

# Time Out

## Chicago

The where-to-go  
what-to-do weekly  
March 30–April 6, 2006  
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**INTERVIEWS**  
**RICHARD ASHCROFT**  
ON JOHNNY CASH  
**BETH ORTON** ON  
FLEETWOOD MAC  
AND GUIDED BY  
VOICES' **ROBERT**  
**POLLARD** ON BEER

# Spring fashion

HOT NEW LOOKS FOR GUYS AND GALS

Cover Price \$2.50



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## DON'T MISS!



Quartet New Generation:  
Recorder Collective

### Tallis Scholars

(See Fri 31) The a cappella ensemble lets its tight harmonies soar in Rockefeller Chapel.

### Quartet New Generation: Recorder Collective

(See Tue 4) Recorder ensembles often sound like your elementary-school music class, but this one has real polish and the good sense to ask living composers to write for it.

Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2, Emanuel Ax plays Melinda Wagner's piano concerto *Extremity of Sky*.

## Monday 3

### ★Chicago Chamber Musicians

**FREE** Chicago Cultural Center, 12:15pm. It's violinist Joseph Genualdi by himself to play solo Bach partitas and sonatas.

★**Music of the Baroque**  
Harris Theater. See Sun 2.

### ★MusicNOW

Symphony Center, Orchestra Hall, 8pm, \$20. There's a whole lot o' Knussen goin' on. Brit composer Oliver Knussen conducts this concert of fellow Brit Luke Bedford and Detlev Glanert (*Secret Room*). He also leads the premieres of Augusta Read Thomas's *Carillon Sky* and his own *Requiem—Songs for Sue*. Pianist Amy Briggs Dissanayake and violinist Baird Dodge will play solo Knussen works, as well.

## Tuesday 4

### ★Quartet New Generation: Recorder Collective

Mandel Hall, 7:30pm; \$10, students \$5. This group reconfigures the occasionally dreary recorder ensemble into something else by putting Minimalism up against the Baroque.

## Wednesday 5

### CUBE

**FREE** Columbia College Concert Hall, 12:30pm. In a piano-only concert, Jeffrey Jacobs plays works by CUBEist Patricia Morehead, George Crumb and others.

### Alexander Djordjevic

**FREE** Chicago Cultural Center, 12:15pm. The pianist plays Chopin, Beethoven and Liszt as part of the Dame Myra Hess series.

### ★Christopher O'Riley

**FREE** Chicago Cultural Center, 7pm. The pianist plays his fairly faithful transcriptions of songs by Radiohead and Elliott Smith.

### ★David Schrader

**FREE** St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church, 7pm. Organist Schrader plays the second of a two-part concert of Marcel Dupré's *Les Chemins de la Croix*, with Claudel's accompanying poems read by a narrator.

## Venues

**Augustana Chapel, Lutheran School of Theology** 1100 E 55th St at Greenwood Ave (773-256-0700). Metra: Elec Main to 55th-56th-57th.

**Athenaeum Theatre** 2936 N Southport Ave at Oakdale Ave (773-935-6860). El: Brown to Wellington. Bus: 9, 11, 76.

**Bennett-Gordon Hall, Ravinia** 418 Sheridan Rd between Lake Cook and Green Bay Rds (847-266-5100). Metra: Union Pacific N to Ravinia.

**Bond Chapel, University of Chicago** 1050 E 59th St between Ellis and Woodlawn Aves. Bus: X6 Jackson Park, 28 Stony Island. Metra: Elec to 59th St.

**Chicago Cultural Center** 77 E Randolph St at Michigan Ave (312-744-6630). El: Red, Blue to Washington; Orange, Green, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Randolph. Bus: 3, X3, 4 (24 hrs), X4, 14, 26, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 151 (24 hrs), 157.

**Columbia College Concert Hall** 1014 S Michigan Ave between 9th and 11th Sts (312-344-6240). El: Red, Green to Roosevelt. Bus: 1, 3, 4 (24 hrs).

**Concert Hall, DePaul** 800 W Belden Ave at Halsted St (773-325-7260). El: Red, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Fullerton. Bus: 8 Halsted, 74 Fullerton.

**DuSable Museum of African American History** 740 E 56th Pl at 57th St (773-947-0600). El: Red, Green to Garfield. Bus: 4 Cottage Grove (24 hrs), 55 Garfield (24 hrs).

**Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, Northwestern** 3701 W Bryn Mawr Ave at St Louis Ave (773-442-5921). Bus: 82 Kimball-Homan, 92 Foster.

**First United Methodist Church** 516 Church St, Evanston (847-864-6181; for MoB tickets, call 312-551-1414). El: Purple to Davis.

**Fourth Presbyterian Church** 126 E Chestnut St at Michigan Ave (312-787-4570). El: Red to Chicago. Bus: 3, X3, 4 (24 hrs), X4, 10, 26, 66 (24 hrs), 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 151 (24 hrs).

**Harris Theater** 205 E Randolph St between Michigan Ave and Columbus Dr (312-334-7777). El: Red, Blue to Washington; Orange, Green, Brown to Randolph. Bus: 3, 4 (24 hrs), 60 (24 hrs), 145, 147.

**Lyon & Healy Hall** 168 N Ogden Ave at Randolph St (800-595-4849). El: Green to Ashland. Bus: to 9 Ashland (24 hrs), 20 Madison (24 hrs).

**McAninch Arts Center** College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd, Glen Ellyn (630-942-4000).

**Mandel Hall** 1131 E 57th St at University Ave (773-702-8068). Bus: X6 Jackson Park Exp, 28 Stony Island. Metra: Elec Main to 59th St.

**Merit School of Music** 38 S Peoria St between Monroe and Madison Sts (312-786-9428). El: Blue to UIC-Halsted. Bus: 20 Madison (24 hrs), 8 Halsted.

**Museum of Contemporary Art** 220 E Chicago Ave at Mies van der Rohe Way (312-280-2660). El: Red to Chicago. Bus: 3, 10, 26, 66 (24 hrs), 125, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 151 (24 hrs).

**Northeastern Illinois University Auditorium** 3701 W Bryn Mawr Ave at St Louis Ave (773-442-4636). El: Brown to Kimball. Bus: 53 (24 hrs), 82, 84, 92.

**Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, Northwestern University** 50 Arts Circle Dr, Evanston (847-467-4000). El: Purple to Davis.

**Rockefeller Memorial Chapel** 5850 S Woodlawn Ave at 58th St (773-702-7059). Bus: X6 Jackson Park Exp, 28 Stony Island. Metra: Elec Main to 59th St.

**St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church** 1424 N Dearborn Pkwy at Schiller St (312-944-1083). El: Red to Clark/Division. Bus: 22 (24 hrs), 36, 72.

**St. Paul's Church** 2335 N Orchard St at Fullerton Ave (773-348-3829; for CCC tickets, call 312-409-6890). El: Red, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Fullerton. Bus: 8 Halsted or 74 Fullerton.

**Symphony Center, Orchestra Hall** 220 S Michigan Ave between Adams St and Jackson Blvd (312-294-3000). El: Red, Blue to Jackson; Orange, Green, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Adams. Bus: 3, 6, 26, 145, 147, 151 (24 hrs).

## SPORTS

# Corn stars

The backyard game with the filthy name takes Chicago by storm

By Erin Ensign



TOSS ONE BACK Cornhole players aim for the box at Joe's bar.

Since the demise of Jarts, the spectacularly dangerous lawn darts that were eventually made illegal in 1988, there haven't been many backyard activities that have captured the public's heart. But there's a new game in town—one way less dangerous than heaving airborne spears toward a ring. Call it what you will—Cornhole, the Bags, the Sacks—over the past couple of years Chicago has embraced the gentle art of lobbing beanbags into a box with surprising fervor.

You've probably seen it on sidewalks, in alleys or at parking lots surrounding Soldier Field

Dave Abell and Mark Smyth, both 29, grew up playing the game in Cincinnati—ground zero for Cornhole. It's so popular there, the city is home to the American Cornhole Association. When Abell and Smyth moved to Chicago a few years ago, they saw an opportunity to spread the fun by creating year-round, coed Cornhole leagues here.

"Growing up in Cincy, we knew this would be a good opportunity for Chicago," says Smyth, president of Backyard Players, the business through which they run the leagues. "There are a lot of groups that cater to people looking

Their scoring system includes a "taint" and a "cow pie."

or U.S. Cellular Field: a couple of wooden boxes spaced far apart and a group of people standing around at each end, sipping beers and tossing beanbags. If Cornhole sounds like the kind of thing not to be mentioned in mixed company, get your mind out of the gutter. The name derives from the game's Midwest roots: Instead of beanbags, early players tossed small sacks filled with corn and tried to sink them in a (yep) hole.

to play traditional sports: basketball, tennis, football. There's really nothing out there now catering towards the backyard-style games. We sought to fill that void."

Their leagues take place Monday nights at Cubby Bear and Wednesday nights at Joe's

## SPORTS

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on Weed. Just \$85 buys a two-person team six weeks of regular play and a guaranteed slot in the finals. For two years running, the leagues have sold out, with 40 teams registering at each bar.

While not directly affiliated with the American Cornhole Association, Abell and Smyth say they pretty much stick to that organization's rules. They have taken some liberties with the scoring system, though, and created their own lingo by playing off of Cornhole's cheeky name (all puns intended). Their scoring system includes a "taint" (any bag that lands between the front of the board and the hole) and a "cow pie" (a bag on the board).

Points are accumulated depending on where the bags fall: three for a bag in the hole (a "cornhole") and one for landing a bag on the board. At the end of a round (one member from each team makes four tosses), points cancel out. In other words, if one team racks up three points and its opponents manage just one, the first team finishes the round with a net score of two. The team that reaches 21 points first wins.

Most league members are in their twenties, with almost as many women playing as men. Part of what makes the game so popular, Abell and Smyth say, is the social aspect. The boxes are spaced 16 feet apart, with two players at each box. Since players stand next to their opponents while tossing—not their partners—they tend to strike up conversations with new people.

Steve Greanias, a 27-year-old who has played what he calls "the Bags" since high school, agrees. "After the game, win or lose, you have a beer with the other team that you're playing. It's an unimposing way to meet these people. If you're looking to meet girls, you're forced to talk."

So in a day when people will gladly shell out \$700 for the latest Xbox 360 and spend hours in front of it, why is such a simple game so popular? "It appeals to everyone," Smyth says. "They're going to go to a bar anyway, so why don't you put a beanbag in their hand and have them toss, and have fun and have a little competition?"

**A new season of Cornhole starts April 12 at Joe's, 940 West Weed Street. For details, visit [www.chicagocornhole.com](http://www.chicagocornhole.com).**

## Listings

### IF YOU WANT TO BE LISTED

Submit information by mail, e-mail ([sports@timeoutchicago.com](mailto:sports@timeoutchicago.com)) or fax (312-924-9350) to **Mark Sinclair**. Include details of event, dates, times, address of venue with cross streets, nearest El station and bus routes, telephone number and admission price, if any. **Deadline is 6pm Monday, ten days before publication date.** Incomplete submissions will not be included, and listings information will not be accepted over the phone. Listings are free but, as space is limited, inclusion is not guaranteed.

★=Recommended or notable

## What to watch

### Baseball

#### ★White Sox

U.S. Cellular Field, 333 W 35th St at Wentworth Ave (312-674-1000, [www.whitesox.com](http://www.whitesox.com)). El: Red to Sox/35th St. Bus: 24 Wentworth, 35 35th. Sun \$23-\$55; Tue, Wed \$14-\$16.

Sun 2 at 7:05pm vs. Cleveland

Tue 4 at 1:05pm vs. Cleveland

Wed 5 at 1:05pm vs. Cleveland

You can pretty much forget about getting tickets to the first game of this historic series, when the world champion White Sox (sorry, Japan, but we don't count the WBC yet) hoist their World Series banner over the Cell. But even if you can't get into Sunday night's game, you should still be treated to some exciting baseball, as the Sox take on the Indians, likely their most competitive division rival, in a couple of day games.

### Basketball

#### Bulls

United Center, 1901 W Madison St between Wood St and Damen Ave (312-455-4500, [www.bulls.com](http://www.bulls.com)). El: Blue to Medical Center. Bus: 19, 20 (24 hrs), 50. \$10-\$170.

Sat 1 at 7:30pm vs. Boston

Tue 4 at 7:30pm vs. Indiana

Before a key pair of games against the Sixers, the Bulls square off against the mediocre Celtics and the surprisingly resilient Pacers, who despite the Artest mess and

Jermaine O'Neal's nagging groin injury will likely land a playoff spot.

### Boxing

#### ★Chicago Golden Gloves

St. Andrew's Gym, 1658 W Addison St between Marshfield Ave and Paulina St. El: Brown to Addison. Bus: 9 (24 hrs), 11, 152. Thu 30, Fri 31 at 7pm; Wed 5, Thu 6 at 7:30pm. Semifinal bouts \$15, finals \$15-\$40. Chicago's premier amateur boxing show continues with this week's semifinal and final bouts.

### Fund-raiser

#### Ring Lardner Awards Dinner

Chicago Athletic Association, 12 S Michigan Ave at Madison St (call 312-236-7580, ext 2123 for reservations). El: Orange, Green, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Madison. Bus: 3, 4 (24 hrs), 6, 26, 145, 147. Apr 6 at 7pm. Table \$1,600, individual seat \$160. Named for the renowned journalist (and Chicago Athletic Association member), the Ring Lardner Award honors Chicago's sports journalists and broadcasters. This year's honorees include hoops writer Taylor Bell of the Sun-Times, Cubs radio analyst Ron Santo and groundbreaking African-American sportswriter Wendell Smith. The proceedings will be hosted by WGN Radio's Steve Cochran, and benefit the Tim Weigel Sports Journalism Scholarship Fund.

### Hockey

#### Blackhawks

United Center, 1901 W Madison St between Wood St and Damen Ave (312-943-7000, [www.chicagoblackhawks.com](http://www.chicagoblackhawks.com)). El: Blue to Medical Center. Bus: 19, 20 (24 hrs), 50. \$10-\$250.

Wed 5 at 7:30pm vs. Nashville

The Hawks enter the final month of this dismal season with a game against Paul Kariya, Tomas Vokoun and the playoff-bound Predators.

#### Wolves

Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Rd, Rosemont (800-843-9658, [www.chicagowolves.com](http://www.chicagowolves.com)). El: Blue to Rosemont, connect to Pace 223 or 250. \$9-\$48.

Wed 5 at 7pm vs. Omaha

As the Wolves pull into the final stretch of their season, they face off against the Knights, who come to town clinging to playoff hopes.

### Horse racing

#### Spring Thoroughbred

Hawthorne Race Course, 35th St between Laramie and Cicero Aves (708-780-3700, [www.hawthornracecourse.com](http://www.hawthornracecourse.com)). Bus: 54B South Cicero. Fri 31-Tue 4 at 1pm. Grandstand \$2, clubhouse \$4. The ponies are back from their winter break at this track just out-

side city limits. The first of nine or ten races posts at 1pm.

### Soccer

#### Storm

UIC Pavilion, 1150 W Harrison St between Morgan St and Racine Ave (312-226-4625, [www.chicagostorm.net](http://www.chicagostorm.net)). El: Blue to Racine. Bus: 60 Blue Island/26th (24 hrs). \$17-\$20.

Fri 31 at 7:30pm vs. Milwaukee

Sun 2 at 4pm vs. Baltimore

As they head into the final weeks of the season, the Storm face off against a pair of teams that, despite recent struggles, are still in the top tier of the MISL.

## What to do

### Australian rules football

#### ★2006 Coach's Cup

FREE Waveland Field, 3575 N Recreation Dr at Addison Dr (R.S.V.P. to [warrick@chicagofooty.com](mailto:warrick@chicagofooty.com)). Bus: 145, 146, 147, 151 (24 hrs), 152, 156. Sat 1 at 3pm. You've seen it late at night on ESPN, and now's your chance to check out this rugbylike sport for yourself. Players of all skill levels are encouraged to come and get in on this game and recruitment drive, which kicks off the Chicago "footy" season.

### Baseball

#### ★Baseball Prospectus

FREE Barnes & Noble, 1 E Jackson Blvd at State St (312-362-5754). El: Blue, Red to Jackson; Orange, Green, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Adams. Thu 30 at 5:30pm. This discussion by a couple of the many co-authors of the seamhead's bible is probably happening too late to help with your fantasy baseball draft, but maybe you can get some tips on sleeper picks to look for in your free agent pool.

### Cycling

#### April Folds Day

FREE Depart from Ogilvie Station, 500 W Madison St at Canal St ([www.geocities.com/rjmatter](http://www.geocities.com/rjmatter)). El: Orange, Brown, Purple (rush hrs) to Washington. Bus: 7, 14, 20 (24 hrs), 56, 60 (24 hrs), 124, 126, 151 (24 hrs), 152. Sat 1 at 10am. Take your folding bike on the train to Kenosha, Wis., and ride from there to Racine, along the Root River Pathway. The ride is about 35 miles long round-trip, and will go at an easy 10-12mph pace. Bring \$5 for train fare and money for lunch.

#### Critical Mass

FREE Daley Plaza, Washington and Dearborn Sts ([www.chicagocriticalmass.org](http://www.chicagocriticalmass.org)). El: Red, Blue to Washington; Brown, Green, Orange, Purple (rush hrs) to Randolph. Fri 31 at 5:30pm. A rolling celebration of bicycle culture, these monthly traffic-jamming rides are a way for cyclists to take over the streets—at least for a little while. The group decides its route through a democratic process, so you

### CTA ALERT

Brown Line closures are now in effect. See "Getting around," page 69.

## Screen plays: sports on TV

□ = home  
■ = away

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Blackhawks		at Detroit 6pm CSN	at Columbus 6pm CSN		at Colorado 8pm OLN		
Bulls		at Charlotte 6:30pm CSN	vs Boston 7:30pm WGN			vs Indiana 7:30pm CSN	at Philadelphia 6pm CSN
Cubs		vs San Diego* 9:05pm WGN	at San Diego* 2:05pm WGN		at Cincinnati 1:10pm WGN		at Cincinnati 11:35am CSN
Rush				at Orlando Noon NBC			
White Sox	vs Colorado* 1:05pm CSN		at Atlanta* 12:05pm WGN	vs Cleveland 7:05pm ESPN2		vs Cleveland 1:05pm CSN	vs Cleveland 1:05pm WGN
Wolves		at Hamilton 6:30pm COM	at Toronto 6pm COM				vs Omaha 7pm COM

\*Spring training COM = Comcast Cable Systems CSN = Comcast SportsNet OLN = Outdoor Life Network