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# THE NORTH LAWNDALE COMMUNITY NEWS

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PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RESOURCES AND EVENTS THAT IMPROVE THE LIFESTYLE OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

## CELEBRATION OF AN INSTITUTE 17 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Shannon Walker



Sinai Community Hero honoree, Wilber Cook (center holding award), with family, and friends



Michael Scott Jr, center accepted the award given to his father, Michael Scott, Sr. (awarded posthumously) for Volunteer and Community Service along with his stepmother



Debra Wesley-Freeman, Vice-President with her son (middle) and Alan H. Channing President of the Sinai Health System, .

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 marked a day of excellence as the Sinai Community Institute reached its milestone of seventeen years. For nearly two decades, Sinai Community Institute has been a place for many people of all races, ages, and genders to come to better their lives, whether it be to find a job or escape abuse. To commemorate the eventful day, the institute held a gala at the Alhambra Palace for

everyone to come and enjoy the many festivities. The gala started at 6 p.m. with Cocktails and Hors D' Oeuvres which eventually led into dinner at 7 p.m. which hosted an award ceremony. The ceremony was opened with a greeting from FOX TV Anchor, Robin Robinson, and remarks made by the president of the Sinai Health System, Alan H. Channing. Chairman Steven Koch also gave opening remarks,

as well as the President of the Sinai Community Institute, Debra Wesley. During the ceremony, awards were given to people of outstanding work, including Michael Scott Sr. (awarded posthumously) for Volunteer and Community Service, Jerry Colangelo who was presented with the Spirit of Sinai award, and Wilbert Cook who was awarded the Sinai Community Hero.

Amongst the men who were

awarded was Whole Foods Market who was awarded the Community Partner Award. Dessert and drinks were handed out to people at 8:30 p.m. who danced to musical entertainment such as Jazz musician, Dee Alexander, NFL star, Charlie Brown, Jamiah on Fire and the Red Machine, and the FLOW Orchestra. The gala ended around 10 p.m. The 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala will be held on

June 25<sup>th</sup> 2011. Sinai will continue their efforts in helping people through the many struggles of life. The Sinai Community Institute would like to give thanks to the following people: **Charles Brown, Cheryl Blackwell Bryson, Robin Boyd-Clark, Frona C. Daskal, Leslie D. Davis, Gleatha W. Glispie, Redessa Harris, LaWanda Holmes, Dianne Hunter, Harriet Seymore, Richard Zelin,** and a special thanks to **Rendy L. Jones** of Rendytions Inc.

### HAVING THEIR SAY

Don Samuelson and Valerie Leonard Discuss Strategies to Eliminate the Digital Divide Among Seniors and People With Disabilities

Join Don Samuelson and Valerie Leonard as they discuss strategies to build smart communities and eliminate the Digital Divide for senior citizens and people with disabilities on the I Got Something to Say cable television show. The live call-in show will air on CAN TV 21 on Tuesday, July 20, 2010, from 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. You are encouraged to call in with questions and comments.

Don Samuelson is the Project Manager for the Illinois Senior Housing Internet Broadband Coalition. The Coalition is in the process of developing technology training programs in 23 low-income senior housing buildings throughout the State of Illinois with a goal of creating community "hubs" to promote collaborations among senior housing and service providers. Local Coalition members include Bethel New Life, Habilitative Systems, Inc. and Sankofa Safe Child Initiative.

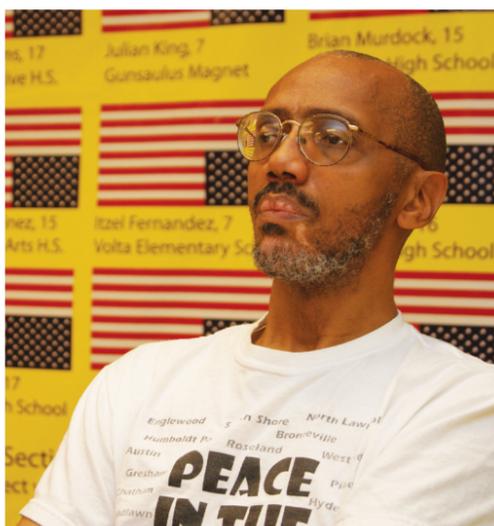
Valerie F. Leonard is a consultant for the Illinois ResourceNet: a Funding Initiative (IRN). IRN works diligently to help nonprofits and local units of government throughout the State of Illinois successfully apply for federal funding opportunities. For further information about IRN, visit [www.illinoisresource.net](http://www.illinoisresource.net).

### Black Star Project's Phil Jackson!

Shannon Walker

Whenever a crisis strikes in a comic book, the day is always saved by a superhero. In real life, however, we have people like Phillip Jackson to swoop in and try to neutralize the situation. There's a lot to be said about the issues that pertain to the African American culture such as stereotyping, police brutality, black-on-black crime, and so forth. That is where Phil Jackson steps in with the Black Star Project, a foundation dedicated to the advancement of African Americans through self-improvement.

Phil Jackson started the foundation in 1996, and has been educating the African American race for many years, despite the number of African Americans who feel that they already possess the tools necessary in life. So what keeps Phil motivate against those odds? Phil quoted a phrase that was recited to him a little while ago. "Those who control the education of the children control the future," he stated. Those words



Phil Jackson

couldn't be truer seeing as that the character of a person ultimately begins at home with their parents. Statistics show that only forty-seven percent of African American males in America graduate from high school, and that the average seventeen year old African American child has the reading scores of the average fourteen year old Caucasian child. In addition to these facts are the statistics that fifty percent of African American females between the ages of fourteen and nineteen have

See Jackson page 4

Taste of North Lawndale PEACE MARCH Saturday August 7

SAVE THE DATE

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Visit us on our website at [www.nlcn.org](http://www.nlcn.org) for more articles, photos, information and more.

North Lawndale Community News  
 Winner of the 2005 SBC Beyond the Call Award

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# NLCN

## 2010 Focus

### Youth & Reflection

Much has happened since October of 1999 when we first published the North Lawndale Community News more than eleven years ago. Many have contributed, supported, volunteered, written, taken photos, done research, and/or completed our workshops. We have helped many and many have helped us.

When the North Lawndale Community News began in October of 1999 as the North Lawndale Community Newsletter, a focus was established. First, we thanked God for making the newsletter possible. We stated that confidence in the good of the people was the motivating force behind it. Many resources and events are available to us and our neighboring communities and the role of this newspaper is to provide you with that information. Since then it has become a newspaper, larger in newsprint layout and organizational size.

In 2001, our focus targeted the "Revival of the Family". Many of us were then and are now concerned about the state of the family in our community. We focused on providing helpful and useful suggestions to strengthen and restore vitality to the family unit.

In 2002, we targeted "Wholistic Wellness". Our hope was that everyone in our community join us as we moved in the direction of creating a balanced life in which family, work, recreation, community participation, and spiritual endeavors worked together in harmony.

In 2003, we targeted "Education and Training". As a community, we are dominated by results of low educational levels, high unemployment, a hostile economic environment, and unbearable crime and murder statistics. Still, we pushed forward to improve life in our community on many levels and by many people from within the community, as well as concerned people from outside the community.

In 2004, the North Lawndale Community News focused on helping our community acquire a better quality of life through higher levels of reading and responsible wealth creation.

In 2005, it was Technology, Business Development, and Employment. We chose to include a strong focus on providing information and articles on resources in those areas because there was a growing unemployment rate in North Lawndale and some of its neighboring communities that are among the highest of all the 77 Chicago communities.

In 2006, the primary focus for SHS/ NCLN was Health, Education, and Welfare. Health is essential to a good life. Education is necessary for the pursuit of happiness especially in an economy driven society. Welfare is unavoidable in showing man's humanity (love) toward man.

In 2007, the primary focus for SHS/ NLCN was People and Education. Our history of people is great. People have strived to create progress in our community, raised their families, created businesses, triumphed over adversaries, and worked in the community. All year long NLCN focused on articles related to people and education throughout our newspaper, weblog, and website that serves the Westside of Chicago.

In 2008, the primary focus for Strategic Human Services and the North Lawndale Community News during 2008 was the Church, Financial Literacy, and Technology. There are many problems that face North Lawndale and its neighboring communities. Anyone of them are the most important to any individual when it is his, her, or their biggest battle.

In 2009, the primary focus for SHS/NLCN was HEALTH & THE ECONOMY. One of the major issues of the recent presidential campaign was health care. Health care costs have become an escalating burden for employers and consumers alike. Research has shown that total health spending is reduced when consumers bear more responsibility for their health and the expenses related to it. One of the best ways to increase life expectancy while reducing disability is to encourage a culture of selfcare practices.

In 2010, our primary focus will be to live and reflect on our previous years of focus, as we progress to a better quality of life.

## The North Lawndale Community News

The North Lawndale Community News is now published weekly by Strategic Human Services. Our purpose is to help inform our community on resources, events, and issues relevant to them and our neighboring communities. Our community includes those who live, work, worship in, and/or care about North Lawndale. Our focus is on positive, productive solutions, that will improve the lifestyle of our community members.

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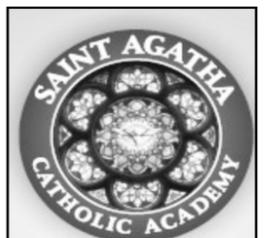


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# ERIC BENNET, HAPPINESS IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Shannon Walker



North Landalw Community News journalist Shannon Wlaker interviews R&B sensation Eric Bennet. Photo by Ms. Jerome

It's no secret that the country has been pretty hard by the ongoing recession. What's more is that as the recession becomes more and more of a problem, people have to tighten their money while living expenses become more expensive by the day. Situations like this could put more stress than needed on the average person.

However, even in the midst of economic turmoil, people are still finding reasons to be happy as they keep their sanity in tact. On July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010, people from many different regions of Chicago gathered at the Country Club Hill Theater for the concert of neo-soul singer, Eric Benet. The event was filled with people who came out to have a good time as they enjoyed drinks and food from many different restaurants; including Cajun Joe's who grilled up some delicious Jerk chicken.

Along with many types of food was a variety of nostalgic old school music that

helped everyone forget about their problems for a moment. Amongst the people were Elaine Godwin and Virginia Gilbert who were enjoying a conversation while waiting for the Eric Benet concert to begin.

"I have all of his albums," stated Elaine. Another that was among the crowds was Pamela Preston, Gloria Davis, and Tammy Wheeler

who were celebrating Tammy's Birthday. "I love his voice. It's very seductive," She stated. There were also people who held other events, like Debbie Gray, who was there holding a girl's night out with her friends. She showed her enthusiasm by saying, "You have to live life to the fullest!" Everything led up to an opening performance by Azizah Lisa who performed a series of songs including "Sweetest Taboo" and "Soldier of Love" by the Soul/R&B singer, Sade.

At 8:50 p.m., Eric Benet made his way to the stage. The crowd went haywire as Eric entered the stage. The concert went until 10:30 p.m. as he sang songs from his album such as "Chocolate Legs", "Let's Stay Together", "Love, Patience, and Time", and for the closing song, "Gorgy Porgy".

It was to no surprise that he was able to bring so much life to the crowd as his music is best known for doing so. "All of the records I do, I try to make them as honest as possible. They generally reflect whatever stage that I'm at in life," He



R&B sensation Eric Bennet performing. Photo by Ms. Jerome

stated in a one on one interview.

At the end of the evening, the people were able to go home relaxed from the eventful day. It's important for everyone to remember that even though times are tough, we need to take the time out to enjoy life. Whether it be large, full scale event, or just relaxing on the front porch, every battery needs to be recharged. For all Eric Benet fans, be sure to watch out for his next album, Lost in Time, which is expected to be released later this year as well as his single, "Sometimes I cry" which is to be aired later this week.

## Jackson from front page

contracted a sexually transmitted disease, and the rate at which African American youth engage in violence towards other children has increased phenomenally within the last few years. With frightening facts like these, it is impossible for someone like Phil to ignore it. The extreme crisis that is amongst the African American youth is causing him to stress to the parents the importance of informing their children on the dangers and the struggles that follow a black male or female that engages in unprotected sex, get involved with gangs or drops out of school.

So what exactly is Phil Jackson doing to eliminate these issues? There are many programs that his foundation offers to promote the positive future of African Americans. For one, there's the Student Motivation and Mentoring Program that motivates students to do well in school, and help choose a great career path. There's also the Parent University that helps build the bridge between parent-child understanding, the Father's club that educates young children with the help of their father, uncle, grandfather, or male mentor, the Journey to Womanhood, a club with female role models for young women, and last but not least, tutoring for anyone who may be in need of academic assistance.

Phil Jackson sets the perfect example on how to fight the good fight. His way of life and teaches everyone of every race to keep in mind that the ongoing battle to end issues like racism and stereotyping is not about pointing the finger of blame or focusing on the problem, but rather on finding a proper solution, for change on a massive scale begins within ourselves.

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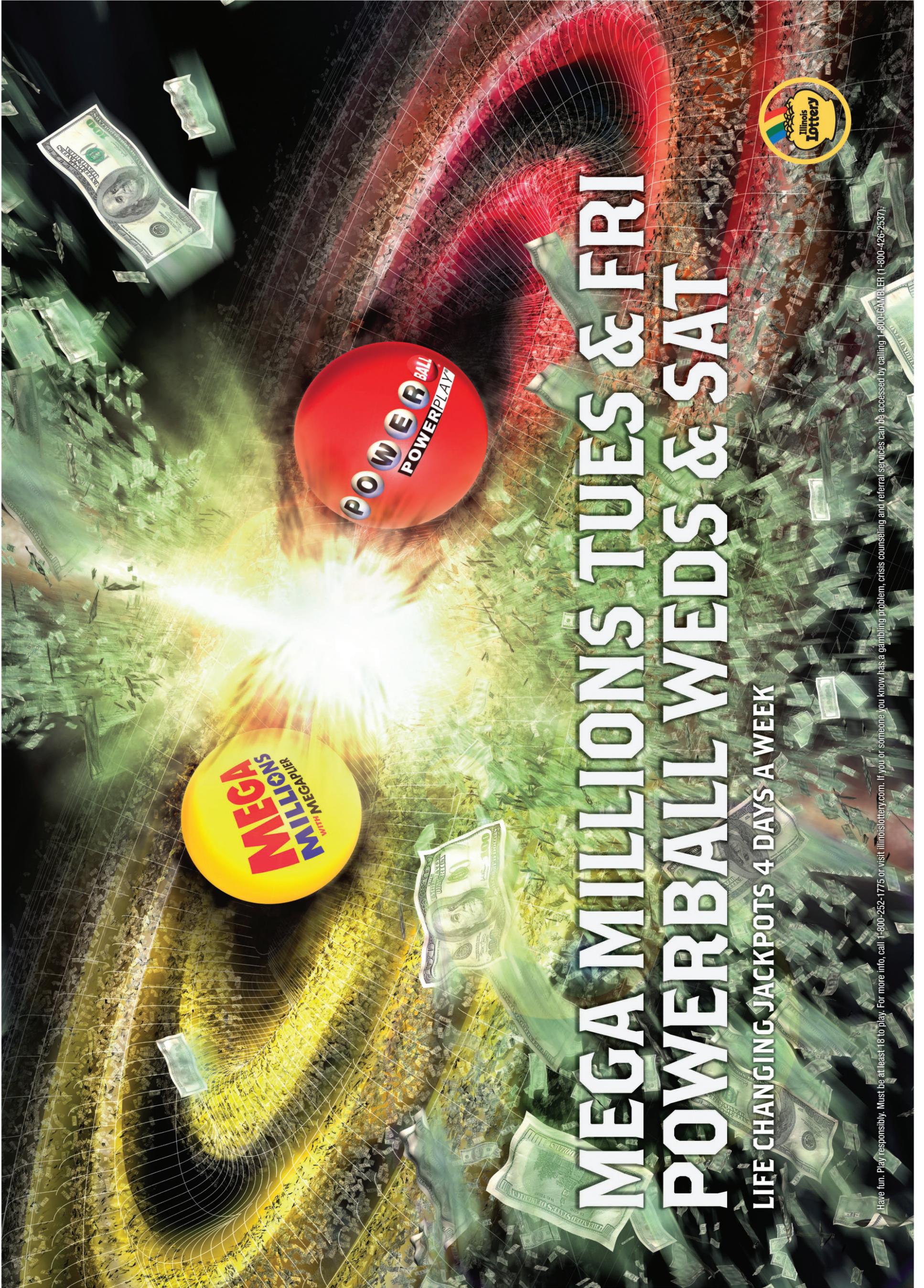
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# AT THE FLICKS

David H. Schultz, film critic



Ellen Page and Leonardo DiCaprio in Inception

**INCEPTION (\*\*\*\*)** Finally, a movie that stimulates our mind as well as tantalize our eyes. "Inception" is quite perceptive for a visually stunning, imaginative and intelligent sci-fi heist thriller that deals with stealing dreams from one's mind. In this case, this is done like corporate raiding into one's subconscious. Leonard DiCaprio plays Cobb, a professional "mental burglar" known here as an "extractor" whose hired by corporations to invade the minds of their corporate competition for their plans.

The film opens with Cobb and his crew on an assignment to invade the mind of an international corporate executive, Saito (Ken Watanabe) to steal from his subconscious some confidential papers. However, this caper turns out to be an elaborate audition planned by Saito who has a fare more riskier project in mind for Cobb who carries some emotional baggage in his past and present.

Like any typical heist movie, Cobb knows the risk involved and needs to ensemble a new, tighter crew that must be able to go deep enough to accomplish their goal. Cobb visits his grandfather, Miles (Michael Caine) to "borrow" one of his pupils as his new "architect", Ariadne (Ellen Page).

"Inception" is an intricate and insightfully written movie that commands one's full attention that becomes quite apparent during Cobb and Ariadne's initial meeting and demonstration of "shared dreaming" that Cobb dispenses important information for Ariadne's knowledge that plays out throughout the rest of the film that helps the moviegoers analyze what occurs that has varied effects and meanings.

While the dramatic and theatrical elements are maintain through Cobb and his crew's mission. "Inception" is an unreal environment that is the ultimate mind game.

Still, writer-director Christopher Nolan in his first non-"Batman" film utilizes the background and story to tackle many timely and provocative social issues.

There is the thin line that becomes blurred between perception and reality, the self-delusion nature in humans, and the subtle nature that give birth to ideas and their motives. From the beginning and end that is bookended by a symbolic spinning top, "Inception" an ingenious mind-blower as well as an insightful and enthralling movie experience.

Hollywood has dealt with dreams as a commercial device and an intellectual exploration in what makes us tick from such movies like "Dreamscape" and "Altered States" to name a few. But nothing comes close to what writer-director Christopher Nolan accomplishes through this ambitious movie. "Inception" is one of those rare movies you'll have to see more than once.

Nolan made this movie with this intention in mind (no pun intended!) because there is so much on this film's mind to consume that will leave audiences buzzing that makes for one of the year's best must-see movie experiences.

**PG-13; 148min. A Warner Bros. Pictures Release - Presented at selected theaters**

**PREDATORS (\*\*)** Adrien Brody takes on a husky whisper tone while he tries to macho up in his role of a gruff mercenary who literally falls from the sky with his malfunctioning parachute onto a jungle-like alien planet.

In this violent, survivalist action adventure, "Predators" is producer Robert Rodriguez's attempt to reboot the late 80's movie franchise that individually starred Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny Glover and then later there was the 2007 ridiculous "Alien Vs. Predator: Requiem".

"Predators" offers an array of highly skilled killers consisting of a Yakuza hit-man, a brawny Russian soldier (Oleg Taktarov), an Israeli forces sniper, (Alice Braga), the Mexican drug cartel enforcer (Danny Trejo who will star for Rodriguez in his own actioner, "Machete" later this summer; spun off the movie trailer parody in 2008's "Grindhouse")

There is also a black death squad officer with his convicted mass murderer (Walton Goggins) and a disbarred physician (Topher Grace) who apparently all felt onto the planet prior to Brody's character, who becomes the group's self appointed leader and voice of reason who realizes they were each brought as sport to this planet that is recognized as a game preserve for those 10 ft, tall Rastafarian coifed killer alien creatures to study, hunt and better their skills while eliminating their human prey one by one.

While "Predators" sort of resembles the initial 1987 Schwarzenegger film, in which the hunters become the hunted on earth. The similar story premise for this version obviously got its inspiration from the 1932 thriller, "The Most Dangerous Game" with Joel McCrea as the man who was brought to an isolated island by a megalomaniac for sport to kill.

Noland as the self described "one that got away" who offers Brody and company refuge and information before he "still" meets his demise.

When Noland tells everything he knows about the creatures that ultimately inspire Brody's character to seek out a mentioned alien space ship to escape the planet. By returning back to a bobby trapped death camp to rescue and be befriended by the chained alien creature

And there is the ridiculous, thrown-in plot

twist of one of the cast member who's not fully understood to why he's double crosses and has an alliance with the alien creatures. I guess this and other unexplained facts here are left unanswered to hopefully peak interest in a potential sequel.

But the survival instinct and the film's action are adequate enough for this pop-corn movie that doesn't warrant any more curiosity to us beyond that.

**R; 110min. A 20th Century Fox Pictures Release - presented at selected theaters**

**THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE (\*\*\*)** "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" is a movie that is fun to watch. Mainly because of its flexible script, brisk direction, imaginative special effects and spirited performances that enhance this entertaining fantasy adventure. The film's story sets itself up centuries before in Britain AD 740; When Merlin the magician made the right choice from two from the three chosen to be his next apprentices.

There is something called "The Rising" that happens to be Merlin's most dangerous spell that is wanted by evil apprentice, Morgana (Alice Krige) whose imprisoned along with her followers that includes chief evildoer, Maxim Horvath (Alfred Molina, who shined briefly in his under used appearance in "Prince of Persia" and whose always a bright spot in a villainous role) inside a Russian doll-like container that is being carefully guarded for centuries by Merlin's chief protégé, Balthazar Blake (Nicolas Cage who also is one of the co-executive producers) inside a Manhattan antique shop in 2000 awaiting the arrival of the chosen one refer to as "The Prime Millennium", the future sorcerer that can destroy Morgana and her followers bent on world destruction.

It turns out that a ten yr old kid, Dave Stutler (Jake Cherry) who gets separated briefly from his field trip class, wanders into the antique shop that Balthazar recognizes as the one that will save the world when tested by the Dragon ring.

But being a kid, Dave doesn't listen too well to Balthazar's warnings in the shop that ultimately leads to its own prophesy. When the kid accidentally unleashes Balthazar's one-time friend turned arch nemesis, Maxim from the

**See Flicks page 7**

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All materials will be reviewed prior to contest along with final judging of all Performances. Any material that contains Profanity, Illicit Sexual Content of any kind or inappropriate dress attire will be automatically disqualified.

**HOW DO I ENTER?**

- Fill out and sign the registration entry form. All participants must sign a Video/Picture release form and Submission Permission slip.
- All entries must include your D.V.D and your entry form and must be postmarked or hand delivered no later than Friday, July 30, 2010
- Please note that **all submissions** belong to I AM ABLE and will not be returned.

**WHERE DO I SEND MY ENTRY?**

Please mail or bring your entry to:

**I AM ABLE**  
Center for Family Development  
3408 W. Roosevelt Road  
Chicago Illinois 60624

**Attention: Mr. Pierre Burnette**  
773-826-2929 Ext. 213

**WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?**

Preserved For Excellence will award prizes to our winning performances based on the judging criteria.

**Grand Prize: \$300.00 Visa Gift Card**

**1st Place:**  
**2nd Place:**  
**3rd Place:**

**Prizes & Awards**  
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\* Back To School Supplies  
\* Digital Camera \* iPod \* M3P Player  
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- All winners will be notified no later than Friday August 6, 2010.
- All winners will be posted on our Website, Newsletter etc...

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THE NORTH LAWDALE COMMUNITY NEWS'

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Priscy's Production Outreach Program presents
7th Annual Stay Safe Community Youth Expo
Saturday July 24th, 2010
3439 W. Madison St. & St-Louis
1:00pm-9:30pm
Fun and games for the whole family! Footwork contest!
Participants: young truth, anthony m, Trajxx, BullDaboi, PPOPYouth, blaze on, Phenoms, cush I, J-Lyn2, X



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## Flicks from page 6

vase.  
 Ten years later, Dave Stutler (Jay Baruchel) is now a college physic student living with black roommate, Bennet (played by the talented but misused Omar Benson Miller who's given little to do but offer verbal support to Baruchel's insecure character), whose now trying to live down the Antique shop mishap that classmates and teachers don't believe. Instead, David is focusing on winning over childhood crush, now cute blonde co-ed, Becky (Teresa Palmer). When Balthazar finds the lad who still has the dragon ring that confirms his destiny; Balthazar stresses the importance and attention of his apprenticeship into magic and sorcery. But Dave's concentration is centered more on "puppy love".

"The Sorcerer's Apprentice" is not intended to be a live action variation of the animated portion in Disney's 1940 "Fantasia" with Mickey Mouse. While this film by its title might have borrowed a bit of inspiration from the segment.

This movie does an honorable job in paying homage to its original source, by re-creating the segment from the animated classic with Dave trying to multi-task to clean his lab before his date with Becky arrives.

And like Mickey Mouse before him, Dave's attempt of cleaning his place through magic with sweeping brooms and pushing mops amidst flooding waters set to the same classical music score; are met with near disastrous results until Balthazar arrives in time to clean up Dave's magical mess. The action gets serious when Maxim along with a punkish, show biz type magician, Drake Stone (Toby Kebbell) sets his sight on obtaining that Dragon ring and other artifacts that would ultimately aid in unleashing Morgana that eventually includes kidnapping Becky.

Since part of the movie shows Balthazar's frustration and light humor over the lack of focus from his love sick pupil. What comes across later seems to appear as an afterthought by the writers. When Balthazar begins to give in to the kid, because of a similar love lost, Veronica (Monica Bellucci) who is somehow trapped inside the body of Morgana that leaves to a showdown, in which Dave finally rises to the occasion when Balthazar has to sacrifice himself.

"The Sorcerer's Apprentice" is a boisterous movie with CGI special effects that are naturally overblown, but there are still some imaginative elements from the writers that have their moments through their script's action and dialogue.

Along with the general good time expressed through the key principles' performances. The movie isn't bad for what it accomplishes, but it could have been more on a spiritual and intellectual level to match up to the elaborate and creative special effects employed throughout.

PG; 108min. A Walt Disney Pictures Release - Presented at selected theaters

**John Marshall High School Alumni Association 9th Annual Picnic**

**SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2010**  
 11:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Brookfield Forest Preserve  
 31st Street- West of 1st Avenue  
 BROOKFIELD, IL - GROVE #1  
 (West of Brookfield Zoo)

For additional information:  
 Viola Floyd at 773-826-0438 or  
 Marshall High School at 773 534-6955 ext. #8

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