

# The Ampersand

UIC Honors College

February 2001

## Important Upcoming Dates

Fri., Feb. 16	Scholarship Application Deadline
Mon., Feb. 19	Summer Timetable Distribution Begins
Sat., March 3	Honors College Charity Ball
March 10-16	Spring Break

## In This Issue:

- \* Remembering Mickey
- \* Meet UIC's first Rhodes Scholar!
- \* Read about Joe Baker's new Best Friends
- \* Homecoming festivities
- \* Swinging on a Star
- \* Vanishing Cookies?
- \* The Joys of Research  
...and lots more!



## Meet Rudyard Sadleir, UIC's First Rhodes Scholar!

by Matt Wang



Rhodes Scholars are generals, presidents, Supreme Court justices, Pulitzer Prize winners, congressmen, NBA players, and more. There is no other scholarship that is more famous or more prestigious than the Rhodes. To be selected a Rhodes Scholar is to be recognized as a person of great potential to become a world leader.

Cecil Rhodes was a British statesman and wealthy businessman who founded the Rhodes Scholarship in 1902. His dream was to bring the world together through scholarly pursuits at Oxford University. He believed that the University was not only a bastion of academic oppor-

tunities but also a place conducive to superior character development. He believed that Rhodes Scholars would be an investment to the future by helping to bring the world together. For this reason, Rhodes Scholars were not considered by race or religion but by character, intelligence, physical vigor, and leadership. All Rhodes Scholars are awarded a full scholarship at Oxford to pursue whatever field he/she is interested in.

It is for this reason that the announcement of the selection of this year's Rhodes Scholars was an exceptional great honor for the University of Illinois at Chicago, as Honors College senior **Rudyard Sadleir** was named the UIC's first Rhodes Scholar. I had the opportunity to interview Rud in the hopes that his achievements could be shared with all of us.

### **What motivated you to apply for the Rhodes Scholarship, and was it difficult and time-consuming to do so?**

This whole thing began when I went to Dean Lewis to inquire about the Goldwater because I needed the money to finish my undergraduate degree rather than take time off to work before finishing school. I had already completed the Marshall application and thought that my interests and abilities were best suited for that. It was the encouragement of Dean Kaba, Stacie Williams, and especially Beth Powers who finally got it through to me that I was a suitable candidate for the Rhodes. So, two weeks prior to leaving for Africa, (to take part in an archeological dig) I began working on the Rhodes application and submitted the final draft of my essay in mid-October from the Sahara Desert via satellite phone. It was difficult and time consuming to fill it out but, overall, it was a rewarding process.

(cont'd. on page 3)

## Thoughts of a Friend

Recently the Honors College lost one of its members. **Mickey Malkerneker** was a familiar face around the Honors College Lounge. Nearly every person who would consider himself or herself a "Lounge Lizard" recognized her face if not her name. Her death was a shock to everyone.

It is more important, however, to remember her life than it is to dwell on her death. So many people in the Honors College Lounge felt a need to recall past experiences they shared with Mickey that an impromptu memorial was created for her on the dry-erase board. Here are some memories that people shared:

"Having deep and meaningful conversations about things like Barbies."

"Mickey's love for crab rangoons."

"Mickey serving as Rana's cell phone answering machine: 'Hello, I'm not Rana...'"

"Mickey complaining about Chris' overalls."

"Mickey asleep on the couch."

"Mickey eating four Krispy Kreme doughnuts in one hour."

"Mickey cheating at cards with Reena."

"Emma picking Mickey up and moving her from one couch to the other"

"Mickey convincing people to buy food for her."

"Everyone stealing Mickey's fries."

"Mickey opening Emma's unopenable CD player."

"Stuffing Mickey into a very crowded Jeep Wrangler."

"Mickey always wrote on her arms when she was bored."

"Discussing comparative anatomy with Mickey."

"Playing 'Class Struggle' with Mickey."

"Mickey had cool boots..."

"Mickey always sang Ms. Jackson by Outkast."

The tribute is signed: "We'll miss you Mickey and we'll always love you,

Love,  
HC Lounge Lizards"

We will all miss Mickey, and we will always remember her quiet, funny ways.

Signed,  
The Lounge Lizards

.....

## GIVE a Little!

Do you know about the GIVE office? Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity, either here on campus or in the Chicago area? Do you care about others? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should pay a visit to the GIVE office.

GIVE stands for **Get Involved in Volunteer Experience**. Located in Room 712 in CCC, the office promotes community service and volunteerism among UIC students. The office serves primarily as an information resource of various volunteering opportunities all around Chicago. There are notebooks full of descriptions of service opportunities broken down into several categories. Some of them include: Aging/Seniors, Arts & Culture, Crisis Intervention, Developmentally Disabled, Environment, Health Care, Hunger & Homelessness, Teen Parenting & Women's Organizations, and Youth Assistance.

Whatever your interest, there is an opportunity for you! So stop by the office, give them a call: 996-4500, or visit their website: <http://www.uic.edu/depts/sada/Leaders/give.html>

## It's Scholarship Season at UIC

To find out about the scholarships, prizes & awards for which you may be eligible, pick up a Scholarship Association information piece (available in the Honors College lobby) or go to the UIC Scholarship Association Website: <http://www.uic.edu/orgs/scholar/> There is a link to this site on the Honors College web page (under Scholarships) as well.

There are four types of awards available: Association Awards, Endowed Awards, Special Awards, and College, School, & Departmental Awards.

Deadlines are fast approaching (February 16th), so ask for those needed recommendations and transcripts NOW! Don't wait until the last minute!

### IN-TOUCH HOTLINE



**312-996-5535**  
**6 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.**  
**Every Night**

**Crisis Counseling  
and Referrals**

# Exciting News from the Office of Special Scholarship Programs

**Sadleir**

*(cont'd. from 1st page)*

Honors College students had great success in the Rhodes scholarship competition this fall. Four UIC students were invited for interviews for the Rhodes. This is UIC's second consecutive year with students representing the university at the state level. The four candidates competed in Illinois and Florida in early December. The candidates were **Haley Naik** of Oak Brook, **Rudyard Sadleir** of Park Ridge, **Renuka Malik** of Rockford, and **Justin Joyce** of Boca Raton, FL. Rudyard advanced to the regional interview and was awarded a Rhodes scholarship. He will be going to Oxford in the fall of 2001 to study paleobiology. Read more about Rudyard on page one of this issue; we'd also like to introduce you to the other three Honors College Rhodes candidates.

English major **Justin Joyce** is a senior and was a member of the UIC Gymnastics team for four years. He served as co-captain in 97-98 and qualified for the Regional/National championship on the parallel bars and pommel horse. Justin participated in the Newberry Library Undergraduate Seminar in 1999 and studied abroad at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. He has served as a tutor at the Port Academic Center, and is an undergraduate teaching assistant for an LAS 100 class. Justin was selected as an NCAA Academic All-American for three consecutive years, and was awarded the UIC Avery Brundage Scholarship for three years. He has coached and judged youth gymnastics.

Senior philosophy major (and GPPA student) **Renuka Malik** conducts research on cell membrane physiology with Dr. Jesus Garcia of UIC's Molecular Biology Research Unit, and in Dr. Jeremy Mao's Tissue Engineering Lab at UIC. She serves as a tutor at Gads Hill Center and was a G.E.D. tutor at the Cathedral Center of Greater Chicago in 1998. In 1999 she ran the Chicago marathon placing fifth in her age category for females. Renuka was a two-time state of Illinois General Assembly Scholars, and a UIC Avery Brundage Scholar. She earned the Chicago Circle Physics Scholar Award in the fall of 2000, and was awarded the Klassen Memorial Award in the spring of that year. She serves as an undergraduate teaching assistant for an LAS 100 class and is an elected member of the UIC Senate and an officer in the Society of Future Physicians.

**Haley Naik** is a senior GPPA student majoring in biochemistry and minoring in English. She conducts research in the UIC Department of Hematology and Oncology under the direction of Dr. Carol Westbrook. She has also conducted research at the NIH National Human Genome Research Institute as a summer intern, and at UIC's Department of Molecular Genetics under Dr. Lester Lau. Haley was named a 2000 Goldwater Scholarship winner, and was selected as one of Glamour magazine's Top Ten College Women of 2000. Haley is President of the Coalition for Asian American Studies and has been active in a wide range of activities relating to Asian American students. She is the consulting student editor of the UIC Premed Journal and was on the steering committee that organized the first UIC Undergraduate Research Symposium last year. Read more about Haley on page 8.

## **More Scholarship News:**

We are awaiting news on the Fulbright, Soros, NSF and other scholarships. Keep reading the Ampersand and watching your email for updates.

Three scholarships with January/February deadlines are the Goldwater, Truman and Udall. Representing UIC in the Goldwater Scholarship competition are sophomores **Gaurav Gaiha**, **Alex Ho**, and **Michelle Gentile**. One UIC junior will be competing for the Truman scholarship, **Rebekah Sundin**. The Truman provides up to \$30,000 to students planning graduate studies in preparation for careers dedicated to public service. Finally, one UIC student will be competing for the Udall scholarship for students going into environmentally related careers. Junior **Laura Porro** will compete for the Udall.

*(cont'd. on page 4)*

## **Could you tell us about the work that you did which helped you win the Rhodes Scholarship?**

In all honesty, everything that I have participated in and accomplished contributed to my success, because my application was the best representation of me. Things I have done are too numerous to list here and I really don't think that selecting one or two of the best would convey what I have done and accomplished.

## **The Rhodes Scholarship is probably one of the most prestigious awards to receive. How do you think it is going to affect your future? What are your plans after UIC?**

Well, I think my chances of getting a job are a little bit better. ;-) The short version is that I will be going to Oxford in the fall to pursue a master of science, studying paleobiology and vertebrate paleontology. After that I hope to return to the States and pursue a Ph.D. I honestly don't know yet if that will be in Chicago, Berkeley, Columbia (NY), George Washington in D.C. or someplace else. I would like to pursue what I love and build a life (hopefully with someone else) along the way. It is going to be a very long road, but one that I am looking forward to traveling.

## **What advice can you give for future prospective applicants of the Rhodes Scholarship or any other scholarship?**

The only thing that I can think of is the same way I have constructed all of my applications. Just be yourself. Don't lie, embellish, twist, or 'spin doctor' yourself to fit into something for someone else. Don't act like an academic tourist or trophy hunter. Seek opportunities that you genuinely love, and not simply to fill a CV. Don't do things that you think will make you appear to be honorable, gentlemanly, considerate, and pleasant. Be honorable and all of those things you want to be and never sell yourself short of that because of anything.

Congratulations and best of luck, Rudyard!

# Homecoming 2001

by Cherie Siu

Is school already getting you down? Do you groan at the thought of all those midterms in the weeks ahead? Just when you thought that only work was looming in the horizon, let me tell you about the week in mid-February designed to lift your mood and promote school spirit, Homecoming Week 2001!

We have a homecoming, you ask? But we don't even have a football team! Quite right, but UIC's own Homecoming celebrates the basketball teams on campus and also our many alumni. Let's take a whirlwind tour on what the Student Alumni League, the Alumni Association, Athletics, Campus Programs, and SAFC has so far planned for a week of fun, smiles, and enjoyment.

Masquerade, the Homecoming theme for 2001, invokes images of spirit, comedy, and mystery. The first event of the Homecoming Week certainly brings these images to life: our annual Student Window Painting Contest on Friday, February 16, from 6-9 p.m. We encourage all student organizations, residence hall floors, and athletic teams to come out and paint the windows of the CCC cafeteria. Just sign up online (<http://sal.uic.edu/homecoming>) to reserve a space and a chance to win cash prizes. On Saturday, we have teamed up with the Office of the Admissions to provide potential entering freshmen a first-hand look at UIC's bustling community from 9-11 a.m. with recent alumni or graduating students. Enthusiastic viewpoints from this unique panel will surely be memorable for these high school students.

Homecoming Week continues on Monday, February 19, with our new spirit competitions during the lunch hours. Points will be racked up as groups try to win that coveted traveling trophy for the year and other prizes including money from UIC Catering. Again, look over the guidelines and sign up online! UIC will then be mesmerized by the arrival of Frederick Winters on Tuesday, February 20, at noon. A renowned campus entertainer, Frederick Winters will be on hand to hypnotize a group of people in the Inner Circle for fun-filled laughs. That night we'll be in the CCC Cardinal Room for the Alumni Mentoring Night event. Come meet alumni and current students, learn about careers, and network until you drop!

(cont'd. on page 6)

# The Hospice Choice

by Anchal Sud

One day about four years ago, I visited the home of my high school Spanish teacher, Ms. Pozehl. Everything was just as I imagined, and even her kittens were as friendly and curious as she described them. The only difference was in Ms. Pozehl, who now looked quite weary and tired. She had been battling cancer for many years had now finally decided to end her struggle as she, her family, and doctors had decided to stop medical treatments. I tried to stop my tears and looked away when I could no longer tolerate looking into the eyes of such a great woman. I thought that her decision was wrong.

Did she realize how precious her life was to her family and students? In my mind, I felt that she had selfishly stopped fighting against cancer without knowing that her death would alter the life of so many people. Yet, I slowly became aware of how many factors were involved when such a decision is made and I commended her on making such a difficult choice. For 15 years, her optimism had led her to battle cancer, even though she knew of the eventual, inevitable outcome of her fight.

When I first met the home health aide from the local Hospice center, I was not at all aware at all of the Hospice program or its mission. As I saw the aide comforting and caring for Ms. Pozehl I became very interested in the Hospice program. I began to volunteer at my local Hospice chapter and am now myself a home health aide. The Hospice movement is aimed at providing "comfort and support at a time when patient life expectancy is limited and curative treatment is no longer possible." The patient can experience death with dignity and in the comfort of family and friends.

Working for Hospice has been an amazing opportunity to interact with patients and experience how disease can dramatically alter the lifestyle of the patient and their families. Countless people rely on Hospice. The services provided by these centers uplift the spirits of many people.

Before being involved with Hospice, I did not realize the many approaches towards terminal illness that can save the patient pain and suffering in the hospital. I now know that support and comfort are the best medicine, and by supporting your local Hospice center you are actually supporting your entire community.

For more information about the story of hospice, visit the following web site: <http://www.seasons.org/story.htm>

## News from the Special Scholarships Office

(cont'd. from page 3)

### New Scholarship Opportunities

As the spring semester gets underway, begin thinking about which scholarship awards match your interests. If you have questions, make an appointment to meet with **Beth Powers** by calling 355-2477. You can also visit the Special Scholarship Programs website at [www.uic.edu/depts/oa/spp](http://www.uic.edu/depts/oa/spp).

Many scholarships with fall deadlines require a great deal of early planning. If you are interested in applying for the Rhodes or Marshall, which offer 2 years of graduate study in the UK to students with outstanding undergraduate records, begin talking this over with Beth now. UIC will be doing a pre-selection of juniors and seniors for the Rhodes and Marshall in early April.

The Fulbright offers a wonderful opportunity for students interested in studying in any one of over 170 countries for a year after they graduate. Workshops on preparing for the Fulbright will be held in the Honors College during the spring.

If you have questions about these or any other scholarships, please contact **Beth Powers** at 355-2477 or [bpowers@uic.edu](mailto:bpowers@uic.edu)

# My ASB Winter Trip: Barks and Meows for a Week!

by Joe Baker



After last semester's finals, the second week of December came just in time. I spent that week surrounded by flicking tongues and hundreds of unique purrs. Along with 13 other UIC students, I participated in an Alternative

Spring Break trip to Utah to volunteer at **Best Friends Animal Sanctuary**. After missing his flight, one member of our group took a later fully booked flight after begging the airline people to let him on. He then hitchhiked from the airport to a motel near the shelter. He must have known what an awesome week we were about to have!

Upon our arrival at Best Friends, we were greeted by a German Shepherd named Caleb, and with a toothless grin from a horse named Dee. Our guide Marna, took us on a tour of the 35,000 acre sanctuary. Best Friends was founded in the 70's by "a bunch of hippies," according to Marna. We visited 'Angel's Rest,' the cemetery for animals who died there, or for those whose owners wanted them to have a beautiful, final resting place. We all felt things there; we giggled at some of the funny pet names and we cried when reading some of the poems engraved onto the stones. We toured 'Old Friends,' a haven for older dogs, and 'Benton's House,' a facility that cared for both cats ready for adoption and those with nervous disorders. We met some of the bunnies, birds, and even Bobby the bobcat.

On Tuesday, we received our schedules for the week and went off to whatever section of the sanctuary we were assigned, hoping also that we wouldn't be going alone. I was put on the hill with dogs. The dogs are in different runs, with sometimes up to four dogs to a run. They are fed twice daily and, of course, get their play time in with the hundreds of workers and volunteers at Best Friends. James and I walked Shannon, Tina Marie, Oreo, and several other dogs, and fed Max, Lilly, and Bob the energetic three-legged wonder. Later on in the day, one of the workers needed our help to hold one of the wolf-hybrids, who had her ears partially bitten off in a fight with another female wolf-hybrid.

Wednesday, I had the experience of helping out in the clinic. At first I was assigned to cleaning out cages caked in dog and cat poop, but when Dr. Allen walked in, and removed a tumor in the neck of Princess, a terrier, I was right there watching. I was extremely interested (as well as partially disgusted!) watching the doctor rip the tumor out of her. Before lunch, I sat down with Princess and comforted her until she woke up from her sleep.

After lunch, some rats needed to be neutered. It was great to just be able to watch the doctor perform these surgeries. Actually helping out by preparing and anesthetizing the rats was exciting. However, we lost one of the little guys, and I didn't expect to see everyone as somber as they were over the loss of a rat. As we watched in silence as a worker wrapped the rat for disposal, it was at this moment my day became both frustrating and very real.

The first half of Thursday, I worked with cats. I met some of the most interesting personalities in each and every cat, from Wrigley the bully to Jill the sweetheart. Although it was sad to see how sick some of the animals were, it was wonderful to be able to sit down and play with and comfort such beautiful creatures. Unfortunately, I didn't have the chance to spend much time with the cats.

The rest of the afternoon we were taken on a hike throughout the canyon, visiting Anasazi handprints, carvings, and fire pits, as well as an underground lake. The lake was really cool because we had never seen water so calm and so dark before. But it was also a day to talk with other people on the trip in depth and learn more about the connections between certain individuals.

Friday, our last day, was both fulfilling and sad. I worked with the dogs again. Throughout the week, I met wonderful people who have devoted their lives to the sanctuary; but more importantly, I had met people who devote their lives to the bettering of humanity and in turn the equal treatment of all animals, including humans alike. In addition to spending so much quality time with the critters, I forged strong bonds with the other members of my group. We sat up for hours talking about nothing and everything under skies that were so star-filled that the sky was more white than black. I won new friends that week.

Best Friends receives animals who have been tortured, dumped on the side of the road in garbage cans, injured, lost, and sometimes barely alive. The people there work to provide long, happy lives to all animals. None of the animals taken in are ever euthanized, except in rare cases of terminal illness. Despite encountering countless acts of ignorance by human beings, (the one species of animal that should realize the consequences of their actions) and the sometimes downright cruelty of others, the Best Friends staff (and volunteers) get up every day to play with the shy animal, to make the new horse feel welcome, to prepare for the unexpected. That week I did also. I talked to creatures who probably didn't know what I was saying to them. But they appreciated it. You could see it in their eyes and in the wagging of their tails, their meows for attention, their chirps or their attempts to talk back.

Some of us have made promises to go back. Anybody would.

*To find out more about Best Friends, and how you can get involved, check out their website: <http://www.bestfriends.org> And, to find out about how you can participate in a week that will change your life, visit Alternative Spring Break's web site: [http://www2.uic.edu/stud\\_orgs/service/asb/](http://www2.uic.edu/stud_orgs/service/asb/) Applications for this year's spring trips are still being taken!*

See photos on page 7.



## Help Those in Need: Join New Life

by Stephen Hong

The world today is constantly changing, evolving at a high speed, high-tech pace that often produces mind-boggling technologies and ideas. It is clear that many Americans live in a world of excess, of lavish indulgences and superfluous luxuries. Too often, it is so easy to become engrossed in one's own affairs and become transparent to the needs and wants of others. Life, now more than ever, demands every aspect of one's physical, mental and spiritual capabilities. Yet, too often we completely neglect the fact that there are millions of people in this world who have so little to comfort and nourish them. The small luxuries that most honors students take for granted such as food, shelter, a warm blanket and hot bath, are unattainable for the masses of homeless, needy individuals that roam this world. For these countless men, women, and children, the world is not as kind to them, not nearly as comfortable and secure.

And it is so easy for honors students to feel sorry for the many homeless and needy. It is even easier to have sympathy for these men and women, to shake one's head and express remorse for their dejected states, to reach into one's pocket and donate pocket change into the shivering, trembling outreached hands of the homeless man who calls Greektown Gyros his "front porch." Yet, these individuals do not ask for our sympathy. Our sympathy will not suddenly project these men and women into wonderful homes and careers. It is clear that many of these people want help, and a chance to reclaim their self-worth and dignity, to reenter the civilized world of family and friends, holiday dinners, birthday parties, etc.

**New Life Volunteering Society** is a student-run, non-profit secular organization that attempts to relieve the plight of the homeless and needy. Every Saturday, volunteers visit various soup kitchens and children's homes to provide aid for the hungry, homeless and needy. It is not easy, and at times, it is very frustrating. Yet, the heartwarming smile of a child's face when you give him a hug, when you grab his tiny hands and spin him around and he squeals, "Do it again, do it again!" I live for these moments. And although I have not dramatically changed this child's life in any way, shape or form, I have the satisfaction of knowing that this child, for a brief moment in time, felt warmth and love, and that this child understands that the world is not against him but for him.

For more information on New Life and volunteer opportunities at UIC, contact **Salil Ginde** at [sginde1@uic.edu](mailto:sginde1@uic.edu). Honors College students are strongly encouraged to join. Do not hesitate. Make a difference!

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## Homecoming Festivities (cont'd. from page 4)

Chicago's own Comedy Sportz will once again perform in the Inner Circle on Wednesday, February 21, at noon, to provide more laughs for the UIC community. This fast-paced, energetic, crazy group will take UIC on a whirlwind of improv. Stay in the Inner Circle for karaoke and silly photos from 3-9 p.m. Backdrops, music, cameras, and words will be provided...we're just looking for YOUR singing talent!!

Homecoming Week reaches new proportions on Thursday, February 22, with a pep rally in the Inner Circle at noon. Come meet the UIC Men's and Women's Basketball teams, along with this year's nationally ranked Dancing Flames and UIC Cheerleaders! Grab some UIC apparel from the UIC Bookstore at a discount today to show off your UIC spirit!! Later that night, grab a couple of friends, your school i.d. and eat out on the town at selected restaurants for a 10% discount.

Homecoming Week is highlighted on Friday, February 23, by the carnival of fun and activities in the Montgomery Ward Lounge in CCC starting at 11 a.m. Come partake in the Masquerade atmosphere here! Bring that sultry air of mystique and spirit to this year's Homecoming Dinner and Dance at the regal Knickerbocker Hotel. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m. (open bar at 6 p.m.) and the dance will be from 9:30 p.m. until 1 a.m. Dance that night away on a lighted dance floor, and meet this year's Homecoming Court, which will be chosen from the best of UIC students. Your student organization may be represented on this exclusive panel as each organization may nominate one male and female; forms can be found online. But hurry, the deadline for nominations is Wednesday, February 7, 2001. Get your tickets to the dinner and/or dance at the UIC Bookstore today also! Students only have to pay \$9 for the dance, and \$40 for both the dinner and dance. A shuttle bus from UIC is available to whisk you to the hotel and back.

Our final event of Homecoming Week is the epitome of showcasing UIC spirit. The UIC Flames will take on the Butler Bulldogs at the UIC Pavilion at 3 p.m. Saturday, February 24. There's no mystery here however; the UIC Flames will simply blow the competition away.

What a week...filled with fun, spirit, games, pageantry, and mystery. All events are also free of charge except for the dinner and dance. What are you waiting for? Check out <http://sal.uic.edu/homecoming> for more information on all events, and make sure you join us as we celebrate Masquerade, Homecoming 2001!

## Vanishing Cookies

by Cherie Ryyo

I'm sure all of you wouldn't mind trying a new recipe, especially if it's for sweets! I took this recipe off a Quaker Oats can and it turned out surprisingly well!  
*(Please, no comments about my cooking abilities.)*

### Vanishing Oatmeal Raisin Cookies

1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened.  
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar  
1/2 cup granulated sugar  
2 eggs  
1 tsp vanilla  
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 tsp baking soda  
1 tsp cinnamon  
1/2 tsp salt (optional)  
3 cups Quaker Oats  
1 cup raisins

Heat oven to 350 F. Beat together butter and sugars until creamy. Add eggs and vanilla, beat well. Add combined flour, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt; mix well. Stir in oats and raisins, mix well. Drop by rounded tablespoonfuls onto an ungreased cookie sheet. Pat flat with back of spoon. Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 1 minute on cookie sheet, remove to wire rack...and watch them disappear!

# ASB Winter Trip to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, Utah

Photos courtesy of Joe Baker



These little guys look pretty comfortable in Marisa Wlodek's arms!



Joe Baker doing some intense bonding with TeaTime, the confused pigeon.



Angee Meen, Anita Hussain, & Marisa Wlodek with Best Friends residents Max, Blossom, & Spazzy



James Frederickson has his hands full!

## Honors College Ball Update

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. That's the date of the second annual Honors College Advisory Board's charity Ball. This year's gala will be at the beautiful Congress Plaza Hotel on Michigan Avenue. All proceeds from "Swinging on a Star" will be donated to St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Dress for the ball is formal (c'mon, we all love to get dressed up!), and the price of the ticket (which includes dinner & dancing) will be discounted to \$30 for those who buy them early! Watch your e-mail for details.

Last year, we donated over two thousand dollars to the Make-a-Wish Foundation of Northern Illinois from the proceeds of the Ball. We hope to exceed that amount for St. Jude's Hospital this year!

So start shopping for that ball gown or new suit/tux now!

## Future Newscasters?



At the recent Homework Hotline Orientation session at NBC, Honors College students gather around the anchor desk

## Haley Naik: Aspiring Physician, Inspiring College Student

by Julie Sadhu

Her accomplishments have been recognized nationally. Her picture was in Glamour Magazine. But she lives here?? And she goes to UIC?? Yes, **Haley Naik** is a senior here at UIC, majoring in biochemistry. She is also in the GPPA Medicine Program. She is a student, who after entering UIC, did not simply relax after gaining guaranteed admission into the medical school, but who was determined to make the most of every day. It is this determination to apply herself, explore her options, and challenge herself that had led her to be a Goldwater scholar, one of Glamour Magazine's Top Ten College Women of 2000, a Rhodes Scholar finalist, and to work over the past summer in NIH Summer Student Internship Program (one of the best such programs in the nation).

Haley began working in a hematology/oncology lab in May 1999. She was assigned to work with a team in the lab that was involved in the search for a tumor suppressor gene for Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Haley's initial tasks were mostly computational. She extracted as much sequence information as was available on public databases to look for novel EST's within the 5q31 region. She then used the information in these databases to construct a bacterial contig within that region to have as much known sequences accessible to the lab as possible. This year, Haley has begun a new project in the lab. She is working on the Breast Cancer Gene Discovery Project. The project is devoted to the search for a tumor suppressor gene on chromosome 8 involved in the onset of cancers of epithelial origin. Haley is analyzing four genes that are potential downstream targets for the TSG to see if they play a role in the onset or intensity of the malignancy.

This past summer, Haley was invited to participate in the NIH Summer Student Internship Program. She worked with a professor (incidentally a UIC alumnus), on Pallister-Hall Syndrome (PHS). She performed mutation analysis on GLI33, a gene located on chromosome 7, which has been identified as the site of mutations causing PHS.

In addition, as aforementioned, Haley was identified with ten other women nationally recognized by Glamour Magazine for having had a tremendous impact on their campuses.

During her junior year, Haley received the Goldwater Scholarship. This scholarship is designed to recognize outstanding students who intend to pursue a career in research. Haley said the intense application process taught her to reevaluate her goals, to know the sacrifices she would have to make, and to decide if she was really willing to make them. As a result, the experience helped her to articulate why she wanted to go into research and to make her goals seem more tangible.

Applying for the Goldwater Scholarship certainly helped Haley as she sought another, more prestigious scholarship: the Rhodes' Scholarship. Due to her previous experiences with the Goldwater, she was familiar with the enormous time commitment involved in applying to major scholarships. Haley was chosen as a finalist: meaning that she was one of only 9 individuals in Illinois invited to interview. Though she was not named a Rhodes' Scholar, being a finalist is a great honor in itself. In addition, through the process, Haley learned how to write more effectively in a way that really targeted the intended audience, and she was able to reevaluate her life in a way she hadn't considered before. She did mention that she was grateful for the helpful support and guidance provided by Beth Powers.

Haley is currently interviewing for MD/PHD programs at various schools. Her advice to any students interested in research is three-fold: "Number one: find a good mentor or advisor. It's crucial at the undergraduate level to have a good professor to work with because this is the first intense, scientific experience you'll have. Two: you have to really love science and know why you want to pursue research as a career. You're going to spend a lot of time doing it so you should make sure you like it. And three: Be prepared to work. Doing worthwhile research demands a lot of time and energy. Be prepared to devote to that."

Good advice, Haley.

## Share YOUR Honors Experience

Are you motivated, enthusiastic, and outgoing? Would you enjoy helping prospective Honors College students make their choice? If so, then the Honors Experience is the perfect program for you! The Honors Experience is a new student-run program that aims to target talented high school seniors and invite them to come to UIC to experience life as a student.

What distinguishes this program from ordinary campus visits is the truly "insider" view that it offers. Visitors stay overnight in the dorms with Honors College students and attend classes of their interest with students as well.

What can you do? Come to the Honors College to fill out a schedule/contact information sheet (located in the literature rack in the main lobby). I will contact you when we have a visiting student that would be interested in attending a class with you or staying overnight. The commitment involved is minimal; you will have a lot of fun meeting and talking with new students, and you will have the opportunity to share your own experience with prospective freshmen.

I am also looking for a student assistant to help in coordinating and planning the campus visits, and to eventually assume the coordinator position. Please contact **Shruti Mehta** at [smehta8@hotmail.com](mailto:smehta8@hotmail.com) if you have any questions or are interested in possibly taking a leadership role in this program. Thanks!

### Honors College Students Awarded Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarships

On Friday, January 12th, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. 2000-2001 scholarship awards luncheon, the following Honors College students were awarded with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship: Barbara Antunez, Virginia Guzman, Gregory Jones, Claudia Medrano, Josephine Perez, and Esmeralda Vazquez. Congratulations!

# The Joys (?) of Research by Vidhya Viswanathan

I look at my watch after I get out of class. It's already 3:00 p.m., and I was supposed to be at work, well...about ten minutes ago. It's the day where I finally obtain results for about two weeks worth of work. I arrive, race up the stairs in the College of Medicine, and begin to stain my gel. I work with protein, so the gel is fairly flimsy. I carefully place the first one in a container and am proud of myself because the gel has run quite well.

My enthusiasm subsides, however, when, as I take out my second, the flimsy substance made of polyacrylamide twists, turns, and finally breaks. It is a catastrophe that ends all catastrophes. No gel equals no results. Luckily for me, I still had my samples, and they could be run again. But all that work that went into that one gel! Oh, what a loss.

Such is the life of an undergraduate research assistant. The phenomenal highs of obtaining significant results are often offset by the terrible lows of something going wrong. And, in my case, something always seems to go wrong. But I persevere, in part because I am a glutton for punishment, and in part because I learn quite a few experimental techniques that can be used later. And also because, in a way, I feel like a true scientist, trying to uncover something that may never have been uncovered before.

The lab that I work in is in the Physiology department at the College of Medicine. The lab's overall concern, at the moment, is in discovering the regulatory mechanisms of chloride transport, namely chloride secretion in the colon. In general, the lab works with mammalian colonocytes, and in our case, the mammals that are used are rabbits. The primary mechanism that is used to discover what inhibits or excites chloride secretion is a substance called MQAE that fluoresces in the absence of chloride and is quenched in its presence. A spectrophotometer is used to read the fluorescence that occurs when inhibitors of chloride transporters (channels) and secretagogues, those that enhance chloride secretion, are placed into mammalian cells. By reading cuvettes containing different mixtures that can enhance or inhibit chloride secretion, we can discover how and to what extent chloride secretion is modulated. These experiments have been performed with rabbit colonocytes, T84 (cancer) cells, and also with Baker's yeast. Along with these experiments are experiments that uncover which proteins regulate chloride transport. In order to uncover this mystery, we break down cells to uncover their protein, in the membrane and in the cytoplasm.

The current mini project I have been working on focuses on uncovering the difference in protein content between mammals of different ages. This highly involved and time consuming process includes: obtaining the proximal and distal colon from rabbits of differing ages (adult, weanling, and newborn), obtaining mucosa layer to obtain epithelial cells, breaking the cells down in order to obtain protein, determining the protein content in the membrane and cytoplasm, and then, based on these concentrations, running the samples, and finally staining them to determine where the differences occur. Then, after analyzing these gels, we can determine if these differences in protein have anything to do with chloride secretion. The time between obtaining the cells and breaking it down into their protein has to be extremely short. Otherwise, the enzymes found in the tissue can break down the protein. I was at the end of this mini project, when my gel suddenly broke.

But, the experiment was not a complete loss. I discovered that there was some protein that was already degraded that needed to be run again. I discovered that, in the gel that did work, there were some notable differences between ages. Whether these differences are significant or even relevant, remains to be seen. One of the remarkable traits that I have learned through doing research is that I have learned to be patient, *extremely* patient. And perhaps an even greater asset is that I've discovered a new inquisitive nature. I always ask questions, and hopefully, someday, I'll find some answers.



## A Freshman Perspective

by Kunjali Padhya

Being a part of the Honors College definitely helped make my first semester a memorable one. I've met great people while living on the Honors floor, helped make a difference as a part of the Honors College Advisory Board, and had fun at Honors College social events.

Some people might think that the Honors floor is quiet all the time, and that the students who live there do nothing but study. While everyone on the floor knows how to work hard, they also know how to have fun. Whether it's a late night run to Greektown or watching the MTV Video Music Awards together, floormates have plenty of chances to bond. The upperclassmen are great at giving advice and homework help. And there's always someone around who wouldn't mind sharing a snack and a good conversation! Living on the Honors floor is a great way to meet people in your major, your taste in music, and most importantly, your goals for the future. Having people to share your concerns and hopes with is one of the best things about living on the Honors floor.

As one of the freshman representatives for the Honors College Advisory Board (HCAB), I've learned a lot about leadership, responsibility, and teamwork. HCAB is a great way to get involved with activities at the Honors College. HCAB plans fundraisers, volunteering opportunities, and social events for Honors College students. Also, being an HCAB member has helped me get to know some of the Honors College faculty and staff better. As a part of HCAB, I'm improving my own experience at UIC by representing other Honors College students.

Attending social events is one of the best things about being an Honors College member. Socials are a fun way to meet students and faculty in a relaxed setting. At the Honors College luncheon, you can enjoy a delicious meal while getting to know Honors College deans, advisors, and professors. And at the annual charity ball, you can dance the night away and make memories that will last forever. As a freshman, I can't wait to get all dressed up and attend my first ball with my friends. And best of all, we'll be helping St. Jude's Children's Hospital, a very worthy cause.

My first semester as an Honors College student has been one to remember. I'm looking forward to the rest of my time at UIC, especially because of all the great opportunities the Honors College has given me.

# Urbana 2000: Because God First Loved Us

by Alice Kim

On December 27, 2000, over 19,000 students from all over the world gathered in Urbana, Illinois, to attend InterVarsity's 'Urbana 2000,' a student mission convention that challenged students to participate in God's global mission and share God's love with people around the world. Around 70 students from UIC attended Urbana 2000.

During the five days of the convention, students attended seminars, prayer ministry meetings, and mission agency exhibits. There were over 300 seminars to choose from. Junior **Regina Won** shared, "The seminars were really good. From the 'Discovering how God sees you' seminar I learned that no matter what we do, God loves us because we are his children. We should see ourselves in the way that God sees us and not the way society wants us to be." Other seminars included topics such as arts, Growing into Missions, New Christians, and Evangelism. In addition to the seminars, there were also missionary exhibits from all over the world that came to share information.

Days and nights were also filled with singing and praying and listening to speakers. One of the speakers was Susan Cho Van Riesen, who shared, "How you live now will determine how you live in the future." Her words asked people to reflect on how they live their lives. Rather than focusing so much on the big picture, we should look at the smaller picture. For junior **Clara Lin**, "In terms of missions, many people have these grand visions about missions and they want to do so much, but we should realize that there's a mission field right here on campus. We should prepare ourselves right now and make the most out of every opportunity." Riesen's words also convinced sophomore **John Choi** to be a better witness to nonbelievers and to share with them a hope and purpose in life.

For me, I learned about the greatness of God's love. One day, during the time of worship, everyday was standing, raising their arms, and singing. I looked around at the packed auditorium and saw thousands of students all worshipping God. So much energy filled that place. It was so awesome seeing many people have such great passion and desire to worship God. God taught me, then, that though we may be of different colors, different cultures, and different backgrounds from different places, one God and his great love for us unites us all. Just as we are all united under God's love, we should look past our differences and love each other in the way God loves us. The time of worship showed how God is deserving of all our praise because he is so great in everything.

Urbana stressed the importance of serving God's kingdom and challenged people to be concerned with not just what is going on in the U.S. but in other parts of the world. In the US, people are too busy worrying about what clothes to wear or what cars to buy, and quite often, people are too busy living their own lives that they forget that there are millions of people all over the world dying everyday from starvation and poor living conditions. People throughout the world suffer from persecution or civil war. Urbana challenged students to reach out to others through prayer, financial donations, and as missionaries.

Overall, Urbana was a great experience. **John Choi** said, "I was very thankful because it gave me the opportunity to get away from all distractions and focus on what God has to say. Those are the times when you hear God's voice clearer because you want to grow and know more about Him. Also, it was a glimpse of heaven seeing so many people from every nation and tribe." God really spoke to everybody who went to Urbana. For students who didn't get to go to Urbana this year, the next Urbana will be coming up in three years.

Check out <http://www.urbana.org/> for more information.

## Research: Try It; You'll Like It!

by Matt Wang

I'll be the first to admit that physics isn't my best subject. But I was interested in doing research that didn't involve micropipetting solutions from one test tube to another. I was also looking for experience in a field that I was not very familiar with. So, from the suggestion of one of my friends, I got a job in the physics department helping out with Professor Schroeder's research. For a biology major, it was quite a challenge working in a field in which I had little background.

Right away they kept me busy as grad student Nathan Rimington guided me through my work. I helped build a spectrometer, learned how to adjust the lasers, mode lock the laser, and made plans to build pieces to help align the laser more conveniently. In the process of all these things, I got a crash course in the properties of light and problem solving. In the larger scheme of things, the research I was involved with was preliminary work using two different lasers that would collide at the same point and time while hitting different molecules and exciting it. The purpose was to observe the properties through the spectrometer that I helped build. A CCD camera was attached inside the spectrometer so that a computer could image the light waves on the computer screen.

Throughout the months that I worked with Professor Schroeder and his graduate students, many problems arose which, under their expertise, there were always new methods and new tests to determine the problems and how to circumvent them. It really gave me a flavor of how difficult it is to conduct an experiment.

In addition to all the fascinating and interesting research Professor Schroeder conducts, it is amazing at how much time is consumed in fighting for grants and funding from the NSF (National Science Foundation) to get new equipment and pay graduate students. The project I was working on would eventually get major funding by the NSF, due to the fact that the evidence showed that the setup designed by Professor Schroeder works. The people there were extremely nice and very willing to help me understand some of the more difficult concepts. I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to work with them and I would encourage you to give research a chance and even try a field that you know little of but may be interested in. You may be pleasantly surprised by how much you can learn!