communications, will help the college clarify its brand message to help strengthen its enrollment and fundraising strategies.



LGBTQ Gender Fusions celebrates identity, diversity

JACOB WITTICH

Campus Editor

LGBTQ PEOPLE AND allies packed into Stage Two, 618 S. Michigan Ave., for an evening of food, dance, fashion and a keynote presentation from prominent transgender rights activist Geena Rocero for a celebration of diversity and identity.

"I just want to gender f--k things and deconstruct all these notions of a gender binary," said Rocero, a transgender fashion and beauty model who founded Gender Proud, an advocacy and awareness campaign that fights for the rights of transgender people.

Rocero visited the college on April 24 for the 11th Gender Fusions, an annual event hosted by Common Ground, the college's LGBTQ and ally organization, celebrating gender, sexuality, cultural and other forms of identities.

The theme of this year's show was "Gender Galaxy," chosen to illustrate the "multi-dimensional possibilities" of what makes up a person's identity, according to Lex Lawson, Columbia's coordinator of LGBTQ Culture & Community.

"We picked this theme because it exemplifies that we are all multidimensional people," Lawson said. "We are not just one thing. We're like a little universe that's right inside of us."

Kicking off the night was a set of several activities attendees could participate in to celebrate their identities, including film screenings, positive affirmation activities and a "Constellations of Identities" wall on which individuals could plot different aspects of their identity—such as gender, race or sexual orientation—in the solar system and connect their traits with other people's to highlight diversity and togetherness.

"We are celebrating resilience, visibility, triumph and us moving onto the future,"

said Precious Davis, assistant director of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. "It's an exciting moment to be LGBTQ, and I am so excited and proud to be a trans woman of color."

Just as diverse as the identities people celebrated were the ways in which they were shared. Following Rocero's presentation was a series of performances, including dance, poetry, singing and theatrical skits in which performers shared their experiences with identity.

Erian Danzy, a freshman music major, wooed the audience with an acoustic set in which he sang about struggling to find peace of mind and the importance of self-acceptance.

Continuing with the theme of self-love, Liz Zaroogian, a freshman cinema art + science major, shared an original poem celebrating her femininity titled "Femme as f--k."

Later, the room sat in a still silence when Khloe Richardson, a freshman theatre major, shared the pangs of loving somebody of the same gender who cannot come to terms with their homosexuality in a dramatic poetry reading.

Michelle Nance, president of Common Ground and a senior fashion studies major, said she was pleased with how the theme celebrated all forms of identity, not just gender.

"We are at totally different points in our identities, and we are all one giant universe here today," Nance said.

Closing the evening was a "gender non-binary" fashion show in which students, accompanied by Rocero, strutted down a runway showing off their favorite looks and expressing their gender identities.

"This is an intergalactic exploration of identities, connections and multidimensional possibilities," Rocero said. "It feels so good to be part of this dimension. That's my ideal world!"

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Lou Foglia THE CHRONICLE

(Top) Transgender rights activist Geena Rocero spoke at the 11th annual Gender Fusions, an event celebrating identity, about her experiences as a transgender woman. (Bottom) Claudia Bernacki, a sophomore art + design major, struts during the Gender Fusions fashion show.







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Students win with Pizza Hut campaign

JACOB WITTICH

Campus Editor

NINETEEN STUDENTS WITHIN the Communication & Media Innovation Department's "Campaign Practicum" course were recognized on April 10 for their original advertising campaign for Pizza Hut at the National Student Advertising Competition regionals.

Students in the yearlong course, taught by Peg Murphy, an assistant professor in the CMI Department, won first place in NSAC's regional round for their work on behalf of Pizza Hut, the competition's sponsor, and will be moving on to the competition's semi-finals, which will take place in early May.

"I'm always proud of them, but it's great to see their work recognized and all their great partnerships at the school," Murphy said. "I couldn't be more happy even though I don't always tell them that because I want them to work hard."

Columbia competed against other leading colleges and universities in the region, including Butler University, Notre Dame University and the University of Michigan, to create a comprehensive marketing campaign for Pizza Hut.

"Our district is the largest out of the whole country," said Garrett Black, a senior advertising major who participated in the class. "The fact that we won in this one means a lot [and] gives me a lot of confidence because if we can win here, we have a chance [of winning and] going on."

Each team submitted a 27-page plan detailing the specifics of its campaign and then pitched it to a panel of four judges who chose the winning campaigns based on the creators' understanding of the brand, research and creative idea. The next round of the competition consists of a conference phone call between the advertising team, a management professional from Pizza Hut and other professionals in the marketing industry who will interview the team about its campaign strategies.

Students began planning the campaign during the Fall 2014 Semester and worked on the project during Winter and Spring breaks, Black said.



Students in the "Campaign Practicum" course won at the regional round of the National Student Advertising Competition for their advertising campaign for Pizza Hut.

"We had a lot of elements that none of the other campaigns included," Black said. "That goes to everything from research to actual creative elements themselves like the ads, tactics. [Murphy] pushed us to look into certain areas that no other team did, [which] separated us."

One challenge the team faced during the competition was Pizza Hut's decision to rebrand in November 2014, which influenced Columbia's advertising team to rethink its campaign strategy, a decision Black said helped set its work apart from that of their competitors.

"Only a couple of teams actually addressed the rebrand, which is huge because their campaign is based off the old Pizza Hut," Black said. "It makes their campaign outdated. We went back in and did research and based our campaign after the new Pizza Hut, which a lot of teams didn't. It threw a wrench, but it worked to our advantage."

Robin Bargar, dean of the School of Media Arts, said the "Campaign Practicum" team's win is a big accomplishment for the college because it demonstrates the kinds of interdisciplinary opportunities that the CMI Department offers.

He said it sends a message to those outside the college that Columbia students produce high-quality work.

"[The class] has students with different kinds of skills who work together in this team," Bargar said. "They don't all come from the same [programs]. They take this class to do this competition but all come from different places. Some have majors in advertising or public relations or marketing, but [others] have a background in art and design, video or audio. It's a really interdisciplinary collaboration."

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66 We had a lot of elements that none of the other campaigns included."

- Garrett Black

AEMMP Records celebrates spring release

ARABELLA BRECK

Contributing Writer

STUDENT-RUN RECORD LABEL AEM-MP Records unveiled its latest EP, Things & Stuff, on April 22 at a release party held at the Conaway Center in the 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Building.

The event featured performances from the two artists who split the EP-Scott Nadeau, a senior business & entrepreneurship major, and The Sea Empty. The event also featured performances from David Cline and the band Out The Car Window, both Columbia singer-songwriter groups.

Cline, an acoustic musician, pened the show with songs from his own EP, Knock Knock, and was followed by Out The Car Window's

Nadeau had two songs on the EP in addition to being a part of the class that runs AEMMP. Last semester, Nadeau was on a compilation that AEMMP released called day//night, but this is the first AEMMP EP he has been featured on.

Nadeau said he has wanted to be a part of AEMMP since he first started attending the college.

"During orientation, AEMMP was giving away the compilation records that AEMMP had put out that year, and I listened to them back to front and I was like, 'These bands are amazing. I hope that I can do this some day," Nadeau said. "Here I am years later."



Courtesy JENNIFER BOYLEN

David Cline, a junior business & entrepreneurship major, performed an acoustic set of songs from his EP, Knock Knock, on April 22 in the 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Building during AEMMP Records' release party for its latest EP, Things & Stuff.

I listened to them back to front and I was like, 'These bands are amazing. I hope that I can do this some day.' Here I am years later."

- Scott Nadeau

The Sea Empty, a trio of singer and guitarist Dennis Huston, drummer Teddy Thornhill and bassist Rick Nitz, closed out the show. While the other musicians had more indie and folk sounds, The Sea Empty brought its own

rock style to the event.

"We're all in this thing for the same goal-making awesome music that gets loud and rocks out," Huston said.

All three musicians come from different backgrounds but linked up two years ago to create the band.

"When we came together as a band, we kind of pulled from our three different backgrounds to put together our first album, Strange Matter, but this was an opportunity for us to say, 'We're together, we're

writing music as a group and let's just sit together and hash this stuff out," Huston said.

AEMMP, which stands for Arts, Entertainment and Media Management Practicum, is offered as a practicum course in the Business & Entrepreneurship Department for students to experience what working with a record label is like.

"I have been in there for four semesters, and it is the most valuable music industry experience I've had while at Columbia," Nadeau said. "It's like working at a real record label-it is working at a real record label."

Sarah Thomas, a senior business & entrepreneurship major, has been working with AEMMP for two semesters on its events team, which books the venues and bands for AE-MMP events.

"Not a lot of people know about the class, and it is really great hands-on experience you can learn a lot from," Thomas said. "We're putting on actual events, we're doing marketing plans and putting out actual music and having a handson experience, but it's nice that it's not your own money at the end of the day. We get money and we want to make sure we put it to good use, but it's nice having the school behind us."

Things & Stuff is now available on AEMMP Records' Bandcamp page and physical copies are set to be available soon.

chronicle@colum.edu

Online course strengthens sexual misconduct prevention

LAUREN KOSTIUK

Campus Reporter

AS THE ISSUE of sexual assault and how to combat it remains a prominent topic across the nation's college campuses, Columbia is asking its students to become more aware of the facts about sexual misconduct and to "think about it."

The college has partnered with LawRoom.com, an online course website, to offer "Think About It," a mandatory online training module for students, staff and faculty. The module is meant to provide an overview of inappropriate college misconduct on campus, methods of sexual assault prevention, important federal laws pertaining to the topic and the college's support systems and off-campus resources, said Mark Kelly, vice president of Student Success.

Current students are required to complete the course by May 30. The college will send reminders and follow up individually with students who have yet to finish the program, said Kelly.

Students entering the college for the Fall 2015 Semester will be required to complete the course as part of the orientation process. The college will also host a forum next fall to receive feedback about the college's sexual misconduct policy

and survey individuals about their experiences on campus.

"[The module] isn't driven by an incident, but it is driven by an understanding that this is a real issue-it's an issue that now has a spotlight on it," Kelly said. "We have become far better educated ourselves, and we have strengthened all of our processes. We trained investigators and hearing officers, but the most important responsibility is to educate the community, and that is the most challenging because our community is everywhere."

Approximately 200 other colleges have used the training module, which was chosen among several others, because it is easily accessible online and follows the college's sexual misconduct policy and procedures, said Sharon Wilson-Taylor, associate vice president and dean of Students.

"We know we have a little more sophisticated student body and some of the programs were too corny or too quirky," said Beverly Anderson, assistant dean of Student Health & Support and Title IX coordinator. "We felt like this one spoke more to our students and included more diversity as well."

At the end of the program, each individual is able to complete a survey that ranks the module from one to five. Approximately 400 participants completed the survey, as of press time, and Kelly said its average ranking was 3.75 out of five.

Many students are complaining that the course takes too much time to complete and that they end up simply clicking through it without reading all of the information. On average, the module takes 45-60 minutes to complete, but Kelly said students do not have to finish the module in one sitting.

"This is too important, and yes, it requires effort by our students, but no learning comes without effort," Kelly said.

Wilson-Taylor and Anderson have pursued various strategies since August 2014 to educate the college community about sexual misconduct. A new deputy Title IX coordinator will also be hired to work with Anderson to address issues of sexual misconduct with faculty and students, Kelly said.

Students have designed, organized and participated in several programs that highlight the college's policies on sexual misconduct to explain how students can safely intervene if they witness or experience discriminatory behavior and suggest efforts students can make to try to prevent future instances.

Sara Kalinoski, a sophomore art + materials conservation major

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT ON CAMPUS 2011 In 2011, forcible sexual offenses 2012 In 2012, 5 forcible sexual 2013 In 2013, $\frac{2}{2}$ forcible sexual offenses INFORMATION FROM THE INSTITUTE OF Andrea Cannon THE CHRONICLE

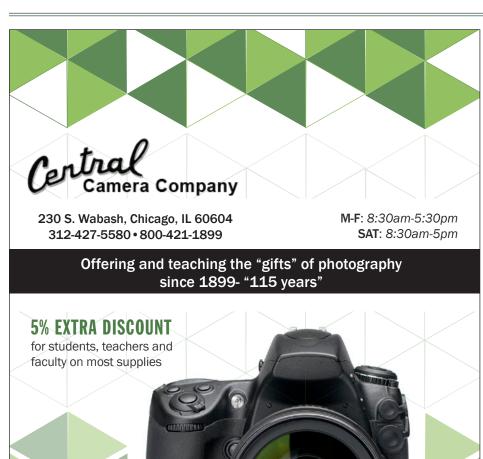
and president of the Student Government Association, worked on the Sexual Assault Awareness Education Committee's current project, "Face It." The project called for the installation of mirrors across campus displaying messages promoting sexual assault awareness.

The Music Center at Columbia College Chicago

EDUCATION SERVICES

"It's awesome that Columbia is already doing something like this," Kalinoski said. "The more we are shown this stuff, it will shatter the silence so we can all come together and fight against sexual assault."

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1014 S. Michigan Avenue Music Department Events **Monday April 27** Jazz Guitar Ensemble in Concert 12:00 pm Pop Rock Performance 1 in Concert 7:00 pm Columbia College Chamber Choir at the Sherwood 8:00 pm **Tuesday April 28** Men's Ensemble and Women's Ensemble in Concert 7:30 pm Wednesday April 29 Hip Hop Ensemble in Concert 12:00 pm New Music Ensemble in Concert at the Sherwood 6:00 pm Progressive Rock Ensemble 1 in Concert 7:00 pm Thursday April 30 Progressive Rock Ensemble 2 in Concert 12:00 pm 7:00 pm Columbia College Laptop Ensemble in Concert 8:00 pm Chamber Music Ensemble 2 at the Sherwood Friday May 1 Piano Forum at the Sherwood* 12:00 pm **Drum and Percussion Recital** 12:00 pm Jazz Forum* 2:00 pm 7:00 pm Classical Guitar Concert at the Sherwood Moses Aguilar and Brian McCourt Senior Recital 7:00 pm * Events marked with an asterisk do not give Recital Attendance Credit Columbia

Television Department chair steps down

ARABELLA BRECK

Contributing Writer

AFTER SERVING AS the Television Department chair for 15 years, Michael Niederman will step down from his role at the end of the semester.

"Contrary to the rumors, I am neither dying nor retiring [from Columbia]," Niederman said.

Niederman will return as a fulltime faculty member in the Fall 2016 Semester.

Before becoming the chair of the department, Niederman worked at the college for 15 years as a faculty member. He said he had the opportunity to work closely with and be mentored by Ed Morris, the previous chair, during that time.

"Ed Morris was chair for what I thought was forever," Niederman said. "He was the one who imagined me as a chair myself some day. Two years ago, I realized I had been chair longer than Ed."

Niederman said he believes he contributed many valuable concepts to the department. He introduced Frequency TV to the college-a television network that gives students the opportunity to film and produce work-which is now a staple program for students in the department. He has also worked to transition the department to teaching students how to tell a story with television instead of only teaching the production and



Michael Niederman, chair of the Television Department, will stepping down from his 15-year chair position in the Television Department in June, but will return as a faculty member in the Fall 2016 Semester.

technological skills that go into creating TV content, he said.

In addition to working at the college, Niederman has created award-winning films such as, "The Paled Man" and "Voices from Northern Ireland." He serves as a board member of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and is a founding member and chair of the board of the International Digital Media and Arts Association.

"Michael has been tremendous," said Eric Scholl, associate chair and associate professor in the Television Department. "When he took over the department-it was the same year that I started-he was filling some big shoes of Ed Morris, who was our previous chair."

Scholl said that while Niederman's role was difficult, he modernized the department and carried it successfully into a new era.

"It was a department that was trying to find its way at a time when the industry was changing and a time when education was changing," Scholl said. "He was very much responsible for adding a lot of the new things that have really made us continue to be relevant. I have seen the industry change drastically and I've seen our department change with it."

While most departments at Columbia have struggled to retain students and maintain enrollment rates, the Television Department has maintained undergraduate enrollment. From 2011-2014 the department has

held 3 percent of total undergraduate enrollment, according to data collected by the college.

"We feel we have developed the right kind of culture that keeps students progressing toward their degrees and staying here," said Sharon Ross, an associate professor in the Television Department set to become the interim chair in June. "That's been something I think Michael Niederman has been really responsible for."

Niederman said he is confident in Ross' abilities to serve as the new interim chair.

"Much as I think Ed saw me, I see Sharon as someone who will do a wonderful job leading the department," Niederman said. "She is a kind and brilliant person. She is one of us in the sense that she understands the department on a profound and deep level."

Ross said her past experience serving as associate chair gives her valuable administrative experience working with faculty and staff members as well as firsthand experience working in the department with students.

"Whatever I've contributed was never contributed by myself." Niederman said. "It was always a contribution of my fellow faculty members, staff and, interestingly enough, often students."

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Students celebrate art, activism, Earth

TO CELEBRATE EARTH Day, Columbia hosted the Art + Activism Spring Festival on April 22.

The event took place at the Loft in the 916 S. Michigan Ave. Building and consisted of several activities, including a hula hooping workshop, "Earth Weddings" to express commitment to taking care of the planet and "Print Exchange," a community art-making project.

Local artist Isabella Rotman also debuted the Columbia edition of her zine, "Not on My Watch: A Bystander's Handbook For The Prevention of Sexual Violence."

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Nohemi Rosales THE CHRONICLE

Tacey Hawkins, a junior photography major, embraces the Earth after participating in an Earth marriage ceremony.



Nohemi Rosales THE CHRONICLE Denise Valdes, a junior cinema art + science major, presents a collection of The Consent Calvary buttons, which are a part of her project against sexual violence.



Nohemi Rosales THE CHRONICLE

Freshman interactive arts and media major Dane Wheaton participates in a student's thesis art project, which aims to capture connections between creating handprints.



Nohemi Rosales THE CHRONICLE

Extending her arms to her sides, Liz Torres, a senior art + design major, practices the perfect hooping position.



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Columbia

R&B, pop fusion shine at Biggest Mouth







Kaitlin Hetterscheidt THE CHRONICLE

(Left to right) Vocalist Rebecca Brunner, a sophomore music major, belts out her raspy R&B melodies, rapper Charlie Curtis-Beard, a freshman music major, performs with his collaborative soulful fusion band and Anthony Pavel, a senior music major and winner of the ninth annual Biggest Mouth competition, won over the crowd and judges with his jazzy pop and R&B tunes, as he and his four other bandmates dominated the stage against the other 10 performers on April 23 at the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St.

LAUREN KOSTIUK

Campus Reporter

AT THE NINTH annual Biggest Mouth competition, jazzy pop and R&B lead singer Anthony Pavel and his four bandmates performed last, stunning the 700-person audience at the Metro, 3730 N. Clark St., stealing the spotlight and winning the competition.

Pavel, a senior music major, sang the soulful, groovy tunes and even busted a few dance moves on stage to take the April 23 win over the 10 other Biggest Mouth performances hosted by Aaron Branch, a junior Business & Entrepreneurship. Pavel said his band of college friends only rehearsed once prior to the event and that it was his first time singing his original music in front of an audience.

"I did not expect to win," Pavel said.
"I was blessed with this opportunity.
I feed off of the crowd and they were screaming, which keeps me going."

He said he was stoked to play at the Metro because it is one of his favorite Chicago venues. "The sound is amazing, and you [can] feel the energy encompassing around the walls," Pavel said.

Pavel and his band received a \$1,000 grand prize, a two-page spread in Highlight Magazine, an interview with Chicago artist blog Do312 and social media promotion, six hours of recording time at Rax-Trax, a two-location photo shoot with local photographer Megan Leetz, a Warner Music Led Zeppelin prize pack, a Shure audio equipment package and a \$50 certificate from Busy Beaver Button company.

Charlie Curtis-Beard ft. Human Bloom, a recently formed collaborative fusion band of upbeat hiphop, soulful jazz, folk and rock, won second place, receiving \$750, a Shure audio equipment package and a Warner Music Led Zeppelin prize pack

"I like my lyrics to mean something and focus on something positive," said Curtis-Beard, the band's lead vocalist and a freshman music major. "I want everybody to dance and have fun."

Jackson Shepard, Human Bloom's guitarist and a freshman music major, even ripped his pants and broke his guitar string during the performance. He said he just got way too into the performance but that it was great to know all the hard work paid off.

The five-person indie rock band, Friday Pilots Club, which has been together for a year, won audience choice for third place and received \$500 and a Warner Music Led Zeppelin prize pack.

Caleb Hiltunen, lead singer and guitarist for Friday Pilots Club and a sophomore business & entrepreneurship major, said he never knew Columbia had so much talent and that he was blown away by it.

"I am freaking out," said Ethan Mole, a sophomore theatre major and drummer for the band. "We have only been together a year, and to come this far is incredible."

Other performers included: soulful hip-hop singer Rahkii; Pine of the Origin, a folk and rock indie band; Eikthyrnir, a psychedelic rock band; Jeremy Foster & the Nuance, a collaboration band of pop and R&B; Walsher Clemons, a jazzy upbeat pop ensemble; soulful R&B singer Rebecca Brunner; Blacky Chan, an alternative rapper; and Out the Car Window, a classic indie rock alternative band.

Anjel Lopez, president of the Student Programming Board and a senior business & entrepreneurship major, said the four judges who selected the first and second place winners were Kelly Deasy, agency associate at Monterey International; Rick Barnes, owner and audio engineer at Rax Trax Recording Studio; Ajay Gosain, music lawyer and entrepreneur; Aaron Sweatt, talent buyer at House Call Entertainment; and Joseph Pembroke, a student judge selected through a Student Programming Board Instagram contest.

"[Biggest Mouth] helps with the overall branding and awareness of the artist," Lopez said. "The Metro is such a legendary venue in Chicago, and getting to play that stage and a guaranteed audience is a really great opportunity. I think it gives them a great opportunity to win some prizes, play for some industry professionals and get a new audience."

She said the 11 performers of various genres were selected from approximately 100 bands that auditioned in February and March. Auditions were based on a number ranking system and judged on originality, stage presence and musicality.

Anna Agosta, a freshman music major and a first-time Biggest Mouth attendee, said she went to Biggest Mouth to support a bunch of her friends who were performing and also because she gets inspired by the performers and hopes she will sing on the same stage next year.

"I like to be a critic, but at the same time I am also taking notes in my head for my artistry," Agosta said. "I like looking to see what it is that different musicians do and what makes them their own artist."

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ISRAEL Continued from Front Page

the 1104 S. Wabash Ave. Building and spoke with students and outside guests about the country's progressive laws and attitudes toward the LGBTQ community.

The documentary, which includes interviews with gay Israeli men, discusses the evolution of legal rights and focuses on a wide variety of topics regarding the LGBTQ community in Tel Aviv, including the openness of its military, the legalization of same-sex marriage and the city's thriving LGBTQ culture and nightlife.

"When they go to Israel, people will ask me '[Should I] be afraid? Is it dangerous? Why are you there?' and that's why I decided to do this film, because people actually don't know anything about Israel but the conflict with the Palestinians," he said.

Lucas said he created the documentary out of a passion for the subject and not with the goal of making a profit. "It is so easy to make an adult movie," Lucas said. "You put very little money into it, you make it in five days and then you make good money off it. You don't make a documentary [to] make a profit because you will not be able to return money at all. I've never seen a dime from the Israeli documentary—I thought I would return 10 percent—but I went into it knowing this is my gift to Israel."

As a small country, Lucas said Israel does not have the funds to promote a positive image on the global scale. He said he wanted to show people a different side of the country rather than the violence that he said is often portrayed in the media due to their political conflicts with other countries.

Lucas is often asked why he chose not to mention the country's conflicts with its neighboring countries. He said he was not obligated to discuss that aspect of Israeli politics, nor did he want to.

"If I were to make a movie about occupation, no one will ask me, 'Why didn't you show how progres-

sive [Israel is] when it comes to gay rights?" he said. "People cannot imagine and are very upset that the movie is not showing the war. This is not the topic. This was not the portrayal of Israeli society at large. I chose a very specific subject."

Lucas said most LGBTQ film festivals—including those in Tel Aviv—would not screen his movie because of Israel's negative image in the media. However, he said his film positively affected the community.

rael organization and a sophomore audio arts & acoustics major, said the student group wanted the college's contribution to Chicago Israel Week to not only relate to the arts, but also be relevant to the campus' diverse student population.

Valdman said he suggested screening "Undressing Israel" to the group's president after hearing about the film at a pro-Israel conference. He also said SSI discussed other movies but considered the

syaffected the community. other movies but considered the large of the

- Michael Lucas

"A lot of gay people went to Israel," he said. "I have so many people who emailed me and went on my social networks and told me that they were thankful for my film and after [watching] this movie they decided to go."

Edon Valdman, secretary of Columbia's Students Supporting Is-

documentary a good fit for Columbia because the students involved wanted to find a film that would grab their peers' attention.

"People would assume that in Israel, maybe the gay population isn't so large or has their own issues," Valdman said. "Even I had misconceptions about the gay community

in Israel, and when I watched the movie for the first time, it was really enlightening. Just the idea of a movie about the gay population in Israel, it comes off as very interesting."

Films like Lucas' that show Israel in a progressive light are important because they represent a more accepting community that the organization is working toward, said Laurie Grauer, executive director of Gesher Chicago, an organization that provides opportunities for LGBTQ Jews to connect to Chicago's larger Jewish community and co-sponsor of the event.

"There are different pockets within the Jewish people that say, 'Because of biblical reasons, we can't have gay people be part of our everyday life' or 'Love the sinner but hate the sin' in some communities still to this day," Grauer said. "But here, it's in Israel—the land of our home, the land of our souls, the place that [we face] when we wake up every day and pray. It's like, "This is the city where it's OK to be gay, get over yourself."

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SPSC Continued from Front page

signatures and listed student demands of the administration—the SPSC opened its doors to the college community so members could formally express their concerns surrounding the Strategic Plan.

However, the complaints directed at Kim and Stan Wearden, senior vice president and provost, will not stop the Strategic Plan from being presented to the board of trustees on May 1 for finalization.

"I don't hear anything today that says this shouldn't move forward," Kim said.

The meeting, held at the 600 S. Michigan Ave. Building, began with its collegewide inclusivity in drafting the Strategic Plan, a sentiment that was met with eye rolls and displeased scoffs from the students who attended. Before presenting Kim with the 40-page document, Wearden discussed the strategic planning process' next steps of creating an Implementation Committee to oversee the five-year results.

It was not until after the meeting adjourned that Wearden gave Save-Columbia time to speak in a discussion that lasted nearly 90 minutes.

Students and faculty presented the petition and the list of demands to the administration and voiced concerns regarding a number of topics, including a perceived lack of student representation during the strategic planning process, rising tuition rates, increased class sizes and the college's financial situation.

Iorio and Bret Hamilton, a senior cinema art + science major, presented the demands, which called for a tuition cap, transparent budgets, an elimination of any new vice president positions, smaller class sizes and a reversal of all administrative decisions made without the feedback from the college community, according to Hamilton.

"There's a great sense of worry and dissatisfaction with the direction the school is going," Hamilton said.

If the administration does not meet their demands by May 1, members of the SaveColumbia coalition will move forward with their planned sit-in outside of Kim's office during his meeting with the board of trustees until they are met, Iorio said.

Iorio expressed her displeasure with the college's rising tuition, which will increase by 3.3 percent next academic year, and proposed a tuition freeze based on the year of a student's admittance.

Michelle Gates, vice president of Business Affairs and CFO, said that although public colleges have been able to implement tuition caps, Columbia does not have taxpayer dollars to cover the needed costs and would cause even higher tuition hikes for incoming students.

"What other institutions have found is that they have a significant enrollment drop because students don't want to come in," Gates said. "I don't think we're in a good position to look at that until we stabilize enrollment, but we need to look at ways at how we keep the [tuition] cost down."

Casey Walker, a junior creative

writing major, said she felt that students were excluded from the Strategic Planning Process.

"Civic Commons was open in November [and] it crashed. I tried to comment on it [and] it was impossible," Walker said.

Kim said students were invited to give feedback on the plan throughout the entire process, but the administration cannot force students to participate.

"The choice to participate or not—that we have no control over," he said.

Diana Vallera, an adjunct professor in the Photography Department and president of the college's part-time faculty union, said it made no difference, calling the plan a "smokescreen" that is being implemented.

"We have input from students and faculty outside the Civic Commons, [and] inside the Civic Commons," Vallera said. "This committee never took that in."

Kim said while Vallera may have felt that way, the feedback was shared with the group.

"It's not true," Kim said. "Everyone in the committee had all of the comments that were made, so everyone had access to them."

Donavahn Frierson, a senior art + design major, said the college is too dependent on student tuition.

"We're not being invested in as students," Frierson said. "We're being treated as investments."

Kim said tuition is the main source of income, but the administration is constantly looking for additional sources of revenue, including donations and possible summer programs. Vallera also expressed dissatisfaction with the increasing class sizes of several courses for the Fall 2015 Semester—a decision she said was made with no academic justification.

Gita Kapila, an adjunct professor in the Cinema Art + Science Department, said she is upset because her class size has increased without any clear reason.

"To increase from 16 to 20 [students] and not pay us a cent more for it—how do you expect us to respond to that?" Kapila said. "I would love to know why you are asking me to do more work for no more money. I want to know. Why would you expect me to do that?"

Kim agreed that the discussion about the increase in class sizes may not have been understood or implemented thoughtfully and that the direct impact it was going to have may not have been clear.

"If things [like class size increase] aren't working, of course, we'll keep adjusting," Kim said.

Although he said the complaints regarding class sizes and tuition are serious, Kim said they do not relate to the content of the Strategic Plan.

"Nothing about what we're talking about right now, which are the direct concerns of faculty and students, is being asked for in this plan," Kim said. "Not a single thing."

Kim said the intention of discussing an increase in class sizes was not to discard what was already working within the departments and said some leadership within departments may be better explaining the changes to faculty than in others.

"I've asked the provost to really look into this because I don't want it to just be hanging out there," Kim said. "Personally, I'm not convinced that if normally [a] class has 17 students if there's one more student, something radically changes. But I understand it could feel that way, especially if you don't know why."

Hamilton said students also need to be aware of the college's expenses.

"If we don't have that information, how can any discussion about the financial state of the college be inclusive at all?" Hamilton said.

The word "crisis" was used several times during the meeting to describe the college's economic state, but Gates said this is not an accurate term for the situation. She said the college is financially healthy but is making adjustments to make up for the structural deficit the college has recently been operating on.

"It's a word that was used [in the meeting, but it's not a word we've ever used," Gates said. "I want to make that clear. The college is not in a financial crisis."

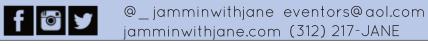
Kim said he is pleased that students and faculty feel free to speak their mind, but their questions about how the plan will affect the college can be solved by reading it.

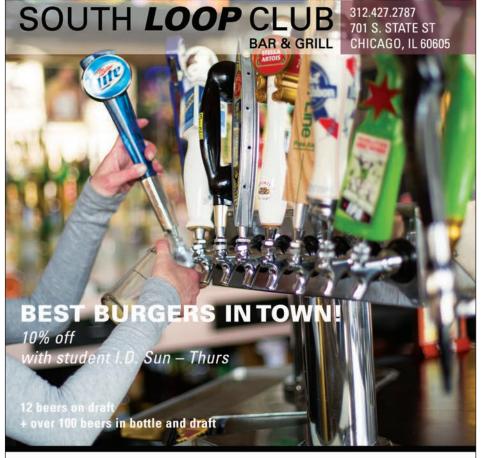
"The main thing is it's important if people are concerned about the plan that they read it," Kim said. "A lot of what people are concerned about—I'm sure it's real, but it's not about the Strategic Plan at all, so we have to have both conversations."

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12 • April 27, 2015

DEGREE Continued from PG. 3

Shapiro, who graduated in 1990 is an award-winning Broadway director and new artistic director of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, 1650 N. Halsted St. In 2008, she received the 2008 Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Best Direction of a Play for Steppenwolf's production of "August: Osage County." Shapiro was nominated again for a 2011 Tony for her production of "The Motherf--ker with the Hat." Shapiro could not be reached for comment as of press time.

Warshaw graduated in 1993 and is the co-founder of Bloodshot Records, an independent Chicago-based record label that specializes in roots and country music. She sits on the advisory boards of The Future of Music Coalition, The Chicago Music Coalition, and the honorary board of Foundations of Music.

Warshaw said the business and finance classes she took while earning her master's degree at Columbia have helped her effectively manage Bloodshot Records. She said her professors found a way to make otherwise dry subjects engaging.

"I used my education experience at Columbia to develop basic and important business skills," Warshaw said. "It's certainly benefited me in running my own business, and I think it would be relevant in running any small business, whether it's arts-related or not."

Amato, who graduated in 1975 became president of HBO Films in

2008, and the company has since received numerous awards and accolades, including 39 Emmy Awards and 12 Golden Globe Awards in the 2009–2014 award seasons.

Prior to joining HBO, Amato served as president of Spring Creek Productions, garnering producer and executive producer credits on multiple films, including the Golden Globe- and Oscar-nominated "Blood Diamond" (2006). Amato could not be reached for comment as of press time.

Gregory, an award-winning actor, singer and songwriter, rose to fame after starring as Jackie Wilson in the national tour of "The Jackie Wilson Story." Graduating in 1995, he made his Broadway debut in the Tony award-winning musical "Hairspray" and has appeared in the original Broadway casts of "Tarzan," "Cry-Baby" and "Sister Act."

Gregory appeared as Sterling in "Two Trains Running" at the Goodman Theatre from March 7–April 19. He has received numerous awards for his work, including an NAACP Theater Award, a Black Theater Alliance Award and a Joseph Jefferson Award.

"Columbia not only gave me tools that I use to this day and helped me build [valuable relationships]," Gregory said. "It also gave me the training and confidence to walk into a room and feel prepared and feel that my craft is developed in a way where I know that I can walk into a room and bring something special."

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Continued from PG. 3

Best Live Performer, Best Original Song and Best Actor or Actress. Owens said friends and family nominated students for the awards. People were then voted for the winners before the show via online survey in the weeks leading up to the show.

"I didn't know anybody had nominated me, so that's really when it hit me," said Shenise Brown, a junior interdisciplinary arts major who won the award for Best Actor or Actress. "I'm just so humbled and thankful. It means that I've been chosen to entertain and people are recognizing that. It feels great."

Along with the award, winners in each category received prizes geared toward helping them advance their career in their chosen industry. Various sponsors, including Classick Studios, Level-Up! Magazine, Sunrai Consulting Group and Party Gone Wild, provided prizes such as free studio time and brand consulting.

Hosted by Vicki Street, a senior journalism major who also received the Best Host award for her work on "The Vicki Street Show"—a talk show on Columbia's Frequency TV station—CGT featured a variety of acts, including vocalist Jet, a sophomore cinema art + science major who won the Audience Favorite award.

"[Students] need to keep pushing and make the best experience that we can at Columbia and be thankful for everything that we're doing right now," said Jameel Bridgewater, a senior business & entrepreneurship major who won the award for Best Visual Designer. "It means a lot, and when we graduate, we won't have it."

Other winners included China Orr, a freshman dance major, for Best Newcomer; Dedrick Gray, a senior marketing major, for Best Choreographer or Dancer; Amanda Charles, a junior creative writing major, for Photographer of the Year; OBY, a JazzHop band, for Best Live Performer; "Angry Black Woman" by performance group WordPlay for Best Video; and Kyle Shawn, a junior journalism major, for Music

Artist of the Year.

"It's important to recognize not just those who do things constantly, but to give an opportunity to those who are not able to be recognized or know how to be recognized," Brown said. "There are some people who are just quiet storms, who walk around campus and we don't even know the talent that's built inside of them. The fact that we're able to showcase them, I think it's a beautiful thing."

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» MAUE Continued from PG. 3

"It will help to recruit students, help clarify conversations with potential donors, so hopefully we'll see some benefit in our fundraising arena [and] help the way we connect with alumni because we'll be telling stories more effectively of the college and it will help us build our reputation in the world," Kim said. "Those are four really important areas we are trying to make progress [in], and I think telling the story of the college effectively is going to be critically important."

Anne-Marie St. Germaine's term as the interim vice president of Communications & Marketing, which she has held since September of 2014, will conclude after a short transition period in which she will help Maue get accustomed to the college.

"[Maue] is an excellent choice for the college and [will] make her mark from the get-go," St. Germaine said.

Before working at mStoner, Maue also worked at TRU, a consulting firm that specializes in youth research, and served for seven years as associate vice president of Marketing Strategy at De-Paul University.

Maue will start at the college on April 29 and hopes to improve the college's enrollment, fundraising capabilities and alumni relations.

"[Maue] is very focused on this idea of brand and marketing," Kim said. "She has a lot of expertise in the more general areas as well, but I think she's going to come in and really look strategically at what we're doing.... She's going to bring a very targeted focus to the college, and I think that's important to us as we try to move Columbia to another step."

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Electric current ups creativity

MAX GREEN

Sports & Health Editor

AS WAVES OF electrical current sweep across the folded gray matter in your skull while you imagine, feel or experience emotions, your brain is literally storming.

In an April 1 study published in the journal Cortex, researchers from the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine applied a lowlevel electrical charge to the brains of study participants, merging an external and non-invasive source of current with the naturally occurring waves that flow through the human brain.

Individuals received transcranial alternating current stimulation via electrodes on their heads while researchers administered the equivalent of an IQ test for creativity. They specifically targeted alpha waves in the brain, which naturally occur within an eight- to 12-hertz frequency, using an alternating 10-hertz current, which produced a notable increase in creativity.

"This study was a stepping stone toward the ultimate goal," said Flavio Frohlich, Ph.D., co-author of the paper and an assistant professor of psychiatry at UNC's School of Medicine. "In this case the ultimate goal is to treat mood disorders such as major depressive disorder or depression. There are a lot of studies that show pathological changes and deficits in alpha oscillations in patients with depression."

Although certain patterns of electrical activity in the brain are associated with certain behaviors or cognitive abilities, Frohlich said it is difficult to pin down the definitive source. Using non-invasive methods such as EEG to measure excitement in different parts of the brain may just represent byproducts of brainstorming or concentrating rather than their biological points of origin. Brain stimulation research has mostly just been able to illustrate the association rather than establish a causal link.

"If we can show that creativity changes by targeting alpha

oscillations, then we've established a functional role for the alpha waves in that process," Frohlich said. "We haven't demonstrated that 10-hertz tACS treats depression, but we've demonstrated that with 10-hertz stimulation, we can modulate a very complicated cognitive process that we know is driven by [certain brain waves]."

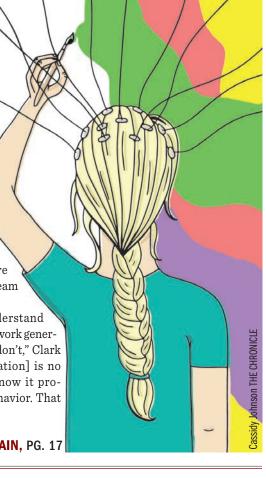
Vincent Clark, Ph.D. and director of the Psychology Clinical Neuroscience Center at the University of New Mexico, said his laboratory has published research in which patients diagnosed with illnesses such as schizophrenia and addiction experienced relief from their symptoms using transcranial direct current stimulation, a constant low-level application of electricity, rather than an alternating charge.

"We've looked at reducing auditory hallucinations in patients with a diagnosis of schizophrenia," Clark said. "Reducing drinking in people who have yet to be labeled alcoholics but are headed in that direction, reducing smoking in people who it up but can't do it on their own."

According to Clark, a number of factors could be influencing what happens when the brain is stimulated by a low-level electrical current, and (researchers do not exactly know what the main driver is. However, this is also the case for more established, mainstream forms of treatment.

"We think we understand how antidepressants work generally, but in detail we don't," Clark said. "[Brain stimulation] is no different. We just know it produces a change in behavior. That is undeniable."

» SEE BRAIN, PG. 17



After 3 seasons, volleyball team still not set

ABBY SEITZ

Sports & Health Reporter

CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP and a failed attempt to join a competitive league have contributed to a disappointing year on the sidelines for the Renegades volleyball team.

The team was unable to play competitively this year. The Renegades joined the co-ed Players Sport and Social Group, but because the season's first game occurred during Spring Break, the Renegades were no longer eligible to compete, according to Vinny Cavello, a co-captain and a senior business & entrepreneurship major.



FILE PHOTO

The Renegades volleyball team playing at the Goodman Center, 50 E. Congress Pkwy, in the Fall of 2013. The team has not been able to compete for three seasons.

"We had to leave the league because we missed the first game due to our Spring Break, and no one was able to participate," Cavello said. "After that, we weren't able to play because once you miss a game, you're not eligible anymore."

The team had originally pursued participating in a fall league. However, the team did not have an official roster by the start of the season, Cavello said. The schedule proved problematic when the Renegades registered for a spring season.

"It was a little bit of a bummer but we tried to keep going because we are all very passionate about volleyball," Cavello said. "This semester, we continued and signed up for a league, but unfortunately the league didn't get enough people to sign up, so they pushed us further into the spring."

Despite being unable to compete, the team has continued to practice weekly throughout the year. Cavello attributes the team's persistence to the passion of its members.

"When you have a love for something, especially at Columbia, everyone has their understanding of what their passion is about [and] you can keep playing regardless," Cavello said. "We have that team mentality. We love the sport. We want to keep going together. Hopefully in the fall, they can really build it up and bring it to its full potential."

The Renegades parent organization have provided support throughout the year, according to Michael Sempek, Renegades President and junior television major.

"We helped them transition between leadership," Sempek said. "There was leadership that wasn't bad, but it wasn't as productive as it could have been. We helped find other players who would fit the role of a leader."

The Renegades ensure communication between the organization and teams through meetings in order to provide support through whatever challenges may occur.

» SEE **VOLLEYBALL**, PG. 17

MONDAY. APRIL 27

Robert Morris Baseball vs. Millikin University

Time: 6:00 p.m. Place: Rent One Field Where to watch: N/A

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Chicago Cubs vs. Pittsburgh Pirates

Time: 7:05 p.m. Place: Wrigley Field Where to watch: RTPT

THIS WEEK IN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

Northwestern Baseball vs. Chicago State

Time: 3:00 p.m. Place: Rocky Miller Stadium Where to watch: BTN

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

Chicago White Sox vs. Minnesota Twins

Time: 7:10 p.m. Place: Target Field Where to watch: FSN



White Sox, Royals, dodge balls and brawls

IT USUALLY TAKES a batter being hit by a pitch to clear the benches, but that wasn't the case on April 23 when the Chicago White Sox played the Kansas City Royals.

Sox center fielder Adam Eaton hit a one-hopper right back to Royals pitcher Yordano Ventura, who proceeded to approach Eaton as he ran to first base, to stare him down and shout out "F--k you."

To start off, what?

Ventura said through an interpreter in a post-game interview that he was unable to control his emotions. Nope. Not good enough. The ball being hit back at the pitcher is not uncommon, so the foul mouth was uncalled for. Furthermore, this is not the first of Ventura's problems this season. Not even a month in and he has already been ejected for hitting Oakland Athletics infielder Brett Lawrie with a pitch on April 18. He was fined for it on April 22the amount was not disclosed-but Ventura was not suspended.

The April 23 confrontation started with an exchange of hit batters and led to the benches clearing at the end of the seventh inning.

Baseball code says a pitcher should hit a player on the other team if the other team hit one of the pitcher's teammates first, but

sometimes code should be broken and the pitcher should step up as the bigger man.

Jeff Samardzija and Chris Sale, both Sox pitchers, were ejected from the game along with Ventura and Royals' Lorenzo Cain and Edinson Vólquez for their involvements in the fight.

Although it made me happy to see that Samardzija was willing to take the Royals on all by himself, the tensions are both unnecessary and detrimental to the teams' rivalry.

A division rivalry should be cherished as the epitome of competitive sports, but a dirty rivalry should be the complete opposite. Baseball is not meant for brawls. The sport is not set up for that in terms of the style of play and because there are 162 games in the season.

Moreover, Royals players said in the locker room post-game that this was not their style of play and that they did not want this to continue. White Sox manager Robin Ventura said it was basically both teams' faults, adding that some players start staring and that leads to other players reacting.

Cain said he would come out the next day and just play baseball, and that's what the game is all about. However, as Robin Ventura said,



ABBAS HALEEM COPY CHIEF

players will continue to stare. Some players will be wary of inside pitches and others will have to watch their mouths.

It doesn't matter if the Royals are still sore about losing the World Series last season or if the altercation was strictly because of the actions on the field on April 23, players on both teams are accountable for their actions.

As exciting as it may be, baseball players get paid millions to play baseball, not to fight. When a hityou know, a routine part of baseball—is the start of a fight, the players are not focused on their jobs or the game. They are focused on their personal conflicts with opposing players, and that is not acceptable.

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FEATURED ATHLETE

KATRINA DIAZ

Sport: Powerlifting Team/School: UIUC



MAX GREEN

Sports & Health Editor

AS A 25-YEAR-OLD M.D.-Ph.D. student studying biochemistry at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Katrina Diaz spends hours running between class and labs. Still, she can be found at the gym four times a week, training to improve her power lifts-the squat, bench press and dead lift—as a member of the Illini Powerlifting Club.

Diaz double majored in English and biology at the University of Michigan before moving to Illinois. Weightlifting has become her primary method of staying healthy while in college, but she is also an experienced long-distance runner and competitive equestrian. She competed at a powerlifting meet for the first time in March, where she broke The American Powerlifting Federation's state record in her 198-pound weight class with a 363-pound dead lift.

The Chronicle spoke with Diaz about avoiding stagnation and sloth as an overloaded grad student, the aesthetic benefits versus the utility of weightlifting and how failing can be acceptable.

THE CHRONICLE: How did you first become involved with powerlifting?

KATRINA DIAZ: When I first got to graduate school. I knew that with the endless hours of lab work and not really getting out much, people tend to go a little stir crazy or they tend to gain a lot of weight or they tend to just develop a lot of really unhealthy habits. I realized that there was someone in my lab who was actually a postdoc, and every day he left work with his gym bag. One day I asked him about his gym regimen and he said he followed a lifting regimen. He goes to the gym and lifts weights. It's how he tried to stay sane and healthy with such a hectic schedule. It was my second semester of my first year, so I already had time to settle in and kind of know what my lab schedule was like, so I asked him if I could tag along one time and see what it was like. I went with him and I was instantly hooked. When we first started, I didn't know anything about bodybuilding or powerlifting at all besides squatting on the Smith machine, which now people will laugh at me for, but everyone has to start somewhere.

What were you getting out of it?

I realized as I was going to the gym with him for four days a week for a few months that what I really enjoyed was seeing my progress on the big lifts, seeing how much my squat went up every couple of weeks, or whether or not I could test a new dead lift personal record the next week. That interested me a lot more than actual bodybuilding. The perks of the aesthetics are nice, but it definitely was not my primary reason for enjoying it when I finally realized that I transitioned into more of a powerlifting style workout.

How much have your numbers moved since you started?

I started out in a bodybuilding type of regimen, so there wasn't a lot of one repetition maximum testing, but I remember trying to squat the big plates, which is the 45 plates on each side of the barbell, so 135 pounds, and I remember failing and crying and feeling really bad. It was the first time I ever failed a squat. It really scared me. To this day I still don't really like failing squats, so I like to think of it as how I propelled myself through squats at meets. Within the first few months of powerlifting I failed 135 pounds and now my, current squat record, which is actually a national record in The American Powerlifting Federation for my weight class, is 341 pounds.

Do you plan to continue powerlifting after graduation?

Definitely. I'm not graduating for forever because I have to finish two degrees before I leave, so I probably won't graduate until 2020. I think that's being optimistic, too, but I see powerlifting as a lifelong pursuit. What I really appreciate about it and why I think it's going to be a big part of my life forever is that it's finally something that has allowed me to make peace with my body. For the longest time in high school and college, I struggled [in terms of] self-confidence or comfort with my own body image, so I will say that powerlifting gave me enough reasons to appreciate my body for what it can do and for what it is and I look at it in a totally different way now, so I think that it's something I don't want to leave my life ever again.

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WEEKLY WORKOUT









Weight Training: Dumbbell Overhead Press

MAX GREEN Sports & Health Editor

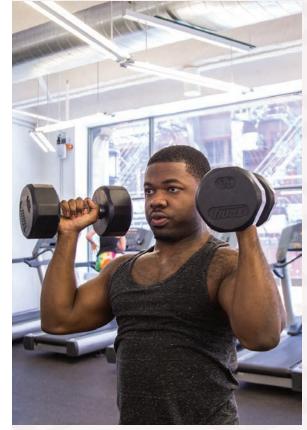
1. Select a weight you can safely lift per arm and bicep. shoulder-width apart.

2. While gripping the dumbbells se- upward until just before the point curely, raise your forearms until they where your elbows would lock out.

overhead for at least eight repeti- 3. Engage your glutes and lower back bells back down to starting position. tions and begin by standing with feet for stability while extending arms directly overhead, pushing the weight

are nearly perpendicular to your up- 4. Inhale during the pressing portion of the movement and lower the dumb-

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Kaitlin Hetterscheidt THE CHRONICLE

Renegades drop the ball, hold heads high despite season of loss

NANCY COOPER & MIKHAELA PADILLA

Sports & Health Reporter & Contributing Writer

THE CAPS ARE now off for the Columbia Renegades baseball team as it wrapped up its spring season on April 25.

The team got off to a rocky start this year, absorbing three losses in a series against Lewis University. After that, the Renegades could not quite come together to have a successful season.

Co-captain Taylor Martin, a freshman journalism major, said the team began practicing in January at the Goodman Center, 501 S. Michigan Ave., but could not work cohesively on the field. Despite preparations, the Renegades struggled with player absences and team morale all semester.

"[Lewis University] was definitely beatable," Martin said. "It was the guys getting down on themselves—we could have beaten them, but it was the teammates' attitude once again."

Among other things, the number of bugs on the field was a big distraction for players, said Kent Leng, a senior and marketing major.

"Baseball is a game that requires seeing," Leng said. "I'm not trying to blame it on the bugs, but they were forming around your head and going in your eyes and underneath your baseball cap."



Courtesy RICHARD PECHNER

Jameson Swain makes a diving stop to second base and to get the out, tossing the ball to first baseman Joe Walsh, in a game against DePaul University Baseball on April 18.

Jameson Swain, a junior journalism major and center fielder, said the team tried to stay optimistic through its losing streak and that there were positive outcomes from the spring season.

"Baseball is a very mental sport, and if you let what happened the day before affect you, you're already defeated," Swain said. "We took what we needed out of the Saturday game against Lewis and then came out Sunday and played a lot better. That's been kind of our forte. We don't come out [playing] very hot, but then start getting traction and making the plays that we need to be competitive. I feel like the baseball team as a whole [is] moving in the right direction."

In their second-to-last series, the Renegades went up against rival team DePaul University Club Baseball and lost 12-1 in the first game and 7-6 in the second of the two-game series.

Problems occurred in the last inning of the second game against DePaul, causing a stir between the two teams.

Swain was up to bat with co-captain Toby Pechner on third base. The pitch apparently hit Swain in the shin as Pechner headed for home plate, unaware that Swain was hit.

The umpires did not rule a hit batsman and agreed with DePaul that Swain had swung at the pitch. Swain lost his cool that he had not swung and Pechner was sent back to third. Swain was sent back to the plate to bat and was hit again by the next pitch.

The umpires awarded Swain first base, sending co-captain and catcher Corbin Merriman, a junior business & entrepreneurship major, up to bat. Merriman hit a pop fly to right field, resulting in the team getting its third out and ending the game quickly.

"It was a mess," Swain said. "It shouldn't have happened. The ball hit me—it should have been dead. We can't do anything about it now. We'll move forward."

Leng said he has never experienced such an upset among his teammates and that it was a tough way to end the game.

"It was heated," Leng said. "The fact that we don't have video replay is interesting for the umpires to overturn a call like that."

Swain said he wants to see how the Renegades develop next season.

"The team's going to have a whole new look. There are a lot of guys that won't be back for the fall or are graduating this May," Swain said. "Joe Walsh has been on the team for a couple of years now. He's not a captain, but he's definitely a leader on the field and that'll be a tough position to fill. I hope there's been enough exposure for people to come out and replace [teammates] that have played integral parts."

Merriman said he was satisfied with the performance and efforts that were put into the spring season for his first year as captain.

"I met a lot of young guys," Merriman said. "They really forth put forward the effort. I'm proud of these guys. They fought well and they kept us in it. That's all I could ask for."

Leng said the team needs to work on its visibility on campus in order to promote participation in the Renegades organization.

"We want to be a better baseball team," Leng said. "I think we just need to work on recruiting. We could find some very good baseball players that are in the woodwork through Columbia."

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Search engine accessibility may foster fake intellect

NANCY COOPER

Sports & Health Reporter

IN A GENERATION where information is a click away, Google is the goto search engine for any question imaginable, but does the accessibility to answers make people more intelligent, or just make them think they are?

According to a study published on March 30 in the Journal of Experimental Psychology, Yale researchers discovered the use of any kind of search engine makes people think they are more knowledgeable about everything. The study, which included nine experiments, tested how looking things up on the Internet affects people's confidence in their intellectual abilities, according to the study.

Matthew Fisher, lead author of the study and a Yale Ph.D. candidate in psychology, said his research team hypothesized that people would outsource their knowledge rather than retain it in their minds.

"Instead of storing things internally, they merely access their information," Fisher said. "We thought that could lead to an illusion of understanding, [which] we ended up finding. What was surprising to us was the extent to which the effect holds. In our latest studies, we found even when people were in a search environment, which had no relevant results, or just typing a question into a search

bar, there seems to be a search mindset that even in that case they felt like they knew more and could explain things better even though they weren't getting any results."

Fisher said participants were initially asked to look up a series of intermediately difficult questions, such as "Why does a golf ball have dimples?" or "How does a zipper work?" Fisher said the candidates were asked to search questions where they feel they can give a start

"They're seeing the same content across both conditions, but in one condition you are just actively looking for it online yourself and the other you are just receiving that info," Fisher said. "After the induction phase, we measured how much they think they know. The self-assessed knowledge phase asked about domains of knowledge that are completely separate from questions they just looked up. What we ended up find-

"[The Internet] gives us the impression that we have that knowledge," Urbina said. "We kind of fool ourselves."

Urbina said it is important to educate the younger generation so they are able to properly apply the information and knowledge they access.

"We know a little minute amount about a lot of things, but we really in-depth don't know something unless we study it, so that's why correct answer and be satisfied with that than try to come up with [an answer]."

Urbina said cell phone use is very apparent in college classrooms.

"[Everyone] has their phones, and that is the trick—thinking that you have been exposed to it, you got [the answers] and you don't," Urbina said. "A lot of people think they are having problems with memory, but they never really paid attention. When we are online we just jump from one thing to another. We need to cultivate in young people the capacity to be critical and self-critical and see where we can apply this."

Fisher said the Internet is a great resource and helpful in all sorts of ways, but that he thinks that the results from the research involve an inherent tradeoff.

"By outsourcing all this knowledge we are able to tap into this resource and know all this stuff that we couldn't have stored internally, it would have been too much," Fisher said. "People are losing the sense of the boundary and it's becoming blurry, and the information outside, even though not stored internally, starts to feel like it is. It's important to recognize that it is infrequent that we are unplugged, and [we] are rarely without our smartphones and without net access. It's important to know what you know on vour own."

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Artificial Intelligence

Q Why are there dimples in a golf ball?

to an answer but might not be able to give a full explanation.

According to Fisher, there were two randomly assigned conditions for the candidates—people were either given Internet access or no Internet access. The Internet participants were instructed to look up answers online and were free to search the web and figure out the answers to the questions. The no Internet access candidates were provided the answers they would have found had they looked up the answers online, but they were given to them directly.

ing was that people in the Internet condition—those who just looked things up online—ended up rating their ability to explain questions in totally different topics higher than those participants whose access was restricted."

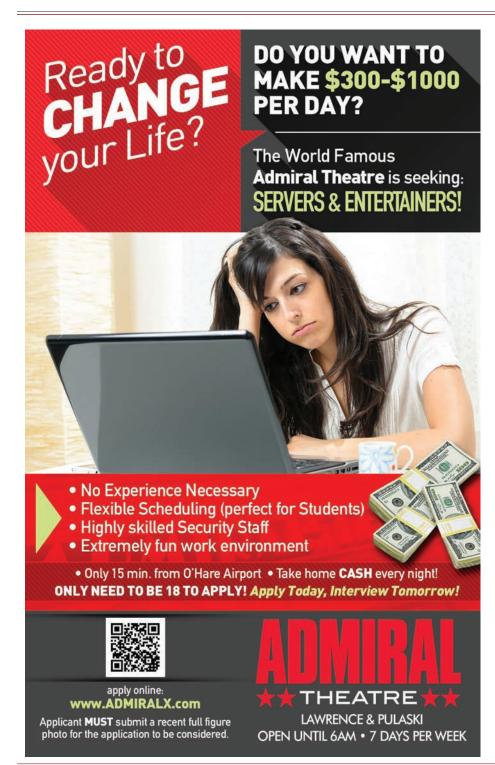
Susana Urbina, professor emeritus in the Department of Psychology at the University of North Florida, said she was not surprised at the Yale researchers findings. She said as people, everyone feels they have handfuls of knowledge at their fingertips because of what is accessible.

[the study] didn't surprise me at all," Urbina said. "It's something especially crucial because so much information on the Internet is not well-rounded, but it depends."

Colin King THE CHRONICLE

Halle Mariner, a junior cinema art + science major, said she Googles things up to as many as five times a day and that too many people rely on Internet use these days.

"I think people do that because we can learn it on our own, but I think it's just faster to type it in," Mariner said. "Instead of having those assumptions we have for the answers, I would rather find the





VOLLEYBALL Continued from PG. 13

"Our vice president, Scott Wilson, is in charge of teams and handling all of their issues," Sempek said. "Every other week, he has a one-on-one meeting with a captain from every team and he asks them what they're up to and how things are going and gives suggestions because he's been a captain for baseball in the past."

The Renegades hope to see new students join in the fall who will bring new life to the team, according to Sempek.

"I just want to see them get more

Freshman television major Brooke Lundquist was captain of her high school volleyball team and hopes to lead Columbia's team in the coming years.

"Volleyball is a pretty big part of who I am," Lundquist said. "I think carrying that over to college is important to me."

Lundquist also emphasized the difficulties of being an athlete at an art school.

"[Our biggest challenge is] getting over the stereotype that at art school, there's no sports," Lundquist said. "I know I met a lot of people who didn't even know that there were sports offered here."

66 I want [volleyball] to be something people can come and enjoy."

- Brooke Lundquist

people. They've been a strong team in the past," he said. "I'd like to see them become more where they used to be."

The team is focusing on retaining and expanding membership, as well as creating a strong foundation for next season.

"The team's goal from now until next semester is bringing in new participants and bringing in the captains [to lead next season]," Cavello said. "[Current captains are] trying to instill the idea that the team is what you make of it, so if we can all pull together, we can make it a really amazing experience for everybody."

Lundquist said she understands that several students are occupied with schoolwork and other responsibilities but said she hopes the volleyball team can serve as a fun outlet for students.

"Next season, I'm hoping that more people will get involved," Lundquist said. "[I hope] we're actually able to get ourselves involved with leagues. [I want it to be] a positive place to go somewhere you can put your time and get rid of stress. I want it to be something people can come and enjoy."

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BRAIN

Continued from PG. 13

There are two sides to those behavioral changes, Frohlich said. One side is the treatment of individuals with debilitating diseases whose quality of life is severely impacted by impaired cognition. Depending on the mood, neurological or psychological disorder, there may be a relatively effective medication, but those interventions do not exist for the cognitive deficiencies.

"The other side is cognitive enhancement in healthy individuals, and I think this is a very difficult area," Frohlich said. "There are lots of reasons to be cautious about that. There are lots of implications, the same as performance-enhancing drugs in sports. It's a very complicated ethical question."

Some brain stimulation research shows that, over time, the therapy can generate changes in brain plasticity, causing the brain to retain the changes it sustains from the electrical intervention, according to Sangeetha Madhavan, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her lab has applied the technique to stroke patients, demonstrating improvements in motor function when tDCS is combined with physical therapy.

"When looking at stroke recovery and the effect of [tDCS], using the current in combination with some kind of therapy improved



Transcranial alternating current stimulation sends waves of low-level electricity through the brain in bursts. function much better than therapy alone," Madhavan said.

Madhavan said that by applying the current externally, researchers hope to prime the brain, signaling that it should be prepared to receive therapy for whatever nerve damage it sustained. Similarly to psychological symptoms of traumatic mood disorders, impaired motor function is associated with certain parts of the brain but is reflected across many regions.

"It changes the excitability of the neurons, make them more activeand this is just within one session," she said. "tDCS is not very focused. We don't know if it's actually activating areas under the current, but there has been plenty of modeling that suggests it is activating those areas."

Frohlich said the research is far from demonstrating brain stimulation being used as an alternative to current treatments but that the method could one day become a lower-risk and cheaper option for patients, eliminating the side effects of medications and the discomfort of invasive procedures.

"We live and dream and think and suffer through electrical activity patterns in the brain," Frohlich said. "We should find a gentle but productive way to interact with these electric activity patterns through electric stimulation. The big vision and the dream is this will be the next generation of therapeutics."

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NOVICE

SOUS CHE

GURU

Reese's Peanut Butter Cookie Dough Dip

INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 3/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet mini chocolate chips
- 8-ounce package mini Reese's Peanut Butter Cups

INSTRUCTIONS

- **1.** Melt butter in a small saucepan. Heat for one minute and whisk brown sugar in until dissolved. Add vanilla.
- **2.** Beat cream cheese, powdered sugar and peanut butter in a large mixing bowl until creamy.
- 3. Add brown sugar mixture, folding in until combined.
- 4. Toss in chocolate chips and Reese's Cups.
- 5. Refrigerate until cool or serve as is.
- 6. Dip in some pretzels or cookies and enjoy.

FAVORITE RECIPES U 0 (

Lou Foglia THE CHRONICLE

SPENCER HALL

Arts & Culture Reporter

WHEN I SAW my name on the list for this week's recipe, I was like, "Oh no! I haven't bought groceries in forever." Luckily, I am friends with a lot of Southern girls on Facebook, and let me tell you, Pinterest is definitely worth the hype.

I had never used Pinterest before, but after finding this terrific recipe for a Reese's Peanut Butter Cookie Dough Dip, I may consider it—probably not, though.

As I was whipping up this recipe, it brought me back to when I'd bake cookies with my mom and pop. The recipe is great for dessert or even a casual coffee talk with the gals.

In all honesty, I don't even own a bowl, so make sure you have that before you begin. After you place all of your ingredients on the counter, it is time to get your Guy Fieri on and claim your one-way ticket to Flavor Town.

Be sure all the ingredients are correct—even buying regular sugar instead of powdered sugar can ruin it.

Melt the butter in a small saucepan on medium heat. Heat for a minute and mix in the brown sugar until dissolved. Turn off the heat so the butter does not burn. Mix in vanilla extract to give it that sweetness. Cool the mix until it reaches room temperature. Stick your finger in and if the mix does not give you second-degree burns, it should be ready. Next, dump the cream cheese, powdered sugar and peanut butter into a mixing bowl and beat until it is smooth. This should take no longer than four or five minutes.

Place the butter and sugar mixture into the large bowl and mix until it is completely smooth. Put as many chocolate chips and mini Reese's peanut butter cups into the dip as your heart desires.

Finally, place the dip in the refrigerator or serve immediately with either cookies or pretzels.

This will bring back memories of Easy Bake Ovens and bellyaches from too much cookie dough—only this will not give you salmonella.

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Exhibit puts juvenile prisoners on display

BAXTER BARROWCLIFF

Arts & Culture Editor

"TRY YOUTH AS Youth," an exhibit that aims to spark social change, highlights the lives and trials of American youth in juvenile detention centers across the U.S.

"Try Youth As Youth" is a project spearheaded by the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois in partnership with David Weinberg Photography, according to Ed Yohnka, director of communications and public policy for the ACLU of Illinois. The exhibit is being held at David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior St., and is meant to put human faces to the numerous young adults in juvenile detention centers in the hopes of creating a conversation for change and a better way to deal with young offenders.

Yohnka said the project grew out of a longtime relationship between the ACLU and David Weinberg Photography. He said both organizations wanted to speak out about what is happening with American youth and juvenile detention centers because they believe there could be a better way to deal with these issues.

"It was fascinating in many ways to think about how the use of images could be part of the storytelling and the narrative of social justice movements overall," Yohnka said. "If you look at the state of Illinois as an example, we move these people to a remote part of the state and then we hope that we forget about them. We never have to confront the consequences of our policies."

Yohnka said the exhibit's aim is to highlight the harsh realities of how society views these young boys and girls and the policies that place them in the detention centers where they reside.

"Our criminal justice policies ... have effectively been built around the notion that we are protecting ourselves by putting these kids away," Yohnka said. "When you really look at those photos and read these stories, you begin to realize that what you're really talking about are children."

Steve Davis, a photographer whose work from his book, "Captured Youth," is featured in "Try Youth As Youth," said he got involved with documenting youth detention centers on the West Coast through an educational program that brought artists to the centers

to teach workshops for the detained youth. Davis said he started teaching the workshops in the mid-'90s and began taking photos inside the facilities.

"At the very beginning, there was a clear agenda of what I was doing and what the kids were doing," Davis said. "Not just my workshop, but all of these artists' workshops would become a book, a catalogue basically, and a touring exhibit

that went into the Seattle school district in some of the more atrisk populations. The message the kids and me as well were trying to get across is, 'You don't want to be here, this is what you want to stay away from.'"

Davis said the work he produced while working in detentions centers would lead to advocacy for the kids who were imprisoned—something he said he really had not expected when he began the project.

"I don't think I really understood what I was doing or who was even going to care, that just was not clear to me, but I was very intrigued by it, not just because they were incarcerated, but the idea of being institutionalized, where basically the state becomes your mother figure," Davis said.

» SEE YOUTH, PG. 29



Courtesy STEVE LISS

Photographer Steve Liss documented detainees at a juvenile detention center in Laredo, Texas, and the photos were later published in his book, "No Place for Children."

Measure to pave way for Obama library, Lucas Museum surfaces in Springfield

MONIQUE GARCIA, KIM GEIGER & BILL RUTHHART

TNS Newswire

MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL has turned to state lawmakers to get some legal leverage as he tries to outflank park preservationists' opposition to two hoped-for legacy projects: the Barack Obama presidential library and the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art.

A measure to change state law to clarify that the city has the authority to build the Obama library near the University of Chicago and the Lucas Museum along the lakefront surfaced in Springfield on April 22 and was put on a fast track to reach Gov. Bruce Rauner's desk the next day.

Senate President John Cullerton argued that the bill was to make "doubly certain" the city could move forward should it win the bid for the Obama library, noting fierce competition from Columbia University in New York. Obama is expected to make an announcement on his library location in the coming weeks.

"We just want to make sure that there's no issue with regard to Chicago being able to be chosen," Cullerton said. "Obviously there were some concerns about our competition in New York having a clearer ownership issue with the land."

To that end, the proposal would amend state law to specifically allow the construction of "presidential libraries" on public parkland as long as the public can access the grounds "in a manner consistent with its access to other public parks."

The legislation also includes a clause aimed at countering a legal argument in a November lawsuit filed by Friends of the Parks challenging Emanuel's attempt to put Star Wars creator George Lucas' museum between Soldier Field and McCormick Place.

The suit contends that construction at the site would violate the public trust and asserts that the project would need the approval of state lawmakers because that land remains a protected waterway and should be preserved as natural open space. The land was part of

Lake Michigan until being filled in during the 1920s.

The Chicago Park District and the city previously argued that they do not need state approval, but Emanuel sought protections in Springfield after a federal judge recently allowed the lawsuit to advance, which raised questions about whether the Obama library could face legal hurdles, too.

The state legislation seeks to resolve those questions by stating that the Park District has the authority to lease land for a presidential library or a museum even if "located on formerly submerged land."

Patty Gerstenblith, a DePaul University law professor, said the proposed legislative language "will go pretty far toward removing any doubts" about the city's ability to promise parkland for the Lucas Museum or the Obama library.

This is because the legislation clarifies the General Assembly's view of its responsibilities under the public trust doctrine, which is a common law that is open to interpretation, Gerstenblith said.

"The state legislature always has



Courtesy TNS NEWSWIRE

The debates over the development of George Lucas' Museum of Narrative Art were taken to Springfield, Illinois.

the ability to clarify what a common law is," she said. "It's not a new enactment. I think that's important. They're just saying this is what the public trust doctrine always meant."

The legislation also makes clear that the land for museums or presidential libraries may be leased, not sold, and that the structures must be kept open to the public according to specific guidelines, including a requirement that state residents must be able to enter the structures for free at least 52 days out of the year.

"All of those things would reinforce, I think, the public nature of what they're doing there and would in all likelihood be viewed as consistent with the public trust doctrine, particularly because the legislature has the right to say what public trust doctrine means," Gerstenblith said. "Courts can come in and evaluate it, but my guess is that the courts would uphold this."

The state measure comes a day after Cassandra Francis, president of Friends of the Parks, announced

» SEE MUSEUM, PG. 29



n recent weeks, Trevor Noah, a South African comedian and the designated successor to Jon Stewart on "The Daily Show," received backlash for a series of tweets dating back to 2009.

The tweets, in which Noah alludes to Jewish and misogynistic stereotypes, have caused a stir on the websites BuzzFeed, Jezebel and Gawker. Although Noah was mostly unknown to the American public when it was announced that he would replace Stewart, the poorly constructed tweets put Noah on the home page of several news sites merely a day after the announcement.

In modern comedy, thanks to social networking websites such as Twitter and Facebook, everything a comic says becomes permanent on the Internet. Although 140-character jokes might not seem harmful, many such tweets can be damaging and may come back to haunt their writers. The permanence of what is posted online

has become part of a recent trend known as outrage culture.

Outrage culture refers to instances in which a person or group finds something offensive oftentimes irrationally—to their closely held beliefs and makes snap judgments about the overall topic. Although some comments may deserve such a reaction, in the case of a few hacky Twitter jokes, it is best to relax a bit.

Many argued Noah's tweets were in poor taste and made light of anti-Semitic stereotypes. Aaron Cohen, vice president of communications at the Jewish United Fund, said people should be able to take this type of humor in stride.

Cohen said he does not find humor in anti-Semitic jokes, but people should still be able to laugh at themselves.

"While I certainly don't appreciate anti-Semitic humor—as a matter of fact I'd say it's not humor—there is a gray area," Cohen said. "We ought to be able to make fun of ourselves and tolerate a little bit of humor.

Lenny Bruce could do it and

Woody Allen could do it. The bigger question is to collectively think very carefully about where the threshold needs to be from when we can say, 'That was a bad joke,' to 'That was a punishable, prosecutable offense."

Cultural outrage is not new in America, but social networking sites make it easier for one's voice to be heard. Because every comment a person makes is now under a microscope, it is easy to pass unwarranted judgment, Cohen said.

"Coining this as 'outrage culture,' there's something appropriate to it," Cohen said. "In place of the human interaction—and the face-to-face interaction—is this notion that every cough and sneeze that we make could be heard by the rest of

> the world and judged, often wholly out of context."

> > Choire Sicha, co-founder of the culture and current event website The Awl,

was one of many featured columnists in a 2014 Slate series on outrage culture. Sicha said there would likely be similar criticism if

he were judged based on a few old tweets he posted.

"We go through different phases," Sicha said. "There were -Trevor Noah times in my life where I've been incredibly doctrinaire or really politically uptight, and then there are times where I've been really cavalier about the way I use words. In different times of my life, I'm either going to get lionized or beaten up based on where I'm saying these things."

Although many people subscribe to the idea that what is in the past is history, there are those who

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y!" - fat chicks

do not agree. Dan Kois, culture editor at Slate, said in an email that people should seriously consider what they are about to post online if they do not want to be judged based on what they tweeted in

"Twitter is public," Kois said. "If you do not want people jumping to conclusions about you, you should consider never tweeting."

One argument raised by the outrage over Noah's tweets was the fact that, as a comedian, he has the right to poke fun at topics in mostly benign ways. Although this may be true, society and the way people perceive comedy are both changing, according to Tim Barnes, Chicago standup comedian and host of WBEZ's podcast "It's All True!"

"I think we're in a world where politics and comedy are somehow becoming of an equal level of importance because comedy does reveal some sort of truth," Barnes said. "If you end up laughing at something, it means you agree with it in a way."

Adam Frucci, editor of comedy news site Splitsider.com, said comedians are often victimized by outrage culture because they push the envelope on specific ideas.

"Comedians are always the ones that are going to get into trouble the most because they do push boundaries," Frucci said. "It's just the nature of the beast. I don't think just because you claim to be a comedian, you should get away with saying anything you want. People need to recognize context and that if you're a comedian and you're doing work, that's a lot different than making a declarative statement of your beliefs. It's just tough when things become contextualized on Twitter."

Barnes said because Stewart is stepping down and being replaced by a relatively unknown comedian, many viewers are trying to figure out who Noah is, and Twitter is one method people

Frucci said he thinks the outrage typically dies down because people eventually lose interest and find something else to criticize for a few weeks.

"If they don't get blood right away, then there's somebody else they can be offended by," Frucci said. "That outrage is entertaining and engaging, but there's always going to be something else. It's not like Trevor Noah's going to get fired from his job or Lena Dunham's going to lose 'Girls' because they made a couple of crappy jokes. When you feel like you're not getting an effect, then you're not going to keep harping on it because it becomes competitive and boring and there's always something else to get mad about."

Kois echoed Frucci's sentiments, saying people are always looking for something else to concern themselves with.

"The Internet is a very efficient outrage generator, and one reason why is that, by nature, it's extremely ephemeral," Kois said. "There are always other, fresher, hotter outrages."

Noah's tweets also sparked a conversation about his ancestry. Although he does have Jewish lineage, he does not identify as Jewish and made stereotypical Jewish jokes. A lot of times when comedians are around their peers, they speak more freely than if around people of various cultural backgrounds, Barnes said.

"If I'm offered the 'Tonight Show,' where a big part of my ratings are getting a comfortable, Midwestern audience to watch, it will become more of an issue," Barnes said. "When the show 'Black-ish' came out, the title scared me because I didn't want to go to the water cooler at work and have white people talking about the show 'Blackish.' There is something about the fear of the outsider looking into this personal space."

Sicha said he tailors what he says when he is hanging out with different groups of friends.

"It's hard to be funny because funniness

depends on an agreed upon set of things," Sicha said. "I can be funny around my gay friends in a totally different way than I can be in public. That's an OK sacrifice for me, but I'm also not a professional comedian."

Over time, outrage culture could potentially evolve into something of greater substance.

As it stands, the angry mob culture of the Internet oftentimes leads to more harm than good, and it is best to learn to deal with the criticism, Sicha said.

Adam Frucci

"People have learned to sort of ride it out in a way," Sicha said. "When people yell at you, you learn to just ignore them. It's such a human thing to be like, 'This person's freaking out on me. What do I do? Please understand me!' I've gotten this a lot, where people are like, 'You're literally wrong. You're misconstruing what I think.' I just ignore them until it goes away because it really doesn't matter. It's really worrisome if people are saying they're going to murder you or something, but you can usually let it go. That's an advanced trick. People don't learn that right away."

Cohen said it is imperative to let things run their course without rushing to judgment.

"It's important for everyone to pause, take a very deep breath, look at themselves closely in the mirror and only then pass judgment," Cohen said. "There are shades of gray in the world. This is not to excuse people who say terrible things and harbor horrible thoughts, but there is a culture of reaction that misses the point."

On occasion, outrage culture could be a good thing. When placed in the right hands, some say, cultural outrage can punish those deserving of criticism. But, when it comes down to it, perhaps it is best to loosen up and become a more understanding culture.

"We have to remain an immersive and compassionate society," Cohen said. "It's important to call out destructive comments and behavior, but we also need to foster a climate of mercy and humility. Outrage culture can be the antithesis of what it purports to bring about."

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66 It's more of the intellectual inauthenticity of it rather than being hurt, offended or thinking that any actual negative things came from these jokes."

are using to try to get to know him.

"If all we have is the Internet to figure out who Trevor Noah is, you're going to find some dirt," Barnes said. "It's nothing from a particular joke that was finished and polished that he put out on a special. On Twitter, you don't get the nuances you get through watching something live, seeing facial expressions and hearing tone. If you didn't know who Lisa Lampanelli was and read her jokes on paper, you're not getting that thing that makes it OK."

Throughout the long history of comedy, plenty of standups have made deprecating comments. Comedians such as Don Rickles made a long, iconic career out of this type of humor, but in contemporary comedy, many comics cannot afford the same luxury.

Frucci said a lot of the outrage and criticism online appears inauthentic.

"A lot of the times people are professing to be outraged, they're not actually," Frucci said. "I would be surprised if too many people were actually deeply hurt or offended by the crappy jokes that [Trevor] Noah made five years ago on Twitter. It's like, 'You're punching down and talking about marginalized groups, so you are officially a bad person, and we are offended by this.' It's more of the intellectual inauthenticity of it rather than being hurt, offended or thinking that any actual negative things came from these jokes."

Frucci's belief may be valid. Although many people reacted quickly to Noah's tweets, the attention died within a week. The same could be said about the Twitter backlash against a recent Shouts & Murmurs column "Girls" creator Lena Dunham wrote for the New Yorker in March, in which she compared Jewish boyfriends to dogs in a satirical quiz.

The Columbia Chronicle

HBO cracks down on 'Game of Thrones' watch parties

TRACY SWARTZ

TNS Newswire

IT'S NOT A nerd prom without a little disappointment. Geek Bar Beta in Chicago's trendy Wicker Park neighborhood was planning to host a blowout for the "Game of Thrones" season five premiere earlier this month.

There were going to be costumes and product giveaways and of course, televisions showing the premiere of HBO's fantasy drama. This was the first opportunity Geek Bar, which opened in October, had to show a live "Game of Thrones" episode, so the free party was promoted to attract new customers.

But it also attracted the attention of HBO, which sent a letter March 27 to Geek Bar telling the bar not to show "Game of Thrones" at its April 12 premiere party because HBO shows are not allowed to be screened in public.

"It's like they're thumbing their noses at geeks," Geek Bar owner David Zoltan said. "The geeks are the core audience. Without the geeks, 'Game of Thrones' would have never gotten this far."

Geek Bar is not the only establishment to be told "Game" over. HBO has been cracking down on bars that have aired episodes of its bloody drama, including a Brooklyn bar that received a cease-and-desist letter from HBO last week, according to media reports.

HBO spokesman Jeff Cusson said in a statement that HBO is a paid subscription service that "should not be made available in public establishments. When it does happen, it is of particular concern when there is an attempt by such places to profit off of [HBO's] programming."

The war between HBO and bars is not new but has recently become heated as HBO has battled piracy of the popular "Game of Thrones," which drew a record 8 million viewers for the season five premiere. A decade ago, HBO sent cease-and-desist letters to bars and restaurants, including some in Chicago, that showed "The Sopranos."

Northwestern University associate law professor Peter DiCola, who specializes in music copyright law, said it is HBO's right to threaten penalties because screenings of the show at bars can be considered unauthorized public performances, which are illegal under federal law.

"You can have friends over [to watch the show] but when you're at a bar with people, many of whom are strangers, that's different," Di-Cola said. "If you're a bar owner, your disagreement is with Congress, not with HBO."

But Zoltan said his beef is with HBO. He said the cease-and-desist letter was a "huge surprise" because "Game of Thrones" is so entrenched in geek culture. Despite the letter, multiple "Game of Thrones" posters decorate the walls and windows of Geek Bar.

"We love the show, and it's part of what the people are talking about in the bar," Zoltan said.

On Sundays, Geek Bar closes for a private event at 8 p.m. Eastern, which is the time "Game of Thrones" airs, Zoltan said. The bar stops serving food and drink. As to whether "Game of Thrones" is screened at the bar, Zoltan is coy.

"What happens at that private event is anybody's guess," Zoltan said. "We have to be very careful. We can't afford to fight HBO's legal team."

It is unclear how many Chicago bars show "Game of Thrones" to their customers. Sean Loftus, bartender at Burlington in Chicago, said the bar hosts "Game of Thrones" watch parties every Sunday. One party even went viral last year after Loftus videotaped the bar's reaction to a particularly gruesome death.

Loftus said he thought the screenings are legal because the bar does not charge a cover fee for the party and the TV's screen is smaller than 55 inches, but HBO rules do not mention anything about TV size. Loftus did not respond to requests for further comment.

HBO's legal tactics have scared off at least one bar owner. Fat Cat owner Cy Oldham said she tried to get HBO a few years ago to show "Game of Thrones" at her Chicago



Associated Press

 $Peter\ Dinklage\ stars\ in\ HBO's\ "Game\ of\ Thrones,"\ which\ drew\ 8\ million\ viewers\ for\ its\ fifth\ season\ premiere.$

bar but was told by her DirecTV representative that bars are not allowed to have HBO.

For those bars that do show "Game of Thrones," Frank Janisch has some advice: "Have good lawyers."

Janisch, former owner of Frankie J's, used to host elaborate "Sopranos" watch parties at his Chicago restaurant until HBO told him to stop.

Janisch said he ducked HBO representatives for as long as he could, and once he received the cease-and-desist letter by fax, he stopped showing the HBO mob drama immediately.

"Them slamming the door on me really stung me pretty good," said Janisch, who now lives in Arizona. "Literally, HBO whacked me.

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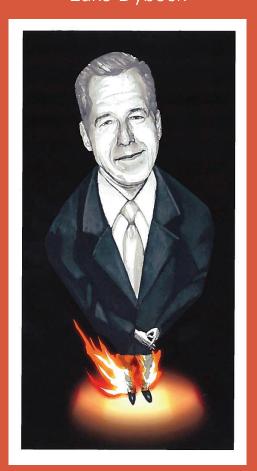
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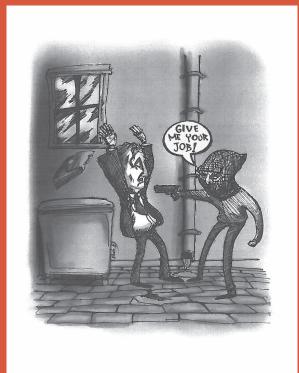
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POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST

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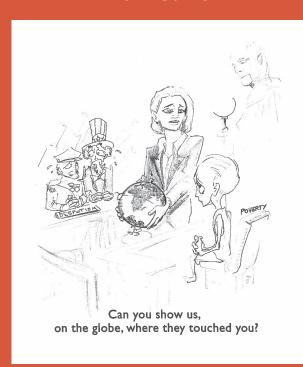
Second PlaceRoberto Gutierrez
Vazquez



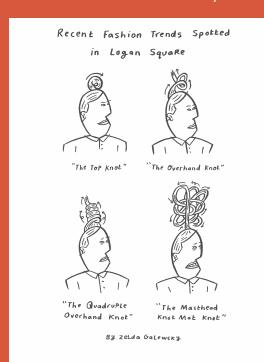
Third Place Vincent Kao



Honorable Mention #1 Liam Garner



Honorable Mention #2 Zelda Galewsky





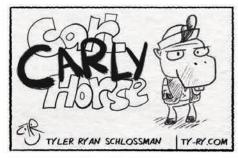
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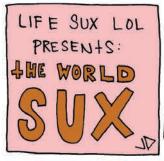








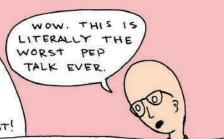


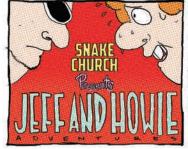






ON, MAN. THINK ABOUT ALL BOUT ALL THE PEOPLE WORSE OFF THAN YOU. CHILDREN DYING IN AFRICA FROM AIDS. HOMOSEXUALS WORSE FF THAN YOU. DYING IN AFRICA BEING MURDERED RUSSIA. THE CONSTANT RELIGIOUS FIGHTING IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE WORLD IS SO MESSED UP. YOUR LITTLE PROBLEMS ARE INCREDIBLY INSIGNIFICANT!





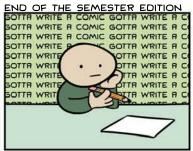


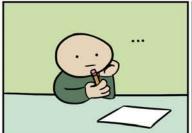


























THE TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

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- 13 Brian Williams or Scott Pelley

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- 24 Woody Guthrie's son
 25 1970s carpet style
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 Remini
- 28 Seeger or Sampras 29 Dog on "The Thin Man" 30 "The __ Red Line"; film for Sean
- Penn and Jim Caviezel
 "__ Guys, a Girl and a Pizza
 Place"
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- 38 Earp and his namesakes 40 Actor Rob and his family
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 15 "Deal __ Deal"
 17 180 from SSW

- 19 Like Yul Brynner and Mr. Clean 20 Smell __; suspect trickery
- 22 Zone
 23 "__ Harry Met Sally..."
 25 "__ City"; series for Michael J.
 Fox
- 26 "Master and Commander: The
 __ Side of the World"; war movie for Russell Crowe
- 27 "I came, __ conquered"; Caesar's cry
- 30 Carryalls
- 31 Hawaiian entertainer Don and others
- 33 Songbirds 34 Surgeons' places, for short 36 Part of a ticket
- 37 Soft drink 39 Cleopatra's downfall
- 40 Boy

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

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DIFFICULTY: ★★★☆



'Ex Machina' a masterful sci-fi film experience

MAX GINKEL

Film Critic

"EX MACHINA" IS the story of an artificial intelligence named Eva played by Alicia Vikander ("A Royal Affair," "Seventh Son"), who was built by young genius Nathan Bateman, played by Oscar Isaac ("Balibo"). Bateman, whose tech prodigy archetype has been seen many times before, is the CEO of search engine company Bluebook. One of his employees, Caleb, played by Domhnall Gleeson ("Unbroken"), is "randomly selected" to visit Bateman's es-

tate for one week. Caleb soon learns the real reason for visiting is to test Eva's compatibility.

The simplicity of the film's premise allows for the complex themes to grow. With one location and four characters—including Bateman's silent servant Kyoko—the audience spends a significant amount of time focusing on the principal concepts.

The movie takes advantage of this format from the start. Upon Caleb's arrival, Bateman tells him to move past the awkward working relationship. Bateman is asking the same of the audience: they should move past the need for exposition and get straight to the heart of the matter. There are no lofty explanations, just a setup and release.

Per Bateman's instructions, Caleb performs the Turing Test on Eva, meaning if—despite him knowing otherwise—he believes her consciousness to be real, she passes the test. This reveals that a trick is being played, but it slowly becomes unclear on whom. The extremely rewarding element of this setup is that regardless of Caleb being fully aware of the objectives of the test, the wool is slowly pulled

over his eyes. In a masterful execution, it becomes indiscernible who is lying, and the film's dark psychological tone begins to unfold.

"Ex Machina" works fabulously in the science-fiction genre. The film is steeped heavily in the language of sci-fi, with references to Alan Turing and J. Robert Oppenheimer and everything in between. Visually, it is sleek and modern, with the technology of Bateman's world stepping into every frame. It also features man's intellect as both the protagonist and antagonist, with the power inspiring both awe and fear. "Ex Machina" also asks some poignant questions regarding the meta-cognition of artificial intelligence. Simply put, there are computers that function on a basic level, programmed for specific tasks that they complete. Then there are computers aware of their own cognition and consciousness. They can determine their own tasks and respond to surroundings, but they can also pass judgment, come to conclusions and even make jokes. They surpass human cognition in ability and awareness. There is a possible third option, a gray area, in which Eva lies.

In describing American painter Jackson Pollock's work, Bateman says it is neither random nor planned, but somewhere in between. This is a perfect description of Eva's capabilities. She is aware of her own consciousness, yet only

within the confines of the information available to her. She exists within the confines of her structure but just outside of it. She is a product of her design, yet she defies it.

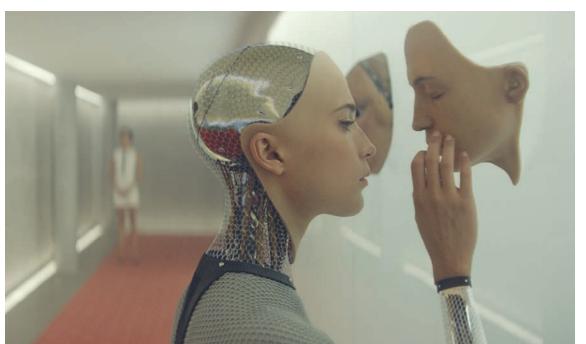
Despite its sci-fi focus, the film includes nature imagery. Bateman's estate is in the middle of a gorgeous landscape, one that crowds the facility. The audience is frequently brought out of discussions on artificial intelligence and whirring motors and sleek white walls to be flown through ice caps and lush forests. It contrasts so perfectly that it's beautifully refreshing.

Eva's hands and face are synthetic skin that seem real, yet her torso is a glass window into the inner workings of her artificial body. Although her movement and performance feel human, her design is a constant reminder that she is not.

One of the rougher elements in the film is the dialogue, especially at the beginning. It feels so forced and contrived because of Gleeson's performance—he's clearly the weakest link. His lines are stuffy and pretentious. Isaac and Vikander are terrifically haunting and mesmerizing.

"Ex Machina" is a gorgeous look into the psyche of man and machines. It is a dark psychological thriller that plays with the audience in just the right ways. Not all of its elements are wholly original, but in the end, it offers food for thought.

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Courtesy EPK.TV

Oscar Isaac and Alicia Vikander star in "Ex Machina," a film about a programmer who takes part in an experiment with a female robot who takes on human-like qualities.

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Lady Lamb's latest album turns dreams into personal music

SPENCER HALL

Arts & Culture Reporter

AS A TEENAGER growing up in Maine, Aly Spaltro worked the late shift at a video store so she could record her music in the basement. Better known as Lady Lamb, Spaltro preferred the seclusion of a video store basement as her music and lyrics possess a similar intimate quality.

Lady Lamb-formerly known as Lady Lamb the Beekeeper-goes one step further with her latest album, After. The record is Lady Lamb's first label release, which she produced with producer and friend Nadim Issa, whom she met after moving to Brooklyn. After receiving acclaim from publications such as Rolling Stone and Paste, Lady Lamb is ready to take her rightful place in the spotlight. She is currently touring and playing sold-out shows across the country, including a sold-out May 6 show at Schubas Tavern, 3159 N. Southport Ave.

The Chronicle spoke with Lady Lamb about her name, getting signed to a label and touring.

THE CHRONICLE: How did you come up with the name Lady Lamb?

LADY LAMB: When I was 18, I kept a notebook by my bed. I would write down lyrics in the middle of the night and it was just something written in my notebook when I woke up one morning. It was right around the time I had some recordings that I wanted to share, so I chose [it] as my moniker.

You recently shortened your name to Lady Lamb. What motivated you to make that change?

I just felt a little disconnected to the full name. It's been a long time, and



Courtesy PITCH PERFECT PR

Aly Spaltro-who shortened her stage name from Lady Lamb the Beekeeper to Lady Lamb earlier this year-received critical acclaim for her latest album release, After. I was really young when I came up with it. Over time, I felt more connected to just the front half [of the name], so I chose to abbreviate.

Could you talk a little bit about your early songwriting?

I worked the closing shift at this little [video] store in my hometown and I would throw my gear there and record, practice and write late at night into the morning. I worked there for four years and I basically made music the entire time.

What has the working relationship been like with your producer, Nadim Issa, through the years?

We did a cover together that was going to come out on this New York blog after I moved there in 2012. I went in and did the cover with him and we really hit it off. A couple months later, I asked him if he'd want to work on [Ripely Pine] with me. Now, this new one [After] we produced together in the studio again. We just have a great partnership. He really knows what I'm going for and he helps me get to

that place.

What has it been like being part of a record label rather than self-releasing your work?

It's really great. It's a small team that is really dedicated, and they have a lot of time to commit to each artist. There is very personal attention. I'm really happy with them.

If you were not able to make it as a musician, what other career would you like to pursue?

I would probably want to be doing something with film-primarily editing. I really enjoy editing. I feel like maybe that's something that I might have gotten into at some point.

You were recently featured in Rolling Stone Magazine and have gotten more publicity for your latest release, After. What has the boost in popularity been like?

It's been a steady progression since the last [album], so I can't complain. People are starting to catch on, which I really appreciate. It's been a really steady build for me, but I've definitely gotten more people on board—more people are hearing the music for the first time. I'm really happy with the progression.

You are currently on tour and will be stopping in Chicago on May 6. What has it been like playing for fans who know all of your songs?

It's been really good. It's surprising every night to see a lot of people singing along and seeing everybody looking really excited and happy. A lot of the shows have sold out. I couldn't ask for much more.

shall@chroniclemail.com

STAFF PLAYLIST

"Soundtrack to your life"



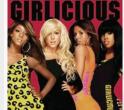
Stephanie Goldberg, Assistant Faculty Adviser

AI LASI Etta James A LOVE SUPREME John Coltrane RHAPSODY IN BLUE George Gershwin WHERE IS MY MIND Pixies TAKE ME TO THE RIVER Al Green



Meg Bennett, Campus Reporter

OXFORD COMMA Vampire Weekend UNBREAKABLE The Gregory Brothers & Mike Britt CHICAGO Frank Sinatra **B---H BETTER HAVE MY MONEY** Rihanna A THOUSAND MILES Vanessa Carlton



Natalie Craig, Managing Editor

LIKE ME Girlicious **ABOUT THE MONEY** T.I. feat. Young Thug PERFECT IMPERFECTION Kevin Gates ONE IN A MILLION PARTYNEXTDOOR **GOOD** Sonny Digital



Ethan Stocking-Anderson, Office Assistant

THE MOMENT OF CONCEPTION David Byrne **FOOL'S GOLD** The Stone Roses CHIPS DOWN (IN NO LANDFILL) Cody ChesnuTT **DEAD OR IN SERIOUS TROUBLE** Kaiser Chiefs THE NEW SOMA STS9



Katherine Davis, Associate Editor

FIX YOU UP Tegan and Sara **BLOOD ON THE LEAVES Kanve West WEST COAST** Lana Del Rev **COOL** Gwen Stefani **GREENS AND BLUES Pixies**



Baxter Barrowcliff, Arts & Culture Editor

STOP BREAKING DOWN The White Stripes **SO WHAT** Miles Davis **NIGHT MOVES** Bob Seger I JUST WASN'T MADE FOR THESE TIMES The Beach Boys **AUTUMN IN NEW YORK** Charlie Parker

Sound OFF

Taylor Swift and Kanye West finally 'Shake It Off'

NEARLY SIX YEARS after the infamous MTV Video Music Awards at which Kanye West interrupted Taylor Swift's award acceptance speech, the two powerhouses have allegedly developed a revitalized, friendly relationship.

Rumblings of the brewing friendship started back in February after West and Swift were seen chatting it up at the 2015 Grammy Awards, and the whispers were revived again when an April 24 Glamour U.K. article finally revealed Swift's candid thoughts on the matter.

"We actually, I guess, could be called friends now!" she told Glamour U.K. "I honestly think I needed to continue to prove myself in my career and I think it finally got to a place where he realized he respected what I do as a musician."

As surprising as the new friendly union may seem, it's been a long time coming. Back in 2009, Kanye might have had a hard time respecting Swift's work and may have simply seen her as an amateur artist who needed time to mature.

However, now that she has done so, he has come around to the idea of giving her credit where it's due, while she has come around to the idea of understanding that holding grudges won't get her anywhere in

the music industry. Some critics may claim the entire image of the budding friendship is a gimmick, but as a fan of both of the music artists, I think it's time we celebrate the two stars making amends, and what better way to do so than by reflecting on Swift's songs-new and old—that perfectly describe the long, rocky road the pair has overcome?

1."Mean," released in 2011 off of Speak Now. This song was introduced as part of Swift's third studio album and was said to be a shout out to her many critics at the time. "Someday I'll be livin' in a big ol' city/ And all you're ever gonna be is mean," Swift sang in her old country accent. While it was never confirmed she was complaining about West's meanness, we can all make whatever inferences about the lyrics that we like. I doubt most people would consider West "mean," but Swift was correct in predicting her eventual move to New York.

2."We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together," released in **2012 off of** *Red.* While the lyrics in this song, "We are never ever ever getting back together"-seemingly repeated 100 times—suggest that a more romantic relationship is being referenced, it accurately



describes the tension that immediately followed the 2009 VMAs and lingered heavily for the next couple of vears.

3."Shake It Off." released in **2014 off of 1989.** This dance-y, carefree track has a stark contrast from the previously listed singles, and with good reason. As Taylor sings, "Cause the players gonna play, play, play/ And the haters gonna hate, hate, hate/Baby, I'm just gonna shake, shake, shake/ Shake it off," it's nearly impossible not to feel empowered to shake it off. I'm sure Swift's power to write such an uplifting song helped lead to her and West letting go of all the negativity that surrounded their frenemy relationship for years.

ksenese@chroniclemail.com



Monday, April 27

COASTS

Lincoln Hall 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 27

KIESZA

Metro 3730 N. Clark St. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 29

HURRAY FOR THE RIFF RAFF

Lincoln Hall 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 8 p.m. \$15, 21+

Thursday, April 30 STU LARSEN & **NATSUKI KURAI**

Schubas Tavern 3159 N. Southport Ave. 8 p.m. \$12, 21+



Chicago Theatre 175 N. State St. 7:30 p.m. \$58

Thursday, April 30

SPEEDY ORTIZ

Empty Bottle 1035 N. Western Ave. 9 p.m. \$13 Adv., \$15 Day of

Friday, May 1

BRENDAN KELLY

Double Door 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 6 p.m. \$10 Adv., \$12 Day of

Friday, May 1

MOS DEF

Metro 3730 N. Clark St. 9 p.m.

Saturday, May 2

NATURAL CHILD

Empty Bottle 1035 N. Western Ave. 9 p.m. \$12

CHECK ME OUT



ELIZABETH PISKORSKI Freshman early childhood education major

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO WEAR ON RAINY DAYS?

"Bright colors and polka dots."



KOBE JORDON Senior art + design major

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO WEAR ON RAINY DAYS? "A blue sweater."





AMANDA ASTROTH

Junior fashion studies major

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO WEAR ON RAINY DAYS? "A trench coat, fashionable umbrella, short ankle boots and a floppy hat."





JEREMY VASOUEZ Sophomore advertising major

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO WEAR ON RAINY DAYS?

"I don't dress for the weather."













'Grand Theft Auto V' presents new problems for series

COLIN MCINERNEY

Contributing Writer

"GRAND THEFT AUTO V," the latest in Rockstar Games' "Grand Theft Auto" series, has been re-released for PC platforms. Arguably the best version of the game for its adjustable graphics settings on PC, it retains features such as first-person mode. The game will leave players with no shortage of tasks, but it is ultimately a cluttered and confusing experience.

"Grand Theft Auto" started as a game with a focus on stealing cars, shooting at people and generally causing mayhem. To the layman or concerned parent, this is probably the description of every subsequent "Grand Theft Auto" release. With the jump from "Grand Theft Auto III," the series took a dramatic shift not only in its perspective, but also in its approach to the core mechanics.

The jump from 2D bird's-eye view to 3D third-person view was made possible because of the release of the PlayStation 2 game system. Because of the higher fidelity graphics and increased storage space on PS2 discs, Rockstar was able to form a coherent story to support its mechanics. No longer were players completing various tasks around a map and being encouraged to simply cause mayhem. Instead they were shooting gangsters, exploring the city and being given

context for the world they explored in the game.

The focus on the story expanded as the series continued, leading "Grand Theft Auto V" to now include three protagonists.

However, the refocusing of the story has caused the original mechanics-driving, shooting and blowing things up-to lose their luster. Driving is no longer something you do to earn points. It is simply a method of getting from one mission to another. Missions primarily take place in isolated corridors full of shooting gallery-style segments that are never revisited. By trying to tackle so much, the series failed to truly innovate in any of the areas it should have. The design of the game is surprisingly similar to that of Japanese games due to its mini-game format.

The game's creators also made the mistake of thinking the story is groundbreaking. Players can switch through three male protagonists at any time: Michael, the sensible ex-criminal bored with his family life, Franklin, the gangster who just wants to get out of the hood, and Trevor, the insane man who wants to kill and have sex with just about everything at the same time. The aspect that disappoints most, aside from stereotypical characters, is that the creators seem to have had the idea it is a satire.

This problem can be summed up by the game's infamous torture



Courtesy ROCKSTARGAMES.COM

The "Grand Theft Auto" video game series by Rockstar Games, known for its use of violence and mayhem, returns to gamers with a re-release of the fifth installment for PCs.

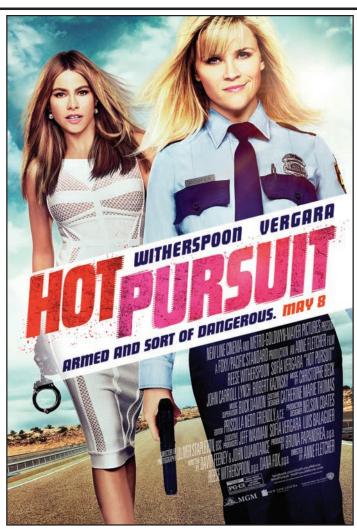
scene. Trevor proceeds to beat someone up for information, but gains almost nothing in doing so. The scene is incredibly traumatic, hard to watch and play through and is even more visceral and uncomfortable when played in first-person mode. The impact of the scene is lost, however, when Trevor drives the injured man to the airport, ranting about how torture is completely useless as a mode of interrogation. The one time the game is successfully satirical through its mechanics, it is overdone. Every

other instance of satire is used with a ham-fisted delivery that could only really appeal to those with a poor sense of humor.

For those who like open-world sandbox games, the mechanics are still sound and the inclusion of "GTA Online" alone makes "GTAV" worth picking up for a reduced price. "GTA Online" allows users to play together, bringing the game's focus back to the mayhem of simply driving around, robbing stores and shooting other players—the game's saving grace.

Longtime fans of the series wanting a game that exemplifies what game culture used to be will eat their hearts out. Anyone even remotely involved in the indie scene will want to give "GTAV" a pass. It is incredibly polished, has insane production value, is absolutely beautiful to look at and has some fun aspects to it, but scratching anywhere past the surface reveals that the paint is spread incredibly thin throughout this game.

chronicle@colum.edu



SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING TUESDAY, MAY 5 - 7:00PM

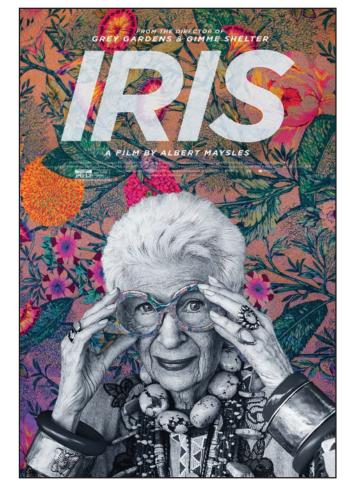
STOP BY THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE OFFICES
33 EAST CONGRESS, SUITE 224, CHICAGO, IL 60605
TO GET A PASS FOR TWO WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

THIS FILM IS BATED PG-13 FOR SEXUAL CONTENT, VIOLENCE, LANGUAGE AND SOME DRUG MATERIAL SCREENING passes valid strictly for Columbia College Chicago students with a valid student ID, staff, and faculty only and are distributed at the discretion of the promotional partner. Those that have received a screening passe or promotional part within the last Od days are not eligible. Please note; passes are limited and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis while supplies last. No phone calls, please. Limit one pass per person. Each pass admits two. Seating is not guaranteed, Arrive early. Theater is not responsible for overbooking. This screening will be monitored for unauthorized recording, you agree not to bring any audio or video recording device into the theater (audio recording devices for credentialed press excepted) and consent to a physical search of your belongings and person. Any attempted use of recording devices will result in immediate removal from the theater, forfeiture, and may subject you to criminal and civil liability. Please allow additional time for heightened security, You can assist us by leaving all nonessential bags at home or in your vehicle.

IN THEATERS MAY 8
HotPursuitMovie.com #HotPursuit



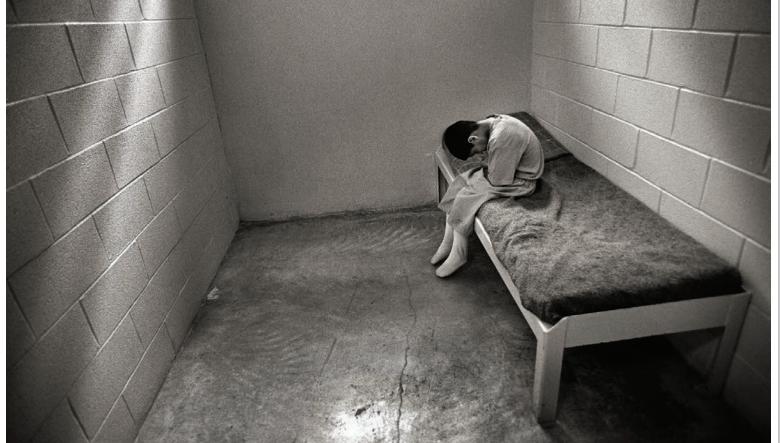
ADVANCE SCREENING



STOP BY THE OFFICES OF THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE LOCATED AT 33 EAST CONGRESS, SUITE 224 • CHICAGO FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A PASS FOR TWO TO THE SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING ON MONDAY, MAY 4.

No purchase necessary. One pass per person. Screening passes valid strictly for Columbia College Chicago students, staff, and faculty only and are distributed at the discretion of the promotional partner. Those that have received a screening pass or promotional prize within the last 90 days are not eligible IRIS has been rated "PG-13" for some strong language.

OPENS EXCLUSIVELY AT THE MUSIC BOX THEATRE ON MAY 15



Courtesy STEVE LISS

During his time in Laredo, Texas, Steve Liss said he took photos for more than two years and nearly all of the parents of the detainees allowed him to use photos of their children to expose the tragedy of juvenile detention in the U.S.

» YOUTH Continued from PG. 19

Steve Liss, a longtime photographer for Time magazine and a former professor of photography at Columbia, whose photographs from his book, "No Place For Children," are featured in the exhibit, participated in "Try Youth As Youth" after fellow photographer Carlos Ortiz introduced him to David Weinberg Photography. Liss said he was not

pleased with the outcome of the exhibit because he did not think the subjects of the photos were meant to be art.

"[There's] an exploited nature to it, these kids are not art," Liss said. "They don't belong in a gallery, they don't belong in a museum. These are real lives and real people who have entrusted me to tell their story, and I don't want people with opera glasses and a monocle to come in and say, 'Oh, look at the light and

the lines,' that's bulls--t, I'm very clear that I don't want to work with a gallery ever again."

Liss, whose work in the exhibit dates back to the time he spent photographing a juvenile detention center in Laredo, Texas, said it was his intention to take the photographs in order to produce a conversation for social change, something he said the exhibit would not accomplish.

"I don't think this is an effective

way to bring about a social change," Liss said. "I think all too often you are preaching to the choir, those who probably agree with everything they see and are probably shocked by it, but the question in my post-Time magazine life is I have been trying to use media to stimulate [is] to advocate social change, and I don't think this is an effective way to do it."

bbarrow cliff @chronic lemail.com

» MUSEUM Continued from PG. 19

she was stepping down. The group's board chair, Lauren Moltz, declined to comment. The group's attorney, Thomas Geoghegan, said he is reviewing the proposal.

The Emanuel administration said the state measure "makes it very clear" that the city can legally proceed with construction of the Lucas Museum and a potential Obama presidential library on city parkland, pending the usual City Hall and City Council approvals.

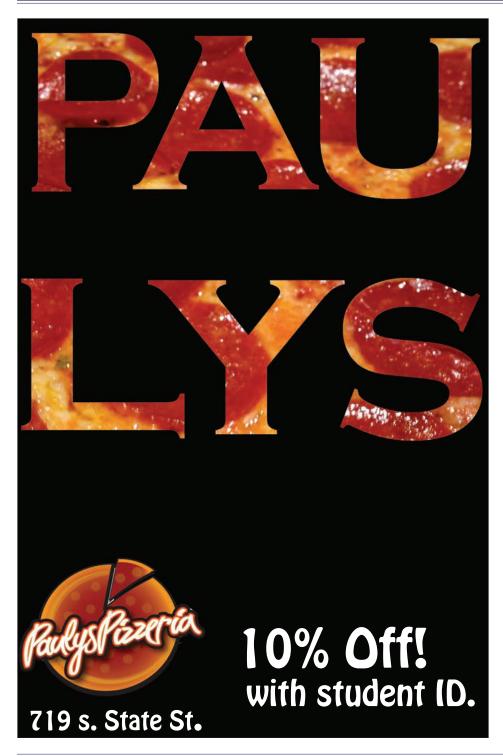
"This amendment simply reaffirms that presidential libraries and other museums—like the Field, Shedd, Adler and Lucas—have the legal right to be constructed and operate on park land for the benefit of the public," Emanuel spokeswoman Kelley Quinn said in an email.

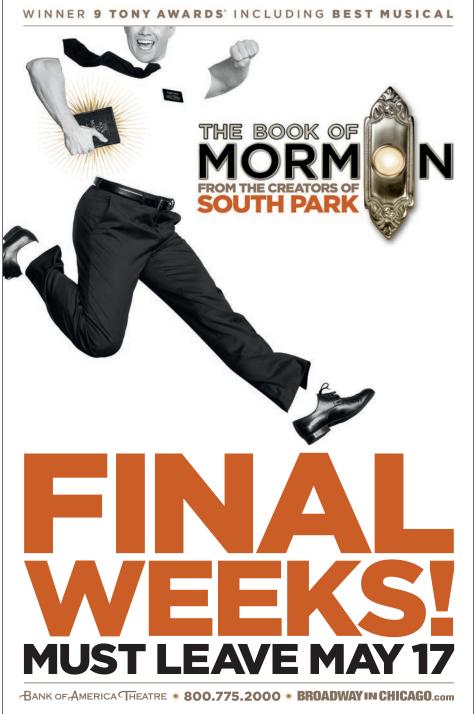
The Barack Obama Foundation called the state legislation a "welcome development."

"The foundation supports any and all steps that the city and the state of Illinois take to strengthen proposed sites for a future presidential center in Chicago," the organization said in a statement.

The measure made it through a Senate committee without debate on April 22 and was approved the following day. The plan is now at Rauner's desk and his office declined to comment on whether he will sign it into law, according to an April 23 Tribune report.

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BLOG: "Instructables"

Have you ever wanted to learn how to do something? Have you ever wanted

to learn how to do something and then forgot about it because you were too busy thinking of other things you'd like to learn how to do? Instructables is the perfect website for all your how-to needs. Jam packed with all the DIY instructions you'll probably ever need, this site lets you make what you want, share what you made and even compete with others for prizes. Get to making!

Check it out at: www.instructables.com



VIDEO: "Amy" trailer

Director Asif Kapadia has released the first trailer for "Amy"—a docu-

mentary about the life and career of Amy Winehouse. Published to YouTube April 2, the trailer compiles clips from home movies of Winehouse singing as she grew up overdubbed with audio from interviews and haunting, slowed down versions of "Back to Black" and "Tears Dry on Their Own." With interviews providing insight directly from Winehouse herself, this documentary is a must-see for fans.

Check it out at: www.youtube.com/user/A24Films



THINGS PEOPLE DO IN THE OFFICE THAT SCARE ME

Stand behind my chair: Some people stand behind my chair while I—oblivious to the world—will not see or hear them for several minutes at a time. When they finally decide to talk or, even worse, push the back of my chair, I have a miniature heart attack. While some of my colleagues—notably Spencer Hall—think this is hilarious, I disagree.

Call my phone: As someone who is easily scared by sudden sounds, my work phone ringing is usually a terrifying experience. I hear that ringtone so much that it haunts me everywhere I go—my apartment, my nightmares, etc.—and once I see the call is coming from inside the office, the paranoid side of me automatically assumes I'm going to be fired.

Say the words "spell check": Production days typically have me on edge with making sure my pages are perfect, but when I hear the words "spell check" screamed across the room from our normally timid copy chief, Abbas, after long periods of silence, it frightens me to the core.

Jake reaching for his Post-it notes: Being the nosy person I am, I will usually look over at what my editor is writing when he is editing my stories on Thursday mornings. Jake getting his Post-it notes out while staring at my hard copy usually means a big edit is coming my way; one that cannot be placed easily on paper and also involves a lot of crossing out and asterisks. This is a scary thought.

Use the microwave: With the recent relocation of the microwave to its new home right behind my desk, there is a lot of foot traffic from all over the office of people heating up their food. Because I cannot see my colleagues coming, the constant beeps and slamming of the microwave door makes me jump in my chair about 10 times a day. Can't everyone just eat their Ramen noodles and Hot Pockets uncooked for one day? That would be great.



Lauren Kostiuk Campus Reporter

REASONS OLIVIA POPE IS MY SPIRIT ANIMAL

Queen of red wine: Only Olivia Pope can drink red wine while sitting on a white couch in a white cashmere-silk outfit from head to toe. She practically defies the laws of gravity. So thank you, Olivia, for restoring my faith that I am not alone on this constant quest for wine and that there is no harm in enjoying a glass—or 10—of God's gift to humanity.

Master of throwing shade: "It's handled" is the most classic Olivia Pope one-liner of all time. She knows throwing shade is an art form, and it must be pitched perfectly. Thanks to her, I mastered how to survive living with four girl roommates in a small city apartment with only one bathroom. Yeah, it was pretty bad.

Wears the pants (metaphorically and literally): Let's face it—when Olivia wears pantsuits, even Hillary Clinton's pantsuits get jealous. She doesn't just arrive in the most stylish pants ever, but she is also the best professional "fixer" around, constantly coming to the rescue. She sets goals and executes them. She is the perfect example of Sheryl Sandberg's motto "lean in." She is not afraid to tell it how it is.

Embodies the meaning of "white hat": Referencing the white hats law-abiding citizens typically wear in old Western movies, Olivia's white hat represents all that is admirable and honorable. She does what is right, no matter how hard it is. She trusts her gut, and her gut is never wrong.

Always looking chic: Whether she is in the office wearing a chic pantsuit and Louboutins or silky pjs and a cozy cardigan, Olivia is always looking like a solid 10. She represents everything there is about business chic and what it means to invest in a great jacket—investing in a great jacket is life changing. She not only wears the best outfits in Washington D.C., but she also knows just how to rock them to make everyone stop for a double take.



Sam Vinton Campus Reporter

REASONS I KEEP UP WITH THE KARDASHIANS

I am in love with Scott Disick: My usual rule of thumb is that I'm not interested in men who are more high-maintenance than I am. This rules out the majority of potential celebrity crushes and a significant portion of the general public, but I'll make an exception for Lord Disick. It's not that I find him particularly attractive or that he has a winning personality, it's his sarcastic attitude and over-the-top schemes (see Todd Kraines) that steal my heart during every episode. That being said, I'm confident that if I ever met him in real life, these feelings would disappear instantly.

My mom is Kris Jenner: They're both petite, have the same haircut and the same affinity for leopard-print accessories. But aside from appearances, there are a lot of reasons watching Kris interact with her daughters reminds me of the relationship that my mom has with my sister and me.

"It's me! Todd Kraines!": The Todd Kraines prank is the Kardashian family inside joke that all true fans are in on. It's my most-watched video on YouTube and go-to source of entertainment during long nights at the office. I'll admit that I've tried calling my sister several times on a blocked number pretending to be Todd Kraines.

My selection of reaction GIFs is prime: To me, there are few things more satisfying than sending the perfect GIF to fit the mood, and the Kardashians are my primary source of material. Most of the content is too explicit to print, but the supply of eye-rolls is virtually limitless.

It's empowering: There's something truly inspirational about a family building its entire empire on the foundation of a sex tape. It's not a path that I would choose for myself, but I'm genuinely impressed with the family's ability to capitalize on the essential human need for trashy TV and materialism. Sure, it's a little shallow, but they also dress their children in clothes that cost more than my tuition.



Kaitlin Hetterscheidt THE CHRONICLE

Damien Rice, an Irish singer-songwriter, performed My Favourite Faded Fantasy, his first collection of material in nearly eight years, on April 14 at the Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy. After his time away from the spotlight, Rice kicked off his worldwide tour on March 31.

REVIEWS



No-just... no.



Uhmmm, WTF?



It's whatever.





-ratings

SCREEN



"The Messengers" series premiere A spin-off of the 2007 film of the same name starring Kristen Stewart, "The Messengers" is the most recent CW show and reeks of its typ-

ical made-for-horny-teens style. An admittedly gorgeous cast does not make up for the cookie-cutter End-of-Days concept. - T. Eagle













"Once Upon A Time" season 4

"Once" is on point as it nears its season finale. The inclusion of some of the more nefarious villainesses was television gold, and the move is clearly paying off as the production and direction of the show are appearing revitalized, setting the stage for a strong fifth season. - T. Eagle











"Jane The Virgin" season 1

The series started strong with a whimsical debut and story, but as its freshman season comes to a close, "Jane's" newly introduced love square is clearly indicative of tragic writing on the horizon. The show is going in a sugary, craptastic direction. - T. Eagle











"Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" trailer

Leaked online days before its IMAX premiere, the trailer for DC's soon-to-be blockbuster delivers a compelling look into the much-awaited superhero flick. Entertaining and stylish, it shows that the film is going to surpass "Man of Steel." - T. Eagle

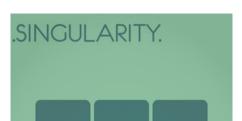








APPS & TECH



Singularity

This new app is the latest in a slew of puzzle games that have been dumped in the app store. Trying to capitalize on the visual specs of high quality tablets and smartphones, the game falls flat and lacks in substance what it has in design. - T. Eagle















BLACK

This app lets selfie-takers and smartphone photographers add a black and white filter to their camera. Though Instagram and a dozen other apps provide the same service, BLACK delivers a professional look and allows the user to add some additional effects. - T. Eagle













Wattpad

The concept-providing free ebooks-is enterprising, but the interface fails and appears as a slightly more interactive version of a basic Kindle. Though there is plenty of content, users can find just as many stories on the iBooks app, making it a little obsolete. - T. Eagle











Google's mobile-friendly push

Google is now filtering search results from mobile devices to ensure that users get a better experience when searching on their phones or tablets. Websites with non-mobile friendly pages will be pushed farther down in the results, which is more effective. - J. Hinchcliffe



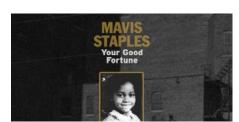








MUSIC



Your Good Fortune by Mavis Staples

Chicago Gospel legend from the Staple Singers Mavis Staples teamed up with Jeff Tweedy once again, but this time recorded EP Your Good Fortune, featuring the haunting yet soulful track of the same name. This bluesy, retro-soul track is great. - B. Barrowcliff















Untethered Moon by Built to Spill

Built to Spill returns after nine years of no releases with this new album. It fits right in with the collective work of these indie-rock kings who got their start back in the early '90s, but the album eradicates any potential staleness with its high energy and guitar jam-oriented sound. - B. Barrowcliff













Cherry Bomb by Tyler, The Creator

When I found out that one of my favorite artists, Tyler, the Creator, was coming out with a new album, I could hardly contain my excitement. Songs like "Cherry Bomb" capture Tyler's rambunctious style with a loud bass and fiery lyrics, making for an enjoyable listen. - B. Martinez





RANDOM











"Snake Eyes" by Mumford and Sons

Mumford and Sons went electric on its newest single, "Snake Eyes." The banjo-less track features a heavier sound from the British folkies-and it somehow works. It's nice to see a band evolving rather than sticking to the same old sound. – S. Hall









April 27, 2015 • 31



"All New X-Men" #40

Leaked days before its debut, the latest "New X-Men" features the coming-out story of Bobby Drake's Iceman. Though Iceman is not the first superhero to come out as gay, he is arguably the most-well known. Marvel Comics tackles the issue well. - T. Eagle



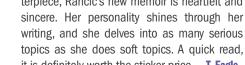














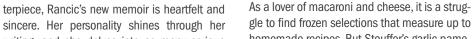


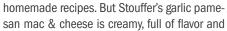
"Going Off Script" by Giuliana Rancic

While not a cerebral thriller or a literary mas-









totally satisfying. – K. Davis



Stouffer's Garlic Parmesan

mac & cheese









Carmex

I hate to admit it, but my lips get crusty at times. But that's why I use Carmex, the best lip balm on planet Earth. Creamy and soothing, Carmex moisturizes lips even during the driest moments, making it a staple in my beauty regime. - K. Davis





NATIONAL EDITORIAL

METRO EDITORIAL

Gallup poll reveals truths about higher education

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF a higher education seems undeniable. Children are taught at a young age that attending college and getting a degree is crucial to getting a good job, which in turn leads to a good life or a higher quality of living. This is drilled into American students from k-3 to the end of high school, resulting in millions of students attending college each year hoping to achieve their elusive dreams.

A majority of people strongly agrees with this idea, according to the Lumina Foundation's recent Gallup poll "Postsecondary Education Aspirations and Barriers." Of those polled, 93 percent said they believed a college degree was necessary to find a good job, and 78 percent of the same individuals believed a good job meant a higher quality of life.

The other sentiments many agreed with are similar thoughts ingrained into students from the beginning of their educational careers—the resounding importance of a college education, the lack of value a high school diploma holds on its own in the current job market and the need for more people to attend college to obtain degrees.

These are truths that college students are living and pursuing every day. Those who choose to enter college buy into the educational industrial complex in the hopes of achieving a college degree in order to better maneuver the real world. But this line of thinking is not without its flaws and does not necessarily benefit each and every student.

The Gallup poll unsurprisingly revealed that 79 percent of the people polled do not believe college is affordable for everyone seeking a higher education. The \$1.2 trillion the U.S. holds in student debt only raises the question: Is it even worth it? If so many are willing to sign on for years of loan payments, can anyone really afford college?

Tuition decreases are critical to the future of the education system in the U.S. if the idea that a college degree is necessary to achieving one's goals in life remains the status quo. The amount of money students and their families spend each year on college is a disgusting display of the business education has become because expenses go beyond just

tuition. Students must pay for textbooks, computers, art supplies and more just to get by in class. It is an incredibly daunting investment for students to take on, especially when many students are ill-prepared and unsure of how to deal with a college setting.

It makes sense that people continue to buy into the college experience—those four or more years can transform a person—but for many students college is not the right choice, especially those who do not really want to go.

Primary and secondary education should better prepare those students who choose to pursue a college degree because many undeclared majors dabble in interests and classes, wasting money most cannot afford to spend. College is certainly a time to explore interests and potential career paths, but going into an experience with no clue as to what one hopes to achieve is reckless.

Students should also be made aware of other, more affordable educational avenues such as associate's degrees and certification programs. Unfortunately, the choice to pursue these options are often looked down upon as it has been drilled into the American student that a 4-year college degree is the gold standard in higher education and the only way to obtains success.

Nevertheless, colleges must change and adapt to better educate and accommodate its student bodies—student bodies that are not only becoming more diverse, but sometimes even more skilled, talented and aware of the world than those who are teaching them. According to the Gallup poll, 80 percent of those polled agree that changes must be made within colleges in order for them to better serve the demands of their students.

If anything, this is the poll's most significant finding. It would seem that if so many people are aware of the changes that must be and should be made to higher education, then many would make the moves to do so. However, change—positive, powerful change that benefits students—remains a far-off pipe dream.

Conversion therapy bans necessary

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA'S April 8 call for a ban on conversion therapy—an unethical and disproven method that some people claim can repair variant gender expression and sexual orientations—seems too little, too late in light of the growing concern over the many public instances of bullying and suicides of those considered "other."

With the many hits the U.S.'s LGBTQ communities have taken in recent weeks, this show of support from the president may seem as if it is a giant leap forward in the fight for LGBTQ equality. However, the fact that many young children and teens are forced into "corrective" therapy for identifying as gay or transgender—identities that have been deemed as illnesses that can be cured by those who administer conversion therapy—demands more than a show of support. It demands actual legislation.

Obama's gesture is admirable, but it is not enough. The call for action was spurred by a petition created in honor of Leelah Alcorn, a 17-year-old transgender girl whose suicide flooded the headlines when her online suicide note and various postings on the Internet revealed her struggles with conversion therapy.

Unfortunately, Alcorn's experiences and resulting suicide are not uncommon. Many LGBTQ youths are not only forced into conversion therapy by parents, but also face abuse and bullying from friends, family and much of the outside world.

According to the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network's 2013 National School Climate Survey, 85 percent of LGBTQ youth were verbally harassed in 2012. Furthermore, LGBTQ youth are two times more likely than their heterosexual peers to make suicide attempts, according to the "Adolescent Sexual Orientation and Suicide Risk: Evidence From a National Study" published in the American Journal of Public Health.

Simply condemning conversion therapy as the atrocity it is and then hoping that states that have not already will consequently implement bans is exceptionally shortsighted. Obama should have instead proposed a federal bill and made moves to push it through Congress.

Of course, Congress' track record for approving anything Obama puts forth is abysmal, so making the decision to place the responsibility of a conversion therapy ban upon individual states is a rational move. It is simply a matter of applying the right amount of pressure to those states that remain backwards in allowing its residents to practice and participate in conversion therapy.

States have a duty to protect all their residents from abhorrent practices carried out by those who believe conversion therapy is a legitimate medical practice. The U.S. should not allow the notion that anyone who is not a cisgender heterosexual individual should be cured of their "illness" to continue to infect progress.

The Chronicle in no way condones conversion therapy. It is a disgusting variety of treatments and practices that hide behind the deeply flawed idea that being gay, lesbian, queer or transgender is a sickness that can be cured. It is beyond dispute that those who believe members of the LGBTQ community are stricken with "illness" are the same individuals who perpetuate the horrific ignorance and bigotry that currently plagues the U.S.

EDITORIAL CARTOON





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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

Hillary in 2016 would ensure equality for all



ABBY SEITZSports & Health Reporter

THE LAST TIME a Clinton was in office, the economy was booming, public debt was decreasing, unemployment was at its second-lowest in 30 years and the crime rate was at a 26-year low. Although Bill won't be on the presidential ballot in 2016, his inspirational wife Hillary will be.

Clinton announced her second bid for president on April 12 after two years of speculation and rumors. While many were quick to denounce her and her campaign on social media, Clinton is the most viable candidate America will see in the upcoming 2016 presidential election.

What immediately sets her apart from any potential competition is her experience. Most notably, she has served as Secretary of State,

U.S. senator and first lady, and she has worked on three presidential campaigns. While Bill was the governor of Arkansas, she cofounded the Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families and chaired the Arkansas Educational Standards Committee. She even won a Grammy award in 1997 in the Best Spoken Word Album category. There is nothing Clinton cannot do. It is only natural that her next accomplishment would be being elected as the first female president of the U.S.

Gender-equality issues would not instantly disappear if America were to elect a female president, However, it would be a large step forward for women everywhere. From the Middle East to Europe, women have been elected to lead countries all over the world. The U.S.—a country that prides itself on being a haven for freedom and equality-has never had a female president. Despite comprising more than 50 percent of the U.S. population, women are incredibly underrepresented in government. According to the Rutgers University Center for American Women and Politics, women hold 19.4 percent of seats in Congress. This imbalance manifests as problematic when the male contingent in Congress begins drafting legislation threatening

a woman's right to choose or attempting to redefine what is considered rape, as some House Republicans did in 2011.

From Nellie Ross, the first female governor in U.S. history, to Sandra Day O'Connor, the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice, the last 150 years have been marked by women breaking down barriers and achieving powerful roles in policymaking. If the next generation grows up witnessing a woman serving as president, they will know women are capable of

that Clinton can build on. Clinton would be the perfect successor for Obama. She has a plethora of experience with foreign policy and diplomacy, which is often considered one of Obama's weakest points. As secretary of state, she visited 112 countries and worked to better the U.S. relationship with the international community. She was involved with the signing of the 2009 Turkish-Armenian accord and high-pressure decisionmaking situations, such as the raid that resulted in Osama bin

opposes marriage equality, abortion rights and free birth control. While Clinton may not be everyone's cup of tea, her current opposition would be disastrous for advancing equality for all and improving the U.S.' international image.

Lastly, the most exciting aspect of Clinton's campaign is the prospect of Bill being the first gentleman. Traditionally, the first lady's role is to promote social activism and advance important causes. There is no one more suited to assume this position

There is nothing Clinton cannot do. It is only natural that her next accomplishment would be being elected as the first female president of the U.S.

anything and grow up with fewer sexist inclinations.

Having Clinton assume the role of "Leader of the Free World" would also benefit those who need it most. Aside from being a feminist icon, she is a champion for LGBTQ rights, supports gun control and is an advocate for the middle class. Through the recent health care reform and pushes for marriage equality, President Barack Obama has built a progressive legacy

Laden's death. Clinton was also instrumental in the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative, which was introduced by the Obama administration in 2009 to end world hunger.

Clinton's vast experience and equality-for-all ideals are more assets that set her apart from current Republican presidential hopefuls, such as Ted Cruz.

Cruz, who announced his campaign on March 23, openly

than Bill. He left office with the highest end-of-term approval rating recorded in U.S. history. In 2001, he established The Clinton Foundation, which supports causes from reducing childhood obesity to addressing climate change. The Clintons as a couple are known for being politically innovative and powerful—if Hillary is elected, the U.S. will benefit immensely.

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STUDENT POLL

Is Columbia worth its cost?



I really wouldn't know too much about the cost because I went to the military to get funding, but I hear from other students it is not worth it, especially with all the changes [lately].

Lataisha Arrington junior radio major



So far, yes, but it's my first year, so it's kind of hard to tell right now.

Alexander Vaca freshman audio arts & acoustics major



Yes, if you can figure out a way to make it work for you, but if you're just floating around here, then you might as well not be paying so much money to go to school because it is expensive.

Marshall Fenty junior audio arts & acoustics major

Workplace discrimination persists among increasing diversity



KATHERINE DAVIS
Associate Editor

AS RACISM REMAINS a hot-button topic in America, the occurrence of racial disputes seems distressingly frequent.

With the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, in August 2014 and widespread speculation that Ferguson police's actions are racially motivated, the nation is closely observing the state. Most recently, in Parma, a small town just south of Ferguson, more suspected acts of racism are making headlines.

Tyrus Byrd, a black woman and a former city clerk of Parma, was sworn in April 14 as mayor of a town with a population of approximately 740 people. In response, 80 percent of the police force, the city's attorney, clerk and a wastewater treatment plant supervisor resigned, citing "safety concerns" as their reasons for abandoning their posts.

Although it is clear that racism still exists in the U.S., it is surprising that these city officials would display their racially and gender-driven feelings about Byrd in such an obvious way. It is unclear whether they resigned because she was a woman or because she was black, but it is logical to assume that it might be in response to both of those factors.

The city's former assistant police chief, Rich Medley, told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on April 24 that he has had several altercations with Byrd's family members and that he fears he would no longer be able to police them—a sufficient explanation, but not enough to explain reasons for the rest of the officials' departures.

"Rather than put my life in danger more than I do now on a daily basis, I decided to walk away," Medley said in the April 21 St. Louis Post-Dispatch report.

As noted, whether the city officials quit because they were racist or sexist

will likely never be known. But it would not be surprising. Byrd ran for mayor to alleviate tensions and complaints from black community members about the police force, according to the report. This incident is disappointing because it is unfortunate that white people may still be intimidated by black individuals being in positions of power.

of Americans expressed anti-black sentiments in a poll, which was a 3 percent increase from 2008. In what would be assumed to be a time when racism should be subsiding, racial prejudices are actually increasing. There is black representation in almost all forms of media, entertainment and in workplaces across the country. Although white people still

Racial slurs, Ku Klux Klan propaganda and other racist acts still occur in the workplace nationwide.

Racial slurs, Ku Klux Klan propaganda and other racist acts still occur in the workplace nationwide, according to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In addition to racist behavior, the commission also cites that racial and cultural stereotypes continue to influence employment decisions and that a general intolerance toward minorities remains present.

In a 2012 poll by DoSomething. org, a global organization that fights for social change, 51 percent dominate most fields and sectors of society, those spaces are slowly transforming into more diverse areas, and yet, bigoted individuals continue to act upon their hateful perspectives and opinions.

Another 2012 poll by
DoSomething.org revealed that
50 percent of Americans under
the age of 18 are minorities, which
indicates that by 2030, the majority
of individuals under 18 will be
people of color or of mixed race,
gradually making white people the
new minority. In a time when the

country is increasingly becoming more racially diverse and more individuals are in a place where they can't consider themselves solely black, white, Asian, Native American or any other race, racial prejudice should decrease.

In a country that will soon be dominated by minorities, prejudiced individuals will have to learn to coexist. Parma officials quitting their jobs in response to minorities attaining highlevel positions is abhorrent and cowardly. It is time for racism to be put to rest for good, but unfortunately, instances such as the one in Parma still occur in 2015, 47 years after the Civil Rights Act of 1968 was passed, and fundamentally reinforce bigotry and racial tensions.

Although it is disturbing that these officials may have been so prejudiced that they would quit their jobs to avoid working for a black female, it actually might be in Byrd's best interest. She now has the opportunity to hire officials that will truly promote change and diversity in Parma and who are worthy of serving on her administration.

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Alvarez proposes steering minor drug offenders to treatment

MEREDITH RODRIGUEZ & ANNIE SWEENEY

TNS Newswire

LOW-LEVEL DRUG CASES have crowded Cook County courts for years, inflating one of the largest criminal justice systems in the country with costly prosecutions that have done little to stem drug use.

In 2010 alone, more than 33,000 people were arrested in the county for marijuana possession—a rate of 91 per day that was the highest in the nation, according to a recent study by the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois.

On April 20, joining a national trend toward decriminalizing minor drug offenses, the county's top prosecutor said her office will no longer prosecute most misdemeanor marijuana charges and will redirect nonviolent offenders charged with low-level felony heroin, cocaine and cannabis possession to drug treatment.

The office also plans to divert low-level juvenile drug offenders to community-based organizations for drug education and mentoring, said Anita Alvarez, state's attorney.

"What we are currently doing here in Cook County in handling our low-level drug cases is simply not working," Alvarez said at a news conference at her downtown office. "With the implementation of this new policy, I firmly believe we are in the position to create a sea of change in Cook County's approach of dealing with low-level drug crimes and nonviolent repeat drug offenders."

The move brings the county in line with efforts elsewhere to treat drug abuse as a public health issue instead of saddling users with a criminal conviction that does nothing to break the cycle of addiction.

The district attorney in Brooklyn, New York, announced a similar plan last year, and other decriminalization programs in Seattle, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Albany, New York, have also been closely watched.

The enforcement of drug laws has been long criticized as racially biased. According to the ACLU study, African-Americans were almost eight times more likely than whites to be arrested for marijuana possession in Illinois.

Ed Yohnka, a spokesman for the ACLU in Chicago, said Alvarez's move was a "really good first step" that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago, when get-tough policies on drugs were still in vogue.

"It addresses one of the most dysfunctional and discriminatory aspects of our justice system," Yohnka said. "All of this speaks to the fact that Americans are ready for an adult conversation about [drug enforcement]. What will be helpful is to move beyond this one announcement and think of other ways to help people who find themselves addicted to drugs."

Although many experts heralded Alvarez's policy shift, questions remain about how it will be implemented in a system as large as Cook County's, which handles tens of thousands of cases in often-overloaded criminal courts. Assessing candidates and getting them treatment will require significant resources, and following through with each case could prove time-consuming and costly.

Abishi Cunningham, a former Cook County judge who last month completed a six-year stint as the county's public defender, applauded the move as a great start but said its implementation will have to be monitored.

"The devil's in the details and that is what we have to look at," said Cunningham, who is also a former Cook County prosecutor.

Under the new policy, prosecutors will not proceed with misdemeanor charges for possession of less than 30 grams of marijuana against those who have fewer than three arrests or citations on similar charges, Alvarez said.

Those with three or more arrests or citations will be sent to an existing drug school program and have their charges dismissed if they successfully complete the program.

Except for those with significant criminal histories of violence, anyone charged with the lowest level of felony drug possession will be routed to an alternative prosecution program that will link them to treatment and social services.

Alvarez said the new policy would help shift tight financial resources to fighting violent crimes. Last year, the lowest level of felony drug possession cases, Class 4, accounted for almost one-fourth of the nearly 40,000 felony cases the office prosecuted.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS
State's Attorney Anita Alvarez's office completed a yearlong analysis of how drug offenses are handled in major cities and counties across the U.S., spurring Alvarez's proposal to lessen punishment for minor drug offenses.

Illinois House votes to ban red light cameras, but not in Chicago

MONIQUE GARCIA & JESSIE HELLMANN

TNS Newswire

THE ILLINOIS HOUSE approved a measure on April 22 that would ban red light cameras in about 35 communities outside of Chicago, even as supporters pointed to flaws in the city's program as reason to do away with the devices.

The legislation would make the cameras illegal in municipalities that are not home rule—generally towns with a population of less than 25,000—starting in 2017.

Cities that have home rule powers, such as Chicago and dozens of suburbs including Des Plaines, Skokie, Oak Lawn and Rosemont, would not be affected. Sponsoring Rep. David McSweeney indicated that the ban would apply to suburbs such as Blue Island, Forest Park, Hickory Hills, Westchester, Villa Park, Libertyville and Fox River Grove.

McSweeney (R-Barrington Hills) said he would prefer to ban red light cameras statewide, but such a move would require a three-fifths majority vote under rules in the state constitution, a threshold he said he could not yet meet. McSweeney said he believed the proposal would "put pressure" on all cities to follow suit, arguing that the cameras are a money grab and do little to make roads safer.

"This is not about safety, it's all about revenue," McSweeney said during a heated floor debate.

Opponents argued that the measure sets up a divided system that pits cities against each other, while others contended that drivers could avoid the tickets altogether simply by following traffic laws.

"If there's no violation, there's no revenue," said Rep. Anthony DeLuca, a Democrat from Chicago Heights, which has red light cameras and would not be covered by the ban.

However, McSweeney and others countered that the cameras were rigged against drivers, nodding to Chicago Tribune stories showing that Chicago's camera program failed to deliver on safety claims and that the city's yellow light intervals are dangerously short and out of step with national standards. The long-running Tribune investi-

gation has also illustrated how tens of thousands of drivers were unfairly ticketed because of questionable enforcement and failed oversight.

In addition, the Tribune's reporting triggered a federal investigation into allegations that the Chicago camera program was tied to a \$2 million bribery scheme. The alleged bagman in the scheme has pleaded guilty to bribery charges. A grand jury also indicted the former CEO of the since-fired vendor, Redflex Traffic Systems, and the long-time city manager who oversaw the program.

That former manager, John Bills, was a longtime top precinct captain for Democratic House Speaker Michael Madigan.

McSweeney's ban originally included Chicago. "It was clear to me that I didn't have the votes to get it out of the Rules [Committee], leaving Chicago and other home-rule cities in the mix," he said. "I think this was a good compromise."

As speaker, Madigan runs the House and tightly controls the Rules Committee.

Emanuel has staunchly defended the program but has gradually



STOCK PHOTO

Recent legislation from the Illinois House may ban red light cameras throughout Illinois, but not in Chicago.

trimmed the number of cameras since the Tribune reporting started. Even after the most recent reductions, Chicago has more than 300 cameras, the largest such program in the nation.

"Mayor Rahm Emanuel is realizing that these cameras aren't work-

ing," McSweeney said. "People hate them, they hate them for a reason and they are right," said Rep. Ron Sandack (R-Downers Grove).

The measure now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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THE CHI-TOWN LOW DOWN NOTABLE native ROBERT FINKEL Occupation: CEO of Forbidden Root Neighborhood: Lakeview

Light pollution threatens Chicago's health

the U.S., as more than 250,000 sodium vapor lights create orange, ribbon-like patterns throughout the streets extending from the South Side to the North Side. The view from the top of the Willis Tower or flying into O'Hare International Airport at night showcases views of the city's orange grid-like structure, which can also be seen clearly from space.

The city uses a number of different light fixtures to adequately light the streets, according to Illinois-Lighting.org. The lights are important to the safety of Chicagoans as well-lit areas may contribute to a decrease in crime rates. According to a February 2014 study conducted by the Chicago Department of Transportation, crime increased by 7.4 percent in areas that experienced streetlight outages. The study states that streetlights help prevent theft and assault, but what it doesn't note is that the streetlights are a double-edged sword.

A 2011 documentary called, "The City Dark," sheds light on the negative effects of light pollution. The film looks at cities like Chicago and the use of streetlight lamps that

CHICAGO MAY BE the best-lit city in reflect light into the sky, blocking the stars and disrupting circadian rhythms-physical, mental and behavioral changes that respond to light and darkness—and evolution.

> However, Chicago officials are looking for ways to light up the city more in an effort to attract increased tourism. Mayor Rahm Emanuel proposed a "Lighting Framework Plan" in 2014 that invited designers to rethink how the city could be decorated with more light. For example: lighting the edges of the Chicago River.

The LFP briefly mentions that the city is seeking ways to reduce direct upward light—the main cause of light pollution-directly affecting the migration of birds. The proposal notes the importance of wildlife migration, but what about the health of Chicagoans?

The documentary also follows a breast cancer patient who worked a night shift for years. Epidemiologist Richard Stevens from the University of Connecticut conducted research on light pollution, where he discovered that night-shift workers are twice as likely to develop breast cancer than day-shift workers. He also found



that disrupted circadian rhythms caused by light pollution are extremely harmful.

Chicago officials and Emanuel will do anything to boost tourism at any cost and to attempt to lower crime rates with quick-fix actions that serve as a Band-Aid and ignore the bigger issues at hand.

There are light fixtures that efficiently light streets and reduce the amount of wasted light-more than 93 million kilowatt-hours per year, according to IllinoisLighting.org, causing health problems for wildlife and residents. Emanuel should tackle the issue of light pollution before he thinks about illuminating the city more to attract tourists.

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Courtesy BJ PICHMAN

NATALIE CRAIG Managing Editor

VENTURE CAPITALIST ROBERT Finkel wrote a book, supported successful managers and companies and founded The Center for Nutritional Literacy, a wellness and nutrition nonprofit charity that advocates for scientifically accurate and unbiased nutritional information. However, as the city's craft beer scene grew, Finkel noticed an integral piece of brewing was missing from the breweries cropping up throughout the city: using botanical ingre-

Forbidden Root Brewery is slated to open this summer in the West Town neighborhood and will not only offer botanic brews-beer fermented with herbs and spicesbut the brewery will also serve as a restaurant.

dients to create more flavorful beer.

The road to the grand opening has not been easy for Finkel and his business partners, though. A liquor moratorium prevented them from opening the brewery last year. However, after working with neighborhood associations and groups, the brewery will open on the 1700 block of West Chicago Avenue in the Hub Theater, an old landmark built in 1913.

The Chronicle spoke with Finkel about lifting the liquor moratorium, leaving his corporate job to start his own business and Chicago's growing craft beer scene.

THE CHRONICLE: What inspired you to create Forbidden Root?

ROBERT FINKEL: I'm a foodie and a fan of root beer soda. There was an idea nipping at me that was: What did that sarsaparilla taste like that was slid across the bar in Dodge City, Kansas, in 1890? There was no other commercially available food-root beer, underlining beer, so I set out with some experts to develop a recipe for a beer that's a true-brewed, natural root beer. It took almost two and a half years and we discovered along the way that there was a whole era of botanically brewed beer. When soda was invented, all those cool, interesting flavors went to soda and beer became beer. We looked to those times for inspiration, but sort of

with a modern sensibility. We are a botanic brewer, so everything we do is around herbs, roots and spices. You could argue that there really is no other botanic brewer of our kind anywhere.

How did you get into brewing?

I'm a corporate refugee, so I was in the venture capital world for 25 years and supported 50 companies. I ran a group that invested in 40 companies and in that realm we did a big craft beer tasting starting 15 years ago. One of my partners was a craft beer aficionado, and I was not at that point. As it was my privilege, I inserted myself on the beer tasting subcommittee ... and that really opened my eyes to the possibility of craft beer.

How did you open the brewery in a neighborhood with a liquor moratorium?

We are grateful to the neighborhood—we have overwhelming support. There was one cold night in January where 320 people showed up to the space to support us. It was a fairly straightforward process, just making sure that people in the neighborhood's issues were addressed and thought through. We worked with the neighborhood association in a very detailed way to make sure it will be a plus for everyone.

What do you think about Chicago's craft beer scene?

It's exciting. Chicago is not typically known as the leading edge in new products, whether it's technology or what have you, and the food scene here has really set the stage. The chefs are leaders in the nation in terms of what it serves and pairs and how it thrills and excites customers in a very different way than it did 15 years ago. The craft brewers are just getting going and Illinois is still way undercrafted relative to other major metros. There is more to come. In the industry, you have to show up with a reason to exist. You have to contribute to the community in order to be a welcomed participant.

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FEATURED



Kaitlin Hetterscheidt THE CHRONICLE

The casket of Chicago Cardinal Francis George rests in the center aisle of Holy Name Cathedral, 735 N. State St., on April 21 after the clergy blessed it during the Rite of Reception. George will be buried in his family plot next to his parents at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, Illinois

New Ventra app set for release by beginning of summer



Colin King THE CHRONICLE

Ventra is launching a smartphone app this summer that will allow Metra, PACE and CTA riders to buy and display tickets and add value to transit cards on their phones. The app is currently in beta testing and feedback is being collected from more than 1,000 people.

BIANCA MARTINEZ

Metro Reporter

METRA, PACE AND CTA riders in Chicago will soon be able to purchase tickets and reload Ventra cards through their smartphones.

The app, which will debut as early as May or as late as June, includes a mobile ticketing function, allowing riders to purchase and then display tickets on their smartphones using a credit card, debit card or Ventra account, according to Michael Gillis, a Metra spokesman.

"It solves a couple of problems

for Metra," Gillis said. "Right now we only accept cash on our trains. Part of the goal is to have a regional, more integrated transportation system, and by accepting Ventra, riders can use their Ventra account for any of the three Chicago area transit agencies."

Gillis said Metra made a call for volunteers to help test the app a few weeks ago, resulting in more than 1,000 people volunteering across all three transit agencies. Feedback from the chosen volunteers is still ongoing. Gillis said it is very simple to use and that it will have many

different features for riders.

"One of the features that's on there is a trip tool," Gillis said. "If you're standing on a street corner, you can ask the app to use your location and tell you what bus routes are near you and when the next bus is going to come along. We're going to be updating it in the future. You'll be able to do such things as actually pay for your CTA or PACE using your phone. Instead of tapping your card, you will tap your phone on a turnstile."

Patrick Wilmot, a PACE spokesman, said PACE created the app for its riders' convenience.

"This app will also allow customers to be able to monitor and add money to their account [and] look at the status of a monthly pass," Wilmot said. "We will provide notifications of low account balances and of passes that will expire soon."

Wilmot said these features will be available to customers either through the Ventra website or at a Ventra vending machine, allowing more portable and easier access to account management and ticket-buying features.

"We have a limited number of Ventra vending machines that exist in the suburbs," Wilmot said. "We want to provide the tools and the options in order to give customers the maximum number of choices and convenience."

Vivianne Linou, 22, said the benefits of the app make her want to try it because it could make her commutes easier.

"I feel like this app would be beneficial for riders to be able to buy the ticket through the app, and it is definitely less time-consuming," Linou said.

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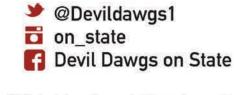
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Walk Score ranks Chicago sixth-most walkable city

LAUREN JOHNSON

Contributing Writer

CHICAGO HAS BEEN ranked the sixth most-walkable city in the U.S. by Walk Score, an organization run by real estate company Redfin that tracks and promotes walkable cities.

A study released April 7 by Walk Score ranked U.S. cities by pedestrians' ability to travel on foot. New York claimed the No. 1 spot with a score of 87.6, San Francisco came in second with 83.9 and Chicago's

also plays a large role in its walkability, as these businesses attract commercial activity, Musiker said.

"We use an algorithm that takes into account a lot of different kinds of data," Musiker said. "That includes travel time, pedestrian friendliness, the density of city blocks and how many choices of restaurants, bars

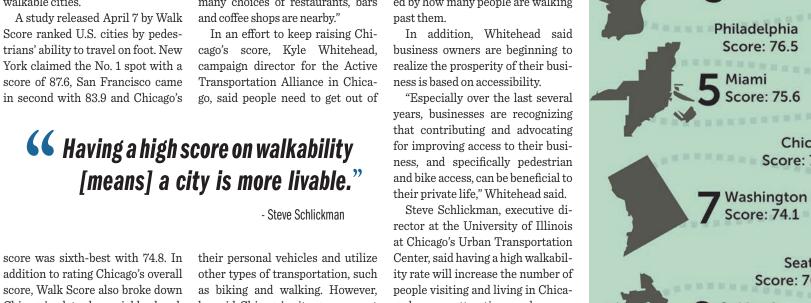
environment better for everybody using the road," Whitehead said.

Whitehead said having businesses and restaurants in the city that are easily accessible to residents will increase Chicago's walk score because the commercial activity of these businesses is directly affected by how many people are walking

go because attractions and venues will be easily accessible.

"I think having a high score on walkability [means] a city is more livable," Schlickman said. "One of the things I hear from visitors to our city is the fact that it's an easy place to walk around."

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addition to rating Chicago's overall score, Walk Score also broke down Chicago's data by neighborhood, ranking the West Loop as the most walkable with a score of 96, according to the study. To calculate a specific area's ratfor pedestrians.

ing, Walk Score uses a system that analyzes the travel time and density of city blocks, said Rachel Musiker, a Walk Score spokesperson. The number of businesses in the area

he said Chicago's city government must allocate more money to organizations such as the ATA to ensure that street intersections are safer

"One of the things we try to do as an organization is bring attention to walkability issues and advocate to legislators to invest more money in [the] infrastructure and make the

TOP 10 MOST **WALKABLE CITIES New York** Score: 87.6 San Francisco Score: 83.9 Boston Score: 79.5 Chicago Score: 74.8 Washington D.C. Seattle (Score: 70.8 Oakland Score: 68.5 **Baltimore** ACCORDING TO A REDFIN.COM REPORT





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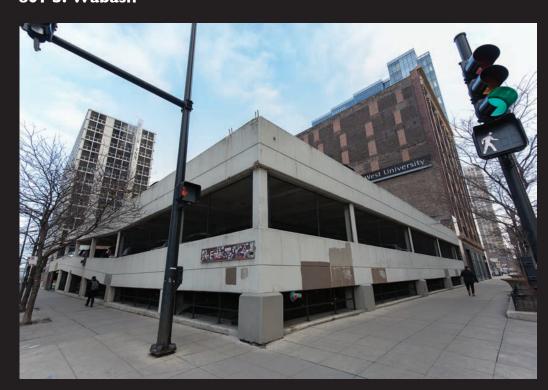
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Pedestrian counters coming to Loop in June

LAUREN JOHNSON

Contributing Writer

CHICAGO'S STATE STREET will be joining Times Square and other metropolitan hubs with the launch of Springboard brand pedestrian counters, set to be installed in June.

The Chicago Loop Alliance announced on March 20 during its annual meeting that it will be placing pedestrian monitors along State Street to collect data on how many pedestrians walk down the street a day, as the most recent information collected on pedestrian traffic on State Street was conducted in 2007, according to a March 20 Chicago Tribune report.

The Loop Alliance is the sole service provider for State Street Special Service Area (SSA) No. 1 and specifically works with businesses and potential investors across State Street to create stronger strategies for understanding clientele. The Springboard pedestrian counters will be a part of a three-year contract the Loop Alliance has with Springboard-a U.K.-based company that helps monitor retail performance—and the system will cost \$65,000 to install and maintain in its first year and \$51,000 for the following two years, according to the Tribune report.

Springboard provides pedestrian counters in cities such as Vancouver and London to calculate the pedestrian traffic in a given zone—a section of sidewalk that the counter analyzes. Springboard then takes the information collected and breaks it down into useful data for clients in the area to utilize the next day, said Diane Wehrle, Springboard's marketing and insights director.

Wehrle said the pedestrian counters are a practical investment for business owners looking for effective ways to market their products and evaluate which initiatives are successful.

"Our goal is to help our clients understand how they trade," Wehrle said. "Whether that be a downtown or a retailer, it's all about helping them understand whether they're successful, whether they're improving and help them understand and demonstrate the success of their initiatives," Wehrle said.

The pedestrian counters will be placed on State Street from Wacker Drive to Congress Parkway to monitor pedestrian traffic trends, according to Elizabeth Neukirch, a Chicago Loop Alliance spokesperson. She said the usefulness of the device being on State Street is to give potential retailers a look at how many pedestrians will be walking past their stores and how to accommodate those pedestrians.

"By tracking 24/7 the amount of people that are on State Street, we can show greater value to those current business owners and potential investors that want to come down-



STOCK PHOTO

Pedestrian traffic is constantly monitored by Springboard pedestrian counters in New York City's Times Square. The traffic-monitoring devices are set to be installed in Chicago's Loop in June, according to Diane Wehrle, Springboard's marketing and insights director.

town, particularly to State Street," Neukirch said.

In regards to tourism, Neukirch said Springboard is looking to increase accommodations for tourists rather than bring more tourists in.

"It's useful on different levels ... We can track how many people come downtown for certain events." Neukirch said. "We can work with the police department to figure out if we need extra staff for major events."

Jae Blackmon, a sales associate at the Crocs store, 17 E. Monroe St., the pedestrian counters are an important asset when it comes to selling products because now they will know when to have sales and promotions.

"We can see how to market and when to set up specific promotions," Blackmon said. "I think it's a good idea."

Like Blackmon, Lorrie Riley, manager at Zara, 1 W. Randolph St., said she is also in favor of the pedestrian counters because Zara is in the Block Thirty Seven mall. Because the mall is under construction, Zara would like to know how many people walk past its store every day and how it can maintain the same amount of traffic.

"I don't think it hurts to ever have more information about the kind of clientele base we have or how many people are passing our businesses," Riley said.

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