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Photo by Derian Silva | The Prospectus

Entertainment | Summer Camp 2017

The Prospectus attends the 2017 Summer Camp Music Festival.

Page 2

Community | School's out in C-U

Students spend their summer working, studying, and relaxing.

Page 3

Puzzles and Comics | Games

Challenge your brain with sudoku and crossword!

Page 4

Frequent fire alarms leave Parkland-goers curious about the cause

Greg Gancarz
Staff Writer

Five fire alarms in about as many months might lead some to falsely believe there is a serial arsonist on the loose, but in reality, the alarms are nothing but a series of unfortunate coincidences.

The recent false alarms have been caused by a combination of technical hiccups, due to the recent installation of a new fire alert system and triggers that speak to the improved sensitivity of the new system. But, Parkland

Chief of Police William Colbrook said, "there's no theme" overall to the triggers.

Students and staff began noticing the alarms early in the 2017 spring semester. The alarms have continued to occur over the past several months.

Most students could only guess as to what the cause was. Student Jim Tackett assumed they were all "poorly timed drills" to ensure the recently installed system was without any bugs, while student Liz Rund and her

SEE ALARMS PAGE 3



Photo provided by Prospectus News

Planetarium introduces new shows, continues previous productions for summer

Emma Gray
Editor

The William M. Staerke Planetarium, located in the M-wing, will be introducing two new shows this summer, "The Little Star That Could" and "Seeing!"

"The Little Star That Could" is a new animated children's show that was originally written and produced at the St. Louis Science Center on slides before another company, Audio Visual Imagineering, made it into a full dome show. It follows a star on its journey to look for planets.

"We're opening for our matinees a brand new kids' show," said David Leake, director of the planetarium. "It's about this cute little star who is out looking for planets...He comes across these other stars

that are different colors and different sizes. You have Big Daddy, which is a big red giant star. You have Pearl, who is an older star who is about ready to blow up—go supernova. Then, there's a double star, the two stars are different colors...[And there is] Little Star, who is 'star' of the show."

Little Star is average-sized compared to all of the other stars who are very big or very small. He finds out that this is a good thing, however, while he is looking for planets.

"Our sun is average and because of that we can have planets," Leake said. "Average is good."

Since the show is animated, all of the stars are able to come to life and talk.

The other new show that the planetarium

will be introducing this summer is "Seeing!" It was made by the Carl Zeiss Company, the same company that made the star machine at Parkland's Planetarium. The show is narrated by Neil deGrasse Tyson.

"It's almost a biology show," Leake said. "There's astronomy in it, but a lot of it is what processes go on inside of our eyes and inside of our brains."

The show answers questions about what happens to light, from its emission out of a star all the way to its processing by the neurons in the brain.

"It picks a star in the winter sky and what's going on in the star to actually create this light," Leake said.

The show is a very broad overview of what is going on, with simplified metaphors

for how complicated processes work. It is at a level of understanding that is good for both older elementary schoolers and primarily middle schoolers and older.

The planetarium will also be continuing other shows that it has had in the past like "Prairie Skies" and "Solar System Safari." "Coyote Explores the Earth, Moon & Sun" will be reopening in July.

"Prairie Skies" is a live show, narrated by one of the staff members at the planetarium that covers what can be seen in the sky by observers if they were to just step outside.

"Prairie Skies" is a show that we've done since the place opened," Leake said. "It's basically a traditional live tour: if you were to go into your backyard

tonight, what would you see. We talk about the constellations."

Since the show is about what can be seen on any given night, it changes with the seasons.

"You see different star patterns," Leake said. "In the winter we talk about Orion the Hunter and Taurus the Bull, in the spring we talk about Leo the Lion and that's when the big dipper is at its highest, and then in the summer, when the Milky Way is prominent overhead...we'll talk about Sagittarius and Scorpius and the summer triangle."

The show also changes because of the nature of it being live, with some new tidbit of information or joke about the construction going on thrown in.

"All these 'Summer Prairie Skies' shows,

you could come to three of them back to back, and you might here about the same constellations, but it's a completely different presentation," Leake said. "I don't think I've ever done two shows the same."

This show is a fun way to learn about what is in the sky, and teaches observers how to recognize different key stars and how to make up their interpretations of the constellations. It also features a short video about how the constellations got their names.

"Solar System Safari" is a fun animated show that uses personified planets to explore the solar system.

"[It's] a little tour of the solar system, but it's done in a unique way,"

SEE SHOWS PAGE 3

Fact or Fiction

The light-year is a unit of distance, not time.

ENTERTAINMENT

Prospectus attends 2017's Summer Camp festival



Photo by Derian Silva | The Prospectus

2017 Summer Camp patrons walk past tents set up by attending campers.

Derian Silva
Staff Writer

2017's Summer Camp, held in its usual venue of Chillicothe, Ill., was an exciting weekend, filled with multiple bands and stages, food vendors, workshops, and art installations.

The festival came alive as over 10,000 people traveled to Three Sisters Park to attend. In 2014, Rolling Stone magazine listed it as one of the top 40 music festivals to attend.

Summer Camp is, for the most part, a music festival focused on jam bands. Jam bands are any group who has a body of studio work but plays improvisational versions of their songs when they play live, creating a unique show every time. It has led people to follow these types of bands around the country, as every show is different from the last.

Jam bands featured in this festival included Moe, Umphrey's McGee and Trey Anastasio Band. However, the festival was not exclusively jam bands, as numerous other acts were also on the bill: Pretty Lights, Zeds Dead, Primus, Run the Jewels, Grammatik, The Claypool Lennon Delirium and many others.

There was a lot of music to be heard, so you could find yourself jamming out to Umphrey's McGee one moment and the next rapping along with Killer Mike in Run the Jewels.

The festival began with people setting-up-camp on the festival grounds. You could even camp right next to some of the stages. This created a dynamic where in the day time it would be very relaxed as people would go to shows, enjoy the nice spring wind rolling in, and check out a few bands while catching some rays.

As the sun set, so did the festival with some of the art installations becoming more vivid and extravagant. There also seemed to be an energy at night from attendees that made the environment friendly and inviting to all. There was a constant sense of community and family; everywhere you'd look there would be smiles and people helping others out.

Unfortunately, rain created mud around the grounds, making some areas of the festival difficult to walk through. The rain brought along with it a thunderstorm, which led to a few shows having to be canceled for the safety of the festival-goers.

After the rain, people were still excited to get right back to the shows and keep up the same energy as before. Thankfully, the rest of the weekend weather matched the general energy of the people at the festival, as there was sunlight and spring breeze all weekend long.

Another aspect of Summer Camp was the vendors, who set up shop and



Photo by Derian Silva | The Prospectus

A patron to the 2017 Summer Camp prepares to throw a football among tents set up by attending campers.

display their crafts. There were many clothing vendors, who had obviously put a lot of work into their craft.

Often throughout the festival you could see the festival-goers wearing the same clothes that you could buy at the shops. There were also artists who honed crafts such as pipe-blowing, painting and other crafts. It was quite an experience to be had for those interested in art.

Some artists from Champaign-Urbana and the Central Illinois community played at Summer Camp this year. The local hip-hop/rap duo Trouble Chasin' played at one of the stages. At first it was a lot of locals watching, but their energy and performance drew in other attendees passing by. By the end of the performance quite the audience was gathered, watching them finish up their set.

Another local that performed was BlastfoME. While not from Champaign-Urbana, he hails from the Bloomington-Normal area. BlastfoME is an artist who performs bass music, and got the position at the music festival through winning a contest that Summer Camp held at the Canopy Club in Urbana earlier in the year. Multiple artists performed at the club and the audience voted for who would get to perform at Summer Camp.

The overall energy of the festival is indescribable; for photos can barely do it justice. For more information, highlights, and even live videos of some of the events, check out the Summer Camp Facebook page.



Photo by Derian Silva | The Prospectus

Fractal-like tie-dyed artwork is displayed at the 2017 Summer Camp.



Photo by Derian Silva | The Prospectus

A canopy hangs over an audience at the 2017 Summer Camp.

COMMUNITY

Summer for Parkland students and Champaign-Urbana

EvyJo Compton
Staff Writer

Once school is out, students are faced with the question of what to do over the summer. Some go home to families far away, while others stay and work in Champaign-Urbana and a few even go on vacation to other states or countries.

A few students have elected to stay at home and work at Parkland over the summer. These students are from different majors and work in different parts of the college.

“So, I’m mainly working 19 hours a week at Parkland Theater,” Dominick Rosales, a theater arts major, says. “I do all sorts of things like event hosting, setting up the theater spaces, cleaning the scene shop, etc.”

Rosales will not only be working, but spending time with friends and family. He will even get to see his favorite band.

“Other than work, I hang out with family and friends, and relax and enjoy my own time at home,” he continues. “I’m also taking online courses during the summer—three classes to be exact. I’m also going to a music festival called Lollapalooza in

August to see my favorite band, The Killers.”

“I will be working with my new position as program assistant in Student Life,” says Isaac Tabor, a secondary education major. “I help oversee the bus reservations throughout the college.”

Tabor will not be spending his entire summer behind a desk. He will also be taking some time to relax and visit family.

“Other than work, I will be fishing and doing some shooting practice,” Tabor says, “I might even buy a few airplane models, and make those to pass [the] time. I’ll also be attending my brother’s wedding.”

Other students are working over the summer as well, but not at Parkland. Some of these students will be taking classes and others will be focusing on their next step.

“I am working at Monical’s,” Abby Hofer says. “I am going to school June 17 to take summer classes at Parkland. I am studying dental hygiene at Parkland, and [will be] taking fall classes also.”

“I will be working at Carle,” Dhara Patel, a psychology major, says. “I will also be studying for and then taking

the GRE. I will then be applying to physician assistant schools. I won’t really be doing much other than work.”

“Over the summer, I will be working for Dow AgroScience as a research assistant,” says Daniele Brookshire, a general science major. “Other than working—not much. I really don’t have anything planned.”

Champaign-Urbana offers a lot of events over the summer for those students, staff, and faculty that live here or are staying over the summer.

The Virginia Theatre is offering several events over the course of the summer. On June 8, the theater will host Art in Motion 2017 Dance Showcase. All seats must be reserved before the day of the show, and the doors open at 5:45 p.m. that evening.

The theatre will also be playing a series of films by Steven Spielberg, including “Schindler’s List,” an R-rated film, from June 13-15; “Jaws,” rated PG, on June 20 and June 22, and finally “E.T. The Extraterrestrial,” rated PG, on June 27 and 29.

In July, the Virginia will be continuing its hosting of the 2016-2017 News-Gazette Film Series, which includes 1952’s “High Noon,” starring

Gary Cooper, on June 24 and the 1925 silent comedy “The Gold Rush,” with Charlie Chaplin in the lead role, on July 22.

The Champaign Public Library will also be hosting events over the summer. These events range in age groups and cater to all audiences. Some of the events include: ‘Ready, Set, Read’ every Wednesday morning in June for preschoolers, ‘Fit and Fabulous’ every Tuesday morning in June for adults, and ‘Teen STEAM Drop-In’ every Thursday afternoon. More information can be found on the Champaign Public Library’s website, under the “Events” header.

Along with the Champaign Public Library and the Virginia Theater, there are quite a few other places catering to the C-U community over the summer.

Hessel Park, Krannert Art Museum, Parkland’s own William M. Staerckel Planetarium, and Champaign County Historical Museum are among those hosting events throughout the season. Check out their websites for more information.

FROM PAGE 1

SHOWS

Leake says. “All the planets take on these odd personalities. There’s King Jupiter and Queen Saturn. Neptune is a pirate. Uranus is on crutches because...in real life, it’s been knocked over on its side...The sun is a detective with sun glasses.”

All of the shows are designed to be an hour long, with some live portion included in many of them.

“We try to design everything to fit into an hour timeslot,” Leake said. “If the show itself is 25 minutes long... We love to do live stuff in here so we would add on to it.”

“Coyote Explores the Earth, Moon & Sun” is an animated show, created at University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill, that teaches observers about the relationships between the Earth, moon, and sun, explaining concepts such as sunrise and moon phases. It is narrated by a coyote who must be taught to distinguish between myth and fact.

“Coyote is an interesting character,” Leake said. “He’s got some really strange ideas, like [the] sun is a big vacuum cleaner, so when it comes up in the morning it sucks up all the darkness...The idea is to talk about [why] people have these misconceptions, these wrong ideas, but [also] here’s really what’s going on.”

The show is named after the fact that there are a lot of coyotes in Native American star lore.

“If you look at a lot of Native American stories, if something goes wrong or shouldn’t be that way, it

usually gets blamed on a coyote,” Leake said.

One of the stories in the show is about the importance Coyote played in creating the constellations according to Native America stories.

“Coyote supposedly helped put up the pictures of the animals into the sky but then he got impatient so he just threw the rest of them up there,” Leake said. “Which is why the stars don’t look like what they’re supposed to. But, since Coyote doesn’t see his own picture up there, that’s why he howls at night.”

Besides the shows, the planetarium is also partnered with the Champaign-Urbana Astronomical Society, which does open houses once a month. They also host other events around town.

“We partner with the local [astronomy] club and we’ll do programs at like Middle Fork Forest

Preserve,” Leake said. “Technically, [the astronomy club] is a Champaign Park District group, but they actually meet here...[T]hey have an observatory southwest of town.”

The shows will be held either as matinees or as evening shows. Matinees take place at 1 and 2 p.m. Tuesdays and then at 10 and 11 a.m. Thursdays, while evening shows take place at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. Fridays for the summer months of June and July.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$5 for students, seniors, and children under 12. Special pricing is applicable for large groups and for those seeing two shows.

More information and schedules for the planetarium can be found at parkland.edu/planetarium, while additional info on the Champaign-Urbana Astronomical Society can be found at cuas.org.

FROM PAGE 1

ALARMS

friends heard several were related to chemistry lab mishaps. In reality, the triggers were due to a variety of reasons.

“A few were directly related to operational issues with the system itself, which we corrected with the system supplier and the installation contractor,” said James Bustard, director of the physical plant at Parkland, who is largely in charge of the fire alert system.

But, others were caused by stimuli which the fire detectors interpreted as legitimate fire hazards. This included smoke from burning popcorn in the college center, and what campus police and Bustard believe was someone likely smoking in one of the second floor bathrooms.

“We found no smoking materials,” Colbrook said. “We found no evidence of smoking, but there was no other indication of why that head would have gone off and it wasn’t a faulty head.”

A few of the other alarm trips demonstrate just how powerful the new system can be when it comes to detecting dangers.

“[One alarm] was caused by contractors working in an enclosed area of the building,” Bustard said of the most recent fire alarm. “They created a substantial amount of dust in the room, which set off the alarm.”

The alarms are sensitive to more than just smoke so this dust triggered it.

“The detector can’t decipher whether it’s dust or whether it’s smoke,” says Colbrook, “and when dust came across the head, it said ‘Hey, there’s something we need to alert you guys to.’”

Simple human error was a cause

part of the time as well. At least one of the alarms was caused by contractors during installation and tuning of the new system.

“Sometimes they would want to make a minor correction and they didn’t think they really needed to take the system offline or notify us to take the system offline,” Colbrook said. “Humans make mistakes.”

An after-hours alarm was believed to have been set off by a heavy thunderstorm as well, adding mother nature to the list of culprits. The storm’s strong electrical surge was thought to be powerful enough to trip the alarm system.

According to Colbrook, none of the recent alarms, nor any of the fire alarms since he has been at Parkland, have been caused by a student pulling an alarm mischievously or with malicious intent.

The false alarm frequency is expected to decrease.

“We have taken some precautionary steps to hopefully eliminate the false alarms caused by contractors or malfunctions,” Bustard said.

Colbrook says that further measures will soon be put into place to help deter smoking on campus, in alignment with recent changes in Illinois law. This will likely translate into fewer alarms triggered by smoking. Although students are informed that smoking on campus is forbidden, in accordance with state law, currently that’s about as far as measures against it go.

“I’ll be in charge of a committee this summer to go to the next level,” Colbrook said, “to figure out what the enforcement side is going to look like at Parkland, because right now, we don’t really have an enforcement side, but it’s coming.”

Colbrook says that hopefully policies will be able to be implemented by the beginning of next year’s spring semester.

“We have to come up with an enforcement component because that’s what Illinois law says,” Colbrook said.

The school will continue its current efforts to educate people as well.

“We’re not going to stop educating people,” Colbrook said. “We would rather people know about a non-smoking policy here on campus and just voluntarily comply with the law, as opposed to any enforcement.”

Further anti-smoking measures combined with further familiarity with the system by contractors should ensure that most false alarms become a thing of the past, although the new system will still alert the school to any legitimate possible threats, many of which caused the recent alarms.

Whatever the reasons, students are glad to hear the alarms will be less frequent at Parkland. According to Tackett, the alarms could be “extremely disruptive” to classes, and caused both teachers and students to have to speed through important

material to make up for the lost time.

For Rund, the alarms often meant missing classes while some of her friends simply left for the day after the alarms went off. According to her, the only real joy “came from those escaping an exam.” She says that knowing the alarms will be less frequent is “a big relief.”

In the end, many of the alarm trips proved to be something of a testament to the new system’s efficiency.

“The new system is a substantial improvement over the old system it replaced,” Bustard said, “there are many more sensors around campus, along with substantially more warning lights and horns. The new system also allows Campus Public Safety and the Champaign Fire Department to pinpoint the exact sensor or pull station that triggers an alarm.”

This significantly improves the response time and greatly increases their ability to know if the alarm is indeed a fire or not.

thePROSPECTUS

will be publishing this summer
on the following dates:

June 28 | July 19

PUZZLES & COMICS

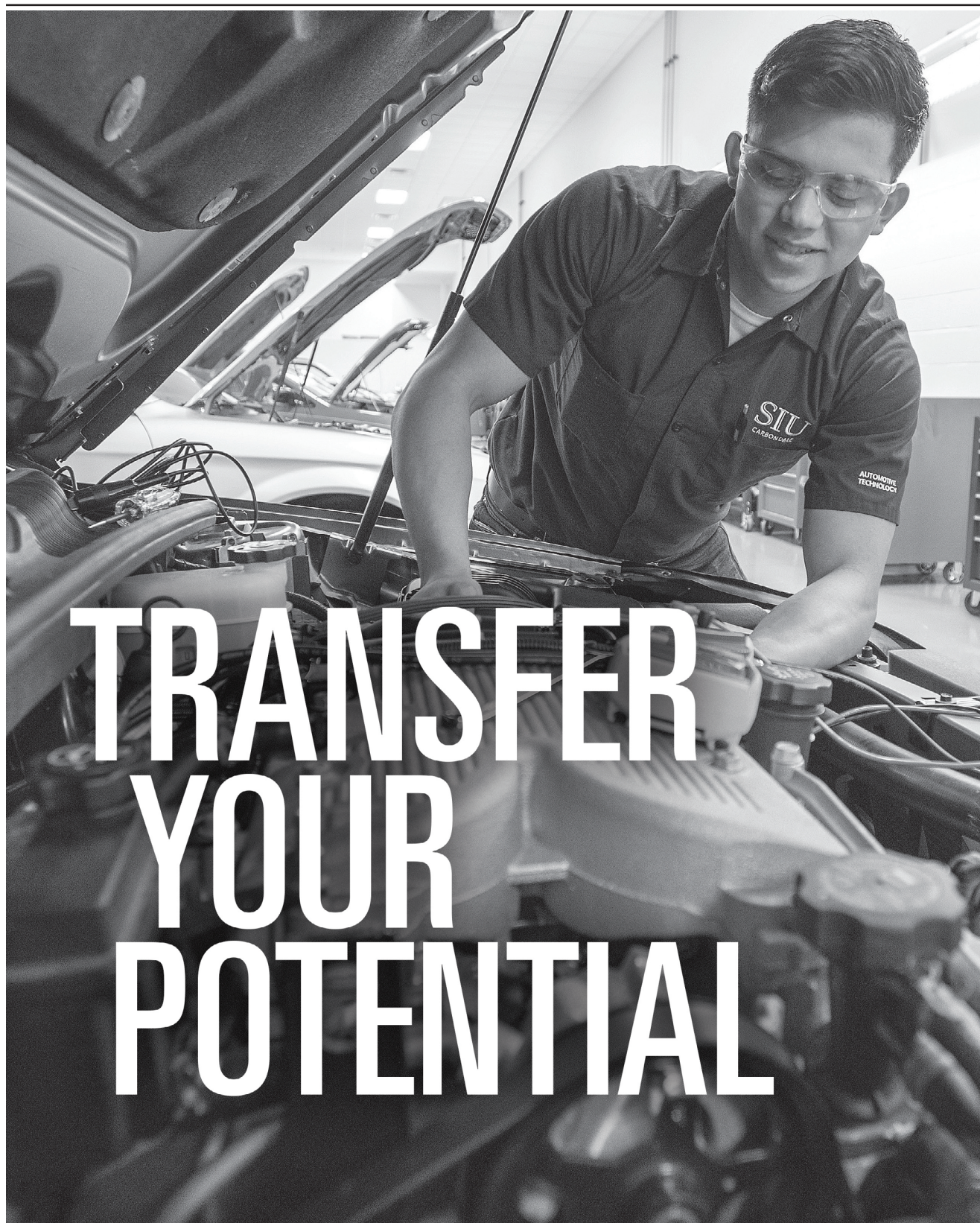
Crossword
(solve for the answers below)

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- ACROSS**
- 1 West African gazelle that's rather vocal (5)
 - 4 Den of iniquity's discovered when teenage gang member is hauled back in front of wise judge (9)
 - 9 Sound the waterway with a circular vessel (4-5)
 - 10 Unlike airbag, a rag has neither ____ to encircle (5)
 - 11 Obviously being drunk, I may call taxi round (13)
 - 14 Tense fellows taking Ecstasy and grass (4)
 - 15 Unfortunately, skinhead at heart bore race hatred (10)
 - 18 Watering hole? (10)
 - 19 God of love – and discord (4)
 - 21 Ordered to resit maths exam, primarily in Fermat and Pythagoras? (13)
 - 24 Cockney Scotsman belonging to a US sect (5)
 - 25 Soldier gets issue, we hear, of woollen fabric (9)
 - 27 Expresses willingness to keep goal – for the prison team? (9)
 - 28 Comb-like swimming organ – a number can be found in fringes of coelenterate (5)
- DOWN**
- 1 Will's merchant gives brandy to a couple of soldiers perhaps (10)
 - 2 Ring about oven from Perth (3)
 - 3 Try your speed against mine – for a bunch of flowers (6)
 - 4 Straw-plait that's brown and durable (9)
 - 5 Acid that causes disease in cattle, chiefly (5)
 - 6 A cross I shall have to bear: not to be ultimately savoury of amplit (8)
 - 7 Salts from Iceland love greenish-blue fish (11)
 - 8 John captures black wolf (4)
 - 12 At last detain Fagin, crafty robber, and you have the right to fine him (11)
 - 13 Writer is wise to miss European varnishing-day (10)
 - 16 Shows more ingenuity and stings more than one's competitors? (9)
 - 17 Lovesick shepherd disturbed hornets, bringing in the last of sheep (8)
 - 20 13 letters written by one Conservative? That shows some sort of energy (6)
 - 22 Broad connecting ridge that occupies some geographers (5)
 - 23 Moor was ruined by him blowing away half the capital (4)
 - 26 Thyme's regularly found in area of pasture (3)

SUDOKU

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	7			4				3
5	8	3						1
		4	2	8				9
2	9					8		
		6	7					4



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Fact or Fiction

FACT: The light-year is a measurement of how far light travels in one earth year, or 365.25 days. As light travels a bit over 168 thousand miles each second (a light-second), this means a light-year equates to about 5.9 trillion miles. Light from the sun's nearest neighboring star, Proxima Centauri, takes over four years to reach Earth.