

The Ampersand

UIC Honors College

September 2003

Important Upcoming Dates

Sept. 23	Society of Future Physicians Induction
Sept. 24	Taste of UIC, CCC
Sept. 29	HCAB Bake Sale, Burnham Hall
Oct. 1	Deadline for spring Study Abroad apps email sa0@uic.edu, call 3-7662
Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 30	HCAB General Body meeting - volunteers welcome! HC Conference Room, 5:15 pm
Oct. 8	BMES, 5:30 pm, 236 SEO, speaker-options in industry
Oct. 14	England/Ireland Study Abroad info session, 502UH, 12:30 pm
Oct. 22	France Study Abroad info, 502UH, 1:00 pm
Sept. 30, Oct. 14	SWORD meetings, White Oak Room
Oct. 29	BMES, speaker panel on further educ. opps
Nov. 11	Alpha Eta Mu Beta (Engineering Hon. Soc) Induction, location TBA
Tutoring now available in basement of BH. Access the Fellow Directory online!	

President's Welcome

by Kamala Saha

With the Fall 2003 semester already well underway, summer is starting to seem further and further away. For many of us, summer may have been just as stressful and busy as our typical college semesters! Whatever the case, Honors College students took full advantage of their summers by doing things such as studying hardcore for MCATs, working full-time at research internships, taking summer school, or just relaxing and catching up on well-deserved rest. As we all begin to adjust to our new semester, I'd like to extend a welcome to our new Honors College members as well as to our returning members! I hope all of you are excited to be involved in the activities and events that the Honors College is proud to offer its members, many of which are put on by the Honors College Advisory Board.

The Honors College Advisory Board (HCAB) is the student governing body of the UIC Honors College. This year, the Board includes the President (Kamala Saha), Vice-President (Kunjali Padhya), Treasurer (Jennifer Baek), and Secretary (Ada Moadsiri). The organization also includes the following elected members-at-large: Rose Adamczyk, Sue Etminan, Cynthia Kay, Judy Liu, Noopor Mehta, Joseph Morgan, Avni Shah, Aparna Vemuri, Daniela Witkowski, Marika Wrzosek, and Charles Yohannan. We're really proud of all the work everyone has already been doing to help get the semester off to a great start. Additionally, we are all excited to continue working with our HCAB Faculty Advisor, Assistant to the Dean Josephine Volpe.

The Honors College Advisory Board serves to provide members of the College with academic and social opportunities that strengthen our college careers. In carrying out our duties to fellow members of the Honors College, it is imperative that

we receive input from students who have something important to share. We are able to present your ideas to our student board as well as to the administration of the Honors College. In this way, we can implement activities and opportunities that are most helpful to Honors College students. These activities provided for Honors College students often include a wide variety of volunteering opportunities, seminars, student/faculty socials, and community projects. This year, we have many new opportunities underway for students to get involved in. For now, we hope to see you at our socials which typically take place on Fridays and are a great way to interact with the outstanding members of our Honors College Faculty as well as your fellow Honors College members! If you're looking to get involved in implementing the many activities of the Honors College, we invite you to attend our bi-weekly meetings in the Honors College on Thursdays at 5:15 p.m. For more information, please visit us at <http://www.hc.uic.edu/hcab.htm> or contact me at ksaha1@uic.edu.

I sincerely hope your semester is off to a great start. Good luck in all you are involved in this year, and be sure to visit us in Burnham Hall!

SWORD

by Hemant Mehta (President)

With over 20 student organizations at UIC devoted to different religious groups, Students WithOut Religious Dogma (SWORD) was established last year as a haven for UIC students who do not subscribe to any particular religion.

“I helped start SWORD because I wanted there to be somewhere at UIC where atheists, agnostics, and skeptics would feel free to express themselves truly, to use logic and reason to explore religious or paranormal claims, and for them to realize there are other non-believers out there,” co-founder Kaye Marshall explained.

Activities for the group are numerous and varied. Interfaith discussions dealing with God’s existence and the effectiveness of prayer have led to heated (but civil) arguments between many people. A formal debate last year on the existence of God drew over 200 UIC students, faculty, and friends. This year, besides those events mentioned, SWORD is also working on bringing speakers in the atheist community to UIC.

The intention of the organization is not to “convert” people, but rather, to encourage students to think and rationalize the choices they make in regards to their beliefs.

Marshall added: “Many people go through life never questioning the religion their parents passed down to them.”

For anyone interested in joining the group (or simply attending a meeting), please send an email to uicsword@yahoo.com.

If you'd like your organization featured in upcoming issues of the Ampersand, drop HCAB a note into our mailbox in the Honors College Lounge!

Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines!

Do you think you could be the next Albert Einstein? Does the prospect of working at the White House appeal to you? Would you like to work for the United Nations? Whatever your goals or aspirations may be, the Office of Special Scholarships is available to assist you in your scholastic pursuits by helping you find and apply for scholarships. The following is a listing of national scholarships with deadlines that are approaching. For more complete information, please contact the Office of Special Scholarships at 5-2477 or visit our website at www.uic.edu/depts/oa/ssp.

The Gates-Cambridge

The Gates-Cambridge scholarship provides expenses for studying at Cambridge University for 1-4 years. Students aspiring to use their talents to improve the life circumstances of citizens in their respective countries are encouraged to apply.

Applicants should have a minimum of a 4.7 grade point average, and have earned their first B.A. by October 1, 2004. Candidates should also have involvement in campus and community activities, and career goals that include a potential contribution to society. For more detailed information on eligibility visit the Gates-Cambridge website at www.gates.scholarships.cam.ac.uk.

The national deadline for the Gates-Cambridge is November 1, 2003.

The Goldwater

The Goldwater scholarship provides tuition, fees, room and board (up to \$7,500) for 1-2 years for undergraduates studying and planning a research career in math, natural science, or engineering. Approximately 300 scholarships are awarded each year. www.act.org/goldwater

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or resident. Candidates must also have a demonstrated interest in a career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering, have research experience, and have at least a 4.7 grade point average. *Candidates must apply through UIC during the fall of their sophomore or junior year. The UIC deadline is November 12, 2003. The national deadline is February 2, 2004.*

The Best/Worst Summer Job

by Rose Adamczyk

The first thing that people ask me when I tell them that I delivered mail the past two summers is, "Did you drive one of those trucks? The ones with the steering wheel on the wrong side?" Yes, indeed I did. It was actually quite fun. I loved seeing my friends while driving it and also being waved to by random people just because I was driving the postal truck. It's actually called an LLV, long-life vehicle, because they're supposed to last for 24 years or something like that. One thing that was not too good about the LLV was that if you went over 50 mph or so, it would start to shake, really badly. But besides the cool ride, there other aspects of the job I liked. For the most part, I enjoyed my job at the post office, at least enough to help out again over the holiday break and in the summer.

Mornings at the post office were, at the same time, my most and least favorite times of day. It was never very fun getting there in the morning to see tubs and tubs of mail sitting by my cubicle and my counter covered with even more mail. But once I got going I enjoyed joking around with the other city carriers, especially Kathy and Syd. We found the humor in many different areas so that we were amused for the better part of the morning. However, the morning could quickly turn sour; many mornings when I would be just about done sorting my mail and ready to pack up and go, I would be informed that I had to do part of another route. That almost always started the day off on a sour note. But, most of the time, getting away from the office and getting out on the street calmed me, although the heat often prolonged my bad mood.

One of the main reasons I enjoyed being on the route was because

of all of the people that I saw on a daily basis. There were the boys at the Fisher Auto Parts store that always seemed happy to see me, old Mr. Gunning, who sounded like an aristocrat to me, and countless others. While there were many people that I enjoyed seeing every day, there were also those that I could have done without. These included the people that constantly asked me whether I was old enough to be delivering the mail. I had delivered their mail the summer before and they did not question me then, but this summer it seemed to be an issue.

Another good thing about being on the route was that I got to be alone, save the few encounters with those already mentioned. It gave me a lot of time to clear my head and think about things going on in my life at the time. It also gave my mind time to wander. One product of this mind-wandering was the wish that there was a pill or shot on the market that

Job, continued on Page 4

Scholarship Deadlines Continued...

The Truman

The Truman scholarship provides \$30,000 merit based scholarships to junior or senior students who wish to attend graduate school in preparation for careers as leaders in government or elsewhere in public service. Up to 80 scholarships are awarded each year. www.truman.gov

The candidate must be a junior or 3 year senior, have a desire to obtain an advanced degree, be committed to a career in public service, have a GPA of 4.57 or above, and be an U.S. citizen or national. Universities are limited to 4 nominees. **Candidates must apply through UIC. The UIC Deadline is October 17, 2003. The national deadline is February 9, 2004.**

USA Today

Nominations are open for USA TODAY's All-USA College Academic Team, which recognizes outstanding undergraduates nationwide. The 20 students named to the First Team receive \$2,500 and are featured in USA TODAY as representatives of all outstanding college students. Judges consider academic excellence, leadership and the student's essay on his most outstanding intellectual endeavor. **Nominations, which must be postmarked by December 1, 2003, are available at http://www.usatoday.com/news/education/2003-07-29-2004-college-allstars_x.htm.** All students interested in applying can apply. The staff in Special Scholarship Programs offers advising to students during the application process.

The Office of Special Scholarship Programs (MC 115)
104 Grant Hall
703 South Morgan Street
Chicago, IL 60607-7025
Phone (312) 355-2477
Fax (312) 355-1233
<http://www.uic.edu/depts/oa/ssp/awards>

University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health

Presents its Bi-Annual Conference:

Career Opportunities for Minorities in Public Health
Commemorating Hispanic/Native American Heritage Month

On Saturday, October 11, 2003

8:30A.M.-2:30P.M.

Everyone is Welcome

Learn about the field of public health
Meet public health students and alumni
Receive information about admissions to:
MPH, MS, DrPH, and PhD programs
Learn about the GRE-Program

Receive information about the dual-degree programs:
MD/MPH, DDS/MPH, MPH/MSN and MBA/MPH

- Have breakfast and lunch with faculty

Learn about the paid Summer Residential Enrichment Program (SREP)

CONFERENCE SITE:

UIC School of Public Health
1630 West Taylor Street, Auditorium
Chicago, IL 60612

Register at:

(312) 996-5955 or by e-mail: fpina@uic.edu

Website: www.uic.edu/sph/diversity

Registration is FREE, Free Breakfast, Lunch and Parking

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could turn one's sweat ice-cold. Of course I already know that sweat cools you down as it is, but when does anyone ever really feel refreshed after sweating? It would just be that much better if the sweat *were* as cold as ice. (Reminder: it was really hot when I was delivering the mail!)

While there were many times that I wished that I could have a normal job with set hours and air conditioning, I really did like working at the post office. This year I was somewhat sad to leave because I knew that I would miss those that I worked with. Being around them for so long and then not at all was quite a change, as it is in any situation. But I still hear from them every now and then, either through my mom or little notes that they send me every once and a while; plus, I know that I'll be back next summer, so I don't get too sad about it. Well, this article was just a taste of what being a mail carrier entails...perhaps my next article will delve into the many reasons why one might "go postal"!

An All-Chicago Series?

by Charles Yohannan

For the first time since 1908, the Chicago Cubs and Chicago White Sox both entered September within five games of first place.

In the beginning of the season, no one would have even considered either team to be in playoff contention come September, the last month of the regular season. In fact, in spring training during March, the odds of the Cubs or Sox making the World Series were 50:1 and 30:1 respectively; now, they're 8:1 and 7:1.

When the Cubs and Sox faced off against each other during the end of June in the always intense interleague series, most people expected that the games played were simply for bragging rights in Chicago. Who would have known then that those games in Wrigley Field and U.S. Cellular Field could have been a World Series preview?

After those six games, in which the White Sox won four, the White Sox really

went on a surge. With dominating pitching by Esteban Loaiza, the American League All-Star starting pitcher, and a powerful offensive lineup that was only strengthened by some key mid-season acquisitions, the White Sox have the second best record in baseball since the All-Star Break at 35 wins and 22 losses. This has brought them into the thick of the playoff race, as they trail the first place Minnesota Twins.

The Chicago Cubs, on the other hand, have been hanging around the top of the division race throughout the season, mainly by standing upon the shoulders of their starting pitchers. The Cubs have been plagued with injuries and suspensions. Their star player Sammy Sosa has missed 24 games due to injury or suspension, and yet, the Cubs are still 82-70 and trailing the first-place Houston Astros by an eyelash. If the Cubs make the playoffs, the big three starting pitchers Mark

Prior, Kerry Wood, and Carlos Zambrano would be a very difficult combination to defeat.

If there is a city that deserves an all-city World Series, it has to be Chicago. Chicago baseball fans are some of the most loyal and most deprived fans in baseball. The White Sox haven't been involved in a World Series since 1959, and they're better known for the championship they threw than either of the two titles they won. As for baseball's lovable losers, the Cubs haven't won a Series since 1908, and haven't been in one since 1945. Most Chicago fans have lived their whole lives without seeing the Cubs or Sox win a championship. Come to think about it, except for the Bulls during the Jordan era and the Bears' one Super Bowl victory, Chicago has been devoid of championships.

If the Cubs or Sox were to make the World Series, Chicago fans would
Series, continued on Page 5 September 2003

True Confessions of a Gryffindor

by Joseph Morgan

So, I have a confession to make. Please, do not think any worse of me now that I am telling you this; it could turn out to be quite shameful. I am a Harry Potter addict. Addict may not even be the proper word. In my room, I have Harry Potter dolls, all of the books, calendars, notebooks, pens, trivia games, the GRYFFINDOR scarf and a wand. Yes, even an official Harry Potter wand. I am a fanatic.

Okay, now that it is out in the open, maybe we can discuss this a little bit further. I know, many people think that this is a cult, and they may well be right, but it is so good! Much hoopla has been made over the fact that these are novels concerning witchcraft and wizardry. Yes, these are books about young witches and wizards in their wizard high school, but magic is not a central theme. I promise you – it isn't! These are books that expand the imagination of both children and adults alike. Harry Potter is a story about acceptance of others who may be different, about teenage angst, about the way society treats celebrities, and about having fun in the midst of greatly dark times. It teaches children morals and values, and lessons in life that even a few of us could learn. And people are excited about it! What else in the world has gotten students to read this much – and to be excited about something that doesn't come with a controller! I personally think that J.K. Rowling is a genius, but that is my humble opinion.

Now that I am off of that tangent, I will get to the core of my article. This summer, Rowling released the fifth book in the Harry Potter series (*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*) and Oak Park celebrated in style. In Oak Park, they transformed the main street into Diagon Alley (the main source

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Focus on the Dean

by Kunjali Padhya

The Honors College is pleased to announce the appointment of Lon Kaufman, formerly Head of Biological Sciences, to the dual position of Dean of the Honors College and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs.

Dr. Kaufman earned his bachelor's in biology from Queens College, the City University of New York, and his Ph.D. in cell and developmental biology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He began his teaching career in 1985 as an assistant professor at UIC, after completing his postdoctoral training at the Carnegie Institution of Washington's Department of Plant Biology in Stanford, California. He was promoted to Associate Professor of Biological Sciences in 1990 and served as Director of Graduate Studies between 1993 and 1996. Among his other distinctions, Dr. Kaufman was named the Richard G. and Carole J. Cline University Scholar in 1994. He became a full professor in 1995 and department head in 1998.

Dr. Kaufman's current research focuses on the regulation of gene expression in plants. In graduate school, he became interested in how organisms interpret, and in turn respond to, their immediate environment. His lab still asks this same basic question.

When asked about his favorite aspect of working at UIC, Dr. Kaufman responded, "The students. They represent an infinite number of combinations of thoughts, cultures, ideas, hairstyles, and life goals." Dr. Kaufman is looking forward to his role as Honors College Dean because of the "opportunity and responsibility of a job that is based on direct interaction with the students. The Honors College is a very different College, and a very special College, in that it has no faculty, only students. Its only function is to assure that the best students UIC has to offer get the best educational experience UIC has to offer."

Although his new position keeps him very busy, Dean Kaufman spends as much time as possible with family. He also enjoys gardening, refinishing old furniture, reading, politics, baseball and old books. His most recent interests include books from the "beat" generation of writers and learning about motorcycles.

The staff and students of the Honors College are delighted to have Dr. Kaufman on board, and wish him continued success in his new position!



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erupt. However, if both teams made it to the Series, Chicago would be everywhere in the national news. Cubs and Sox fans would be able to see all the games in Chicago, friends and family would be divided, one ticket at Wrigley would probably sell for enough money on the black market to cover one semester's tuition at UIC, the White Sox would finally sell out, and our U-Passes would really come in handy when traveling between both stadiums. Most importantly, what better way for the Cubs to win their first championship in almost 100 years than by beating their cross-town rival?

Still, experienced Cubs and Sox fans know that there are about ten games left in the season, and anything can happen. But maybe, just maybe, "next year" is finally here.

Forty Shades of Green

by Marika Wrzosek

Final exams just a barely closed wound, and twelve of us wanted more class—this time, one on “the Brain, the Mind, and the Artistic Imagination.” Class time? Mornings with afternoon fieldtrips to museums and such. Class location? Dublin, Ireland. Our flights arrived on Irish soil by Tuesday morning, and our summer session abroad started then and there.

Exhausted from the flight, we put our stuff away into the apartments, er...flats...that would become home. We quickly found a local pub (Guinness readily flowed at the bar), where Norrie the bartender poured out valuable advice along with the pints. Our group was divided into three flats, all about equidistant from St. Stephen's Green, Dublin's central park. Of course, everywhere was green and more green, much like the postcards or pictures in magazines. Daytime in Dublin was an experience in itself. Reminders of history were hard to miss: we sat where James Joyce once studied, walked on ruins of Dublin Castle, saw the beautiful campus of Trinity College. I recalled being told that heads of state met to pick up a suitcase at the airport...the contents?

Manuscripts. Such dedication to Irish writing and art made Dublin the perfect place to hold a class on art, writing, and the artistic mind; the history of the city, with old buildings interspersed with newer counterparts made Dublin the perfect picture of a growing European city. Museums, focusing on art, writing, and much of everything in between, lined the streets and easily lured patrons. Celtic artifacts, Irish paintings, and eloquent manuscripts (for instance, the Book of Kells) were legacies of years of culture.

Gorgeous Dublin became home over the next month, and we quickly found our own hangouts. A town where more than half the population is under twenty-five, Dublin pulsed with the energy of a young horse before a race. The nightly glory belonged to a cobble-stoned section just south of the River Liffey, the Temple Bar District. Lined with pubs and shops, this part of the city came alive just after dusk. Traditional Irish songs resounded along the narrow streets, and were often matched by contemporary music from acoustic guitars in nearby pubs. Pub Crawls were a good way to experi-



ence a little bit of atmosphere of each locale while enjoying the music playing and laughter.

What I noticed almost immediately was the cozy atmosphere of the pubs. Irish pubs were not a place to get drunk and not recall the night; on the contrary, they were the perfect atmosphere to relax with friends over a pint. An obvious place to visit was the Guinness Storehouse, where the famous black brew is produced. The bitter beer, accented with the white cap, went down easily at the Gravity Bar overlooking the city. People-watching is always a good time, but at the pubs it took on a new importance...it was a fascinating glimpse into Irish culture to listen to pub talk and note the people's overall mannered but passionate demeanor.

The weekends we reserved for exploring the Irish countryside with its forty shades of green, or even flying over to mainland Europe. I quickly realized what the white blobs against the green were: sheep; in Chicago, white against green usually means yellowed and dead grass. The soft bleating was the ideal soundtrack to the rolling hills often interrupted with ruins. On the train west to Galway or south to Cork, we took the scenic routes and noticed the constant presence of ruins, testament to a proud people and unique culture.



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HP, continued from Page 5

of the materials witches and wizards need to get through their daily lives). Their Diagon Alley sold Butterbeer, a drink famous in the Harry Potter stories, apparel, wands, candy shaped like the characters in the book, and any other thing that you could think of. They had a man who was dressed up like Headmaster Dumbledore, leading trivia games and directing people around the square. And most importantly of all – there were thousands of people in attendance! You could not move from the spot in which you were standing without running into at least five other people. There were little boys and girls dressed up like every character from the novels. They were cheering, and laughing, and getting involved in the festivities. In attendance also was Ursula from the Little Mermaid (yeah, I am still trying to figure out what she was doing there). But the point was, all of these people were excited about someone who isn't real. This is someone who they have created within their own imagination. There were people guessing about what was going to happen, cheering Harry on, and just enjoying the camaraderie that comes with celebrating a huge event with people who love it just as much as they do! I kid you not – thousands of people.

So, what is my point in all of this? For the first time in my life, I was with people who were passionate about the same thing that I was. If I am a fanatic, I cannot even find a word serious enough to describe some of these other “fans.” But it was amazing to see all of these people, united, under one cause. It didn't matter how old they were, or where they were from, all that mattered is that a little boy from 4 Privet Drive was about to arrive, and they were all looking forward to it. There was a sense of belonging, and a sense of meaning, in this simple little task. I was amazed. There ARE times in our lives when we can put all differences aside, and just come together and really have fun as a group. To me, that was amazing – even more so than seeing Ursula. We really should take an example from the HP mania. Our differences, however extreme, can often times bring us together. That is the amazing thing – and the thing that should be celebrated.

How is the book? Well, let me tell you that it was so good that I had to assign myself certain hours of the day that I could read it. I think that I liked it the best out of all five – and that was a feat! Let me just say, that I am not the only freak... I ran into a few other fellow Honors College students at Borders (Oak Park was too crazy to wait in line for the book), who will remain anonymous :). However, I can tell you that we all enjoyed ourselves... and we even have a memento to remind us of the time that we went out into the city at midnight to bring home a lesson on knowledge, bravery, and a lesson on life.



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I did not realize the complete beauty of Ireland until I spent a night on the Aran Islands (of Aran wool fame). The serenity of the ocean beating against the rocks while a setting sun illuminated the rocky fences ideally framed an Irish family, speaking Gaelic, training a Connemara pony – bareback. Amidst the soft patter of her hoofs against the gray sand was a barely audible pride; she called this paradise home, and granted us the privilege to see her dance.

Professor Chris Comer, who accompanied us on the Study Abroad, stated before we left Chicago that the most beautiful skies are over Ireland. I did not believe him until my travel companions and I

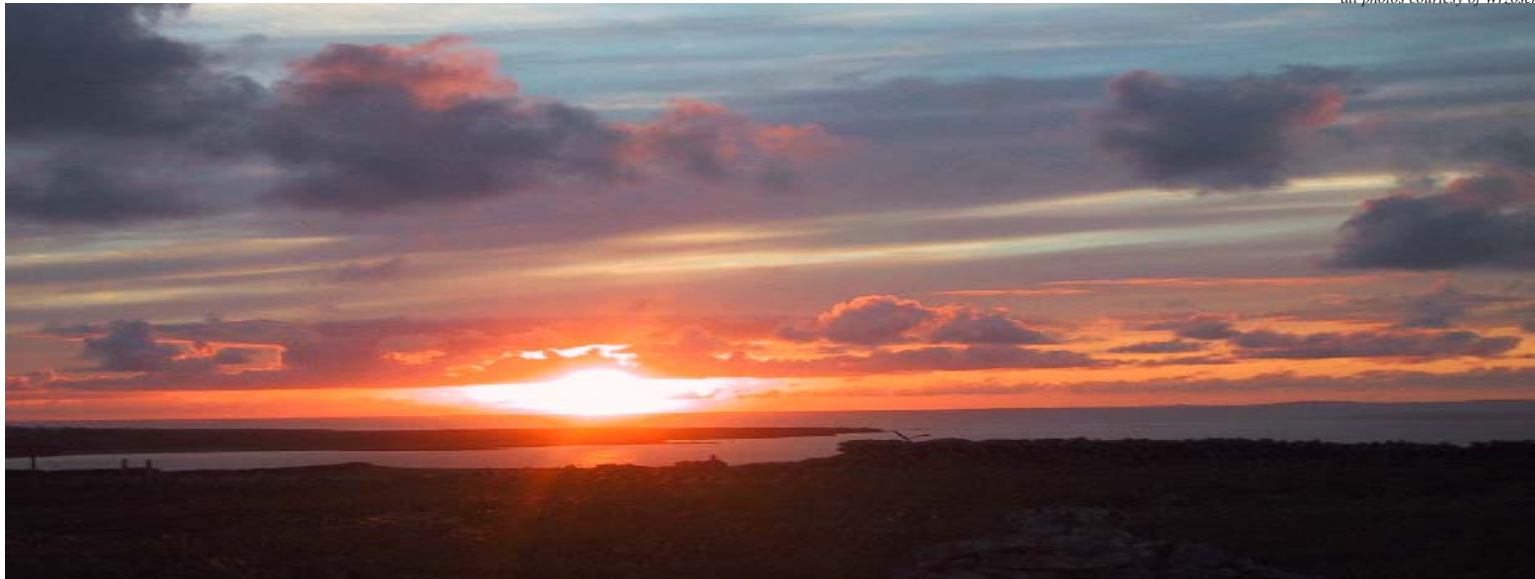
Green, continued on Page 8

rented bicycles to ride the one path on the Island and looked up: there, the color of the sky, the shapes of the clouds, even the mist in the air and occasional rainbows, combined to make a picturesque backdrop unseen elsewhere in the world.

Indeed, Ireland with all its wonders (from Blarney Castle, to Aran Islands, to Hill of Tara, and Cliffs of Moher) is a paradise in a world where there is little difference between imagined and real beauty. One look around and you see a bustling city, a lazy town, or just a spectacular vision awash with green and tickled with showers and breezes. The one month immersion in everything Irish, from books to art to scenery, was enough to entice me to return. Since my first glimpse at St. Patrick's domain, I raise my glass to an incredible land, an amazing people, and a history alive with struggles overcome.

To your health - Slàinte.

all photos courtesy of Wrzosek



Just Wonderin'

by Joe Morgan

Welcome back to school, Honors College students! Here is the premier 2003 edition of Just Wonderin'! Buckle your seatbelts... it is going to be an exciting ride! Just Wonderin' is a column that Assistant to the Dean Jennifer Kosco and I decided last year to put in the Ampersand. Jennifer worked on this type of a column for her college newspaper, and we thought that it would be an excellent way to get student feedback! Every month, we develop a new question, get the information, and publish exactly what you have been thinking.

For this month, we decided to take a new approach. Everybody has New Year's Resolutions. We may keep them, we may break them, but we are always makin' them! So, why not have a New Academic Year Resolution? Going along with our theme of the "New Year's" party, we asked the students, *what is your new academic year resolution?*

Thank you for all of the responses! We received far too many to print them all here. But watch out for the next Just Wonderin' topic, and you could be next! Some are normal, some are unique, but these are what you said your resolutions were. Good luck in keeping them all :)!

To Lose Weight and Gain Knowledge!
—Sandy Tsao, Sophomore

My new academic year resolution centers on scoring the most out of academics and making sure that I will see myself on the Dean's list after each semester. At the same time I also want to build my leadership skills up and throughout each day I intend to strive farther in every aspect of my life in order to make sure that everything that I had set out to achieve will be achieved.

—Victor Sapozhnikov, Freshman

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This year, my main objective is to stay ahead, and thus remain stress-free. I plan to do my homework daily and ahead of class, to exercise daily and ahead of weight-gain and unnecessary aging (this includes ab lab and running), to wake up refreshed and excited, to go to bed satisfied and tired, to go home happy and with stories, to return to school expectant to create more, to have a group of friends I can laugh hysterically with and one in which I can cry in front of, to be able to talk to my friends at home as if they were here, to learn more about people, society, and life as a whole, to be daily informed about the news around the nation and around the world, to feel immensely involved with campus life, to really get to know my professors and to be able to talk to them without feeling shy, to be able to raise my hand in class with no limitations, to speak my mind if I have something to say, to meet with my advisors to ensure that every year's resolutions come true, and above all else, to remain at all times pleased and hopeful.

—Ana Kadkhodayan, Freshman

To survive my last year at UIC-especially physics-the harder the classes get the more I think they're trying to keep me here.

—Marjorie Curet, Senior

Basically, my academic year resolution is to find myself drinking coffee while studying because I love it, and not because I need the caffeine! Oh, and staying sane with all of that caffeine in my system wouldn't hurt either..

—Ana Petrovic, Junior

My academic resolution is to minimize procrastination. I've always been a procrastinator, yet it seems that I always end up getting things done- even it means staying up all night. The worst thing about it, is that my procrastination has been getting worse every year. I think it's a disease. I've actually made this exact resolution several times before, but it's never been fulfilled. Hopefully, this year will be the year where I learn to get things done in advance and not wait until the very last second.

—Vihang Shah, Junior

To figure out how on Earth I'm supposed to use my daily planner.

—Saud Siddiqui

Last year, my resolution was to wear matching undergarments. This year, I hope to move forward with a resolution of matching my toenail polish with my fingernails. I like to start easy and work for more difficult steps.

—Jennifer Parat, Junior

My resolution is to keep my focus on my passion and remember that it is the reason I am going to school, not the other way around.

—Erin McIntyre, Senior

My "New Year's" resolution for this academic year is to stop procrastinating...eventually.

—Christopher Campbell, Freshman

Attempt to understand and comprehend the most broken forms of English I have ever encountered.

—Eric Cwik, Freshman

To delve into the pools of intellect.

—Liat Shetret, Freshwoman

To become involved in a groundbreaking research project.

—Neil Patel, Freshman

To avoid getting my car keyed or broken into.

—Thomas Chen, Freshman

To get involved in more activities, especially community service.

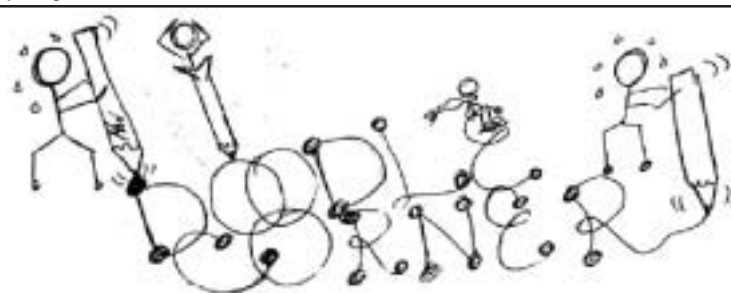
—Kaori Ema

And what is this journalist's New Year's Resolution?

I resolve to continue to produce Just Wonderin' columns that are fun, insightful, and most importantly, ON TIME!

Questions? Ideas? Contact me...

Joseph Morgan
Junior, Teaching of English
jmorga7@uic.edu



bored in class? submit your doodles to HCAB box in HC lounge :-)