

Parkland College

## SPARK: Scholarship at Parkland

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Prospectus 2011

The Prospectus

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### Prospectus, November 9, 2011

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## Black Student Success Project helps students connect



Photo by Nick Washington/Prospectus News

Joe Yager spoke to several students at the Black Student Success Project on Oct. 26, 2011 in room D244 at Parkland College.

**PN** Morgan Bernier  
Assistant Editor

Students may see Parkland College as a place where they can come to learn, but Donna Tanner-Harold, Director of Counseling and Advising, is helping the college become much more than that.

About four years ago, Tanner-Harold applied for a grant to start the Black Student Success Project, which features workshops held by college administrators and speakers from outside the college to help inspire African American students.

"When I was hired in 2001, part of my responsibility was to make a program for black male students," Tanner-Harold said. "The (project's) events help students see Parkland as a place where

the faculty and staff want them to be." Tanner-Harold is responsible for the project, which has been successful in connecting students to the college, the faculty and staff, and each other.

She says that she got the idea from research saying that connectedness helps with student retention, which is the completion rate for degree-seeking students.

The program seems to be working, as the last workshop, held Oct. 26, attracted nearly forty students. One student's evaluation from the workshop said, "This is the first workshop I've been to and I didn't know what to expect, but I really enjoyed it." Students taking the time to fill out evaluations, especially those leaving positive comments, say a lot about the pro-

gram's impact so far.

One of the greatest benefits offered by the program is a way for students who might not be from around the area or who are not traditional students to meet and interact with their peers. Although it is important for students from the Champaign-Urbana area to meet new people and interact with their classmates, this is an invaluable resource for students coming to Parkland College who might not know anyone.

Tanner-Harold said that she enjoys seeing the students succeed and that the individuals who attend the programs make all of the hard work worthwhile. One particular student, who wished to remain anonymous, is a regular attendee of the Black Student

Success Project sessions. This student made a point to come back and thank Tanner-Harold for the program and her dedication, and indicated that his success would not have been possible without these resources offered at Parkland College.

As for the content covered in these sessions, it can vary as much as the different attendees. Some past and future workshop topics include relationships, money management, and more. There is an upcoming workshop on male/female relationships with part one on Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 1 p.m. and part two on Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 1 p.m. Be sure to stop by for free pizza, new friends and a wealth of inspiration.

## Parkland's Agricultural Program helps to keep Illinois running



Photo by Chanelle Stokes/Prospectus News

Tracy Rexroad, coach of the Parkland College Equestrian team, and their 35-year-old horse, Jimmy, who has been shown in many shows that help disabled children experience life in a new light.

**PN** Alisha Kirkley  
Staff Writer

With all the different programs offered at Parkland, it's easy to find one that fits your needs. Several choices are offered by the Business and Agri-Industries department, which features many beneficial courses and student groups to prepare students for jobs in the agriculture industry. Parkland's agriculture programs feature hands-on instruction in a

42-acre land laboratory, a greenhouse, and modern classroom space in the Tony Noel Ag Technology Applications Center, according to the Parkland Business and Agri-Industries website.

The Program is split into two major areas, which are the transfer degree and two year/career degree programs. In the transfer degree program, a student takes more general education courses, supplemented

See AGRI on P. 7

## Professors diligent in trying to stop students' plagiarism



Vernon Bryant/Dallas Morning News/KRT  
Texas english teacher Kathy Witcher teaches an english class in Plano, Texas. Plagiarism appears to be more rampant than ever in high schools and at colleges and universities.

**Stephanie Akin**  
The Record (Hackensack N.J.)

HACKENSACK, N.J. - In the early weeks of Katelyn Laeyt's freshman year at Ramapo College, a professor sent her class a clear message: A classmate's plagiarized essay, each line marked in red, posted on the professor's door.

"You could see everything that was plagiarized," Laeyt said. "The message was, 'Don't do it.'"

Professors across the region say student plagiarism is on the rise, so they must be more creative - and direct - about how they combat it.

Some use Internet programs like Turnitin.com - the one that caught Laeyt's classmate - to flag passages that may

have come from other sources. Some start the term with pointed presentations about plagiarism and its consequences. Some simply try to be extra-vigilant about changes in tone or uncharacteristic writing style in their students' essays.

Unless they are clear and consistent about their policies against plagiarism, professors said, they have no doubt some of their students - tempted by the sheer amount of information easily available on the Internet - will try it. "Everyone thinks everyone else is doing it, so they're doing it, too," said Don McCabe, a professor in the management and global business department of the Rutgers Business School who has spent the past 20 years study-

See STOP on P. 7

# News

## Assistance for Adult Students at Parkland

**PN** Josh Grube  
Staff Writer

College is an extremely stressful part of any student's life. While trying to balance jobs, internships and other obligations, many students have difficulty finding free time. For adult students, making time to excel in college can be even harder. The term adult student refers to a student who is over 25 years old and is either attending college for the first time or returning to education in order to earn a degree.

One such student at Parkland is Samantha Gavin, 32, who is juggling 11 credit hours, two jobs and a family. "I started taking classes at Parkland to get a massage therapy license, but the classes weren't offered at the time I needed them. So I thought I should just take other classes," Gavin said. "I fell into school mode in my head and I didn't want to lose that drive." She is a self-proclaimed "education junkie" and teaches at Concept College of Cosmetology in Urbana. Taking classes at Parkland encourages her as an instructor, she said.

"I think that a lot of adult learners become distracted by their own busy lives," Gavin said, explaining some of the difficulties of being an adult student. "They work, have children, have spouses, or have other distractions. They might not have the time (for college) that a younger person might have." When asked how she balances classes with all of these distractions, her answer was self-motivation and a lot of prayer.

Paulette Johnson, 49, can sympathize with this, too. Johnson is a full time student majoring in special education for the hearing impaired.

In addition to being a student, she is also a Student Ambassador and a member of ACCESS, a group for students with disabilities and allies. "A GED will only get you a low income level job; I wanted to do something more," Johnson explained. "Also, I love helping people. Since I have a (hearing) disability, I think I could do well helping people with a disability."

When Johnson first arrived at Parkland, she hesitated to enter the world of college students. "I got to the door and reached for the handle, and I took my hand down. I knew it was going to be a challenge," Johnson explained. "I did that a few times before I opened the door completely. I knew it was going to take a lot of determination, dedication, and willpower." Because of the amount of time away from school, many adult students such as Johnson have to relearn material they have forgotten over the years.

Johnson offers advice to struggling students. "Stay focused in school. A lot of things in your personal life can sidetrack you and it's easy to give up," she said. For help, she uses two of Parkland's services: TRiO Student Support Services and the Center for Academic Success. After earning an associate's degree, she plans to receive her bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University.

Parkland also offers the Adult Re-entry Center to help adult students. "We assist adult students in returning to college," explained Billie Mitchell, director of the Adult Re-entry Center. "What we find is that sometimes Parkland students return and sometimes university students who did not finish come in and find a

way to complete an associate's degree. Maybe they already have a degree but it's not working out for their career." In addition to helping out returning students, the Adult Re-entry Center is also willing to assist adult students who are completely new to the college experience.

"We also work with ten university partners that have adult outreach type of bachelors programs," Mitchell added. These offer students the ability to earn a bachelors degree without having to leave Parkland's campus. These university partners are Eastern Illinois University, Franklin University, Greenville College, Millikin University, Olivet Nazarene University, Regis University Online, Southern Illinois University, University of Illinois at Springfield, University of St. Francis, and Western Illinois University. Some of these options include classes on Parkland's campus, while a majority of them consist of online courses. For more information on these options, visit <http://www.parkland.edu/arc/partnerships.aspx>

This week, Nov. 7-11, the Adult Re-entry Center is celebrating National Non-Traditional Student Recognition Week. The week kicked off with a breakfast with the Adult Re-entry Center staff in Room C120. Tuesday featured a pizza dinner for non-traditional students, as well as Parkland staff and faculty members. Wednesday gives students an opportunity to meet the president in the college center between 4:30 to 5:00. On Thursday, 88.7 WPCD FM will be doing giveaways in the college center between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. Friday ends the week with a scavenger hunt. The winner is to



Photo by Spencer Lin/Prospectus News

The Adult Re-Entry Center, located in C-120, is one place where Parkland helps adult students finish their college degrees.

be announced on the Adult Re-entry Center's website and Facebook page.

Being an adult student is extremely difficult, but there are many resources at Parkland designed to help you suc-

ceed. For more information on the Adult Re-entry Center, visit <http://www.parkland.edu/arc>, call 351-2462, or stop by Room C120. For TRiO, visit <http://www.parkland.edu/resources/trio.aspx>, call 353-2267, or stop

by Room A244. For the Center for Academic Success, visit <http://www.parkland.edu/resources/cas>, call 353-2005, or stop by Room D120.

## 2011 ICCSAA Student Leadership Conference



Photo by Nick Washington/Prospectus News

(Left - right) Lydia Whitten (College of DuPage), Shuya Yu (PC), Luis Medina (PC) Katie Crull (PC), Rosa Juarez (PC), Tyler Cravens (PC), Joseph Tjandra (PC), Joey Hackler (PC), Ricardo Galvan (PC) and Diah Aldeen Judeh (PC), enjoying the festivities as they listened to the Midwest Dueling Pianos at the 2011 ICCSAA Student Leadership Conference (hosted by John A. Logan College and Southwestern Illinois College) on Oct. 21 and 22 in Marion, Ill. More photos available at [www.prospectusnews.com](http://www.prospectusnews.com).

## Parkland debate team finishes second in recent tournament

**Brian Cafarelli**  
Director of Forensics

Parkland's speech team traveled to Illinois Central College on Friday, Oct. 28, 2011 to compete in an intercollegiate speech tournament and returned home winning second place in debate. 14 Colleges and Universities from all over Illinois took part in the event.

Jason Gordon and Nick Laptew finished second place in the parliamentary debate division. They won their first three debates against last week's winner, College of Dupage and two strong North Central College teams. They lost a close decision in their fourth round, but it was enough to make the final against NIU. In the final it was a split decision for NIU 2-1.

"It was great to be in my first final, I learned a lot. It was a huge adrenalin rush," said Nick Laptew who is in his second semester with the team.

"What makes this result so special is it was in the open division. Normally there are both two and four year divisions, but we ended-up combining the divisions. Any time you can make the final in the four year division as a two year school you know you have done something special," said Brian Cafarelli, the team's coach. "The speech team is always looking for new members; the only requirement is that you are Parkland student."

The Parkland Speech team will travel in two weeks to Kishwaukee College and conclude its fall semester travel at College of Lake County on Dec. 2-3.



Photo by Nick Washington/Prospectus News

Presenter Chris Egelston of Infotainer, a speaker, trainer and entertainer, spoke about how to use his five step success system for setting and achieving goals at the 2011 ICCSAA student leadership conference in Marion, Ill., hosted by John A. Logan College and Southwestern Illinois College on Oct. 21-22.



Photo by Nick Washington/Prospectus News

Sarah Minyard, Secretary of Student Life, and Blue man are posing for a picture at the Leadership in Action 2011 ICCSAA student leadership conference, hosted by John A. Logan College and Southwestern Illinois College at Rent One Ball Park in Marion, Ill. on Friday, Oct. 21.

# Lifestyle

## Parkland hosts PechaKucha Volume 8

**cu** Kelley Heaney  
Community Columnist

On Thursday, Nov. 3, 2011, Parkland College hosted Volume 8 of the interesting new presentation format called PechaKucha. Held at the William M. Staerckel Planetarium and hosted by the Parkland Art Gallery and the Champaign-Urbana Design Org, these events feature presentations of twenty slides or videos, each shown for twenty seconds in a format also referred to as the 20x20 rule, in which the presenters must keep pace with a slide timer. This makes for great fun as well as ensuring that success will rely on the personality of the presenter and the strength of their ideas.

PechaKucha is derived from a Japanese term describing the sound of chit chat, according to the PechaKucha website. The format originated in Japan in 2003 when two Japanese based businessmen, Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham envisioned a venue where young designers could meet together, share their work, exchange ideas, and network with each other. PechaKucha style was widely used during the response to the tragic tsunami which occurred in March of this year, and has since spread internationally to more than 445 cities.

Since its unexpected popularity, the founders had applied strict rules about holding events with the trademarked name, but the organization was able to obtain permission for the city of Champaign, making it the 217<sup>th</sup> city worldwide and one of the smallest areas at the time to be allowed to hold

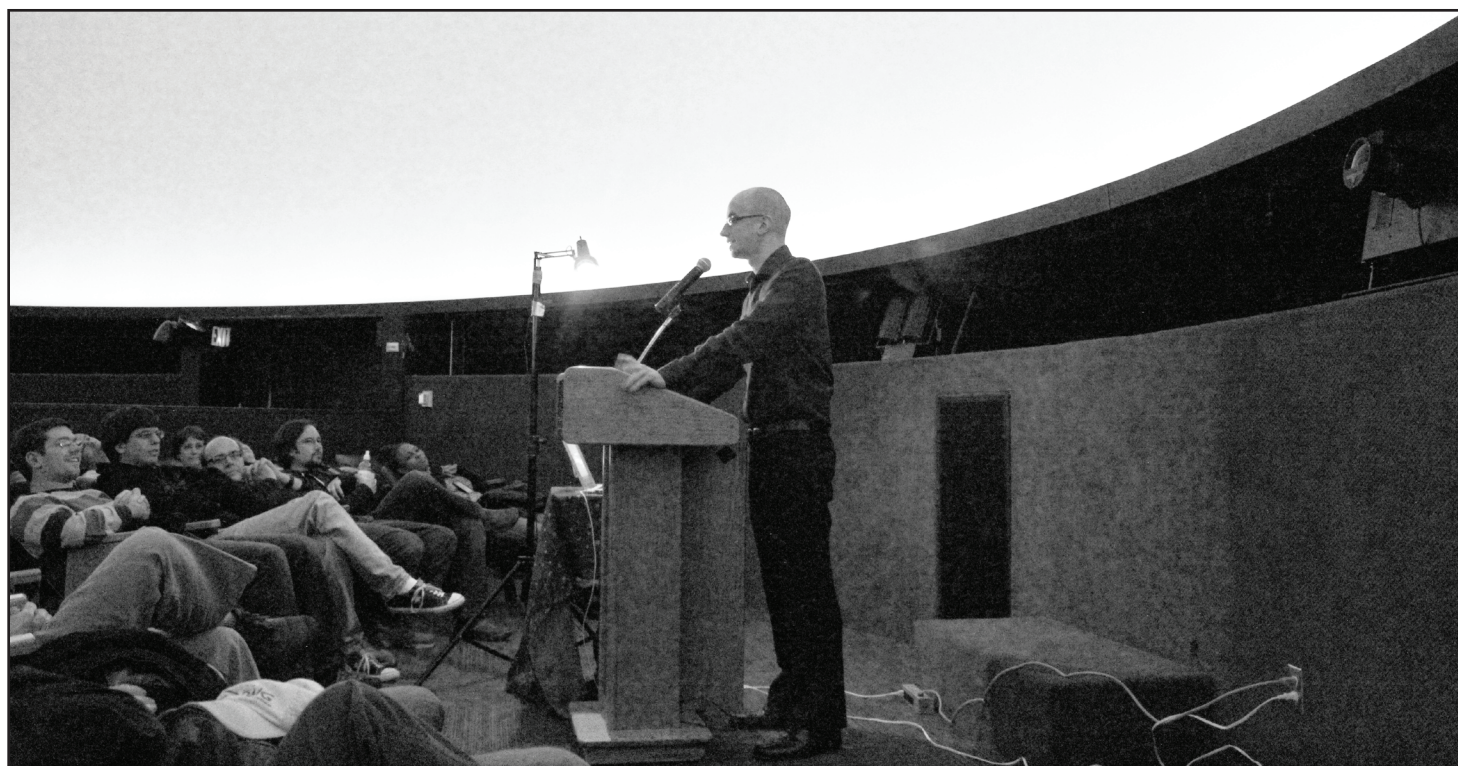


Photo by Ted Setterlund/Prospectus News

Emcee Tim Kuehlhorn welcomed the audience to PechaKucha Volume 8, on Nov. 3, 2011 at Parkland College's Staerckel Planetarium. Several speakers from around the area had exactly six minutes and 40 seconds to tell their story while 20 images were shown for 20 seconds each.

the function. Presenters over the years have included many local personalities and entrepreneurs who have a passion about their business or hobby, or who just have a story to tell. Limited to six minutes and 40 seconds, presenters must tell their story in a fast paced and concise manner.

"There are so many different unexpected stories out there, but the topic isn't as important as the presentation," said Parkland graphic design graduate, Michael Morgan, co-chair of the event and a past presenter. "Often, the dry sounding topics turn out to

be the best presentations, like Nick Jaworski, a few shows ago, talking about the state of music education in the country. It sounds like a dry subject but he turned it into something powerful, touching and insightful."

This event's lineup included Lisa Bralts-Kelly, host of the radio program "In My Garden" on WILL, who presented "Telling C-U's Local Food Stories." She was followed by the founder of the recently launched CUVolunteer.org, Sara Zehr, who shared "The CUVolunteer.org Story." DJ Brian Mertz revealed his "Con-

fessions of a Vinyl Addict," in which he referred to records as "black crack," and went on to divulge that his all-time favorite piece of vinyl is an album in the shape of Dick Chaney's head.

Other presentations included artist Nicki Werner, who talked about her obsession with sharing a birthday with actress/singer, Hillary Duff, and a local video game enthusiast, Tyler Penrod, who defended games as an art form against Roger Ebert, who recently stated that they will never be considered art. In addition, art revolutionary,

Eric Burton, also presented.

Volume 8 of the event also marked its first repeat performer, Joanne Manaster. A former model, this science educator was invited to watch the final space shuttle launch and tweet about it. Her new presentation, "The Last Shuttle Launch," shared her experience as one of 155 NASA launch guests, where she was treated to many exclusive sights and experiences which she then documented in tweets and video.

"The presentations follow a pattern of what you are passionate about," said Maya

Bruck, president of the Champaign Urbana Design Org. "It is a learning experience for everyone who participates." Anyone can be a presenter as long as they are passionate to the point of distraction about their topic, she said.

Parkland Art Gallery Director, Lisa Costello, thinks that these events are a good thing for the college. "We are dealing with people in the community with a different creative innovation during a global movement event," she said. "We feel we have a unique space to offer for a unique event." She hopes to be allowed to co-host more of these events in the future.

The concept was brought to Champaign by Christina Tapp, co-founder of the Champaign-Urbana Design Org. She was excited after she attended an event using the format in Budapest, Hungary. Upon her return, she and her organization found that a similar presentation was scheduled in Chicago and decided to contact the creators of PechaKucha about hosting one of their own.

The Champaign-Urbana Design Org. is planning an event for next April at the Krannert Art Museum. They are currently seeking presenters for the event and would like to hear from you if you have something to share. Since the number of presenters for this event will be limited, spots are expected to fill up fast, so don't wait. Visit their website for more information at <http://www.thecudo.org>.

# iPhone apps for college students

**cu** Buster Bytes  
Tech Columnist



Last week, we talked about Android apps for college students, so it seems only fair that we talk about iPhone apps this week. The good news is that the iPhone has been around longer

so the App Store has more apps. The bad news is that less of the apps are free, so it's even more important to research which apps are best before you buy. Compiled here you will find a list of very useful iPhone apps for college students in all fields, and while they're not all free, none of them will break the bank.

For starters, the iPhone is just as capable as an Android device at accessing your course material on ANGEL. Just point your browser at <https://angel.parkland.edu> and away you go. You can access your class schedule, check your grades, or even email your Professor that question you have about Lab 4. You can even install a different browser if you don't like the one your phone came with. Life-hacker.com recommends the Atomic Web Browser, which at \$1, seems a good value for a browser which gives you better focus on privacy, more features and better customization.

Evernote is a very popular application for taking notes on the iPhone. It's free, available in a number of languages and can sync between your phone and laptop or desktop computers. International students can use the app in everything from Chinese to Dutch. It made "Top Ten Must Have Apps" list in the New York Times and was inducted into Apple's "App Hall of Fame." Students can also access their Google Documents by installing a free app called iGoogDocs, which lets them edit, save, and export documents into

different formats both online or off. For simple to-do lists, a free app called Smart ToDo is available at the App Store. Students can also opt to download Toodledo, a powerful note-taking app, which can sync with an account online for back up. With third party tools Toodledo can also be synchronized with Outlook, but its \$2.99 price tag seems a bit steep for something you can do with a piece of paper and a pencil.

Dictionaries are very useful, especially to college students. Unless you know what "coprolites" are off the top of your head, an app like Dictionary.com may come in

them up. For researching many students like to start on Wikipedia. With Quickpedia Lite, you can do so for free right from your iPhone. Just remember, Wikipedia is a great starting point for research, but many professors won't allow you to cite it as a source.

For math students, the PI83 Graphing Calculator app will let you leave your real calculator at home. At \$0.99, it's cheaper than new batteries for your TI. Just remember that you can't bring your phone into an exam with you, so make sure you bring the real thing. Or you can leave the calculator at home altogether if you study with Mathmagics Lite. A free app at the App Store, it will help train you to square large numbers in your head or multiply and divide large numbers faster than you can pull out your calculator. This may not impress your friends unless you know Buster Bytes, but will certainly come in handy. The undisputed heavy weight champion of math apps, however is one made right here in Champaign. Wolfram Alpha is more than just a great math app, though. Sure, it can graph equations typed out in plain English, but it can also fetch you the capital of Finland or the speed of light quicker than you can open your phone's internet browser. Cough up the 3 bucks, support your local community, and get yourself a very powerful piece of computing power you can carry in your pocket.

Graphic by  
Burke Stanion/  
Prospectus News

E-book readers are a must for students in any class that involves reading. Who wants to carry

all those novels around these days? Save a tree or two and put them right on your phone. Nook by Barnes and Noble and Kindle by Amazon are two excellent, easy to use apps that allow you to do just that. You can even download the books directly and save yourself a trip to the bookstore, so you can save gas as well as trees. As easy as these two apps are to use, they are slightly limited in the formats they can handle. For an app, which may be slightly less polished and glamorous, but handles nearly all the text files you may encounter, an app called Tomes is available for free on the App Store.

All in all, the iPhone has apps for nearly anything college students need to do in their studies. Over half a million, according to Apple's website, is far too many to cover here. With a little time and some research, there's no reason you can't find what you need. Just remember, before you pay for any app, it's always a good idea to read some reviews online first to avoid getting one that force closes or freezes up constantly.



**Have a tech question?**

**Ask Buster Bytes!**

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# Opinions

## Prospectus News

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Originally created as the Parkland College Prospectus in 1969 in Champaign, IL, Prospectus News is a student produced news source in print, Web, and design media formats. Prospectus News is published weekly during the semester and monthly during the summer.

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All unused issues of Prospectus News are donated to the Parkland College Veterinary Technology program or the Champaign County Humane Society.

## Rising college costs, debts, crushing best and brightest

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Not all that long ago in the American experience, a million was a big number. Then it was a billion. Today the word "trillion" is thrown around casually.

The number is so big and so hard to comprehend that it has a certain cachet. Deficits and debts seem to matter when trillions of dollars are at stake. When they were in the billions, not so much. Which was a mistake.

Which brings us to the latest trillion-dollar-baby: America's student loan debt.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York reported last month that the debt owed by U.S. college students has topped \$1 trillion for the first time. That figure doesn't even take into account the loans owned by parents on behalf of students.

This number is not just the result of inflation or population growth but of a fundamental shift in U.S. policy toward helping our next generation

reach for the same dreams the previous generation had the opportunity to achieve.

Students are borrowing twice what they did a decade ago, partly because states have reduced their support for higher education. In the meantime, with ever more kids wanting to get in and willing to borrow to pay for it, colleges keep raising prices.

In 1984, tuition was less than 25 percent of the overall revenue for the nation's colleges and universities, according to association known as the State Higher Education Executive Officers. By 2009, tuition accounted for 37 percent of higher education revenue. The same study found that per-student state appropriations for public colleges and universities was lower in 2009 than at any time since 1984.

America's middle class is being priced out of an opportunity to succeed.

But smart kids know that their lifetime earning potential is significantly increased by obtaining a college degree. So they saddle themselves with

debt to keep alive the hope that comes with an education. That hope is being crushed by bills that outpace post-graduation jobs, if the jobs even exist.

So it's not hard to understand why, in many cities, a major source of the anger fueling the Occupy Wall Street movement comes from students seeking student loan relief.

Slowly but surely, the threads of the tapestry of the American dream are being pulled away. First came the homeownership bubble, which in some ways contributed to the original Tea Party anger. Now comes the student loan debt bubble.

About two-thirds of graduates with a bachelor's degree have student loans, according to the College Board, with the average debt about \$24,000. The promise was that you'd get a good job coming out of school, so you could handle that. But not if no one's hiring. Not if you're working at Starbucks.

Congress, President Barack Obama and state legislatures must get beyond the political

### Rising college costs

How tuition and fees have increased\*:

Type of college	2009-10	2010-11	% change
Two-year public	\$2,558	\$2,713	+6.0%
Four-year public	\$7,050	\$7,605	+7.9%
Four-year private	\$26,129	\$27,293	+4.5%

\*Does not include room, board

### Paying for school

Public and private sources of funding, in billions

2009-10 figures are preliminary

### Federal aid

1999-00 \$62.1

2009-10\*\* \$146.5

### Non-federal loans

1999-00 \$5.2

2009-10\*\* \$8.5

### State, institutional and private grants

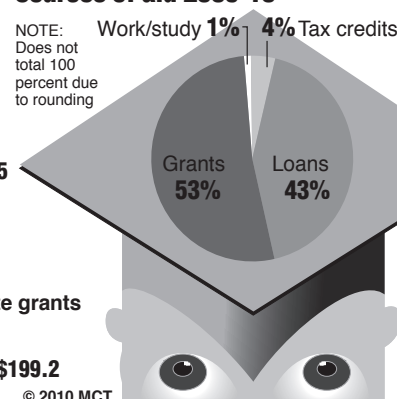
1999-00 \$94.0

2009-10\*\* \$199.2

Source: The College Board

### Sources of aid 2009-10

NOTE: Does not total 100 percent due to rounding



battles of left and right and see what is happening to the next generation of Americans. Most of them don't yet have any political allegiances, only a desire to start building their own nest egg.

Mr. Obama reached out to the students dragged down by debt last week. For six months,

beginning in January, borrowers with both federal loans and federally backed loans can consolidate them at a slightly lower interest rate.

It's a modest start, but far more serious work needs to be done.

(c)2011 the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

## Online shopping: Freedom, fantasy & financial ruin

Elias Aboujaode  
The Free Lance-Star  
(Fredericksburg, Va.)

PALO ALTO, Calif. - We may have spent the last few decades trying to keep up with the Joneses, but we are now busy keeping up with our online alter egos - and the Joneses suddenly seem frugal.

The Internet and related technologies have turned money virtual, an even less-tangible and further-removed concept than the plastic of credit cards often blamed for our reckless out-of-touchness with finances. The result may be a new and largely unacknowledged contributor to our economic woes.

The Great Recession of the last couple of years may also have to do with our coming of age as full-fledged virtual creatures, no longer moored in reality and no longer beholden to old truths and rules, including economic ones. Online, we take on new character traits that add up to a complete "e-personality" - a disinhibited way of behaving and transacting that can be very different from how we have always operated.

E-personality traits to be found in our online alter egos include grandiosity, or the sense that the sky is the limit when it comes to what we can accomplish and how much we think we can afford; narcissism, or how we tend to think of ourselves as the center of the World Wide Web, deserving of all the pampering money can buy; and impulsivity, or the urge-driven, click-now-worry-later lifestyle many of us are falling into online. As a consequence of adopting these traits, we feel more potent, entitled, and spontaneous.

These traits are empowering, which helps blind us to their consequences. When it comes to online spending, the effects become less near and concrete. Fueled by grandiose, narcissistic, and impulsive notions, we find it easier, online, to feel as special and immune to consequences as a Marie Antoinette - and to spend accordingly. Outcomes like default or bankruptcy stop scaring us because they stop being real.

The Internet, which helps us create larger-than-life alter egos, also gives us the illusion that Amazon and eBay are our shortcut to it. In a 2007 study led by British psychologist Helga Dittmar, researchers recruited 126 online shoppers. Using a scientifically validated scale to find the dysfunctional Internet shoppers among them, they determined that nearly 10 percent met criteria for compulsive online shopping. The researchers then set out to understand exactly what prompted the pathological shoppers' online sprees.

Was it the economic benefit made possible through the ease of price comparisons online? Was it the efficiency and convenience of not having to go to the store? Or was it identity gains and the possibility of feeling grander than one's old self through buying goods online?

The results showed that economic benefit and efficiency did not trigger compulsive online buying - people didn't shop compulsively online because it was easier and less time-consuming than going to the store, or in order to save money.

By contrast, identity gains were clear triggers, in that compulsive shoppers tended to shop online specifically because they thought it got them closer to an ideal image that they were chasing: "Individuals appear motivated by self-improvement and self-repair ... and moving closer to an identity ideal."

The study's authors advocate that as a society we increase awareness into the psychological and financial pitfalls of impulsive online buying through education and consumer advice and, for some, through psychotherapy.

Psychotherapy for your e-tail therapy? It wasn't supposed to turn out that way. A decade ago, it was thought that the Internet would actually encour-



Ross Hailey/Fort Worth Star-Telegram/MCT  
More consumer manufacturers have turned to selling through online sites, as well as in stores.

age responsible buying by avoiding the marketing distractions of traditional stores, facilitating price and product comparisons, and freeing us from time pressure. And recent apps such as ShopSavvy, RedLaser, and Milo have turned bargain hunting into an exact science.

A good deal may be easier to track down than ever, but none of this seems to matter if we are in a virtual bazaar with an out-of-control alter ego to contend with, and where the buying transaction is so remote from handing over cash or even a credit card that it no longer feels like spending. And so we spend more.

That is why one has to wonder about the role of what I have called "virtualism" in the devastating real estate bubble and ensuing Great Recession. It is worth noting that four of the top-10 online advertisers in 2007 sold mortgage services and that countless websites were in the business of encouraging consumers, including those with marginal credit histories, to bid on properties they could not afford.

All of a sudden, many of us who should have known better became easy prey to "zip zero zilch nada no down payment required" pop-ups on websites such as zero download.com. All of a sudden, too many of us were looking for second homes to "flip," in a bout of irrational exuberance that recalls the heady days of another bubble (and one that was clearly Internet-mediated).

This, too, can be seen as a manifestation of grandiose thinking, one that online life, by making us allergic to gravity and anything that holds us back, may have helped facilitate. After all, owning a virtual home is relatively painless: If you subscribe to Sec-

ond Life (an online virtual world developed by Linden Lab and launched in 2003), all you need to build your dream house is borrow a few Lindens, the Second Life currency. Should you default on your loan, the most painful outcome possible is that your Second Life subscription might get canceled.

They call it "real" estate for a reason, yet many of us approached first, second and vacation homes as though they were virtual property, castles we built in the sky. Debt becomes tolerable as money becomes unreal. The "correction" that has followed continues to be extremely painful, but only as painful as the buying binge that preceded it was virtual and unhinged from reality.

Still, the road from Amazon's "one-click option" to credit default swaps, a euro on life support, and an economy on the precipice of a double-dip recession involves major leaps of faith. The reasons for our fiscal predicament are complicated and not agreed upon by economists, let alone psychiatrists. But the idea that the Internet has contributed by making money virtual and more abstract deserves serious consideration.

For the obscene living-beyond-our-means that characterized the most recent bubble and the \$2 trillion that subsequently evaporated are an experience in unreality that may have more in common with the Linden dollar than any familiar currency or economic model.

It is somehow telling that gold has risen so much in value as every other haven has stopped feeling safe enough; it's as real as it gets.

(c) 2011, The Free Lance-Star

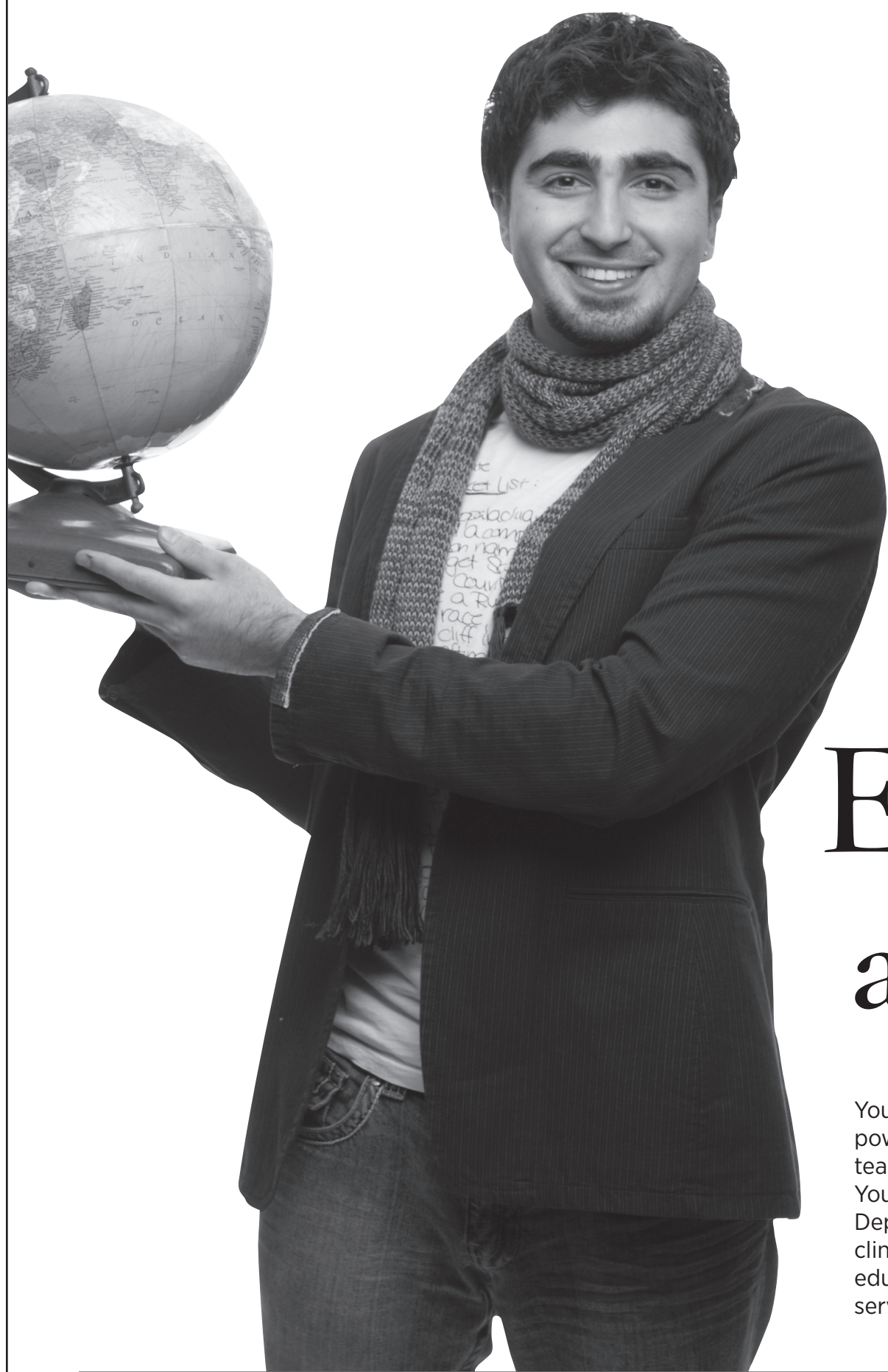
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© By Alisha Kirkley



not all heroes wear capes.





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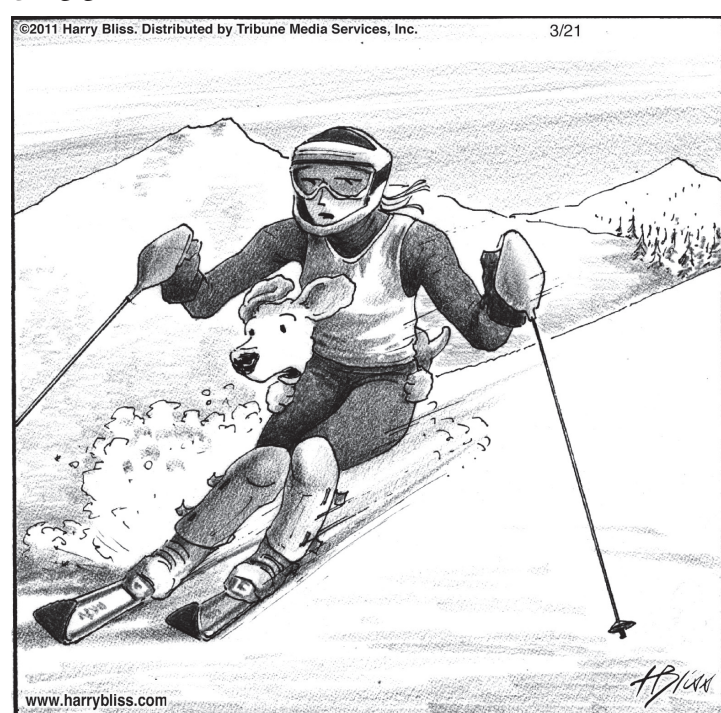
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# Puzzles & Comics

Bliss



"I don't get you. You roll in dead things and eat trash, but skiing frightens you?"

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"A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

-Winston Churchill

## Sudoku (easy)

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

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BREWSTER ROCKIT



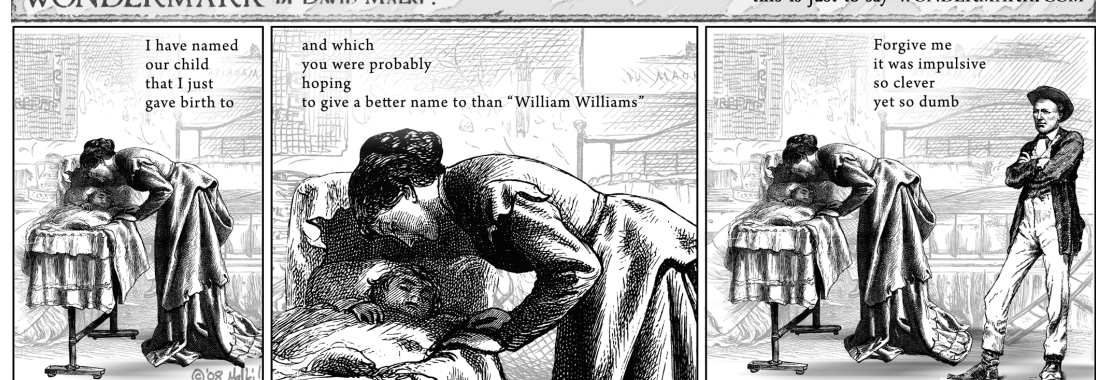
Calamities of Nature by Tony Piro



Best In Show



WONDERMARK BY DAVID MALKI! this is just to say WONDERMARK.COM



xkcd.com



## Champaign County Humane Society Featured Pet of the Week



Bella is an 8-month-old spayed female Chihuahua/Rat Terrier mix. She weighs about 15 lbs. She is a very cheerful, playful dog who would do best in a home with no young children. She likes to play with other dogs.

## The TV Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	
9						10	11			
12						13				
14					15					
		16	17	18			19	20	21	22
							23		24	
25	26	27					28	29		
30						31				
32					33					
			34	35				36	37	38
39	40	41					42	43		
44							45			
46							47			

7/3/11

### ACROSS

- 1 Davis or Midler
- 6 Actor \_\_ Mantegna
- 9 Lucy Ricardo's landlady
- 10 Cara and Mady Gosselin, e.g.
- 12 "The \_\_", adventure series for George Peppard and Mr. T
- 13 Actress and singer Tammy \_\_
- 14 Yank's foe in the U. S. Civil War
- 15 "In the \_\_ of the Night"
- 16 Dog's name on "Frasier"
- 19 Joints on each side of the body
- 23 Actor Sandler
- 24 "Star \_\_: Voyager"
- 25 "\_\_ to Win It"
- 28 Huge African desert
- 30 In \_\_; mired by routine
- 31 "Spenser: For \_\_"
- 32 Lucie Arnaz's brother
- 33 Classroom assistants
- 34 "The \_\_ and the Furious"; movie for Vin Diesel
- 36 Tamera Mowry's sister
- 39 "Eight Is \_\_"
- 42 Brag
- 44 Clark of "Gone With the Wind"

- 45 \_\_ Zimbalist, Jr.
- 46 DEF followers
- 47 \_\_ up; relaxes

### DOWN

- 1 Smokey or Yogi
- 2 Ending for Paul or Jean
- 3 "The Bold and \_\_"
- 4 Actress Leoni
- 5 "A Nightmare on \_\_ Street"; horror movie
- 6 "According to \_\_"
- 7 "\_\_ Day at a Time"
- 8 Suffix for count or host
- 10 "...flowers that bloom in the spring, \_\_ la..."
- 11 "Dancing \_\_"
- 13 "\_\_ whiz!"
- 15 "She Done \_\_ Wrong"; Mae West movie
- 17 Letters for a banned pesticide
- 18 Daniel \_\_ Kim
- 20 Paul's cousin on "Mad About You"
- 21 \_\_ person; apiece
- 22 Music from Jamaica
- 25 \_\_ Hatter; Johnny Depp's role in "Alice in Wonderland"
- 26 Anger
- 27 Greek letters
- 28 Actor \_\_ Caesar
- 29 "Car 54, Where \_\_ You?"
- 31 "Your \_\_ Parade"
- 33 Bit of sooty residue
- 35 Grow old
- 37 "\_\_ dead people"; words from Cole in "The Sixth Sense"
- 38 Machines that give \$20 bills, for short
- 39 \_\_ foo yong
- 40 Slangy denial
- 41 Japanese sash
- 42 Sheriff Andy Taylor's aunt
- 43 "Death \_\_ Salesman"

### Solution to Last Week's Puzzle

D	A	Y	S		A	N	A								
A	M	E	N		B	A	N	J	O						
S	T	E	A	L	W	I	N	D	U	P					
K	E	R	R		S	H	E	A	S	E	P				
I	D	I		R	A	Y	S		A	T	R	A			
				C	L	E	M		B	R	I	A	N		
				A	I	D	S		K	I	L	N			
R	I	S	E	S		A	R	O	W						
A	D	M	S		B	O	L	D		A	M	Y			
G	E	O			L	I	N	E		F	L	E	E		
				A	S	M	I	L	E		M	I	K	E	S
				S	T	I	L	L			E	V	E	S	
				T	Y	S				W	E	R	E		

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7/3/11



# Sports

## Parkland Volleyball wins Region 24-A title Cobras headed to Nationals for 4th straight year



Photo by Nick Washington/Prospectus News

Parkland volleyball players Shannon Boome (14) and Morgan Martells (12) blocking the ball at the regional 24-quarter finals against Danville Area Community College. The Cobras won all three games (25-9,25-19,25-17) on Nov. 2, 2011 at the Dodds Athletic Center and will advance to Nationals for the fourth straight year.

**Rod Lovett**  
Athletic Director

The Parkland Cobras volleyball team traveled south to Godfrey, Illinois for the Region 24 finals with a berth for nationals on the line and they did not disappoint as the Cobras beat Lewis and Clark

3-0 and ICC 3-2 to claim their fourth straight trip to the NJCAA D-2 National Tournament. This year's finals will be held at Owens CC in Toledo, Ohio November 17-19.

#1 seed Parkland took on host #5 Lewis & Clark in the first semifinal match and defeated the hosts 3-0 - 25-20, 25-16,

25-20. Outside hitter Shannon Boone (Shelbyville) led the attack with 16 kills while co-freshman Shelby Geers (St. Joseph-Ogden) notched 11 kills. Setter Melanie Moore (Centennial) had 30 assists and 13 digs in the match. Jessica Galotta (Mother McAuley) led the defensive effort

with 18 digs.

In the final match, #1 seed Parkland faced off with #2 seed ICC. Parkland had previously defeated ICC in straight sets twice during the season, and although it was a difficult fight, the Cobras prevailed for the third time this year to win the bid to nationals. Parkland

won 3-2, winning by the scores of 18-25, 25-16, 27-25, 14-25, 15-6. The Cobras again were led offensively by Boone who had a career high 24 kills and Geers had 10. Moore had 44 assists and 14 digs, and Megan Scharnett (Centennial) and Dana Belcher (Warrensburg-Latham) led the defense with

19 and 17 digs, respectively.

In addition to the team title, Parkland setter Melanie Moore was named the Region 24 Player of the Year and Coach Cliff Hastings was named Coach of the Year. The remainder of the All-Region team will be announced on Monday.

## STOP

continued from page 1

ing academic dishonesty.

"The number of students engaging in the behavior has not increased, but those who are doing it are doing it more often. They used to do it only when they were desperate. Now they do it as a matter of habit."

McCabe's surveys of more than 200,000 college students, 50,000 high school students and about 20,000 faculty members have found that a third to 40 percent of students admit to having done some kind of cut-and-paste plagiarism, he said.

Although there was a surge of students reporting plagiarism after the advent of the Internet, the number has gone down slightly since then, corresponding to a decline in the number of students responding to his surveys, he said.

He does not attribute the decrease in self-reported plagiarism to a rise in academic honesty, however. Rather, he thinks students who cheat are no longer interested in responding to surveys.

McCabe's hypothesis is supported by a Pew Research Center study released in August that reported that 55 percent of college presidents said plagiarism in students' papers had increased over the past 10 years. Of those who thought plagiarism was on the rise, 89 percent said the Internet had played a major role.

Students randomly polled at Ramapo said the popularity of anti-plagiarism programs, and the common knowledge that their professors are watch-

ing out for plagiarism, keeps incidents of plagiarism low, although they said increased vigilance also comes with downsides.

Cristian Torres, 23, a Ramapo junior, said a professor once made him rewrite a paper that was flagged on Turnitin even though Torres insisted it was his own work.

Other students said such programs made them nervous. "What if I'm plagiarizing?" said freshman Louis Pena, 18. "I don't want to fail. What if I do it by accident?"

Debra Zellner, a psychology professor at Montclair State University, said she catches as many as five students a semester when she is teaching large seminars of about 100 students - a few students had even plagiarized from Zellner's own published research, she said.

Signs of problems include shifts in writing styles from one sentence to the next, citations that don't match up or the use of highly technical language - one student was exposed when she used the scientific term "allele" but could not tell Zellner what it meant.

Zellner attributed student plagiarism to a lack of writing experience in high school, combined with last-minute panic when students don't manage their time well.

"They think there's some trick to it, that they have to write a particular way, so they panic," she said.

Zellner said she makes a point of telling students she will confront and report all incidents of student plagiarism - according to the university's policy, students are reported to the dean's office

the first time they're caught intentionally plagiarizing and can be put on probation or expelled the second time. She said she had never had to make a second report.

Professors can help reduce the incidence of plagiarism when they tell students they are watching, said Joe Markert, an instructor in the management and global business department at the Rutgers Business School.

Markert devotes the first day of his freshman seminar to a discussion of ethics, and then requires students throughout the term to submit their papers to Turnitin.com - one of two programs Rutgers professors use to detect plagiarism. If more than 15 to 20 percent of the paper is flagged, he said, he will review the paper and, if necessary, invite the offending student to his office - a task he has to undertake about twice a semester, he said.

"The fact that I brought the students in to talk about it, it goes through the whole population," he said. "It really cuts down on the amount of plagiarism, because the whole student population is going to be very aware of what you're doing, and that you are looking."

Laeyt - whose professor posted the plagiarized essay on the door - said she didn't mind that her professor used her classmate as an example.

"It would bother me more if they didn't do their own paper and didn't get caught," she said.

(c)2011 The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

## AGRI

continued from page 1

with four or five agriculture specific classes. In the two year program, the reverse is true. Students take approximately five general education courses and focus the rest of their time on agriculture specific subjects. The Agriculture Program includes the Horticulture and the Equine Management programs as well.

Horticulture is "the art of practicing garden cultivation and management," according to Google Dictionary. Parkland's program covers the basics of horticulture with the landscape design certificate, while the floral design certificate program offers training in fresh and dried flowers, as well as many other specifics.

The Equine Management program covers the management, care and training of horses. Parkland works with many local stable owners who assist the instructors and offer hands-on learning of practical skills in a genuine equine business environment.

Parkland also has its very own Equestrian Team, led by coach Tracy Rexroad. The team has participated in a variety of events throughout the past few years such as the

"Parade of Lights" in Champaign in which they displayed horses decorated with lights and ribbons. They also participated last year in the conignment tack sale, hosted by the Champaign County Farm Bureau and will do so again this year. They also provide pony or horse rides to assist fundraisers.

Bruce Henrikson, Business and Agri-Industries department chair, explained benefits of the Business and Agri-Industries program. "We still have a fairly significant part of our district that is, in fact, agriculture oriented," he said. "What we like to think we are doing, is serving the ag community by helping prepare potential employees for ag industries," he continued. He also mentioned that the department tries to get agriculture students involved in the Agriculture Club as well, which provides numerous leadership opportunities.

The program has participated in many events over the past few years. On Sept. 17, a benefit was organized to help cover one student's medical costs after a severe accident. There are also two state officers who are attending a fall conference competition. "As for the ag faculty, one of the things we also do as a part of

community service but also as part of the ag industry is that we will host a number of competitions for the high school Agriculture Programs. Specifically the *Future Farmers of America*," Henrikson said.

There are also several student groups which exist for those interested in Agriculture, including the Agriculture Club and the Illinois Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization. Some Equine students are involved in the Equestrian team, and several students are involved in P.L.A.N.E.T., the Professional Land Care Network, which hosts both state and national competition annually. Many landscape and other students also helped to build a healing garden at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee during the alternative spring break this past March.

Students entering Parkland unsure about their major might consider the Business and Agri-Industries Program. This program offers an abundance of classes and a number of student groups. The three different areas of study present several opportunities to find an enjoyable and rewarding life long career.

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# Entertainment

## Players make friends, Zynga makes money

**Alex Pham**  
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES - All it took was a single click on a friend's Facebook post. With it, Lana Sumpter - a Tennessee university professor - began a three-year habit that has consumed many late night hours and cost many thousands of dollars.

The game was Mafia Wars, created in 2008 by up-and-coming developer Zynga Inc., now the largest player in the \$1 billion-a-year social games genre. Its CityVille and FarmVille draw more than 148 million players every month to their Facebook sites. Like Sumpter, many of them come day after day, using credit cards or gift cards to "play, pay and share" the game, said Nicole Lazzaro, founder of XEODesign and a consultant on the role of emotion in games.

Some time in the next two weeks Zynga will launch CastleVille, a "Princess Bride" meets "Tangled" game in which players build castles, encounter oddball fairy tale characters, encourage them to become loyal subjects, then try to conquer the Gloom, a mysterious force that has spread sadness throughout the kingdom.

"Come to a land where happiness rules," beckons one of the game's advertisements.

Online is where social gaming rules. Analysts of the genre say these games appeal at an almost addictive level to basic human instincts for companionship, generosity and competitiveness. On Facebook, the online gaming community includes 750 million active users.

CastleVille is Zynga's most ambitious game to date, and represents the company's most sophisticated attempt to hook in players, get them to recruit their Facebook friends and add to the community of online Zynga players.

Appealing innovations include "gifting," which enables players to present their friends with a tree to decorate their farm or a cow that makes milk, for example, and "vis-



Chris Corry, general manager of Zynga's studio in Marina del Rey, California, appears with an image of the company's latest online social game, Empires & Allies, on May 17, 2011.

iting," which rewards players with experience points and in-game currency for checking out their friends' kingdoms and helping out by harvesting crops or stomping out "beasties."

Gifting and visiting don't cost players any cash, but they do accomplish key Zynga goals, according to analysts.

The virtual gifts create a sense of abundance, Lazzaro said. "People feel they can be generous, encouraging them to give even more," creating a never-ending cycle of back-and-forth gift-giving that invites recipients to come back to the game.

Visiting draws on several basic emotions, including curiosity to know what other players are building and sometimes envy of what they build.

"It's just human nature to be curious about what my friends value and care about," said Bill Jackson, the game's creative director. And, sug-

gested Lazzaro, "If I visit your farm and I see that you have something that I don't, it can inspire me to try to get it too."

CastleVille and similar games also entice players by enabling them to customize their online worlds.

Players can select from hundreds of hairstyles, outfits, costumes and body types to create their avatar, the character that personifies the player in the game.

In some Zynga games, these customizations cost money. In CityVille, adding a "Pumpkin Palace" costs \$6.25. On CastleVille, adding a unicorn topiary costs fifteen cents.

It's a trick many social games have used to get people to keep coming back, said AJ Glasser, lead writer for Inside Social Games, an industry newsletter.

"Whenever players get to create and control a character, they tend

to invest a certain amount of themselves into the game," Glasser said. "It creates an emotional connection between the player and the game."

The social component kicks in when players share their creations, said Brian Reynolds, Zynga's chief game designer. "The big shift with social games is the fact that you are now playing with your actual friends from real life," he said. "That's where the magic comes from. Our brains are wired to socialize."

And socialization is one of the components of happiness, said Jason Brown, Zynga vice president of player insight.

"Our games tap into some fundamental drivers of human happiness," Brown said. "They give people moments of pleasure (and) a sense of accomplishment. And they help people connect with each other. One player proposed marriage to another

by spelling out 'will you marry me' with the crops on his farm. Fortunately, she said yes."

Social games also rely on scarcity to get people to come back, sometimes several times a day. Otherwise known as "The Cliffhanger," this method deliberately frustrates the player by preventing them from going further in the game, often while they're in the middle of a task.

Most social games dole out a limited amount of energy that players use each time they take an action. In CastleVille, players may be fortifying their castles or fighting a battle when they run out of "energy." It may take four to six hours for their "energy" to be replenished. But the scarcity also encourages players to act as marketing vehicles or to entice them to spend real money. When a player runs out of energy, they are prompted to send a request to their friends for a donation or, better yet, to buy more energy to complete the task.

Sumpter, who declined to reveal her age, has spent as much as \$300 in a single day playing Mafia Wars, buying energy, building up her character and collecting the virtual weapons and items to advance in the game. A year ago, she scaled back her spending to \$100 a month.

What keeps her playing, and spending, are the friends she's accumulated since she got into the game.

"We chat on Skype during the game," said Sumpter, who belongs to a group of about 500 players that calls itself AON, which stands for all or nothing. "It's funny, but we rarely chat about the game. We talk about our lives. My car died on Monday, and people were offering me advice. When people have marital problems, we help each other through those times. Someone else mourned the anniversary of their brother's death. We just go through life together. It started out as a superficial game, but it's become much more than that."

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