



BACK TO SCHOOL

If returning to class translates to all work and no play, then you're clearly not making the most of your education. Let *The A.V. Club* lead you to the dark side, where you'll find plenty of music, comics, food, drink, and maybe even a few things that will make you smarter than everyone else.

By Kyle Ryan



UIC LIVING

UIC has more than ever to offer these days, including the expanded University Village Market just north of campus, which features a bevy of chain and independent establishments. The Market's courtyard, with its fountain and concrete benches, is a fine place to relax and ruminate about classes, snacks, or the shopping choices in front of you. **Breathe** (1252 S. Halsted St.) is a sophisticated boutique that sells jewelry, tanks, and other fashionable items. For something more casual, head next door to **Foot Locker** (3038 S. Halsted St.)—it may not be quirky, but it'll do. For books and such, check out **Barbara's Bookstore** (1218 S. Halsted St.), the local chain's flagship store. It hosts numerous readings and performances, so check out its schedule for upcoming events. If you have any money after buying books, head over to **Sean Patrick Salon And Spa** (1304 S. Halsted St.) for Swedish massages, facials, haircuts, and eyebrow waxing. If you just need a haircut and don't have much cash, go a block down to **Great Clips** (1342 S. Halsted St.) for a fast, cheap chop.

Maxwell Street has an array of eateries and bars, including **Morgan's Bar & Grill** (1325 S. Halsted St.), which offers ample seating, weekly beer specials, and a \$2 lunch special for students. It's also good for a late-night meal, as it's open until 3 a.m. on Saturdays. A place called **Hashbrowns**

(731 W. Maxwell St.) had better deliver the goods, and the Maxwell Street eatery does, serving breakfast fare (including five varieties of its namesake) from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day. The smell of warm hashbrowns greets diners, and an array of omelets named after Chicago neighborhoods fills the menu.



Wow Café & Wingery (717 W. Maxwell St.) features almost 20 flavors of sauced wings and a full bar. Stick to traditional Buffalo sauce, or take a risk with taz raspberry, coconut curry, or the many others. For a taste of Asian, try local chain **Joy Yee Noodles** (1335 S. Halsted St.).

For a more eclectic and cultured experience, head north up Halsted to Greektown. Take a study break at **Dugan's Pub** (128 S. Halsted St.) and acquiesce to its weekly beer specials. **Greektown Gyros** (239 S. Halsted St.) offers affordable, tasty gyros, fries, and burgers for under \$5—and it's open 24 hours a day on Fridays and Saturdays. **Taco Burrito King** (811 W. Jackson St.) is another fast-food place that's a bit pricier than Taco Bell, but it's also better—try the super king burrito, which will keep you hunger-

free all day.

Too much fast food? Hit **Artopolis** (306 S. Halsted St.), a quaint café with Mediterranean décor. It's a little pricier than other places, but it offers a variety of tasty sandwiches (like jambon fume—smoked prosciutto ham, emmental cheese, and veggies on a French baguette), wood-fired pizzas, and assorted baked goods. **Hawkeye's Bar** (1458 W. Taylor St.) in Little Italy has a DJ spinning tunes, 14 hi-definition TVs, and even a shuttle bus to and from United Center and Soldier Field, so those all-important Bears and Bulls games won't be missed. Shopping in Greektown is a little sparse except for **Athenian Candle Company** (300 S. Halsted St.), which has votives, jewelry, and religious paraphernalia to pray for that A. —Garin Pirnia