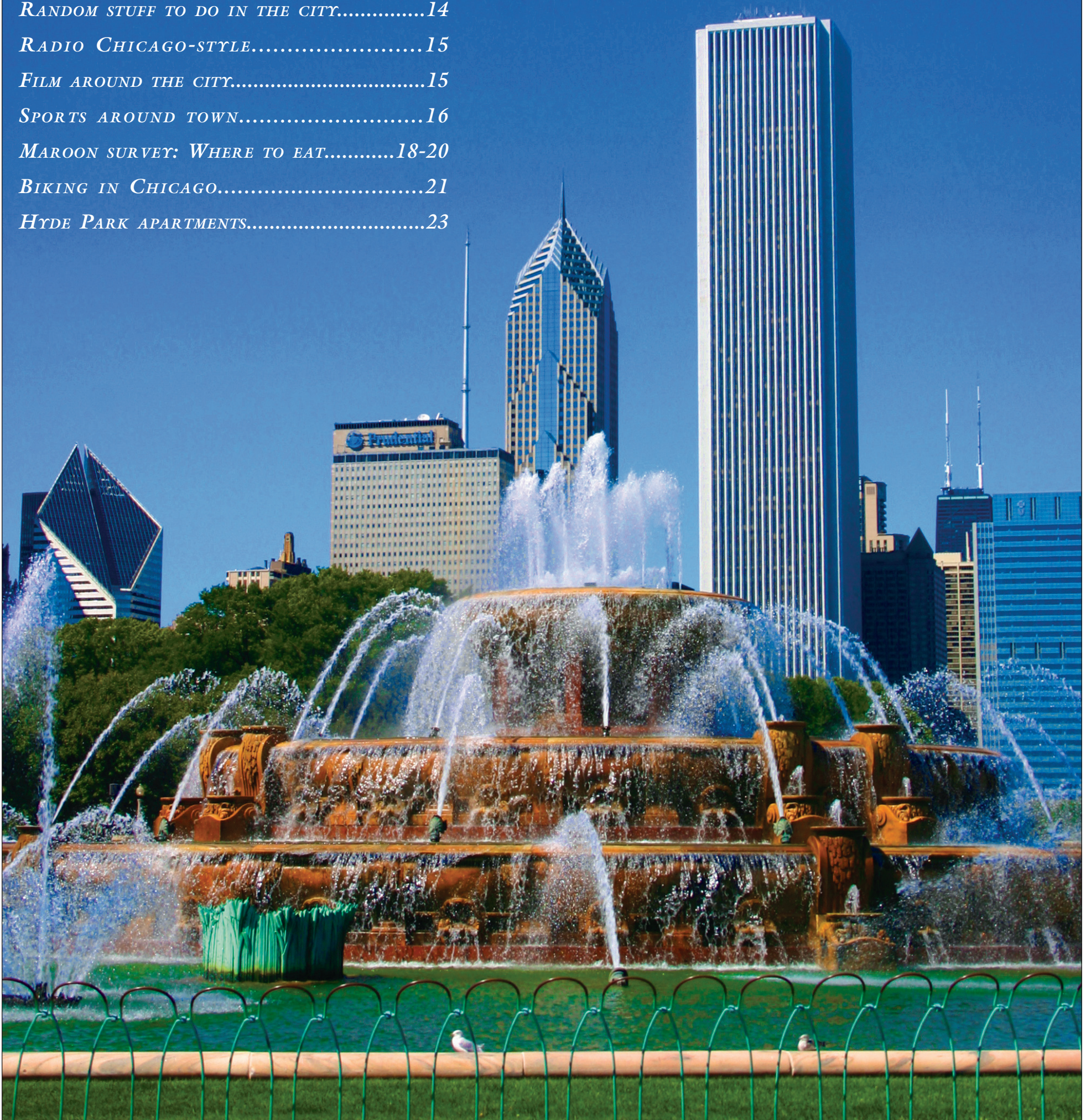


ORIENTATION 2005

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Welcome to your new home: A history of the South Side

Neighborhood by neighborhood, everything you need to know

BY LIBBY PEARSON
MAROON STAFF

Congratulations, you're a student at the University of Chicago and are now a resident of Hyde Park, a neighborhood in the often-neglected South Side of Chicago. The history of the university is, for better or for worse, inextricably tied to the history of the South Side. As such, in this article we'll tell you a little bit about it so that you have something to talk about with the locals.

Woodlawn

Originally settled by German and Dutch immigrants in the 1860s and 1870s, Woodlawn, lying south of Hyde Park, was pretty boring until the late 19th century, when rapid transit finally arrived and the 1893 Columbian Exposition brought tons of jobs to the neighborhoods around Jackson Park and the Midway. As a result, 63rd street became the commercial center of the South Side during the first few decades of the 20th century. Woodlawn was also a center for blues and jazz, featuring dozens of bars, clubs, and ballrooms stretching from Stony Island to Cottage Grove.

Illinois Central station, a huge structure on 63rd including a hotel and several restaurants, was later to be the arrival point for the thousands of African-Americans who came to the South Side during the 1940s and 1950s. Before this, Woodlawn was a predominantly middle-class white neighborhood. The same area is now around 97 percent black. Remember Lorraine Hansberry's 1959 *A Raisin in the Sun* from English class? The affluent whites-only neighborhood that the black main characters attempt to move into is, yes, the Woodlawn, just a few blocks south of the campus.

As the Supreme Court outlawed racially restrictive covenants in 1947 and poor black southerners began to flow into urban areas in the north, the racial makeup of Woodlawn and many Chicago neighborhoods began to change in the middle of the century, the era during which the phrase "white flight" comes into use. As the middle class whites left, they abandoned large apartments that were exploitatively divided by real estate companies into little more than kitchenettes for the new black residents, who were usually unable to find better housing.

African-American gangs began to operate in the late 1950s and early 1960s, organized by the likes of Jeff Fort and Eugene Hairston. By the end of the 1960s, the two had united 21 street organizations with around 50,000 members, creating the Black P-Stone Nation, an organization with a political front that received money from the federal government to create a job-training program in the neighborhood. Fort was even invited to Nixon's inauguration in 1969. The government eventually discovered misappropriation and both founding members ended up in prison.

Efforts by community leaders to integrate Woodlawn during this era failed. By the early 1960s Woodlawn had a

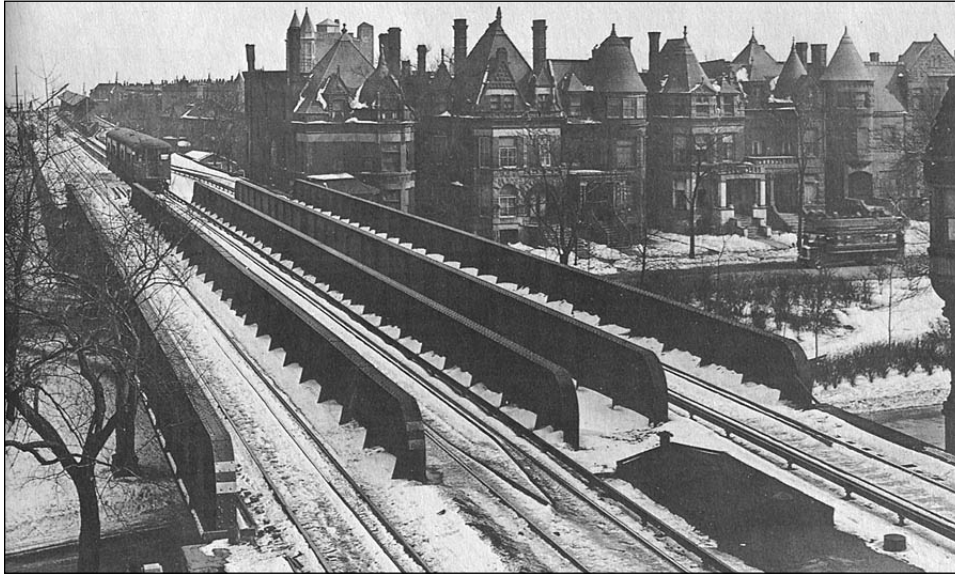


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KRAMBLES-PETERSON ARCHIVE

View from the now-extinct CTA Kenwood Line, looking over Drexel Ave.

population of almost 90,000. 63rd Street still had its bustling commerce and famous jazz clubs, but the economy was deteriorating rapidly and crime was on the rise. The University looked to projects either to buffer itself from the turmoil in Woodlawn or somehow to solve the area's problems.

A similar process of white flight and economic decay was going on in Hyde Park. As the University had a vested interest in the appearance of its surrounding community, it joined with the newly-formed South East Chicago Commission and began one of the first urban renewal projects in the country with the goal of demolishing "slum" areas. Cultural institutions on 55th street were leveled and many community members were displaced. After Hyde Park, the University turned its eye on Woodlawn. Of course, the residents were not pleased.

Under the threat of the University's bulldozing the entire neighborhood, Bishop Arthur Brazier and U of C alum and activist Saul Alinsky formed the Temporary Woodlawn Organization (TWO), a coalition of churches, businesses, and civic associations. The community united against the wishes of the University. After TWO managed to gain a seat on the city planning board, it was able effectively to stop the University's plans.

In its early years, TWO also fought against slum landlords and made efforts to get Woodlawn residents involved in the civil rights movement. TWO still exists today as The Woodlawn Organization, and recently has organized the anti-war efforts of Woodlawn residents by busing them to demonstrations around the city and country.

Despite the victory against urban renewal, Woodlawn continued to deteriorate. Gang wars, arson, and building demolition pushed the more mobile residents out. Instead of blocks of buildings dotted by empty lots, the blocks began to look more like empty lots dotted with lone buildings. In 1990, Woodlawn had only 27,000 residents, over half of whom were on some form of public aid, with the median household income over \$13,000.

In the last few decades, Woodlawn has slowly stabilized. Much of the eastern branch of the Green Line was demolished, reducing crime. The last few years have seen a flowering

of new single-family homes through the Homes on Blackstone project and condominiums that are selling quickly. However, with these developments comes the debate of gentrification.

The University's current opinion is that Woodlawn is safe enough for students to wander around in. A handful of students live in apartments south of the Midway. 63rd Street around the feet of the Green Line still has a few shops and restaurants, and Burton-Judson residents often walk south to this stop instead of walking up to the 55. Because of the bloom of housing, this neighborhood should see a few commercial changes as well.

Hyde Park

Real estate speculator Paul Cornell, first cousin of telegraph tycoon Ezra Cornell, founded Hyde Park in the 1850s. At first, the term "Hyde Park" meant anywhere from 47th Street down to the 100s. While the southern areas became industrial, Hyde Park and Kenwood became genteel and the former shrank its borders until it stretched from 47th to 61st.

Things really began to heat up in 1892 and 1893, when John D. Rockefeller founded your alma mater and the World's Columbian Exposition took over the Midway, respectively. The Columbian Exposition, featuring the world's first Ferris Wheel and ice cream cone, allowed well-heeled visitors to boat around the canalized Midway Plaisance and browse exhibits of the world's cultures, organized by "primitiveness." The acres of marble palaces and pavilions have for the most part disappeared; the only structure that remains to this day is the current Museum of Science and Industry.

Middle class white families gathered around these jobs as the University grew up. But in the 1950s and 1960s, Hyde Park felt the same influx of African Americans and economic decline as many neighborhoods in Chicago. As stated before, the University of Chicago stepped in by showing the rest of the country how urban renewal is done. The average income soared by 70 percent but the black population fell by 40 percent.

For many reasons, Hyde Park has avoided the economic fate of its adjoining neighborhoods, such as Woodlawn and Washington Park. The University

of Chicago's money and political power exerts tremendous force on the neighborhood, but the place still seems to have a culture of its own. Three economically vital streets, 57th, 55th, and 53rd provide shopping and restaurants to the 40,000 racially and ethnically diverse residents. The fact that one of the most pressing community issues is whether or not to pave the limestone Promontory Point that juts into the lake at 55th is testament to the stability of the neighborhood.

Washington Park

Washington Park is the park and neighborhood west of Hyde Park that the 55 bus takes you through when you want to escape the South Side via the Red Line. Words that come to mind are "dilapidated," or occasionally "dangerous." Don't get me wrong, the park is beautiful and features the DuSable Museum of African American History, named after Jean Baptist Pointe DuSable, a Haitian fur trader who was the first permanent settler in Chicago. Just don't walk around there at night.

The story is much the same as our other neighborhoods. Founded in the 1880s, an economic boom came to the Italian, German, and Irish immigrants when rapid transit and the Columbian Exposition arrived in the South Side. Fast-forward to the 1950s and 1960s, when apartments were divided for the new poor black residents and the middle class that remained. The neighborhood has seen little revitalization since then, and the University has notably kept its interest and money out of the area.

Kenwood

The Kenwood story is a little different. Like Hyde Park, it was founded by a famous rich guy, Jonathan A. Kennicott, in the 1850s. Wealthy families moved in and built the mansions that still spread between 43rd and 47th today. Like the other neighborhoods, the economy took a dive and urban renewal was in the air. However the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference preserved the buildings in the Kenwood area.

Many Jewish residents left by the 1960s, being replaced by middle class black and white residents who were more than happy to take the huge homes at reduced value, preventing the area from being taken over by slum landlords. However, Kenwood's economy has not been as perky as it could be. To revitalize the area, the shopping plaza on the corner of 47th and Lake Park was planned in the 1980s and finished in 1999, bringing a branch of the now-closed Hyde Park Co-op grocery store and a Walgreen's to the area. Lake Park Avenue between 47th and 43rd has seen much construction, raising the concern of some residents.

Overall, Kenwood has weathered the social and economic storms of the last century better than the other three neighborhoods in the area. Because the neighborhood never became very poor, future gentrification probably won't be an issue. Kenwood is now a relatively sleepy neighborhood, filled with huge houses and trees and wide streets.

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Chicago neighborhoods: from Chinatown to Pilsen to Jackowo

A sampling of treats and treasures from around city—and the globe

BY STEPHANIE MIELCAREK
MANAGING EDITOR

Chicago has a rich ethnic history. Her neighborhoods are home to immigrants from across the globe, from Eastern Europe to Asia to South America. These neighborhoods are as varied and varying as the settlers themselves, with a German neighborhood becoming dominantly Puerto Rican after several generations, an Irish neighborhood eventually becoming the current Chinatown, Polish enclaves intermingling with Mexican ones, and so on. These constant changes make it difficult to define many of Chicago's neighborhoods, but each has plenty to offer anyone in search of unique shops, food, history and distinct local flavor. Here's a sampling of Chicago's finest:

Chinatown

One of Chicago's most well known ethnic enclaves, Chinatown is both a tourist attraction and a haven for Chinese immigrants hoping for the support and familiar comforts of home. The neighborhood—which is fairly small, with its main stretches along Cermak Road/22nd Street, Wentworth Avenue, and Archer Avenue—was settled in part by new immigrants fleeing communist China, and partially by Chicago Chinese attempting to avoid rising rents in other parts of the city.

For visitors, some of Chinatown's highlights include **Joy Yee's Noodle Shop** (2159 S. China Place) and a number of tea, gift, and grocery shops; herbal stores; and bakeries. Chinatown is easily accessible by the Red Line, and thus tends to be a favorite stop for U of C students.



Part of a parade of Falun Gong practitioners, dancers take over the main drag of Chinatown.

Wicker Park

This area, once a primarily Mexican and Polish neighborhood, is rapidly becoming gentrified. A thriving community of artists make their home here, as evidenced by such eclectic, hipster-centric stops as **Myopic Books** (1564 North Milwaukee Avenue), **Double Door** (1572 North Milwaukee Avenue), and **Filter** (1585 North Milwaukee Avenue). If you wander southwest, you'll hit what is rumored to be the best gelateria this side of the Atlantic: **Caffé Gelato** (2034 West Division). The neighborhood is bounded by Division, North, Western, and Ashland, and can be reached via the Blue Line—you can get off

at either Damen, for eclectic shopping, or Division, for hip hangouts.

Devon

Officially located in Rogers Park, "Devon" is the common term used to refer to the long stretch of avenue that comprises an equally large assortment of cultures. Craving Indian food? Stop by **The Viceroy of India** (2520 West Devon Avenue) for some delicious nan and tandoori chicken. Afterwards, head to **Tahoora Sweets and Bakery** (2345 West Devon Avenue) for some jelabi and falsa, buy a Bollywood video at **Atlantic Video** (2541 West Devon Avenue), and go to

Dilshad's (2645 West Devon Avenue) for mehndi/henna or eyebrow threading. Head east for Pakistani restaurants and shops, or west for kosher grocery stores and shops specializing in Judaica.

Unfortunately, Devon is a trek to get to from the South Side—but one that is certainly worth it. Bring along some friends (or some reading), and transfer to the Devon #155 bus at the Loyola Red Line stop. It's a good idea to take the bus up the street, then walk your way back down to the station—unless you enjoy sore feet, that is.

Lincoln Square

Not to be confused with Lincoln Park, this quaint neighborhood was once predominantly German—a fact evidenced by the continuing annual **German-American Fest**. However, it is now home to a fair number of Korean, Mexican, Greek, and Eastern European immigrant shops and restaurants, including the excellent **Anatolian Kebab** (4609 North Lincoln Avenue), which offers an array of Turkish entrees. This neighborhood is also home to Chicago School architect Louis Sullivan's last work, now the **Museum of Decorative Arts** building (4611 North Lincoln Avenue). Lincoln Square is located at the intersection of Lincoln, Western, and Lawrence, and accessible via the Western stop on the Brown Line.

Jackowo/Polish Village

Centered around **St. Hyacinth Basilica** (3636 West Wolfram Street), this neighborhood boasts the most concentrated community of Poles in Chicago—and

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Chicago, in turn, holds the largest Polish community outside of Warsaw—1.8 million at the last census. Milwaukee Avenue can't be beat for Polish restaurants, bakeries, and sausage shops. Try **Czerwone Jabluszko (Red Apple) Restaurant** (3121 North Milwaukee Avenue), a favorite Chicago institution. Buffet meals are cheap, filling, and utterly delicious, though probably not so good for the heart. If you're not too full afterwards, head to the **Staropolska Delicatessen** (3028 North Milwaukee Avenue) for sausage and sweets to bring home. You can reach Jackowo via the Blue Line—just get off at Logan Square.

Pilsen/Little Village

One of the largest Mexican communities outside Mexico, this neighborhood is brimming with tiny restaurants and shops. **Restaurante Neuvo Leon** (1515 West 18th Street) and **El Nopal Bakery** (3648 West 26th Street) are especially recommended. Visit the **Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum** (1852 W. 19th St.) to see exhibits ranging from "Chicano Visions: American Painters on the Verge" to "Mexican Chicago: Huellas Fotograficas." If you can, head to Pilsen at the end of October for festivities leading up to *Dia de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) on November 1. Pilsen can be reached via the Blue Line; get off at 18th.

Little Italy

One of several Italian neighborhoods scattered throughout Chicago, Little Italy is home to the **National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame** (1431 West Taylor Street), as well as tons of bakeries and restaurants. The neighborhood is bordered by Morgan, Taylor, Ashland, and Harrison Streets, but most shops and restaurants are on Taylor, west of Racine. To visit Little Italy, take the #4 Cottage Grove bus north to Roosevelt and Michigan, then hop on the #12 Roosevelt west.



Devon Avenue is chock-full of restaurants, bakeries and grocery stores specializing in Indian and Pakistani delicacies.

Greektown

Located adjacent to the UIC campus on the stretch of Halsted from Madison to Van Buren, Greektown is a popular student hangout noted for its cheap eats. **Greektown Gyros/Ambrosia Sports Bar** (239 South Halsted Street) is a good bet, especially as the restaurant is open 24 hours. Greektown can be accessed by taking the Blue Line to the UIC station.

Ukrainian Village

Ukrainian Village is home to the **Ukrainian National Museum** (721 North Oakley Boulevard), as well as beautiful, historic churches. This neighborhood is bordered by Division Street, Chicago Avenue, Western Avenue, and Damen Avenue, and can be reached by taking the Red Line to the Chicago stop, then taking the #66 bus west to Oakley.

Navigating the Windy City

All you need to know to get around

BY STEPHANIE MIELCAREK
MANAGING EDITOR

On first visit, Chicago is a pretty easy place in which to get lost. New Yorkers rant about the convoluted public transit system, drivers complain about traffic, and small town dwellers tend to simply lose their way in the vastness of it all. With a couple of notes in mind, however, getting around the city should be a breeze.

1. When in doubt, look to the lake. Lake Michigan makes up the "east side" of Chicago—and makes it easy to stay oriented.

2. Remember the grid. Chicago is laid out on a grid system, with its zero point at the intersection of State and Madison in the Loop. State runs north/south, and divides east and west addresses, while Madison runs east/west and splits up north and south addresses. Address numbers increase by 100 each block, and east/west streets south of the Loop, starting at 12th Street, are numbered.

It isn't important to memorize this scheme to the letter, but it is helpful when wandering the city. For example, if you're on the south-east side, on 55th Street, and the address numbers are getting larger, you know that you are heading away from the State dividing line—and thus must be going east. Similarly, if you are in Hyde Park on Ellis, and the address numbers are getting smaller, you know that you are heading toward the Madison dividing line, going north.

3. The Chicago River forms a 'Y' downtown, splitting the city into North, West, and South sides. Just underneath the right arm is the Loop and Millennium Park, while just within the fork are shopping districts including the Magnificent Mile.

4. The CTA is your friend. Really. The Chicago Transit Authority's convenient online trip planner makes it easy to find your way anywhere in the city; just visit transitchicago.com/maps/tripplanner.html before you head out. If you find yourself lost and without Internet access, call (773) 836-7000 and ask the helpful CTA phone staff for directions to your destination.

Pro tip: To avoid waiting on the blustery Garfield bridge to take the 55 bus back to campus after leaving the Red Line, transfer downtown to the Green Line. Not only is its Garfield bus stop closer to campus and sheltered under the El tracks, there's a Harold's Chicken Shack steps away. However, the Green Line's last train leaves downtown at around 1:15 A.M.—so be aware of the time.



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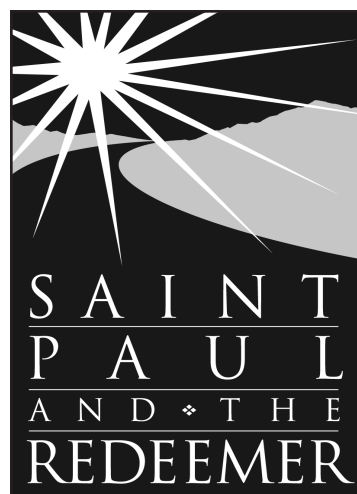
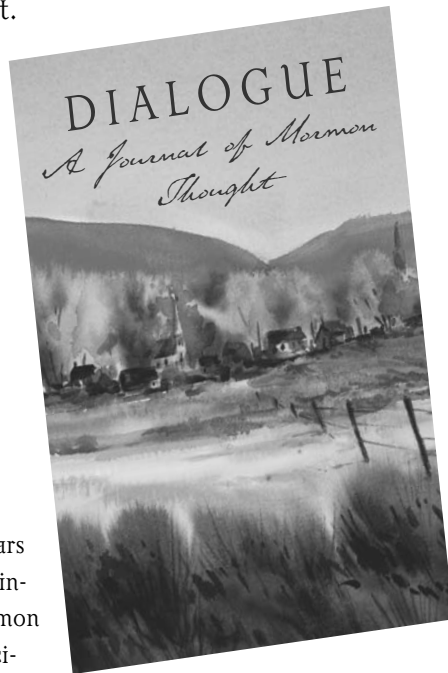
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Sine Nomine: This SATB choral group is being formed now to accommodate the needs of an additional Eucharist on Sunday. This group offers a limited commitment to a choral experience with only one monthly rehearsal. Members will be expected to have some sight singing skills and a willingness to learn music outside of the rehearsal. Sine Nomine will sing weekly at the 9:15 a.m. Eucharist.

Please contact Eric Budzynski for more information.
Parish membership is not a requirement to join any of these groups.

Finding new music the old-fashioned way: Chicago's local music scene

BY EMERALD GAO
VOICES EDITOR

One of the best things about college is discovering the local music scene, and despite the intellectual environment at the U of C, there are still a large number of budding musicians looking to make their big break. It's generally accepted that some of the best musical projects are started by students without aid from the University, and Hyde Park is a good place to look. Home to a loosely organized group of local musicians, including current and former students, Hyde Park was the starting point for rock opera starlets P1xel and the Chronic Network as well as melancholy-yet-catchy Starlister—both defunct now. Other bands that got their start at or near the U of C include Millimeters Mercury, First Coat, and Health and Beauty. New groups like the Passerines and the Goddamn Shame are also on the rise, so look for flyers around campus promoting their next release or show.

Those of you interested in starting your own band have two great resources to choose from—the Hyde Park Musicians group on the Facebook (thefacebook.com) is a good way to network within fellow students at the U of C, but the best way to either search for band members or promote your new band is through the Mr. Hyde Records website (mrhyderecords.com). The message board is frequented by many local musicians as well as students, especially during the academic school year. Speaking of Mr. Hyde Records, their annual compilation mix of songs from local bands is a great way to keep track of what's hip in the local music scene.

As for local band concerts, well, look to the myriad bulletin boards on campus, in the buildings and on the Quad, for information on upcoming shows. Unfortunately, most bands choose to play at the Double Door or Empty Bottle, both 21+ venues, although occasionally a show will be played at the Metro, which is all-ages. Free concerts aren't uncommon either—on campus, Cobb has become a makeshift venue for several bands, and outdoor concerts, while infrequent, are another good way to expose yourself to the many musical talents this campus has to offer.

In this age of iPods and Audioscrobbler (are MP3 blogs out of style yet?), it's getting easier and easier to find new bands and musical movements on the internet. But why not try it the old-fashioned way? Get off the computer and out of the dorms, and find some local music worthy of your support.

Get your gig on! A guide to Chicago music venues

BY MATT ZAKOSEK
VOICES EDITOR

Chicago is the home of so many music venues that it's simply impossible to compile a comprehensive list (although some publications, like the *Chicago Reader*, try). The best you can do is follow your favorite bands and hope that you happen upon some cool spaces.

Last spring, the **Metro** (3730 North Clark Street), hosted an awesome evening of Hyde Park music, featuring Starlister, Health and Beauty, Dig for Fire, and the much-celebrated, now-defunct P1xel and the Chronic Network. It was a multimedia event, with members of Fire Escape Films projecting Archie comics on the wall (with P1xel lyrics substituting for the original dialogue). As a matter of fact, each band used a visual gimmick, and the end result was the best sort of high you could get without, ahem, illicit substances. The Metro has been one of my favorite venues since. It doesn't hurt that **Wrigleyville Dogs** (3730 North Clark Street) is located right across the street, for that perfect wee-hours-of-the-morning snack.

I've only been to the **Double Door**

(1572 North Milwaukee Avenue) once, to see the Canadian folk-singing twins Tegan and Sara. (You know Sara—she's the one who threw up onstage due to heat exhaustion at Lollapalooza.) I was under 21 at the time, and the bouncer examined my fake I.D. awfully suspiciously—maybe because it said that I was 27 and a good five inches taller than I actually am—but he eventually let me in. The beer was pretty expensive, but as far as intimate venues go, the Double Door is pretty great. I was close enough to the stage to, well, get splattered with vomit, if Sara succumbed to the heat once more.

My latest Chicago discovery is the **Black Orchid** (230 West North Avenue), if you feel like—ya know—getting classy for a night. Liz Phair recently played a three-night stint there, and even though she compared the venue to a pirate ship, I think she secretly liked it. It was the perfect setting for the acoustic leg of her latest tour. We were seated at a table with another couple and plied with overpriced cocktails and \$150 bottles of wine. Still, I was grateful for the privilege of seeing my favorite artist in a venue that wasn't overcrowded with unruly, drunken fans.

And these are just the venues I've been to recently. There are so many I have yet to mention: the Vic! The Empty Bottle! The Aragon! Schubas! Martyrs?! The Abbey Pub! The Subterranean! As a rule of thumb, you can avoid the tourist-y **House of Blues**, unless they're hosting an artist you simply must see. Even this is unlikely: Their taste veers more toward the likes of the John Mayer Trio than that little band your friends have been buzzing over for the past two weeks.

Since you're likely a first-year, though, chances are you're under 21, which means a lot of these venues are going to be inaccessible. You can either take a cue from my Double Door story and go fake, or you can check out some of the smaller, all-ages venues—like the **Old Town School of Folk Music** (4544 North Lincoln Avenue), which is partial to world music and local singer/songwriters. Not your cup of tea? Suck it up, young'un. Besides, Hyde Park musicians are beginning to organize more, which means you're likely to snag an invite to a do-it-yourself concert or two.

Editor's note: The CHICAGO MAROON does not endorse the use of fake IDs.

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The best eye candy (we're talking art, perv) in the city

BY ANDY MARCHESSAULT
VOICES EDITOR

Chicago, the city known for its wind and big shoulders, is also one of the best cities for seeing the top of what the art world has to offer. The city is peppered with museums, galleries, and works of public art, some of which you can find right in Hyde Park. Some would argue that the city itself is one big art installation, as its architecture is hard to match in terms of both style and diversity. There is no better city view in the country than that of Chicago's skyline seen from a car window on Lake Shore Drive.

Here are a few highlights of Chicago's art world:

The Art Institute of Chicago

With its stone columns and a pair of lions standing sentry, the Art Institute is a daunting edifice to behold. But its imposing exterior is no match for its formidable collection inside, one that boasts some of the most treasured masterworks ever created. Built in 1893 and later expanded, the building features room upon breathtaking room of art spanning continent and era, from African and American Indian to European painting. All told, the museum holds over 300,000 works in its 10 curatorial departments. The Art Institute is host to a constant influx of new and innovative exhibitions (check out Toulouse Lautrec and Montmartre, closing October 4, and photography by Edmund Teske), but you can also come just for the highlights of the permanent collection, which include Grant Wood's "American Gothic," Edward Hopper's "Nighthawks," and "A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of Grande Jatte" by Georges Seurat. Try going on a Tuesday, when it's free to the public.



JACK ROSNER / News Photo Editor

The Art Institute of Chicago is one of the nation's premier art museums and schools.

Upcoming exhibitions include Tropicalia: A Revolution in Brazilian Culture, and Alexander Calder in Focus.

The Museum of Contemporary Art

The MCA is home to one of the largest collections of modern art in the country, boasting some of the finest pieces made since 1945. In this way it complements the Art Institute, which has a much smaller modern art collection. In its eight-year-old building near the Water Tower, the MCA provides a great museum-going experience, with plenty of open space and large glass windows. Although its permanent collection is impressive, the MCA merits attention for its temporary exhibitions, which are not afraid to take risks, and have often featured some of the most important modern artists in painting, sculpture, film, and video. Try going

between 5 and 8 P.M. on a Tuesday, when admission is free.

The David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art

The Smart Museum has been a fixture on the U of C campus for 30 years now, and deserves some respect. Why, you ask? Because the museum, though small, boasts some pretty cool stuff, such as 7,000 works of art spanning ancient times through modern day, with a particular emphasis on East Asian arts. The museum does a good job of reaching out to the student, faculty, and Hyde Park communities, as Smart Museum Activities Committee always has some event or party up its sleeve, and there are plenty of employment opportunities offered to the poor college kids. The Smart's diverse permanent collection is also supplemented

with constant temporary exhibitions, many of which are innovatively installed. This fall's highlight is Beyond Green: Toward a Sustainable Art. Admission is free every day, and the museum is open until 8 P.M. on Thursday nights.

The Renaissance Society

Founded in 1915, the Renaissance Society (R.S.) is considered one of the first modern art museums in the country. It has consistently been ahead of the art world curve, as it was the first museum to show certain works by Picasso, Mondrian, and Miro, and hosted the first solo exhibition by mobile-maker Alexander Calder in this country. Today, the R.S. effectively utilizes its limited display area, as its one large gallery is constantly transforming to fit the innovative pieces it displays. One can literally walk down the hall from class right into the museum. The R.S.'s exhibitions are too good to be missed, not to mention conveniently located and absolutely free. You can currently check out films by Yang Eudong, whose work will also appear in the Smart Museum's upcoming exhibition, Between Past and Future.

Chicago art galleries/other museums

There are plenty of cutting-edge galleries throughout the city, many of which are in the Loop, and on Michigan, Milwaukee, and Superior Avenues. Check out a full listing at centerstage.net/art/galleries/directory. I recommend Anchor Graphics on West Hubbard. Also, don't let your tremendous school pride interfere with your art appreciation; there are plenty of other good art museums at schools throughout Chicagoland, including Columbia College, Loyola University, and, yes, even Northwestern.

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Be classy and experience what Chicago has to offer

BY MANASI VYDYANATH
CLASSICAL MUSIC EDITOR

Classical music—like almost every other evolving form of art—acquires definition in retrospection. The actual moments of creativity, the times of unparalleled exuberance when the stylism of an age is being forged, the riotous profusion of expressive forms, and the task of evaluating them in the light of history and artistry to assess their possibilities, is fraught with excitement, conflict, and not a little uncertainty. The predominant characteristic of Chicago's classical music performance and press is that of an irrepressible incorrigibility—new music being written and performed at an unprecedented level, concerts that create conceptual bridges between the worlds of Taverner and Taverner in the space of a single evening, and the availability of an increasingly sophisticated expressive palette expands the horizons of the artistically possible.

Last September, I referred to Chicago as the scintillating city that lay at the heart of modern classical music, where one can literally watch the art evolving from concert to concert. Last year's season lived up to and surpassed the expectations inherent in that sentiment. Some of the venues where one can watch this process unfold again and again are:

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra

www.cso.org
(312) 294-3000

Symphony Hall on 220 South Michigan Avenue (across from the Art Institute)
Right by #6 bus stop

One of the finest orchestras in the world, the CSO is probably the best place to experience classical music in the city. Daniel Barenboim is the current artistic director, with Pierre Boulez and Leonard Slatkin as regular guest conductors. It features a full season of concerts, including chamber music, recitals, visiting orchestras, monthly jazz concerts and special events. The programming is usually superb, although with a slight frisson of conservatism running through it.

Last season, among other things, they had a series of concerts that highlighted parallelisms between Haydn and Bartok—the combinations were rather forced, but the brilliant energy of the Bartok pieces validated the venture. There were also concerts featuring artists like the Kremerata Baltica, Alfred Brendel, Pierre Boulez, Lang Lang, and Yo-Yo Ma. In terms of new music, there were Chicago and world premieres of works by Magus Lingburg, Marta Ptaszynska, Augusta Read Thomas, David

Feller, Chen Yi, and Gunther Schuller.

Next season, there are concerts featuring Itzhak Perlman playing Mozart and Schubert, Cecilia Bartoli, Pierre-Laurent Aimard playing Debussy and Ravel, Piotr Anderszewski, Bernard Haitink, Emmanuel Ax, Maxim Vengerov, the Boston Symphony, and others. Take a look at the calendar that's on their website. The season goes from September to June. Student rush tickets are sometimes sold on the night of the concert—these range from \$10-17, depending upon the concert. The symphony doesn't usually sell out, but try to give them a call before you go. You might want to catch the pre-concert conversations as well—these are usually exceedingly well conducted and discuss in detail some aspects of the program, essentially giving you a blueprint of what to listen for. They normally begin an hour and 15 minutes before each performance.

The Chicago Lyric Opera

www.lyricopera.org
(312) 332-2244

Civic Opera House on 20 North Wacker
Six blocks from Red Line Monroe stop, or
eight blocks from #6 bus stop

Referred to as “the gold standard,” this is Chicago's pride, the best place for operatic repertoire. There are eight productions a year, under the baton of musical director

Sir Andrew Davis, with a cast that includes world-renowned soloists. The staging is reputed to be a shade old-fashioned, but this is changing. Their orchestral and choral work is absolutely mesmerizing.

The upcoming season starts with Bizet's *Carmen*, one of the most over-performed operas of all time that manages to keep its brilliance intact after more than a century of interpretation and misinterpretation. They then go on to present Rossini's effervescent morceau *Cinderella*, Tippett's seldom heard *Midsummer Marriage*, Verdi's *Rigoletto*, Strauss' *Rosenkavalier*, and Gluck's groundbreaking *Orfeo ed Euridice*.

Tickets start at \$29 (\$39 on weekends) for the upper gallery. They do occasionally have student matinees (\$5-15), and some dorms (especially Max Palevsky, courtesy of the wonderful Resident Heads David and Kris Wray) go on subsidized trips to the Lyric.

Music of the Baroque

www.baroque.org
(312) 551-1414

Plays at various locations in Chicago and surrounding cities

Founded in 1975 in Hyde Park, this is one of Chicago's interesting period ensembles. It presents seven programs every year, directed by Jane Glover—a famous exponent of period performance

practices and technique. Student discount tickets are \$20. If the thought of experiencing the ancient as it was experienced by the ancients intrigues you, this is the place to go.

The Newberry Consort

www.newberry.org/consort

(312) 255-3610

The Newberry Library

Ruggles Hall

60 West Walton Street

Chicago, IL – 60610-7324

Since its founding in 1982, the Newberry consort has been one of the premiere early music ensembles of Chicago. They present beautifully themed concerts that contain a mélange of instrumental and vocal works. The consort has an unparalleled tone that brings character, immediacy, and vibrant color to the often sepia-toned world of madrigals and pre-Baroque music. One of their most successful concerts of the last season was entitled *A Salon in the City of Lights*, and presented the music a nobleman of the early 1700s might hear while touring Europe. In their upcoming season, they present about five concerts, including *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Viol: Music for a Chinese Banquet*, *Legends of the Nine Worthies: A Tapestry of Medieval Heroism*, and *Tender Mercies: Bad Luck, Bad Behavior and Forgiveness*.



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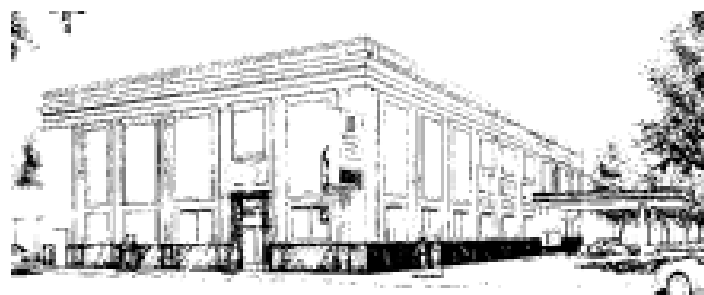


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What's so #@&* funny?

An intro to the Chicago comedy and theater scenes

BY MATT ZAKOSEK
VOICES EDITOR

After a grueling University of Chicago work week—and trust me, there's no other kind—where can you go to sit back, relax, and laugh your ass off? Chances are you've heard of the **Second City** (1616 North Wells Street), the famous improv comedy troupe which launched the careers of Tim “Ladies’ Man” Meadows, Shelley “Troop Beverly Hills” Long, and George “I have a funny name” Wendt. Hmm, suddenly this doesn't sound like such a ringing endorsement. But you should still go to show some U of C love: The group actually started at the College in 1955 under the name of the Compass Players.

The Second City e.t.c. (1608 North Wells Street, right next door!) is where members of the Second City train before heading off to the big time (i.e. the main stage). Both are accessible by the Brown and Purple Lines, and you'll enjoy seeing future *SNL* cast members perform skits that are probably funnier than anything they'll do on *SNL*.

But you don't have to venture far from the quads to get your jollies; the U of C has a vibrant current improv scene, as well. **Off-Off Campus** may be the standby, but its bastard offspring, **Occam's Razor**, which was founded in 1989—hey, it's almost as old as you!—serves side-splitting comedy with a generous helping of sarcasm. You can catch these groups around campus at such places as Hutch Commons, McCormick Lounge, the Bartlett Arts Rehearsal Space, and the Blue Gargoyle. And both of them are

much better than Northwestern's comedy troupe, the **Purple Crayon Players**. (Actually, I don't know; I've never seen the Purple Crayon Players. It's just the principle of the thing.)

The Neo-Futurists are another Chicago institution with their legendary show, *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind* (*TMLMBGB*, for those of us inclined to type a little less). The show runs every Friday and Saturday at 11:30 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m., and it is constantly evolving. If you've seen one, you *haven't* seen 'em all. Sometimes, there's a method to this madness—special “theme” shows are created for holidays like Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, Halloween, and Gay Pride Weekend. But mostly, the show follows the whimsy of the cast, and what a strange trip it is (even the cost of admission varies). You can catch *TMLMBGB* at 5153 North Ashland Avenue at Foster.

One of my favorite theaters in Chicago used to be the **Shubert** (22 West Monroe Street), but after its name changed to the LaSalle Bank Theater, I just don't know. Damn greedy financiers. A more reliable beacon on the Chicago theater scene is the **Steppenwolf Theatre Company** (1650 North Halsted Street), co-founded by the sexy, smoldering Gary Sinise. (Oh, yeah, he's a good actor, too.) The Steppenwolf doesn't shy away from controversial issues, like in its current show, *The Pain and the Itch*. The title refers to the burning sensation on a little girl's genitalia which may or may not be the result of child molestation. You know—the feel-good stage hit of the season.

Then there's the **Theater Building**



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLUE MAN GROUP

Blue Man Group at the Briar Street Theater has been making noise with pipes and sticks for decades now.

Chicago (1225 West Belmont Avenue), which put on a great *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*; the **Bailiwick Repertory** (1229 West Belmont Avenue), which produces almost anything with a gay theme—like *Naked Boys Singing!*—and therefore isn't very discerning with its material; and the **Briar Street Theater** (3133 North Halsted Street), home of the **Blue Man Group**, which is so tired by now it makes me want to cry. And of course one can't ignore the **Oriental Theatre** (24 West Randolph Street), with its politically-incorrect name—shouldn't it be the *Asian Theatre*?—in the Ford Center for the Performing Arts. The

Broadway juggernaut *Wicked* will play there indefinitely, starring *SNL*'s Ana Gasteyer as underappreciated witch Elphaba. Word on the street is that what she lacks in vocal range, she makes up for in acting chops. And while critical consensus appears to be slightly negative, this audience favorite doesn't show signs of leaving anytime soon.

But hey, this is just a smattering of what the city of Chicago has to offer. So if you're a future University Theater member with an undying love for the theat-*abb*, well, get your ass out there and explore. Consider this Chicago Theater 101. Aren't you ready for a graduate-level course?

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ENCAPSULATING THE EL

Now that you live in Chicago, it's a good idea to get to know your new city's mass transit system. If buses are the lifeblood of the city's system, then the elevated trains (or the "El") are the backbone. Each line, differentiated by color, will take you to completely different, interesting, and exciting places. To help you get better acquainted with the system the MAROON has put together this spread of system highlights. So what are you waiting for? Buy yourself a CTA card, go out, and explore!

—Compiled by Laura S. Oppenheimer with help from Libby Pearson

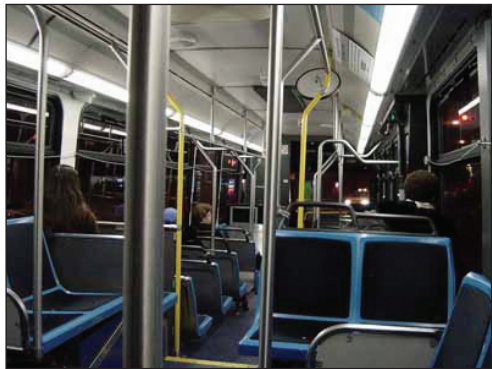


UIC-HALSTED

Greektown, located on Halsted, has lots of (duh) Greek restaurants. Zorba's is open 24 hours a day and the Parthenon will make you wish that you went to to UIC just so you could be close by.

MIDWAY

The orange line isn't very useful for those living in Hyde Park. However, from the Loop, it provides a speedy way to get to Midway Airport. The Orange line goes around the loop along with the Brown, Green, and Purple lines and then jets off to the airport at speeds the 55 bus could only dream of.



WESTERN

If you took AP U.S. history in high school, there is a distinct possibility that you read Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*. While Chicago is home to much more than rats and Lithuanian factory workers named Stanislaus these days, it is possible to relive just a little bit of the glory days of Chicago by getting off at this stop. The neighborhood is called "Back of the Yards" even though the stockyards are now closed. However, it is rumored that a mean *horchata* can be found in the now-mostly-Mexican neighborhood. Dean of Admissions Ted O'Neill, the guy who let you in here, is from this area.



MIDWAY

GARFIELD

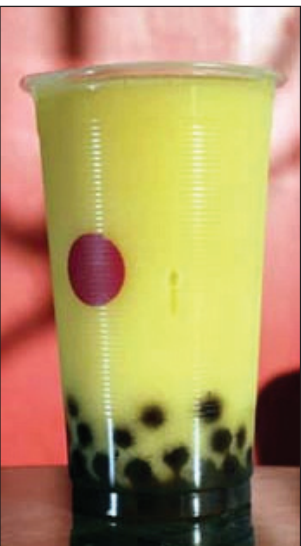
This is your stop. Know it. Love it. Or hate it as most U of C students do. Located directly above the Dan Ryan expressway, this may actually be the coldest spot in Chicago during the winter. And past 10 P.M., the Owl service starts, meaning that the bus runs even less frequently than it normally does. You have been warned.

63RD/COTTAGE GROVE

It's like a dirty little secret. It isn't actually necessary to take the 55 bus to the Red line—the Green line is actually quite close, especially for B-J residents. Though it isn't the safest area, it's not a bad option for people traveling in groups.

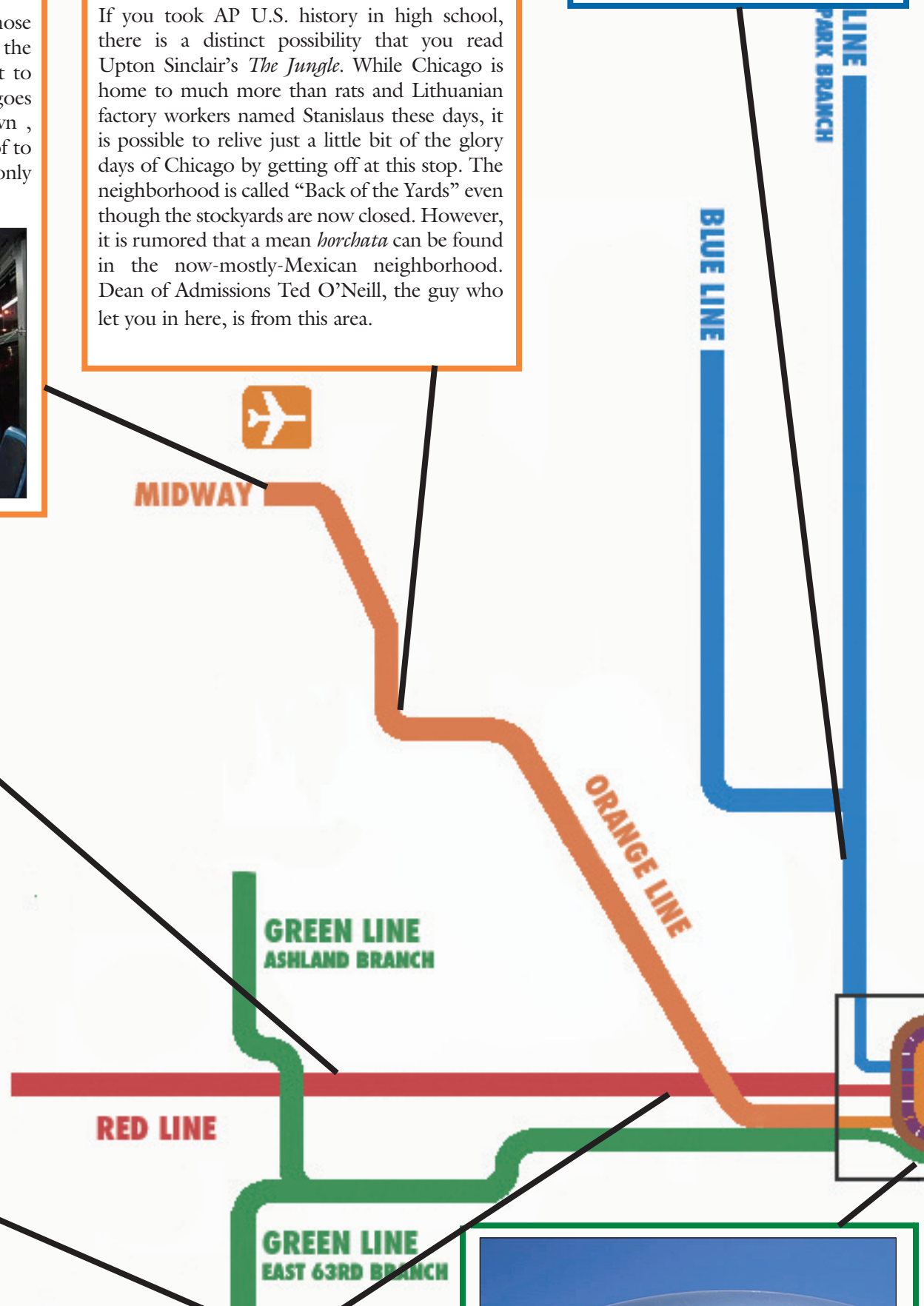
CERMAK/CHINATOWN

Home to many a Chinese restaurant, the Chicago Chinatown is a relatively small and approachable one, when compared to those of other major cities. Be sure to check out Joy Yee's, for the best bubble tea in Chicago. In addition to the restaurants, there also bakeries, candy stores, and one store that even sells baby turtles. Chicago's police museum and the Velvet Lounge are also located here.



ADAMS

Shared with the Purple, Orange, and Brown lines, this stop puts you on the east side of the Loop, just a couple of blocks from both the Art Institute and the recently finished Millennium Park. Be sure to check the park out before it gets super cold, as there is much to see. The Pritzker Pavilion is great eye candy for Frank Gehry fans; the Cloud Gate (i.e. the Bean) provides a snapshot of Chicago's skyline that is unlike any other. Once the park gets boring, stop by the Art Institute, known for its collection of Impressionist pieces. Tuesdays are free (yay!) and it's hard to beat looking at the painting you are studying in Art History up close and in person.





OAK PARK

The Green Line passes through boring residential areas until its stop in Oak Park, a famous old suburb that features Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio, a theater, and numerous record stores. Also, just a few blocks north you will find Ernest Hemingway's childhood home and a museum that chronicles the first 20 years of his life.

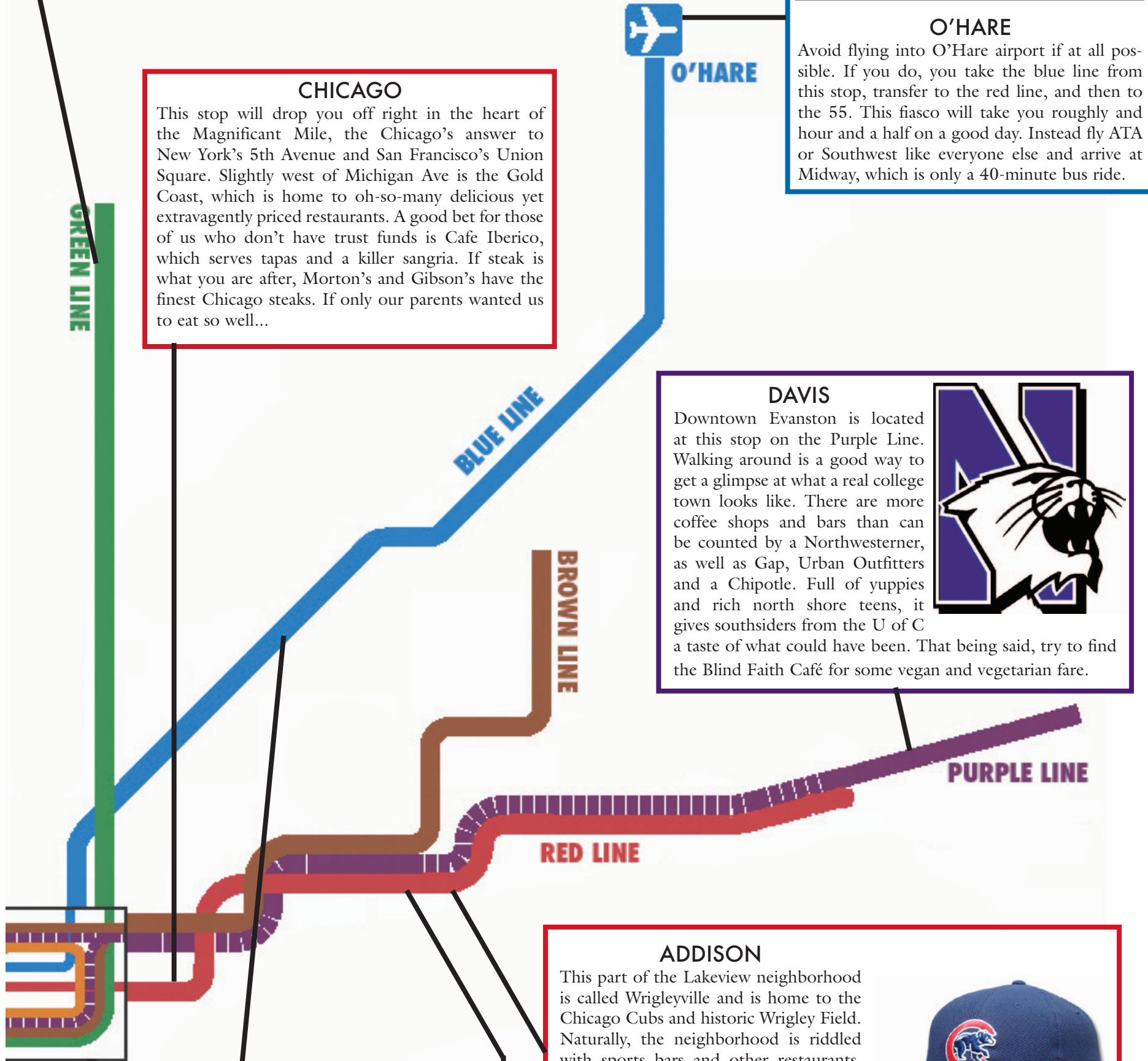


O'HARE

Avoid flying into O'Hare airport if at all possible. If you do, you take the blue line from this stop, transfer to the red line, and then to the 55. This fiasco will take you roughly an hour and a half on a good day. Instead fly ATA or Southwest like everyone else and arrive at Midway, which is only a 40-minute bus ride.

CHICAGO

This stop will drop you off right in the heart of the Magnificent Mile, the Chicago's answer to New York's 5th Avenue and San Francisco's Union Square. Slightly west of Michigan Ave is the Gold Coast, which is home to oh-so-many delicious yet extravagantly priced restaurants. A good bet for those of us who don't have trust funds is Cafe Iberico, which serves tapas and a killer sangria. If steak is what you are after, Morton's and Gibson's have the finest Chicago steaks. If only our parents wanted us to eat so well...



DAVIS

Downtown Evanston is located at this stop on the Purple Line. Walking around is a good way to get a glimpse at what a real college town looks like. There are more coffee shops and bars than can be counted by a Northwestern, as well as Gap, Urban Outfitters and a Chipotle. Full of yuppies and rich north shore teens, it gives southsiders from the U of C a taste of what could have been. That being said, try to find the Blind Faith Cafe for some vegan and vegetarian fare.



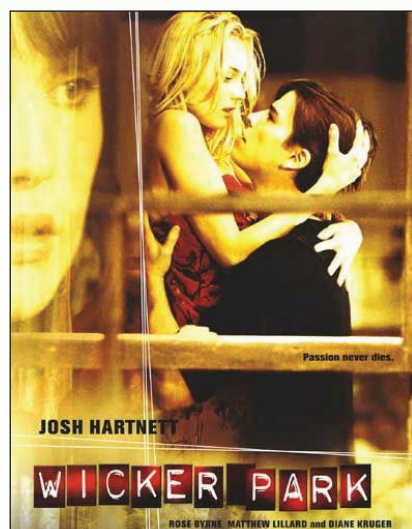
ADDISON

This part of the Lakeview neighborhood is called Wrigleyville and is home to the Chicago Cubs and historic Wrigley Field. Naturally, the neighborhood is riddled with sports bars and other restaurants. Nearby you can find Addis Ababa, an Ethiopian restaurant featuring special native sponge bread. Wrigleyville is also home to The Metro, one of the city's better-known indie-rock concert venues where Billy Corgan got his start, as well as Hi-Fi Records, an indie-rock record store specializing in vinyl next door.



DAMEN

This stop drops you right into the heart of Wicker Park, which was a filming location for the recently released Josh Hartnett film of the same name, though most of it was filmed in Canada. Regardless, Wicker Park is one of those uber hip neighborhoods with bars and boutiques. Walk west to Division and check out Sigaro, an 18-and-over hookah bar with reasonable prices.



BELMONT

Belmont is a stop in the Lakeview neighborhood on the north side. Think of Lakeview as the cheaper version of Lincoln Park. Belmont is known for its eclectic shopping. If you like good music on smaller labels that you can't always find at the mega-stores, walk east for Reckless Records. Boystown, Chicago's LGBTQ community, is also east and then north on Halsted. Be sure to check out the Chicago Diner, which has delicious vegetarian fare as well as the Kit Kat Club, which serves \$4 martinis on Tuesday nights.



Out of ideas for fun? Try these tidbits of Chicago wisdom

BY STEPHANIE MIELCAREK
MANAGING EDITOR

It's Saturday afternoon, and you actually have some free time before settling in to work on your physics problem set. Where to go, what to do? Chicago offers many options, but few that aren't a) chock-full of tourists or b) super-expensive. Here are a few options guaranteed to give you a fun time without putting another dent in your wallet.

Be a kid again.

Take the Red Line to Fullerton, then take a walk to **Oz Park**, located at 2021 North Burling Street. This fanciful park was built in 1967 to celebrate L. Frank Baum, the author of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, who lived and wrote in Chicago for 20 years. Entering the park via a brick pathway, you'll be greeted by larger than life sculptures of characters like the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion. Bring friends to play tag in Dorothy's play lot—complete with an vast, intricate wooden jungle gym—and take a break in the Emerald Garden.

For more grown-up pleasures, bring along tennis rackets or softball equipment for a game on the (typically empty) courts or fields. Afterwards, grab a bite to eat at the colorful and inexpensive **Doggie Diner**, at 723 West Armitage Avenue.

Take in a free festival (or a free movie, concert, gallery showing...)

Pick up the *Chicago Reader* sometimes. Sections 2 and 3 are essentially nothing but lists of movie showings, art galleries, and often times going on around the city, with a convenient icon to denote a college student's favorite events—the free ones. The *Chicago Sun-Times* also offers a comprehensive list of festivals taking place

in and around the city each month. Visit www.suntimes.com/calendar to scope out dates, times and locations.

Sample gourmet treats.

It's a not-so-secret fact that to eat well at **Water Tower** on Michigan Avenue, you don't necessarily have to pay. Intersperse your window shopping with stops at Ghirardelli's across the street for sample squares of various chocolates, Godiva for a sample truffle, and Marshall Field's for a famous Frango mint. Try Teavana for an assortment of iced and hot tea samples.

Pamper your outer whims, as well—head back to Field's or Lord & Taylor for a makeup consultation, and try soothing lotions at Crabtree & Evelyn or the Body Shop. If you're still hungry after your sweet tooth and gourmet appetites have been sated, keep your wallet full for hitting the boutiques on Rush Street. Save on lunch by going to Wow Bao just inside the Water Tower Place entrance for a cheap (think under \$5) meal of steamed Chinese buns filled with savory meats and veggies.

Go dancing, take up cooking, or learn to kick ass.

The **Tango Chicago Dance Centre** (1043 West Madison) hosts a Tuesday Night Milonga, starting with a free introductory lesson at 7:30 p.m. and lasting until midnight. For those interested in swing, the University's own **Chicago Swing Dance Society** offers inexpensive classes and hosts a free dance event, Java Jive, weekly in the C-Shop. Check swing.uchicago.edu for times and classes offered.

Want to impress a date with a savory home-cooked meal, but don't know the difference between a wok and a double boiler? For \$15, **Treasure Island** (2121

North Clybourn) offers hands-on cooking classes—head to tfoods.com for dates. Also try **Bloomington's** (600 North Wabash) or **Marshall Field's Culinary Studio** (111 North State Street) for free cooking demonstrations.

For yoga, martial arts, and other classes, the **Chicago Park District** tends to offer courses that are both less expensive and more convenient than other options. However, this is one case where what you save in cash, you might lose out on in solid instruction. Check out chicagoparkdistrict.com for times, courses, and registration.

Journey back in time

For a mere \$3 (bring your student ID), you can gawk at the torture devices—er, I mean, medical equipment—of centuries past. The **International Museum of Surgical Science** (1524 North Lake Shore Drive) features a 19th century apothecary shop, an exhibit focusing on polio—complete with a working iron lung—and other galleries of often-times frightening surgical history. The museum also hosts contemporary art exhibits centered around the human body and medical themes.

Afterwards, take a scenic walk to the **Chicago Historical Society** (1601 North Clark Street), where you can pay another



Graceland Cemetery's "Statue of Death" (above) and Oz Park's "Tinman": Separated at birth?



\$3 to see the bed President Lincoln died on, among other items of historical significance. If you're still in the mood for slightly morbid history, hop on the bus to 4001 North Clark, where you'll find **Graceland Cemetery**. Grab a map at the office, or just start wandering. You'll find the final resting places of Chicago greats like George Pullman, Louis Sullivan, Daniel Burnham, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Marshall Field, and dozens more. If you're lucky (or cursed), you'll see the ghost of Inez Clarke, a little girl whose life-size statue guards her grave, or fulfill the urban legend of seeing your own death in the face of the "Statue of Death" who stands over Dexter Graves's grave.



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Chicago radio: What's the frequency, first-years?

BY MATT ZAKOSEK
VOICES EDITOR

One of my favorite O-Week stories goes like this:

Two girls were standing on the football field behind Pierce Tower waiting for their class photo to be taken. The first girl spoke up shyly. "Do you like Belle and Sebastian?" she asked the other girl.

"I love Belle and Sebastian!" the second girl replied.

Thus a fast friendship was born. But by the time I heard this story, their friendship was on the rocks, and the first girl recounted the tale with scorn. "Try finding someone at the U of C who *doesn't* love Belle and Sebastian," she snorted.

Good point.

If you were the "indie rock kid" at your high school, prepare to feel not-so-special anymore. Have a problem with this? Go cry on a pile of Death Cab CDs with Seth Cohen from *The O.C.*

At the U of C, where everyone is auto-

matically *au courant* (I've heard of all the latest indie rock bands, even if I've never heard their music), you need to turn to **WHPK** for your daily dosage of hip. That's 88.5 on your dial, and if you're cool at all, you'll have at least three friends with their own show on WHPK. (I'm exaggerating, but just barely.)

One of the best things about WHPK is Pure Hype, the live rock 'n' roll show every Friday from 9 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. (Decent time slot, because you can tune in and still have time to finish your Hum paper before sunrise.) In the past, Pure Hype has featured such Hyde Park favorites as Starlister and P1xel and the Chronic Network, buzz-worthy bands-around-town like Bible of the Devil, and local rocker/cartoonist Archer Prewitt (from the Sea and Cake). A CD of these live performances was released in 1995; unfortunately, it's out of print now. Hmm, did somebody say eBay?

Outside of the (extremely) local scene, Chicago radio is way too varied for me to give suggestions without, you know,

getting to know you and stuff. I used to like **WKQX (101.1 FM)**—also known as Q101—but they've really started to suck in recent years. They just switched to an "iPod shuffle" format, which means their play list is much better than it used to be, but the change may be an example of too little, too late. As my friend Mara sniffs, "Q101? That's *so* seventh grade."

Try **Kiss (103.5 FM)** for Top 40 music; **B96, "the killer B" (96.3 FM)** for mainstream hip-hop; and, um, the **Mix (101.9 FM)** for bland rock like Maroon 5 and the Dave Matthews Band. **The Zone (94.7 FM)** plays Ozzfest rock, faux-threatening bands like Saliva, Slipknot, and any band that communicates largely through monosyllabic grunts.

WXRT (93.1 FM) is a Chicago institution, but like my once-beloved Q101, it's been on a severe downturn in quality for the last couple of years. I mean, unlike some of my friends, I have nothing against Conor Oberst—but once you start labeling him as "progressive rock," you're probably

in trouble. And plastering posters around town featuring a huge "W" haven't helped. Are they ads for a radio station, or campaign posters for George W. Bush?

Bizarrely, **WJMK (104.3 FM)**, which used to play "oldies from the '60s and '70s," just switched to a "Jack" format, which means that it plays, well, anything. **The Nine (99.9 FM)** does this as well, and it's pleasant enough, if not a little disorienting. You can start jamming to a great Nirvana tune (not that they would ever play a B-side or anything; probably just "Smells Like Teen Spirit") and suddenly have Avril Lavigne's "Sk8er Boi" assault your eardrums. Personally, I'd like the oldies back, as would quite a few disgruntled fans.

I doubt this listing has convinced you to abandon your iPod, but if you ever find yourself on a road trip to, say, the Indiana Dunes—as I did during one great spring Saturday—at least you'll know where to tune your dial. That is, after you've finished listening to your Belle and Sebastian CDs.

Looking outside of campus when Doc's got you down

BY EMERALD GAO
VOICES EDITOR

Movie theaters aren't hard to find in Chicago. **Loews Cineplex** is a Michigan Avenue staple, and the cushy AMC River East is always worth a visit. However, if you're in the mood for something a little off the beaten path, the city also has theaters that specialize in independent film. **Landmark Century Centre Cinema**, on the North Side, is the most accessible stop for indie/foreign flicks, and if you have a few extra hours to kill, take the Purple Line up to the Davis stop and catch a movie at **Cinearts** in Evanston.

In the heart of downtown Chicago is the **Gene Siskel Film Center**, which showcases films of different nationalities, eras, and themes each month, along with some special screenings that should not be missed. If you head north to Fullerton Avenue you'll hit **Facets Cinematheque**, where the specialty is all the newest releases from around the world. Features films only run for a week or less, though, so it's a good idea to visit the website (www.facets.org) or join their mailing list in order to keep up with the constant rotation of movies.

One of the great joys of attending college in a metropolitan area is the abundance of film festivals that take place throughout the

year. Mid-October traditionally belongs to the **Chicago International Film Festival**, two glorious weeks of previewing upcoming feature films—this year's opener is *Elizabethtown*, the new Orlando Bloom movie—from the U.S. and countries around the world, and watching independent gems that you wouldn't otherwise be exposed to. It's also a great way to sneak a glimpse of stars and directors as they take the stage to talk about their films.

Hardly does the International Film Festival end when the **Chicago Lesbian and Gay Film Festival**—also known as Reeling—begins. This film festival is a product of Chicago Filmmakers, the largest media arts organization in Chicago, and is generally hailed as a landmark event for the city's GLBTQ community. For a week in November, the second oldest gay and lesbian film festival in the world showcases the edgi-

est, most provocative films made from the gay and lesbian perspective.

After a long winter, the Latino Cultural Center of Chicago unveils its **International Latino Film Festival**, which runs for approximately two weeks in April. Fans of foreign film should not miss this event as more than 100 films from over 20 Ibero-American cultures are screened to its diverse audience, which ranges from high school Spanish classes to film lovers who have traveled to Chicago specifically for this festival.

These three are just the tip of the iceberg. Festivals as diverse as the **Future Filmmakers Festival** (a one-day festival dedicated to young aspiring filmmakers) and the **International Children's Film Festival** (the largest of its kind in North America), grace every month of the calendar, so there is always a new cinematic adventure for those who are willing to look, and even more willing to watch.



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Sports in Chicago: Home of many lovable losers

BY JOE KATZ
SPORTS EDITOR

If watching your classmates roll through the UAA only whets your appetite for the thrill of victory, you're in luck. Chicago is one of the world's great sports cities, with five major professional sports franchises calling this city home.

When it comes to baseball, Chicago can't be beat. At least, not off the field. As Hyde Park residents, you should be prepared to develop a rooting interest your friendly neighborhood **White Sox**. After several seasons of underachievement, the ChiSox have pulled it together and are playoff-bound in the American League Central for the first time in five years.

Postseason success hasn't been their forte since the "Black Sox" scandal in 1919, when seven star players were paid by gamblers to throw the World Series to Cincinnati—giving you the chance to see a piece of genuine baseball history in the making. The South Siders play at U.S. Cellular Field, just a few quick stops down the Red Line.

Once you've settled in at the Cell, make friends by bashing the **Cubs**. ChiSox fans flat out do not like the north siders. One of their few common bonds is a shared history of losing

teams. The Cubs haven't won the World Series since 1908, longer than any other team in baseball. Though the Cubbies scattered a few heartbreakers here and there, for the most part they've lived down to their reputation as "Lovable Losers," keeping the basement of the National League tidy.

They've been performing better in the past few years, earning the wild card spot out of the N.L. Central as recently as 2003, and now have one of the best rotations in baseball. Their home at Wrigley Field is a trek from campus, but if you call yourself a sports fan, you must make the pilgrimage at least once before graduation.

North siders and south siders alike make their peace on Sundays to cheer on the **Bears**. Some of the best players and coaches in football, from Walter Payton to Dick Butkus to Refrigerator Perry to Mike Ditka, have inspired tailgating parties outside Soldier Field Stadium over the years. Coming off a 5-11 season, it's safe to say that any all-time greats making an appearance on the Soldier Field gridiron this year will be on visiting teams. Coach Lovie Smith has put together a strong defense, but with franchise quarterback Rex Grossman lost to injury for the third season in a row, the

Orange and Blue likely won't contend in the NFC North this season.

On the other hand, the city's winningest franchise, the **Bulls**, will enter the NBA season dreaming of playoff glory. When Michael Jordan retired in 1998 after leading the team to six titles in eight years, the team's fortunes took a nosedive. The roster became a haven for underachievers with high paychecks, bad attitudes, and poor work ethics, and injuries hampered the development of a number of young players. However, the hiring of a new general manager in John Paxson and a new coach in Scott Skiles combined with a great draft in 2004 sparked a turnaround, and the team surged to a 47-34 record, a second place finish in the Eastern Conference's Central Division, and a return to the playoffs for the first time in six seasons. While the Baby Bulls blew a 2-0 lead in the first round, a solid core led by Ben Gordon and Kirk Hinrich should carry them through the season and for years to come.

The Bulls' fellow United Center tenants don't have quite as bright of a future. The **Blackhawks**, one of the NHL's original six franchises, are notorious for being one of the worst-run organizations in professional sports. Most of the blame gets leveled at team owner

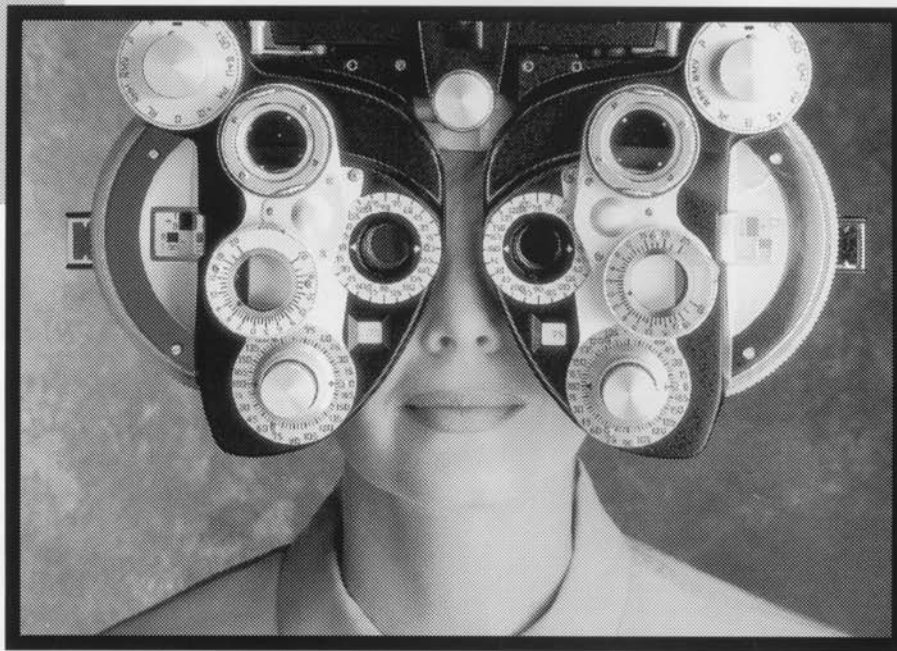
Bill Wirtz, who has been held responsible for a horrific personnel record, tickets averaging \$50 a seat, and television blackouts on home games. The 'Hawks have been praised for signing veterans like goaltender Nikolai Khabibulin this offseason, and could make some noise in the Western Conference's Central Division. However, don't hold your breath waiting for the Wirtzmen to win their first Stanley Cup since 1961.

If this isn't enough to keep you satisfied, Soldier Field is home to the **Fire**, Chicago's MLS franchise, currently third in the Eastern Conference. They'll be moving out to Bridgeview in the spring of 2006, so catch them soon. The next year will also see the beginning of play for two newcomers to the city's sports scene as the WNBA and Major League Lacrosse open up shop in Chicago with two still-to-be-named teams. For other college sports options, head up to Evanston to catch Northwestern in Big 10 action or finish off a day in the Loop watching DePaul fight through its first year in the Big East.

Still not enough action for you? Maybe you should try writing sports for the **MAROON**. Contact sahmed@uchicago.edu or jkat1@uchicago.edu for more details.

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2005 HYDE PARK AREA RESTAURANTS

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The Hyde Park–Garfield metropolis is not internationally known for its cuisine, but it should be. Not in the sense that it should be, but more in the sense that this article is about the restaurants in Hyde Park. There are a host of places you can eat outside of the Aramark cafeterias, and not all of them are worth trying for yourself. Here is the MAROON's gangbusters guide to every single restaurant in Hyde Park, as well as several scattered throughout Chicago. Check the legend to figure out what the hell all those little icons mean.

Bar Louie ♥🍷

1500 South Shore, 363-5300

Despite the name, Bar Louie isn't just a bar. Located in the picturesque Flamingo, this one is really convenient for inmates of Shoreland and Broadview and features a smorgasboard of different entrees including sandwiches and tacos. We're told that there's an under 10 menu, so bring the kids!

Baskin-Robbins 🍦🍪

1400 E. 53rd, 288-4434

Ice cream. Did not have all 31 flavors when the MAROON came by for a birthday treat. Host to reliable, if unspectacular, ice creaming and the occasional awkward moment. Write them a letter about bringing back the mini batting helmets.

Bonjour Café ☺

1550 E. 55th, 241-5300

This restaurant features coffee and solid, reliable bakery fare. The gourmet sandwiches are good, but a little on the expensive side. All baking, cooking, and coffee making is done on site, which is a welcome rarity in this day and age. It also features a nice outdoor seating area for when the weather gets warm.

Boston Market ☺

1424 E. 53rd, 288-2600

What can we say about Boston Market? This one's just like any other one. Features decent home-style fare.

Burger King 🍔🍷

1527 E. Hyde Park.

All hail the king! Actually, no better than any other Burger King on the planet. Still edible, for a fast food restaurant. The interior can get a little cramped.

Café Coreá ♥\$

1603 E. 55th, 363-7742

A smidge pricey but quite good. Not necessarily authentic Korean fare, but definitely worth a visit. There are only four tables, though, so crowds are not really a factor, unless you were planning to sit down but couldn't.

Caffé Florian ☺☺

1450 E. 57th, 752-4100

Popular with U of C students, this place can get crowded on Friday and Saturday nights. Nonetheless, worth a visit for the pizza (warning: you may not be able to finish the deep dish), though the pasta is also alright. Florian is run by the same management as Salonica, incidentally.

Calypso Café ♥\$🍷

5211 S. Harper, 955-0229

Cold Chicago winters can take their toll on you Chicago newcomers, but never fear:

Tropical weather and paper umbrella-laden drinks are here.

The side dishes of rice, vegetables, and freshly cut plantains or yams are a healthy yet tasty departure from greasy French fries or onion rings. But it's not like this place doesn't have its more fattening fare: Be sure to leave room for the key lime pie, which is perfect. In fact, if you ever just want to satisfy your sweet tooth, screw dinner and come for the pie. Keep in mind this is one of Hyde Park's pricier eateries.

Cedar's Mediterranean Kitchen ♥🍷

1206 E. 53rd, 324-6227

Cedars is a great intro to Middle Eastern cuisine, or a great filler for connoisseurs of the same eastern Mediterranean food. Having moved to the more commercial Kimbark plaza roughly three years ago, Cedars has undergone a legitimate revival in becoming not only a thrifty place for students to eat well at moderate prices, but a chic sit-down near the University with great staff and a stylish atmosphere. Food can range everywhere from small items (falafel sandwiches, lentil soup, or cucumber salad) to the family-style banquet, great for a house trip or any group of friends. Recommended here: shawarma, of any meat—chicken, beef, or lamb. Cedars is not usually cramped, but is occasionally on the weekends.

Cholie's 🍷☺🍷🍷

1601 E. 53rd, 684-8688

Cholie's is one of the few places in Hyde Park that sells pizza by the slice. It delivers and is extremely cheap, but reaction to their greasy pies has been decidedly mixed among students.

Daley's Restaurant 🍷🍷

809 E. 63rd, 643-8870

Not affiliated with the first family of Chicago politics, this diner has been serving the north Woodlawn neighborhood since 1918. It's worth checking out more for the ambience than anything else, as the food is standard greasy spoon fare. Nonetheless, it does feature a gigantic catfish plate. It closes early, so make plans to go for lunch.

Domino's Pizza 🍷🍷☺

1453 E. Hyde Park, 324-3800

This place is no different from any other Domino's pizza. It does, however, accept delivery order until 1 A.M. And there will come a time when you will want pizza at that hour.

Dunkin' Donuts/Togo's 🍷🍷☺☺

1411 E. 53rd. You don't need to call them.

Trust us.

One of two restaurants in Hyde Park open 24 hours a day, these are your few sources for munchies when it's really late (or early, depending on how you look at it). Supposedly, they will shoo you away if you spend more than 20 minutes there.

Edwardo's Natural Pizza ☺☺

1321 E. 57th, 241-7960

If you're craving reasonably priced Chicago-style pizza close to campus, head over to Edwardo's. The Italian chain offers gooey, "award-winning" stuffed pizza smothered in

cheese and sauce, as well as other dishes like thin-crust pizza, salad, lasagna, and calzones. For an appetizer, try the delicious bruschetta. Edwardo's is a cute place, good for a gathering of family or friends, if not too romantic.

On weekdays from 11:30 to 2:30 P.M., a personal stuffed pizza, a salad, and a can of soda go for \$6.31, while on Sunday and Tuesday Nights, a family special, including a large pizza and soda pitcher, costs \$14.99. Be sure to bring your U of C ID, which gives you a 15 percent discount, and tell your server if it's your first time there; you'll get a free soda. (N.B. Milk—in case you were thinking of ordering it—will cost you. It also comes in a little blue Dean's carton reminiscent of an elementary school cafeteria. In short, stick with water or soda.) A caveat: The stuffed pizza needs 30 minutes in the oven and the wait staff isn't the speediest, so don't go if you're pressed for time. Another drawback is the lack of free bread.

Far East Kitchen ☺🍷

1509 E. 53rd, 955-2200

Possibly better than the other Chinese joints in Hyde Park but somewhat on the pricier end. Features a full bar, if the thought of getting drunk in a Chinese restaurant scintillates you.

Giordano's 🍷\$☺

5311 S. Blackstone, 947-0200

This member of the famous chain does absolutely awesome Chicago stuffed pizza. Try the stuffed spinach—it's on the more expensive side (over \$20 for a big pie), but worth every last penny. The Caesar salad with anchovies is also pretty good. They deliver until midnight on weekdays and 1 A.M. on Friday and Saturday nights.

Gold City Inn 🍷

5228 S. Harper, 493-2559

Chinese place at the south end of Harper Court. Decent, for Hyde Park Chinese places, but don't go out of your way for it.

Harold's Chicken Shack 🍷🍷☺☺

1208 E. 53rd, 667-9835

A Chicago cliché as much as El trains and never-ending twilight, this venerable Kimbark Plaza outpost brings some really awesome fried chicken to your plate. It also has fish on the menu, but everyone goes there for the chicken. Grease levels are through the roof, but so are deliciousness levels, so if you don't mind having a few years taken off your life with each visit, give it a go.

Hyde Park Gyros 🍷🍷

1368 E. 53rd, 947-8229

Really cheap and better and more filling than your typical McDonald's/Burger King fare. Check out the Hyde Park burger and the Italian Beef. Get some onion rings on the side, or go for a combo.

Jimmy's (Woodlawn Tap) 🍷🍷☺☺☺☺☺☺

1172 E. 55th, 643-5516

Jimmy's doles out the typical bar food along with the liquor, featuring burgers, brats, etc. The grilled swiss in unchallengeable, we are told. Frankly, you're probably not going to go to Jimmy's for the food. Also, if you're under 21, you can't get in, not even just to eat.

KFC 🍷🍷☺

1511 E. Hyde Park, 288-2221

Yet another entry of the fast food behemoth. If you're feeling the cravings for KFC, by all means head on over.

Kikuya ♥\$☺

1601 E. 55th, 667-3727

Kikuya serves sushi and other traditional Japanese cuisine in wooden bowls. Meals are \$10-15 but worth the money. Try the green tea ice cream.

La Petite Folie♥\$🍷

1504 E. 55th, 493-1394

La Petite Folie is actual fine dining brought to Hyde Park. Hence it's probably not the place you want to eat at a lot when on a

student budget (unless you're a Rockefeller). Nonetheless, this is a place to try when the parental plastic is making the payment. The cuisine is classic French. Our recommendation: poached salmon or duck salad.

Leona's 🍷🍷

1236 E. 53rd, 363-2600

Leona's is a Chicago chain that is purportedly family owned. The installment in Kimbark Plaza features an absolutely humongous menu and equally humongous portions. I can guarantee you that you will walk away stuffed, if you can stomach the food. Quality is neither particularly good nor particularly bad. Leona's also features a full bar to get you loosened but does, however, tend to be crowded and the acoustics aren't the greatest, so it's not the place for quiet conversation. Check out the \$1 mozzarella sticks.

Lung Wah Chop Suey 🍷☺

1361 E. 53rd, 324-0429

Yet another Hyde Park Chinese establishment. Strictly carry-out, as there's no place to sit and eat. Known for their ability to turn orders around quickly.

Maravilla's 🍷🍷

5211-G S. Harper, 643-3155

If you walk all the way to Calypso and it doesn't suit your fancy, go right downstairs and you will find Maravillas. For those looking for something light yet different, Maravillas offers the best Mexican food this side of Pilsen.

A tiny, but colorful shack with plastic tables and a neon-light sign, Maravillas is a good spot to grab a bite anytime of the day.

Popular dishes include \$4 giant burritos—both meat and vegetarian, including an avocado burrito—nachos, tacos, and egg and avocado sandwiches (my personal favorite). There are also imported Mexican sodas, one of which is sangria flavored. This probably isn't where you want to take your parents when they visit.

Medici ☺☺

1327 E. 57th, 667-7394

The Med is a default option for a lot of first years: It's Saturday night, the dining halls aren't open, and you don't want to walk that far just to get a bite to eat.

But the Med is a Hyde Park institution in its own right. It was the meeting place for a lot of radical groups in the '60s, and it still looks "radical" to this day (my grandmother was shocked by all the graffiti). Where else will the waiter cast a blind eye while you carve an epithet about your best friend's mother into the table with a fork?

The options on the menu are diverse, ranging from Mediterranean ragout to a do-it-yourself pizza. The Med may be most popular during dinnertime, but don't rule it out for the perfect hangover brunch. The portions are large, the prices are reasonable, and hey, no one's going to complain if you dive headfirst into your pile of pancakes.

Medici Bakery \$☺☺☺

1331 E. 57th, Same phone number as Med

Some of the best coffee in Hyde Park, with insanely inventive lids when you get it to go. Also, they put just about anything delicious inside a croissant, which makes it even more delicious. If you don't have time for a whole pizza at the Med, you can grab a slice to go here. But be warned, they have some pricey bread. However, you never know what kind of music (early '90s mix!) the staff will be playing over the sound system.

Mellow Yellow 🍷

1508 E. 53rd, 667-2000

Tired of greasy omelets or pancakes for breakfast? For some of the best breakfast treats in the neighborhood—granted, if you're willing to pay \$6-10 for a plate—come to Mellow Yellow. The crepes and blintzes are phenomenal, and for those over 21, there is a full bar that serves alcoholic breakfast drinks. Coffee—who needs it? Give me some gin and juice to wake me up in the morning.

Morry's Deli 🍷🍷

5500 S. Cornell, 363-3800

Used to have multiple locations, but now solely resides in the eastern badlands of Hyde Park, dishing out its goods to the bleary-eyed residents of Shoreland and Broadview. Sandwiches and burgers are big, cheap, and heavy on the grease. Breakfast sandwiches are much the same, only with eggs and a pork product of your choosing. Inexpensive fries abound too, provided that the fry machine is not out of order, as it occasionally is.

Nathan's/Taste of Jamaica 🍷

1372 E. 53rd, 288-5353

The best curried goat in Hyde Park. OK, the only curried goat in Hyde Park, but if you haven't tried it, get some. Hot dogs and jerk chicken are light on the wallet.

Nicky's Chinese 🍷🍷

5231 S. Woodlawn 324-5340

Generally competent, Nicky's will keep you from starvation, but rarely rises above or beyond the call of duty.

The Nile ♥🍷

1611 E. 55th 324-9499

Reliable Middle Eastern cuisine. Might be the best of the eastern restaurants located on 55th Street. Prices range from \$5, depending on how good your date looks. You can try it out on campus, as it exports entrees to some U of C coffee shops. If meat is your thing, don't miss the chicken schwarma sandwich.

Noodles, Etc. 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Two locations: 1458 E. 53rd, 947-8787 & 1333 E. 57th, 684-2801

Feel like Asian cuisine, but don't know what to get? Chinese? Japanese? Thai? Or a little of all three? For the indecisive or the diverse, Noodles has the best menu in Hyde Park. A veritable favorite of the University area, this Pan Asian restaurant serves food the ways college kids like it best—fast, big, and cheap. Servings are especially great there if you're the type who likes to share with friends. The 57th Street spot often finds more patrons than its more secluded 53rd Street brother, probably because of its proximity to campus.

Service is fine, but expect both restaurants to get crowded and loud quickly. Also, you're going on a secret "rendezvous," the big, broad windows kind of leave you out in the open for the dogs hunting you down. It's my favorite restaurant here because it's the only one in HP to serve a Filipino dish.

Original Pancake House 🍷🍷

1517 E. Hyde Park, 288-2322

As the name suggests, they serve pancakes here. If by "Original" they mean huge and tasty, then the title is right on. The wait can be long and rowdy on weekends, and can be an "experience" for repressed suburbanites. The baked omelets are also as delicious as they are unique. We're especially fond of the bacon waffles. Plan on taking something home; portions are huge.

Orly's Café ♥🍷🍷🍷

1660 E. 55th, 643-5500

The second coming of the restaurant after a late 1990s hiatus, it spotlights New Orleans cuisine, with the same great burritos and margaritas that it served under its alter ego, Jalapeño's. The interior still has a cordially tacky southwestern aura about it, and the service is pleasant and speedy. Keep an eye out for student specials in this newspaper, of which there are many.

Pepé's Mexican Food 🍷🍷🍷

310 E. 53rd, 752-9300

Lowest common denominator of Mexican food. Easy on the wallet and hard on the stomach. Will periodically offer specials such as five tacos for \$6; other than that, not worth the trip.

Pizza Capri ♥\$🍷🍷🍷

1501 E. 53rd, 324-7777

Often thought of as a reliable default date restaurant, Pizza Capri serves up your familiar Italian American dishes along with some original classics like pasta shells with salmon and their own Far East chicken salad—both happen to be quite tasty. However, it is a bit pricey, and most of the time there are entirely too many children there. Get a half order of any pasta dish, unless you want leftovers—and try not to fill up on the great bread and seasoned olive oil.

For those who want to snag a conversation with a big man on campus: Our very own Dean John Boyer has been spotted at Pizza Capri on various Friday nights, eating salads and reading books. Ask him what his favorite item on the menu is, or about Thucydides.

Pizza Hut 🍷🍷

1404 E. 53rd, 288-5899

This restaurant is guilty of false advertising as the store is not actually in a hut, but we'll give it to them on poetic license. If you're trying to notch up a weight class, check out the lunch specials. They actually won't bring pizza to you, so you must come to them. Maybe it's called a hut because they're still in the dark ages.

Piccolo Mondo ♥\$🍷

1642 E. 56th, 643-1106

If you can't get off campus, this is probably a good spot to take either a date or your parents when they visit. But PM may not merit more than one or two visits. A darker, less "pop" Pizza Capri, PM's dishes do not live up to the expectations its ambience may create. The putinesca is OK and the gnocchi isn't bad, but nothing is more than satisfactory. The wine isn't that good, and no one feels good after paying a little extra for a meal that feels unhealthy and mediocre. Try it for the atmosphere, if anything.

Pockets ☺

1307 E. 53rd, 667-1313

A Hyde Park staple. You may see cars with Pockets flags driving around campus. Don't get sucked in by the mystique, though—a pocket, already slightly overpriced at \$6+, becomes downright exorbitant when you add the \$2 delivery charge. If you can make it to the location across from Kimbark Plaza, however, enjoy a fresh and tasty meal that won't send you to the ER for a triple bypass. Calzones are good too, but be careful, the insides are hotter than James Brown's pants at Freaknik.

The Pub 🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷

1212 E. 59th, Lower Level. If you need to call here, don't.

Great for those of us on the liquid bread diet, with over 20 beers on tap to choose from (they even offer free samples!). Under 21? Sorry pal, go drink some month-old apple juice. Bar food is surprisingly good and amazingly cheap. Stop in on Mondays for 10-cent-wing night. \$1 cover for non-members, \$5 to join. Not open Sundays. A favorite with the MAROON staff, due to its proximity (~20 steps) to the office.

Quiznos 🍷🍷

1519 E. 55th, 241-QUIZ

HP's newest sandwich locale. Imagine watching your choice of sub slowly glide through a five-foot toaster with a viewing window. Unlike Subway, you aren't encouraged to choose exactly how they make your sandwich, but the trick to Quiznos is to trust them on the sandwich concoctions that they present you. The vegetarian sub isn't just a meatless version of the real thing; it's actually flavorful and seems to have been created by real vegetarians. Worth noting: The Quizno's "regular" is two inches longer than that other chains "regular." Also: They have a pepper bar.

Rajun Cajun 🍷🍷🍷🍷

1459 E. 53rd, 955-1145

Indian and soul food make a strange but shockingly good pair. You can grab chicken fragments and two sides, with a corn muffin, for five and change. Indian entrees are on the spicy side, but impossible to ignore when steaming right in front of you. The place is a bit small, and dumpy for dining in, but they have box lunches scattered throughout campus, turning noon into Easter every day. Rajun (pronounced ray-jun) is an indispensable source of cheap, delicious food for the discerning HP eater. And if you like your movies to match your food, ask about their fantastic Bollywood movie selection.

Ribs 'N' Bibs 🍷🍷🍷🍷

5300 S. Dorchester, 493-0400

It's sometimes impossible to resist the smell of this HP establishment, which carries for what seem to be miles. The larger racks of ribs are a complete rip-off, so students without trust funds need to look elsewhere on the menu for satisfaction. There are many good options though, including the bronco cheeseburger (less than \$2). The junior ranch hand is a darn fine deal as well. Everything tastes better out of a bucket, and that goes for their chicken too. No sitting or eating allowed on the premises, and be wary of panhandlers asking for a rib outside the door.

Salonica 🍷🍷🍷🍷

1440 E. 57th, 752-3899

If you need an omelet in two minutes or less, then Salonica is the place for you. Other dishes can take a little longer, depending on how packed the place is at the time. Breakfast is served all day, and many students stick to these options, although they make a mean gyro. Many swear by Salonica, while others swear at it. Go there and decide for yourself. Salonica is now cash only.

Sammy's 🍷🍷

5659 S. Cottage Grove, 288-2645

The outside reads "Beef Gyros Cigarettes," which pretty much says it all. Despite the incredibly greasy menu, the place is full of lab coats from the adjacent UC hospitals come lunch time. Don't they know what it's doing to them? Maybe they do, but it's too tasty to stop.

Siam 🍷

1639 E. 55th 324-9296

This is the child, sister, or mother restaurant of the Snail, having nearly identical menus with comparable prices. They serve beer, which is good. The name is less off-putting, but the food is no less Thai...and DELICIOUS.

Snail Thai ♥🍷🍷

1649 E. 55th, 667-5423

...is dope. The Snail was like, "Hey, do you like good Thai food?" and I was like, "Word." And then I ate there, and I loved it. Friendly management and wait staff, food for both the adventurous and stay-at-home-not-literally-but-ideologically diner. Delivery available.

Starbuck's 🍷🍷

Two locations: E. 55th Place, 1500 E. 53rd, 324-1421

Still can't figure out what coffee has to do with *Moby Dick*, or the Whale. All that happens in *Moby Dick* (the book) is: Guys sit on a boat talking about the transcendent power of human will, and occasionally another guy comes by and tells them that Moby Dick (the Whale) will kill all of them. Then Moby Dick (the Whale) shows up and kills all of them. That there is why *Moby Dick* (the book, but even more so the Whale) rules, and also, inexplicably, why Starbucks comes from hell.

Subway 🍷🍷

Three locations: 1363 E. 53rd, 288-8400; 1642 E. 55th, 667-9096; 1449 E. 57th, 241-SUBS

Subway is like a virus that has spread out of control before you even know what it is. That being said, it's a virus with tasty sandwiches.

Thai 55

1607 E. 55th, 363-7119

Another Thai restaurant. They have wood paneling, I think. Bangkok chicken is good, although I'm not sure what the Bangkok entrails, er, entails.

Valois (See Your Food) 🍷🍷

1518 E. 53rd, 667-0647

No one should not graduate from the University of Chicago without having eaten at this Hyde Park institution. The most famous restaurant in HP, it's the only one to have a sociology book written about its patrons (*Slim's Table* by Mitchel Duneier).

A classic cafeteria-style diner with a twist—people must wait in a single line to order and receive food from the bossy chefs themselves—Valois will evoke memories of watching the Soup Nazi episode of *Seinfeld* or the old *SNL* skit where John Belushi tells indecisive customers at a diner just what they will be eating: "Cheeseburger, cheeseburger, pepsi."

Only here, instead of cheeseburgers, most prefer its more famous brunch fare. This is the best French toast you will ever eat—it's also great medicine when the weather gets rough. The coffee, hash browns and broccoli cheese omelets are also perennial favorites. The food is super cheap. Also, the rapidly moving line makes for serious efficiency. This place is ghetto, but classic—just like a pair of old gray New Balance sneakers.

University Market 🍷🍷

1323 E. 57th, 363-0700

Great sandwich action, OK prices, belligerent street people demanding your spare change. Owned by the same folks as the Med. Mozzarella sub will treat you right.

Wok N Roll 🍷🍷

1408 E. 53rd 643-3500

Wok N Roll is what every cheap Chinese Food place should be: it serves Chinese food and it's cheap. I say this because if that is all you expect from Wok N Roll you will never be disappointed.

I have only been inside Wok N Roll once and the restaurant reminds me more of the DMV than of a place to eat, but I have had Wok N Roll deliver so many times that I know the number, the hours of operation, and the exact dollar total of a delivered order of sesame chicken will be. Offering the typical array of Chinese dishes, Wok N Roll is who you call when you're working on that paper that refuses to die and you realize that if you're not going to get to sleep tonight you at least deserve a late night meal.

That being said, the best time to order Wok N Roll is before 4 p.m. in order to get their lunch special which allows you to get an entrée, rice, and an egg roll for much less than you normally would pay.

**Not Healthy****Date Restaurant****Is the Dining Hall Still Open?****If the Money Ain't a Thing****If the Money Is A Thing****Pick to click**
That is to say, we eat there.**Kind of Loud****Accept That You Will Go Here****Can't Smoke Here****Get Your Drink On**

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2005

CHICAGO AREA RESTAURANTS

On those rare occasions when you're able to get out of Hyde Park for a while, it can be hard to choose just where to go. From a myriad of great Chicago restaurants, we share our personal favorites. See the previous page for our ratings key.

House of Sushi & Noodles

1610 W. Belmont Ave, 935-9110
www.houseofsushiandnoodles.com

Sushi is delicious. Unfortunately, it also tends to be rather expensive, at least in this part of the country. In the hunt for fresh, reasonably priced sushi, look no further than House of Sushi & Noodles. It's just a short bus ride away from the Belmont stop of the Red Line, and offers *nigiri*, *maki*, and some special hand rolls, along with traditional Japanese appetizers like gyoza and a wide variety of noodle dishes.

House of Sushi & Noodles is best known for its ultra-cheap buffet, which offers 32 specialty rolls, so diners are guaranteed variety alongside old favorites. Because of the popularity of the buffet, the restaurant is often tightly packed with an entire spectrum of city dwellers—many of whom are immortalized in the mosaic of photographs that line the walls. This casual environment is stylized by Oriental lanterns that hang over the booths, and J-pop/rock fills the air on the rare occasion of a lapse in customer chit-chat.

So, great sushi at a shockingly low price and an eclectic but still comfortable dining atmosphere. What's not to love? Oh, and here's a tip: Get there early on weekends; the place fills up quickly, especially at dinnertime.

Clarke's Diner

930 W. Belmont Ave, 348-5988

Everybody gets pancake urges at midnight sometimes. Or grilled cheese urges. Or milkshake urges. Or—well, you get the point. Clarke's, which is located right across from the Belmont stop on the Red Line, is the most convenient place on the north side to grab a bite late at night. The diner is decorated with '50s-style witticisms, '80s pop dominates the music selection, and the pseudo-subversiveness of the entire getup attracts the sort of hipster clientele so synonymous with the Clark and Belmont intersection, who go both for the food and the low lighting. At first glance, Clarke's is just another indie dive, but it's best to let the food talk for itself.

The breakfast options are the most popular—an impressive variety of baked pancakes and mouth-watering egg skillet—but also highly recommended are the cream of tomato soup and sweet potato fries. A wide selection of entrees from Mexican and American cuisine is also available, and as for desserts, well, let's just say it's a good thing the El stop is so close by. Sometimes the wait staff is sparse, but the wait is worth it—especially if you have a craving for the greasy-spoon dishes Clarke's is known for.

Chicago Diner

3411 N. Halsted, 935-6696
www.veggiediner.com

For all the displaced vegetarians and vegans who feel slightly squeamish upon first seeing the streets of Chicago littered with steakhouses, hot dog stands, and White Castles, fear no more. The Chicago Diner offers the best meat-free and organic grub in the entire city.

The menu consists of mostly vegetarian/vegan adaptations of meat-based dishes, using substitutions like seitan, tofu, and tempeh. Clever names like "Not Dog" and "No Meata Fajita" lend a sort of stupid charm to the place, inspiration is drawn from all around

the world—the Middle Eastern platter is listed right above the Nachos Especiales on the menu—and the versatility of meat-free cuisine is thoroughly explored by chef Jo Kaucher. The Chicago Diner even offers a highly rated cookbook for those with a culinary itch.

The entrees are enough to interest those with an open mind, but even the most adamant of carnivores will be swayed by the diner's desserts. An extensive selection of pastries and cakes, including the divine Lemon Ambrosia cake, several dairy-free cheesecakes, and an irresistible chocolate mousse cake, are worth the extra splurge.

The Chicago Diner is located in the heart of Boystown, just a short walk from either the Belmont or Addison Red Line stops.

Salvador's Barro

73 E. Lake St. (312) 346-8457

Salvador's Barro may be a bit overpriced, but you'll forget such petty concerns when you take a look at the menu, which contains an entire page of margaritas. They don't skimp on the portions, either—Cesar's may be the home of the Killer Margarita, but Barro is the home of the margarita that renders you unable to form a complete sentence halfway home on the El.

Barro was a fluke discovery—thanks to an event at the nearby Chicago Cultural Center—and it just may be the best-kept secret in the North Loop. Convenience is key: Barro is close to Borders, Marshall Field's, and several other State Street shops (Nordstrom Rack, H&M, Old Navy). You can even catch a movie at the Gene Siskel Film Center before dinner.

You'll love the hearty round of chips and salsa that are served as soon as you've taken your seat. As for the main courses, the *flautas tricolor* are amazing, but there's a new special every week (with vegetarian and vegan options always available). If you have a sweet tooth, try the *pollo* (chicken) in a chocolate *mole* sauce, and don't skip out before dessert: flan, fried ice cream, and other traditional Mexican dishes round out the menu. And needless to say, you'll have an opportunity to practice your Spanish.

Joy Yee's Noodle Shop

2159 S. China Place, (312) 328-0001

Despite its location in the heart of bustling Chinatown, Joy Yee's Noodles proves a destination in and of itself. Lines stretch out the door at its busiest dinner hours, and often in the middle of the day as well. This place is worth the wait, though. Creamy bubble teas topped with luscious fresh fruit, rich appetizers, hefty portions of both traditional and innovative Chinese entrees fill the menu—which, for lack of a better word, is *huge*. (The drink menu alone offers over 100 mouth-watering combinations of iced teas and tapioca fruit freezes.)

Joy Yee's dining room is cozy and well lit. An extension of the kitchen stretches the length the restaurant, so that expanses of colorful fruit and workers churning out bubble tea after bubble tea are on display for all to see. The atmosphere is typically loud, with blenders going non-stop and tightly packed patrons and workers chatting loudly in both Chinese and English, making the restaurant not so ideal for a first date. It is, however, a great first stop for a night on the town.

If the wait is too intimidating for a sit-down meal, stop by the take-out window and grab a tapioca freeze—I recommend lychee or taro-coconut—and browse the shops on Wentworth. Joy Yee's prices are reasonable, but can get expensive if you like to sample a bit of everything; a meal for two with appetizers and bubble tea will run about \$30 to \$35.



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A two-wheel tour: Getting around HP and Chicago by bike

BY STEPHANIE MIELCAREK
MANAGING EDITOR

For most of the year, excepting the harshest days of winter, Chicago is a great city to live in for both the bike enthusiast and the casual biker. Mayor Daley has frequently claimed that his goal is to make Chicago America's "most bike-friendly city," and it looks as if it is edging increasingly towards that title. Plenty of University of Chicago students hop on their two-wheelers to get around campus—packed bike racks attest to that—but few take advantage of the city's expanses of bike lanes and bike paths. Both the University and the rest of the city have much to offer bicyclists.

The pleasures and perils of Hyde Park

University bicyclists tend to be the friendly sort, nodding to other bikers on their paths to and from class or work. Their sunny disposition might have a lot to do with the time they save biking—think of an hour run-

ning errands around the neighborhood reduced to 15 minutes, give or take. Or it might just be the general good feeling one gets from having the wind whip through her hair as the autumn leaves swirl overhead.

The carefree life of a campus bicyclist can be tempered by some obstacles, though. For example, be careful where you park your bike. The Americans with Disabilities Act led the University's Facilities Services to clip the locks of bikes chained to handrails and impound them at the UCPD, citing the portion of the Act that calls for unobstructed handrails for the elderly and infirm. As of yet, however, there's nothing to stop you from temporarily attaching your bike to a tree, signpost, or meter.

Another note of caution is a simple one: Avoid pedestrians and follow the rules of the road. It is illegal for adults to ride on the sidewalk in Chicago, and bicyclists can be ticketed for offenses like going the wrong way down a one-way street or running a red light, just like any other vehicle. If you do find yourself biking on the sidewalk—an



KRISTINE KHOURI/News Photo Staff

Biking in Hyde Park is quick, convenient, and fun—but don't lock your bike in the wrong place. It could end up impounded at the UCPD station like these.

inevitability on campus—do those you share the walk with a favor, and call "on your right/left" when needing to pass within a couple feet.

Exploring the city

Chicago is laced with bike trails and bike lanes—far too many to list here—but one of the best is too near campus *not* to take advantage of it. The lake-shore trail stretches from the far north side to South Shore—and you can bike even further down the lake following street traffic. This route is incredibly scenic, and relatively flat. You can even branch off from the trail at Millennium Park, to park at the new bike station, shower, and visit downtown.

However, I recommend charting your own biking trails, or just leaving Hyde Park (map in hand, of course) and seeing where those two wheels can take you. Merely meandering north to 35th leads you through historic Kenwood, North Kenwood, and Oakland. Biking south takes you to Oak Woods Cemetery at 67th Street—a ride that is surprisingly less morbid than it sounds, with beautiful lakes and monumental tombs to either side of the winding trail. Even the CTA makes exploring via bike easy; bicycles are allowed on the El, and every bus is equipped with a bike rack holding up to two bicycles.

If you're interested in exploring Chicago on bike, but don't know where to start, there are plenty of resources. John Boyer, dean of the College, and sociology professor Terry Clark lead an annual bike tour of historic Chicago, and RSO's like the Big Friendly Bike Club offer events and good company. Critical Mass (chicagocriticalmass.org) takes place at 5:30 P.M. on the last Friday of every month. This free ride usually starts from Daley Plaza downtown, and leads a horde of riders through a different map every month. For basic Chicago biking info, including up-to-date maps of trails and bike lanes, visit cityofchicago.org/cdot. If you'd like to purchase a bike, two recently launched websites, workingbikes.org and hydeparkbikes.org, offer affordable options with personalized service for students.

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Dorm life not your thing? Go apartment hunting, for sport

BY LAURA S. OPPENHEIMER
MAROON STAFF

Mooch/Investigate

Finding a perfect apartment in Hyde Park is like finding a perfect course at the U of C—it probably isn't out there, but every once in a while someone you know finds one, and the rest, well, they aren't all that bad anyway.

Though all first-year students are required to live in a dorm, once you reach second-year, the world (or Hyde Park at least) is your playground. Many students choose to stay in housing, while others prefer to try apartment life. For some, it's a matter of money, as room and board is often included in scholarship packages. For others, the community is what keeps them in the housing system. Apartments in Hyde Park range from luxury to disgusting, from across the street from the quads to a bus ride away. With so many options, signing a lease can be either a trying experience or something relatively painless. Though it will undoubtedly be a little bit stressful, there are ways to make an apartment search a little bit easier.

Plan Ahead

If you think you might want to move out of housing, it's important to start thinking about apartments before the housing lotteries, which happen in the middle of spring quarter. Actually, you probably want to start thinking about it before spring quarter even starts. Gather together some like-minded friends who want pretty much the same thing in an apartment. You will be much better equipped for an apartment search if you already know how many rooms and bathrooms you want as well your desired price range. It can get extremely frustrating looking for an apartment without a clear idea of what exactly you are looking for.

Older friends are great sources for information about apartments. If someone you know is graduating or moving to a new place, see if they want to hand their lease over to you. This is often easier for them as well as easier for you. Your older friends can sell off furniture to you and then don't have to worry about moving it. You and your new roommates will probably be able to move some stuff in early as well as have an exceptionally easy apartment search. Or, if one of your apartment-dwelling friends has a roommate who is moving out, it's simple to just slide right in. Just think—you won't have to buy any kitchen or common space stuff, you will be living with people you like, and in an apartment you actually like.

If older friends can't hand their lease over to you, it's possible that they can help you in other ways. For example, they might know which apartments in their building will be opening up in the upcoming year or how to get in touch with the management if it is a privately-owned building.

Decide to go K & G

U of C students have a love-hate relationship with K & G Management, a well-endowed management company with offices in Hyde Park and prices (not to mention quality) geared toward students. On the one hand, they own an exceptionally large number of the more inexpensive apartments in Hyde Park. On the other, they aren't always known for renting out apartments that are in great shape. K & G may have also been informally referred to as "slum lords" in some circles. However, letting K & G show you their apartments allows you to look at a broad range of places all around Hyde Park. There is a good chance that after half a day of driving around with Bob or Slim, you will



EMMA BERNSTEIN / News Photo Staff

This complex on Woodlawn is an example of the kind of digs you can find around Hyde Park.

have found an apartment that has the right number of rooms in a price that is agreeable. No credit check if you just mention that you are a college student and your parents pay rent, and all it takes is an hour of driving around in their van to find a place. What you give up with K & G is any sort of personal attention. It can take several calls before anyone will come to your apartment to check things out if, for example, the plumbing in your bathroom mysteriously stops working one day. A good policy is to have an angry-sounding (rent-paying and lawyer-retaining) parent call them a few times a day until the problem gets fixed.

Think Outside of the Box

It makes sense to look for an apartment lease that starts June 15 if one is moving out

of the dorms and needs to stay somewhere in Chicago for the summer. However, if there isn't any reason to have an apartment over the summer in Chicago (i.e. you and your roommates are all heading to Europe or home to mom and dad for the summer), consider signing a September 1 lease. This gives apartment-seekers a completely different set of apartments to look at from those whose leases expire on June 15. All of a sudden that great building that seemed like it had no apartments has three that are ready for leasing.

Similarly, don't get boxed in by the number of rooms you are looking for. Many apartments have rooms that can be converted, like sunrooms or dining rooms that can be turned into bedrooms. Or, friends who want to live together could consider adjoining two-bedroom apartments instead of one four-bedroom.

Additionally, there are many privately-owned buildings in Hyde Park. Looking beyond K & G and its less powerful compatriots, Blackstone and MAC Management companies, isn't a bad idea. While these management companies have the largest selection, it doesn't mean that it is the only selection. Good places to find out about privately managed apartments are friends, bulletin boards in the basement of the Reynolds Club, marketplace.uchicago.edu, and classified ads in the MAROON and other papers. However, if you rent one of these directly from their owners, be aware that different laws may apply to them than to larger landowning companies like K&G. Make sure you know your rights and how your private landlords are going to treat you and the apartment before you get into anything. Go apartments.uchicago.edu for legal advice.

With this in mind, moving in to your own place is only nine months in a Pierce cubicle away. Good luck surviving not only the dorms, but a future apartment search as well.

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