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How to avoid those classroom distractions

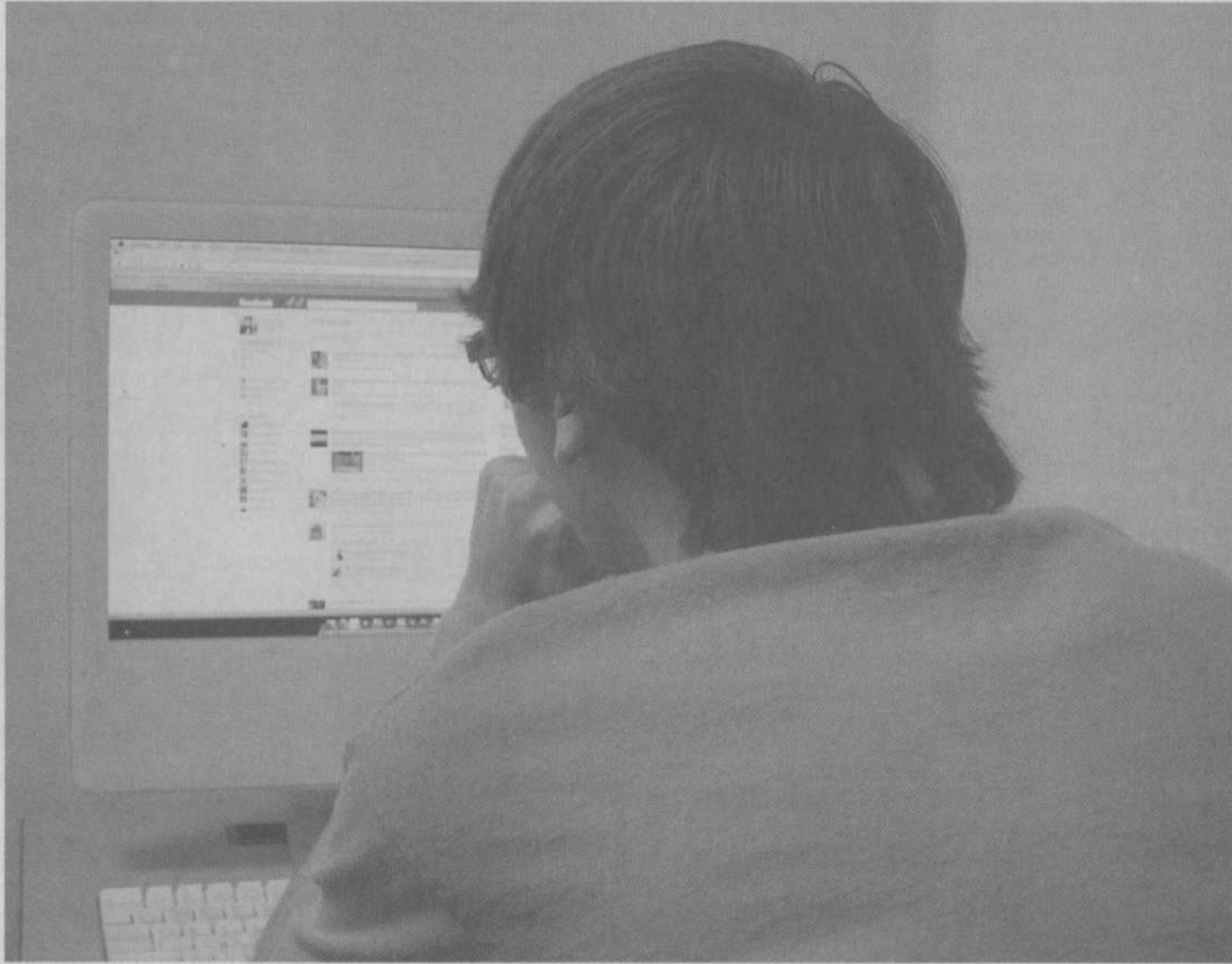
Josh GRUBE
Staff Writer

It is common knowledge that distractions are one of the main enemies of a good education. What is less known, however, is the best ways to deal with them. From surveying Parkland students around campus, the common culprits of distraction appear to be cell phones, students arriving late to class, outside noise, and being preoccupied by personal thoughts. Dividing common distractions into four subfields, Prospectus News offers some useful advice to help you to stay focused in the classroom.

1. Technology

Living in a technological age, most college students bring their cell phones with them not only to school, but everywhere. Becoming addicted to technology, such as texting, creates various problems with staying focused. Parkland student Jamie Kurth provides a story of cell phone use during class, "A student was giving a speech in my class while another was texting on her cell phone; her phone would go off and she just kept doing it and doing it. This went on for about four speeches until the teacher finally came up and grabbed the phone from her. Afterwards I thought, do you realize how disrespectful that is? Not only to the instructor, but to the students giving their presentations," she said. Many other students provided similar accounts of cell phone distractions.

The temptation to pull out a cell phone during an uninteresting lecture is very strong. While bored in class, the



Classroom distractions can be a huge pain. Read more to find out how to avoid those distractions and get better grades.

thought of entertainment being only a quick reach away is too appealing for some students to handle. Due to the increasing convenience of technology, a lot of students are used to constant multi-tasking and find it hard to concentrate on just one thing.

"Students can help themselves a lot if they put away electronic devices or turn

them off, because when your phone is buzzing in your pocket you're very likely to pull it out and look at it. If you can't hear it because it's buried in your backpack you're going to be better off," said Julie Weishar, Speech Professor and Program Director for Speech Communications at Parkland. "Also, although it is tempting to take your notes on a laptop, that

can be pretty distracting, too. The temptation to look at your Facebook or email is strong," said Weishar. The best way to avoid temptation is to make it as less of a factor as possible. Turn it off, or leave it at home. People were able to survive without them for a pretty long time, believe it or not.

2. Late arrivals

Somehow, with all of the

aforementioned technology and multi-tasking, some people find it hard to make it to their classes on time. While only a temporary inconvenience that normally occurs near the first ten minutes of class, it still may be hard to get back on track with the lecture after a student arrives late.

Robby Shannon, a student at Parkland, described late arriv-

als as being the biggest classroom inconvenience. "The students that come in five... ten... fifteen minutes late cutting the professor off as they walk in are a huge distraction," he said. It is not only a bad thing for fellow classmates, coming to class late is even worse for the guilty party involved. Being focused on a lecture is hard enough as it is. Jumping directly into a random point of the topic and having to play catch-up makes it even harder.

The best way to keep from getting sidetracked by a late arriver is to not let curiosity get the best of you. Don't look towards the door when they arrive, just keep strong eye contact with the instructor.

3. Outside noise

As if all of the problems inside the classroom itself were not enough, students also have to deal with sounds outside of the room. Due to factors such as construction and people talking by the door, the outside world can pose a threat to concentration.

Anyone who has so much as stepped foot on campus knows that there is constant renovation being done to Parkland. Student Michael Johnson recalled a downside to the construction. "Last year in my literature class they were doing construction on a part of Parkland right outside of the classroom. All you could hear was drilling and hammering the whole class period, it was so distracting," he said. Shannon, however, mentioned that none of his classes were affected by construction noise.

Sadly, there is no secret way to avoid the outside noise other

See Focus on page 4

Levi NORMAN/Prospectus

Obama hails community colleges, skirts their lack of funds

Kevin G. HALL
McClatchy Newspapers

President Barack Obama used a special White House conference Tuesday to tout the nation's community colleges as offering a path to the American dream for underprivileged citizens and as essential centers for training the 21st-century work force.

He glossed over, however, the serious funding challenges that these institutions face.

Calling community colleges the "unsung heroes" of the U.S. education system, Obama said that they "provide a gateway to millions of Americans to good jobs and a better life."

Jill Biden, the wife of Vice President Joe Biden, introduced Obama during the first White House meeting on community colleges. She has been a community college professor for the past 17 years and a tireless advocate for the two-year schools. She spearheaded the daylong event, which brought together educators from across the nation for brainstorming.

"Community colleges are uniquely American, places where anyone who walks through the door is one step closer to the American dream," Jill Biden said during an opening ceremony that featured the unveiling of a \$35 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

That donation will set up a grant program for five years whose goal will be to reverse a trend in which roughly half of community college students

fail to achieve certificates or associate's degrees.

The White House also announced a new public-private partnership to foster closer links between community colleges and corporate America, labor unions and government agencies. This effort will try to standardize what has worked best at various schools, particularly in creating certified skills that can be recognized across the nation.

The National Association of Manufacturers has pioneered the concept of national recognition and so-called stackable skills for a modern work force. Its Manufacturing Institute already is engaged in three national pilot projects, including one in Winston-Salem, N.C., that recently helped convince Caterpillar Inc. to locate a plant there.

Yet the National Association of Manufacturers, which has been critical of the Obama administration on tax matters, was conspicuously absent from the list of invitees. Association officials confirmed the snub but declined to comment. "I'd say they've been trailblazers," said David Baime, the senior vice president for government relations at the American Association of Community Colleges.

His association nonetheless was thrilled to be in the spotlight.

"The event is going to be a red-letter day for community colleges. We have felt for some time that our contributions have not been recognized," Baime said. "Policy-

makers are still surprised to learn that over 45 percent of all students in higher education attend community colleges in this country."

Obama helped the educators to help him meet his goal

of having the United States recoup by 2020 its position as the nation with the highest percentage of college graduates.

"In just a decade we've fallen from first to ninth in the proportion of young people with

college degrees. That not only represents a huge waste of potential; in the global marketplace it represents a threat to our position as the world's leading economy," he said.

To meet the president's goal, community colleges will need to have 5 million students graduate either with associate's degrees or certification required by employers. That's a lofty ambition, considering that Obama skirted the issue of declining state and federal funding for community colleges.

In Texas, for example, community colleges are bracing for the worst as the state faces a huge revenue shortfall.

"We don't know how deep the cuts will be. When you see 30 to 40 percent enrollment growth in the number of students ... what's probably going to happen is a reduction in the (state) appropriation," said Richard Rhodes, who heads El Paso Community College at the Texas-Mexico border. "We're looking at somewhere in the neighborhood of a 30 to 40 percent reduction in state appropriation per student."

Among his options, Rhodes said, are more belt tightening, tuition increases and scouring the nation for grants and money.

Adding to community colleges' problems are an increasing number of enrollment caps at state universities, funneling more high school graduates into two-year schools.

Record enrollment at community colleges occurs as funding from the 2009 federal economic stimulus pro-

gram, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is going away.

"I think there is more uncertainty around state budgets than there was a year ago, with the end of ARA funding," said Stephen Katsinas, the director of the Education Policy Center at the University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa. He's also the coordinator of an annual survey on community college needs.

His latest report is due in a few weeks. One key finding will be that the number of states that offer free tuition to the unemployed is shrinking, a growing problem with the national jobless rate at 9.6 percent.

Last year, 11 states said they allowed the unemployed to attend work force training programs or classes for free. In the forthcoming survey, that number will shrink to four: Minnesota, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

Meanwhile, the number of long-term unemployed nationally - 6.2 million through August - remains at levels unseen since the Great Depression.

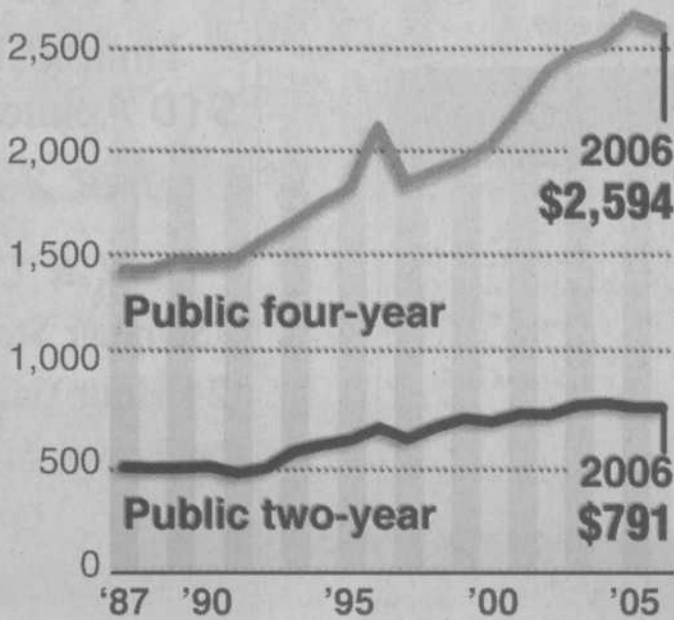
"What that tells us is that states are really hurting for funds. For community colleges, work force training is an unfunded mandate, and community colleges get no favored status in Workforce Investment Act policy," said Katsinas, who also wasn't invited to the White House conference.

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Community colleges

The gap in federal funding between two-year and four-year colleges has widened over the past 20 years.

Federal funding per full-time student, in 2006 dollars



Source: Brookings Institution, American Association of Community Colleges
Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2010 MCT

Prospectus

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 Phone: 217-351-2216, fax: 217-373-3835, e-mail: prospectus@parkland.edu
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 • Views expressed are opinions of staff and contributors and not necessarily that of the Prospectus or Parkland College.
 • The Prospectus welcomes letters to the editor. We accept submissions from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will also consider original works of fiction and short writings if space is available.

• The rules of correspondence: all submissions must be signed with a phone number and address. The Prospectus staff must verify the identity of letter writers. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper. The deadline for all submissions is 12 p.m. of the Thursday immediately before the upcoming issue.

Editor's note: We are aware that "writer" is not the correct spelling of "writer," and we apologize for any confusion that it may have created. We are not sure how it happened, but we are currently working on getting it fixed. Thank you.



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Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

Lead Story

Ingrid Paulicivic filed a lawsuit in September against Laguna Beach, Calif., gynecologist Red Alinsod over leg burns she bafflingly acquired during her 2009 hysterectomy -- a procedure that was topped off by the doctor's newly gratuitous name-"branding" of her uterus with his electrocautery tool. Dr. Alinsod explained that he carved "Ingrid" in inch-high letters on the organ only after he had removed it and that such labeling helps in the event a woman requests the return of the uterus as a souvenir. He called the branding just a "friendly gesture" and said he did not know how the burns on Paulicivic's leg occurred.

Cultural Diversity

BBC News reported in August that government officials in southern Sudan had unveiled a \$10 billion plan that would rebuild the area's major cities (heavily damaged during the ongoing civil war) "in the shapes of animals and fruit." New blueprints for one state capital, Juba, show its boundaries in the shape of a rhinoceros, and for another capital, Wau, a giraffe, and for the town of Yambio, the outline of a pineapple. (Such municipal planning might appear quixotic, especially in view of Sudan's wartime chaos, but investors can hardly ignore a country that sits on rich oil deposits.)

U.S. and NATO forces in southern Afghanistan have reported feelings of revulsion at the number and ostentatiousness of local Pashtun men who publicly flaunt the 9- to 15-year-old boys that they've acquired as lovers. The boys dress (and use makeup) like girls, dance, hold the men's hands, and show off in front of others of their age. According to an August San Francisco Chronicle dispatch from Kandahar, locals explain the practice as partly regional tradition and partly a response to Islamic and tribal customs that make young females off-limits to men until marriage (Local saying: "Women are for children; boys are for pleasure").

Creative Sentencing:

Convicted Pennsylvania embezzler Lanette Sansoni

pleaded guilty in August and agreed to reimburse the victim the remaining \$200,000 of the \$475,000 she had stolen. Judge Joseph Smyth then sentenced Sansoni to house arrest -- for 21 years. She can remain out of jail as long as she works and contributes at least \$750 a month for restitution.

Samuel McMaster Jr. pleaded guilty to securities fraud in August in Albuquerque but struck a deal with prosecutors to enable restitution to his two dozen victims. McMaster fancied himself an expert at poker, and the judge agreed to withhold sentencing for six months to let McMaster prove he could earn at least \$7,500 a month for his victims at Las Vegas poker tables.

Civilization in Decline

The Overprivileged, in Training: The first day of school, according to Mia Lin, 16, of Framingham, Mass., "is like a movie premiere." That's when she and some of her well-off friends get the opportunity to give fellow students the benefit of their informed summer fashion decisions as they jockey for position in the school's social order. Lin told the Boston Globe that her "style" is "urban" and shoe-oriented. "I have about 90 pairs. I wear whole outfits just to accent my shoes," including black, red and gold Supra Chad Muska Skytops, which give her, she said, "a swagger boost." "Every year is an opportunity to redefine your style."

Recurring Themes

Jonne Wegley joined the Army in 2009, but during basic training was distracted by troubles at home and wanted out. Like others facing Army assignments (some chronicled in News of the Weird), his escape of choice was to ask a pal to shoot him in the leg, rendering him unfit for duty (but, he hoped, not too badly hurt). The reluctant pal fired one shot, which resulted in the "mangl(ing)" of Wegley's leg and which has so far required 25 surgeries. (Sources cited by the Ledger-Enquirer of Columbus, Ga., near Wegley's post at Fort Benning, said there are easier legal ways to leave the Army.)

Bob Dylan is on a never-ending journey

Jim ABBOTT
 The Orlando Sentinel

"An artist has to be careful never to really arrive at a place where he thinks he's at somewhere. You always have to realize that you're constantly in a state of becoming, and as long as you're in that realm, you'll sort of be all right."

Nowhere is Bob Dylan's assessment of his creative philosophy, delivered in Martin Scorsese's 2005 Dylan docu-

with us?

Such complaints likely bounce off the old troubadour, who apparently had a grand time being booed by outraged folk fans in the 1960s. In the Scorsese film, one-time side-man Al Kooper recalls wondering aloud to his boss about whether something ought to be changed to appease the fans.

Dylan's response? He loved the ruckus, which he likened to a circus.

In the audience, the key

the Beatles to evolve from mop tops into agents of social change.

And there might not be many opportunities left. At 69, Dylan is old enough that the notion of the "Never Ending Tour," as his rigorous road schedule has been known since 1988, can't be taken literally. Like other aging icons such as B.B. King and Tony Bennett, Dylan should be savored.

But don't go merely out of historical obligation.



Dennis Balogh/Akron Beacon Journal

mentary "No Direction Home," more apparent than on the concert stage. In the spotlight, Dylan always has specialized in confounding expectations.

In 1965, Dylan alienated and angered his fans by plugging in electric guitars at the Newport Folk Festival, inspiring boos that would be the soundtrack to his performances for several years. As recently as 2006, Dylan declined to play guitar at all, leaving it unused on a stand in the middle of the stage as he accompanied himself on electric keyboard.

"It's like Newport in reverse!" complained one disappointed friend who considered a Dylan concert without acoustic guitar something close to sacrilege.

At the least, one has to wonder: Why would the guy put the guitar in the middle of the stage if he had no intention of playing it? Is he just messing

to navigating such quirks is to follow the advice I always offer to skeptics at their first Dylan show: "No matter what he looks like, no matter what he sounds like, remember the person you are looking at up there. That is Bob-freaking-Dylan."

It's advice that I've needed to force myself to remember from time to time: When the singer played in Orlando in 2002, less than six months after the Sept. 11 attacks, it took half of the first verse before I recognized "Blowin' in the Wind," a song I had sung since grade school.

So why keep showing up? And is there a science to appreciating a Dylan concert?

Why go? The obvious answer: How often can you see a legitimate legend at work? Here's a guy who sang at the 1963 March on Washington for jobs and freedom, a singer who inspired

Go because there are still flickers of brilliance. Songs such as "Just Like a Woman" and "Positively 4th Street" have evolved with age. The hard edges of a young man have been replaced by a world-weary resignation that allows the singer to tilt the lyrics at appealing angles.

And Dylan's touring band is consistently top-notch: The core unit of bassist Tony Garnier, drummer George Receli, lead guitarist Stuart Kimball and multi-instrumentalist Don Herron have been re-joined by guitarist Charlie Sexton, a notable member of the entourage for a few years starting in 1999.

Together, the musicians help take the old songs to new places, a worthwhile journey even if Dylan doesn't care much about the final destination.

(c) 2010, The Orlando Sentinel (Fla.).

OPEN AUDITIONS

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 The Nonsense Christmas Musical by Dan Goggin
 Directed by J.W. Morrisette

Parkland College Theatre
 Saturday, October 16 from 1 - 5pm

Casting 5 principal female roles (Srs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Amnesia, Leo and Rev. Mother) and one principal male role (Father Virgil Manly Trott). There are also many possibilities for other roles for male and female actors age 17 and up. Actors will be asked to read selections from the script and sing 16 bars of an up-tempo song (accompanist provided). More information is available online at www.parkland.edu/theatre. Rehearsals will begin shortly after casting. Performances are December 1 - 12. No appointment necessary. All members of the community, Parkland, and U of I students are invited to attend. We encourage diversity. Questions? Contact: jmorrissette@parkland.edu

2400 West Bradley Ave.
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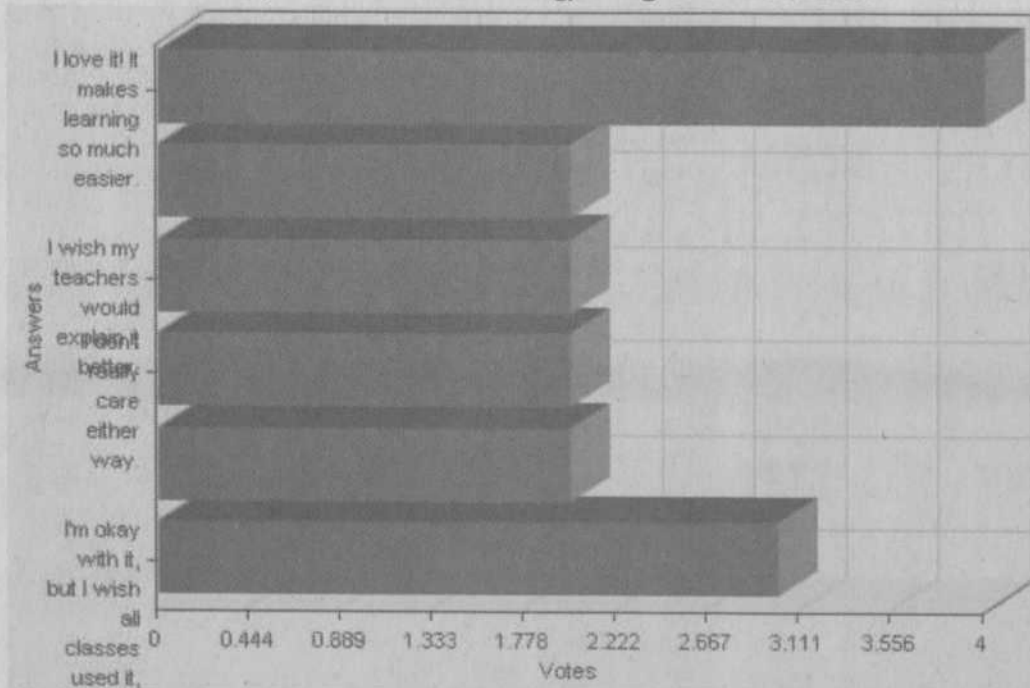


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How do you feel about technology being used in schools?



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Living their lives with HIV

Brooke MINTERS
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Last spring, Lafayette Sanders got a call from a friend who was concerned about his reputation. The word on the street, she said, was that he and his girlfriend had HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

It was TRUE about Sanders, and he told her so because his friend was so supportive. But Sanders, then 23, also decided that he needed to tell all his friends that he had been HIV-positive - for his entire life.

Sanders, of Philadelphia, belongs to a rare group; he was born HIV-positive when he was perinatally infected via his mother either during pregnancy and delivery or breastfeeding.

At the time, HIV was a death sentence. Sanders and several thousand other infected babies weren't expected to live very long.

But thanks to more than two dozen drugs, the oldest babies are now reaching 30, and living into uncharted territory.

Their challenges are daunting. Along with homework, puberty and just surviving the rough streets of Philadelphia, they've dealt with losing sick parents and friends, disclosing their status, engaging in sex with uninfected partners, and enduring medical side effects with unknown consequences.

Sanders, now 24, has experienced it all. "My main goal is to get people to talk about HIV," said Sanders, a brand rep for a clothing line and peer educator for iChoose2live, a Philadelphia-based youth program that encourages HIV awareness and career building. "I want to destigmatize it."

More than a million people are living with HIV in the United States, mostly contracted from sex or drugs, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Just 1 percent got HIV perinatally or through the bleeding disease hemophilia and blood transfusions.

In 2007, an estimated 7,757 people were living in the 37 states reporting to the CDC who had been diagnosed with perinatally transmitted HIV before age 13.

In Philadelphia, where the overall HIV infection rate is five times the national average, at least 272 current residents were perinatally infected, though officials say the figure could be far higher.

Social worker Christine Ambrose has seen many

changes over the last 20 years. "Back in the day, it was about preparing families to lose their kids," said Ambrose, who directs the Adolescent Initiative at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Now the survivors are "living these incredible lives, but with a lot of barriers, given they weren't expected to live long."

The first AIDS cases came to public attention in 1981, and doctors could do little to stop mother-to-child transmission. It wasn't until 1995 that a clinical trial found that the HIV drug zidovudine, or AZT, could reduce perinatal HIV transmission. The drug was so effective that the researchers stopped the trial earlier than planned. The use of AZT during pregnancy and a course of medicine for the newborn just after delivery dropped mother-to-infant transmission from 20 percent to 8 percent. Fifteen years later, the rate is down to 1 percent, thanks to newer drugs and better care.

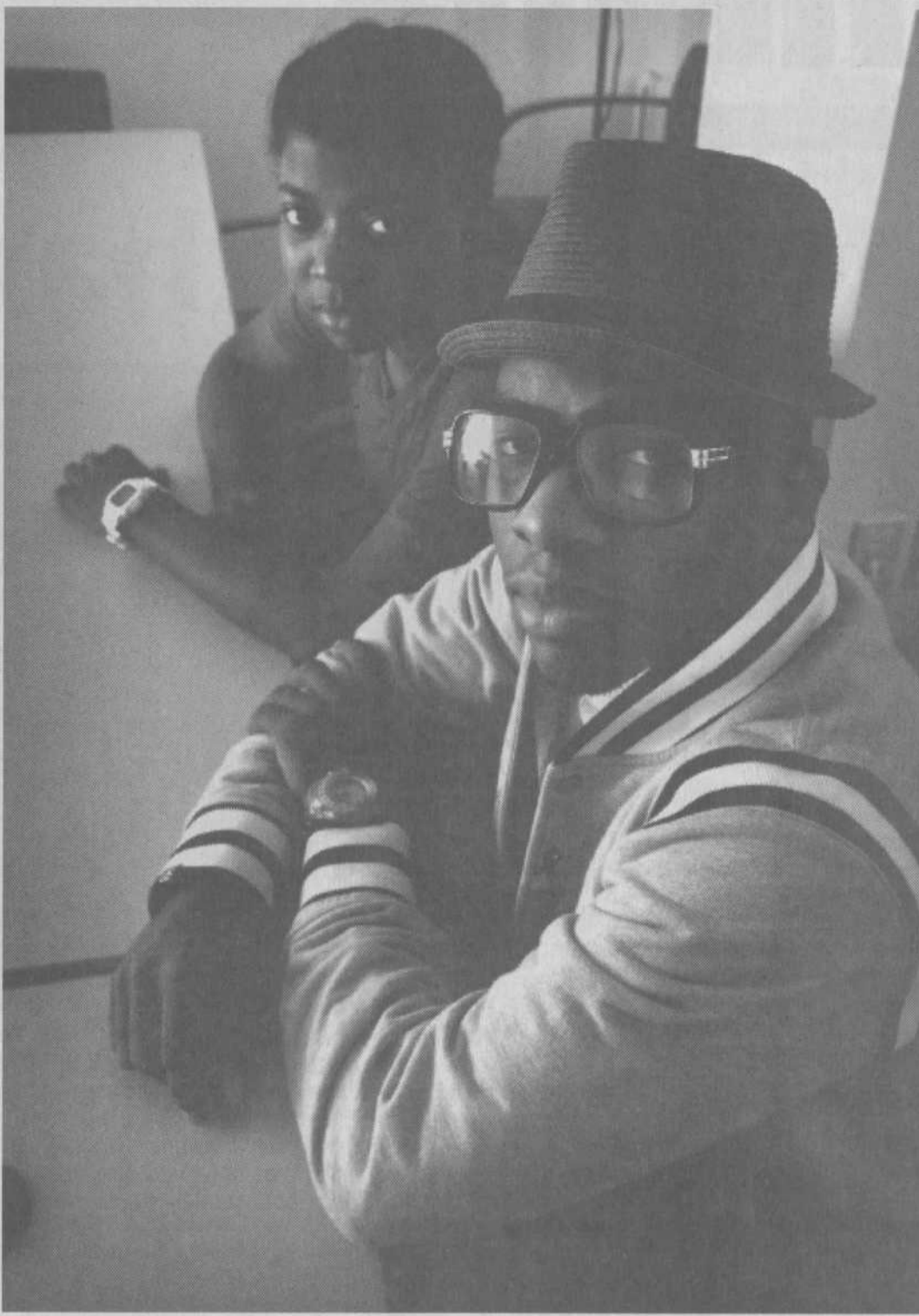
Recent numbers show the problem has abated further but not disappeared. From 2005 to 2008, there were 452 infants born to HIV-positive mothers in Philadelphia. Of those, 14 babies tested positive for HIV.

The mother's placenta naturally protects the baby from infection, says Kenneth Dominguez, a CDC epidemiologist. But if the mother is sick, isn't on medication, or is close to developing AIDS, she is more likely to transmit through the placenta. During vaginal delivery, the mother's blood can get on the mucus-laden areas of the baby, such as the eyes, nose, mouth, or rectal area, where the virus then attaches to white blood cells.

For those who get the disease, just learning about it is an early hurdle. It's common for many young perinatally infected children not to know their status. They might tell their friends or teachers they are positive without understanding the isolation, stigma, and rejection that could follow.

But "it's probably better to (disclose) it before the teenage years," says John Krall, family services manager at Children's Hospital's Special Immunology Clinic. "With the younger kids, it feels a little less murky than a teenager who's trying to deal with their identity and interest in sex."

Sanders remembers his mother talking to him at age 13 before she died of kidney failure - a common AIDS complication - in 1999.



Chaneil Scott, left, and Lafayette Sanders, pictured August 18, 2010, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were both infected with HIV at birth from their mothers.

(Laurence Kesterson/Philadelphia Inquirer/MCT)

"Just make sure you take care of your sister and stay healthy," he recalls her saying. "I didn't know what she meant at the time."

He finally learned about his condition when his grandmother took him to Children's Hospital later that year.

Deceased parents are another fact of life among his peers. "We don't have any teens and young adults born with HIV with both their parents alive," says physician Jill Foster, director of the Dorothy Mann Center for Pediatric and Adolescent HIV at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children.

Many young patients also have a hard time taking their drugs consistently, which is critical in keeping the ever-changing HIV virus at bay.

Children's Hospital loses an average of one older teen

a year who failed to take the drugs, said Richard Rutstein, Sanders' doctor. "They make a semiconscious decision not to take their medicine," Rutstein said. So "there is not a conversation that doesn't include something about adherence and social behavior."

Sanders openly admits to periods of non-adherence. "I sometimes do forget to take it," he said. "Like last year, I didn't want to deal with it all. But as I started to mature, I realize I need to take them to be healthy."

There are also questions about toxicity, with no clear answers on what it means to be on these medications for decades. Common side effects include kidney and liver problems, plus the body-distorting disorder Lipodystrophy, which causes fat to leave the face and

arms and collect around the belly.

"Sometimes I do worry about how it's affecting my body," said Sanders, though side effects have yet to appear.

All these burdens add up and create still more. "They're dealing with depression, mental illness, and obviously the physical challenges," said Krall of Children's Hospital.

Chaneil Scott, 19, of Philadelphia has come through it all intact. She knew from an early age she was HIV-negative. Every day she had to swallow a syringe's worth of liquid AZT, the first approved HIV drug.

But she didn't know what that meant until after her mother died and she moved in with her foster mother. She educated Scott by giving her children's books on the disease and sending her routinely to see a pedi-

atrician.

"At first, I was scared to tell people," said Scott. "But I never got a negative reaction so I felt like a regular person." Now a sophomore at Millersville University, she just became a peer health educator and would like to go into public health.

Not everyone is so lucky. Doctors and social workers in the city speak of the trauma their patients have experienced, like losing friendships over disclosing their status and being bullied. One child had "AIDS BOY" scribbled on the front of his locker.

Pejoratives like "the ABC" and "Kittykat" are used to describe people who aren't "clean," another offensive term for those with HIV.

"As disenfranchised as you are, you can always find someone else to pick on," noted Theresa Parrino, assistant director at St. Christopher's adolescent center.

"A lot of people think HIV added AIDS has a certain way and Sanders. "It was always weird to hear my friends talking about it because I'd think 'I didn't choose this to happen to me.'"

Sanders has a tattoo on each forearm; the left one bears lyrics from the late hip-hop artist 2Pac: "Hold on and be strong, God bless the child that can hold his own." The right arm reads, "RIP Crystal" - his mother.

Finding a girlfriend has never been hard for him. He lost his virginity at 13, he said, and has had several girlfriends before and after he began disclosing his illness. But he admits he has not been 100 percent responsible - even when his partner knew.

For the record, he says, the girlfriend, now his ex, who inspired him to be more open is HIV-negative. So is his younger sister, whom he declined to name.

And while at least one close relative wishes he would be more private, he sees his mission as putting a face on HIV.

"One person can change the world," he said. "Look at Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, or Harriet Tubman."

—
(c) 2010, The Philadelphia Inquirer.

88.7 The Wave, reinventing radio stereotypes

Morgan BERNIER
Social Media Editor

The Parkland College radio station 88.7 The Wave (WPCD Champaign) is constantly breaking the mold as far as radio is concerned. Generally, when one listens to the radio, it is expected that popular songs and singles released by record companies will be heard. However, The Wave does things a little differently. Instead of receiving singles and songs that record companies want on the radio, The Wave listens to

entire albums from artists new and old alike. Then, a song or two, or sometimes even none, are deemed worthy of being on air.

Eleni Kametas, Station General Manager for 88.7 The Wave, pointed out some other features that separate The Wave from the rest of the pack. One of these features is the RDS, or Radio Data System, encoder. What this feature does is allow anyone with an RDS capable radio to see the artist and song name of what is being played on 88.7. Another

new tool that The Wave possesses is the ability to stream world-wide. The streaming occurs, not only on the internet, but also on smart phones. All someone has to do to listen to

to the fun that is had. Kametas said that recently on the show, the DJ's "ate astronaut ice-cream on air. They just do a lot of fun stuff." Amplified is one of the most popular shows on

that are coming up.

The Wave has many things in store for the future, are currently Kametas' focus is to try and spread the word about the station. She has recently

inquiries regarding opportunities to become a DJ.

For anyone who is interested in working behind the scenes instead of becoming a DJ, The Wave is always looking for interns willing to give their time to help the radio station become even better. Another way that anyone could lend a hand is to help spread the word about the station. The Wave is a great radio station, commercial free, and available through many different mediums. Not only do they play new, undiscovered music but they also provide a place for bands from C-U to be heard. 88.7 The Wave is the total package. Are you listening?



88.7 THE WAVE
REINVENTING ALTERNATIVE

The Wave is purchase the app "Shopcast Radio" from their app store, search for WPCD, download, and enjoy from anywhere in the world.

Another new feature that will be coming soon to The Wave will be especially exciting for the DJ's. Shortly, The Wave will have a system that allows callers to be broadcast on air. The popular Tuesday night show "Amplified," is one that is sure to make use of this new feature. "Amplified" is a weekly show where insanity and hilarity reign as king and audience participation would only add

The Wave and airs every Tuesday night from 7-10 p.m.

One of the reasons for Amplified's popularity, besides the fun to be had, is the fact that they give away a lot of really awesome prizes. However, there are other ways to win CD's, merchandise, or concert tickets from some of the most talented bands out there today. Arguably, the easiest way is to be friends with The Wave on Facebook or to follow them on Twitter. Anyone who does these things will receive the latest updates and will also be notified about any contests

started to plan a concert that The Wave will put on that will be held off campus. Kametas' purpose in doing this is to "take The Wave to the community instead of making them come to us," she said. Some other ways that The Wave is expanding its horizon is the possibility of a dual credit class offered to high school students.

Currently, a basic broadcast announcing class is open to any Parkland student who is interested in becoming an on-air DJ. Kametas hopes to extend this opportunity to high school students as she has had recent

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Remember Afghan women

Trudy RUBIN
Philadelphia Inquirer

Last week, I attended a glitzy ceremony in New York City in which Bill Clinton awarded one of five Global Citizen Awards to Suraya Pakzad, who runs shelters for abused Afghan women. The crowd of eminent humanitarians, environmentalists and cultural pooh-bahs cheered.

But I felt a chill as I listened to Pakzad, whose organization I visited last year in Herat, Afghanistan. She spoke of her fear that Western troops will leave and let the Taliban retake the country, and all the fragile gains made by Afghan women in recent years will vanish.

"Please don't leave us alone," she said, looking very lonely on stage in her print head scarf and long, embroidered coat. "We lost lives for these rights. Stay with us today, because tomorrow it will be too late."

Over the past decade, Afghan women's rights became a sexy issue on all sides of the American political spectrum. But, at a time when the country is turning inward, I wonder if Americans care what happens to those brave little Afghan girls now eagerly attending school.

Pakzad fears a rapid U.S. troop withdrawal will induce the Afghan government to sue for peace with the Taliban at any price.

The current Afghan constitution endorses - at least on paper - many rights for women. Even though these provisions

are often ignored, they do give women some legal recourse.

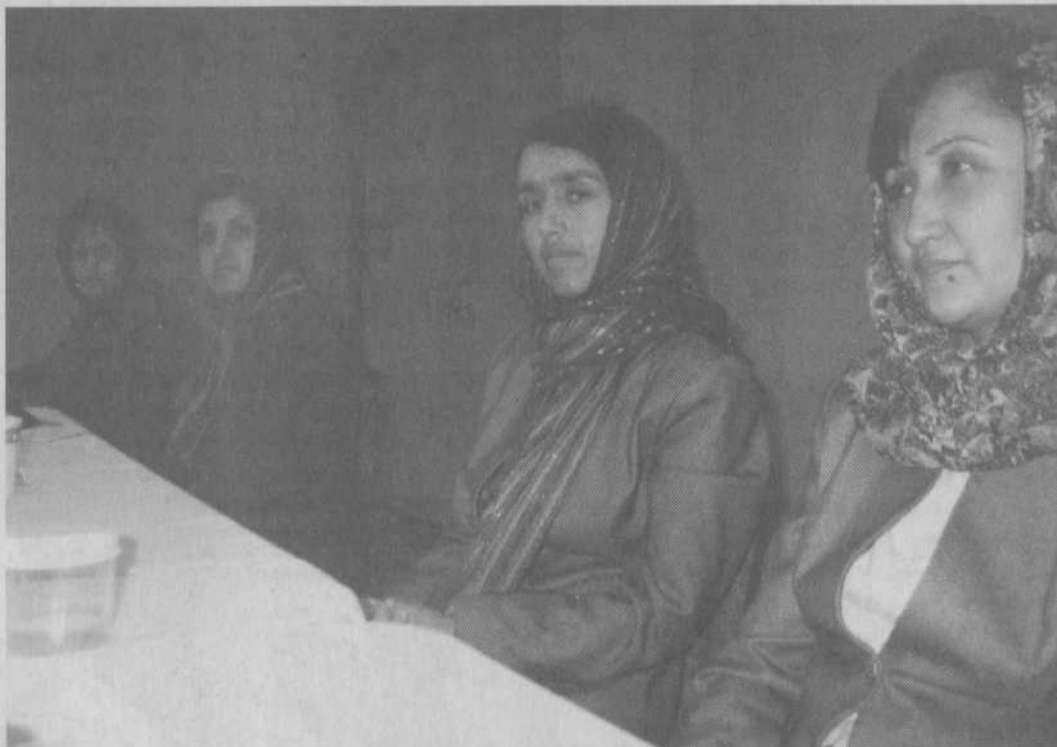
"Peace negotiations with the Taliban are a major concern for women," Pakzad said, because "the Taliban conditions (include) changes in the constitution. The articles which guarantee rights for women will be removed."

Already, she told me, the widespread belief that the Americans are leaving soon - fed by Obama's July 2011 deadline for starting a drawdown - has emboldened religious hard-liners. Threats against activist women have increased, even in Herat, where the Taliban isn't present.

I asked Melanne Verveer, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's dynamic ambassador-at-large on global women's issues, what the administration is doing about this. (Verveer, who served as chief of staff to the first lady in the Clinton White House, co-founded Vital Voices, a nonprofit that works to help women in the Third World help themselves in business, politics, and the household.)

Verveer spoke of Clinton's intense interest - and former first lady Laura Bush's strong interest - in helping Afghan women. "When Hillary went to Afghanistan," she said, "she met with women first. Part of our challenge is to help women lift their voices."

She stressed - and Pakzad would agree - that Afghan women don't want to be seen as victims, but rather as the lead-



From right, Madina Qasimi, Fawzia Habib and Munira Faizzad, officers at the human rights and women's international affairs department, Afghanistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Monireh Kazemzadeh, officer of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation department, Afghanistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, talk about the state of education and women's rights in Afghanistan during a visit to Washington, D.C. While the Afghan government has several strategies in place to ensure human rights, insecurity and lack of infrastructure after years of war are hampering the efforts, the officers said.

(Sananda Sahoo/MCT)

ers that many of them have become over the past decade - in small businesses, education, health, and, to a limited but brave extent, in parliament.

"Secretary Clinton raised the question of women's role in the peace process with (Afghan President Hamid) Karzai," Verveer said. "She said any progress will be subverted if women are marginalized. If they are in the process,

they stand a better chance."

Perhaps. Yet much more remains to be done if Afghan women are to avoid becoming the first casualties of an American withdrawal. Any future Western aid to Afghanistan - whichever government is in charge - should be conditioned on continued education and health care for women. More private U.S. corporations can be encouraged to train Afghan

women in business skills, as some are already doing.

And Afghan women need help honing their leadership skills. Pakzad wants to start a leadership institute where strong Afghan women can train and work toward forming a critical mass of female leaders.

Ordinary Americans can help. Universities, churches, and even private citizens can

partner with and fund Afghan women's groups, schools, and shelters so these women - and their government - know they are not alone.

Pakzad's case is an example: Aldo Magazzeni, a businessman from Perkiomenville, Pa., raises money from churches and universities to help her shelters; Penn State Brandywine is collaborating with Pakzad on her women's leadership project, and its students are raising funds.

Bottom line: If the United States quits Afghanistan heedlessly, women's rights there will be a lost cause. But if we act responsibly and help Afghan women become stronger, Pakzad's fears may be averted.

"Afghan women want an end to this conflict, but they don't want to be sold down the river," Verveer says. True, and if those who profess to care about Afghan women let that happen, shame on us.

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The right to speak offensively

MCT

The Supreme Court heard arguments Wednesday in a case that sorely tests the principle, articulated by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. nearly a century ago, that "we should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe."

The case involves the Westboro Baptist Church, a deranged anti-gay religious group that routinely shows up at the funerals of American soldiers to express its bizarre belief that U.S. com-

bat deaths are divine retribution for America's tolerance of homosexuality. In 2006, the group picketed the funeral of Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Snyder, a Marine killed in Iraq. The protesters held signs reading "Thank God for Dead Soldiers," "You're Going to Hell" and "Semper fi Fags."

Snyder's father sued the church for "intentional infliction of emotional distress" and other civil wrongs, but a lower court held that the picketers were protected under the First Amendment. The Supreme Court is now being asked to reverse that decision.

The justices may be tempted to rule against the protesters out of understandable sympathy for Snyder's father. They should resist the temptation. Allowing even private figures to recover damages for distress caused by the political or religious speech of others would be a dramatic departure from the court's protection of free expression no matter how offensive. And it would have reverberations in settings far removed from military funerals.

This case is not about whether protesters can be prevented from engaging in face-

to-face harassment of mourners. The picketers complied with local ordinances and police instructions and stood a safe distance - 1,000 feet, according to an appeals court judge - away from the Catholic church where Snyder's funeral took place. Albert Snyder, the dead Marine's father, didn't see their signs until he watched television later in the day. As a brief from a group of First Amendment scholars puts it, Snyder is complaining not of physical interference but of "psychological intrusions stemming from the content of the protesters' message."

That's clear from the fact that Snyder's suit is also based on a screed posted on the Internet by a church member several weeks after the funeral. It alleged that the elder Snyder and his ex-wife had "taught Matthew to defy his creator," "raised him for the devil" and "taught him that God was a liar." The U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled, correctly, that a reasonable reader "would understand it to contain rhetorical hyperbole, and not actual, provable facts about Snyder and his son."

The appeals court's most important finding was that the

church, however outrageously, was addressing matters of public concern, just as Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson were when they suggested that the 9/11 terrorist attacks were God's punishment for toleration of abortion and homosexuality. No doubt that statement caused emotional distress for relatives of 9/11 victims, but it was constitutionally protected. The court should rule that the First Amendment also protects the ravings of the Westboro Baptist Church.

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Los Angeles Times

FOCUS

continued from page 1

than just learning to tune it out. If any doors or windows are open, you can wait for an appropriate time to ask the professor if you can shut them or you can also move to a desk up front to help your chances of staying focused.

4. Psychological noise

Sometimes it doesn't even take external factors for a student to lose concentration. Thinking about other things is a huge distraction, and juggling school with a social life, hobbies, jobs, and extra-curricular activities makes it hard not to. Taking that leap from high school to college is a double-edged sword. With the

freedom comes responsibility, which can give a student a variety of things to preoccupy their mind with.

"What students have to learn how to do, which is really tough, is to contain the internal distractions. If people are hungry, tired, or distracted by their life situations it's very hard for them to focus because they're thinking about these things," said Weishar. "Being disciplined to block out those internal distractions is what's going to help you focus. Students can do that by being interactive. If they're not engaged in physically asking questions to teachers they can mentally ask questions; being engaged with what's going on and not allow

themselves to disengage and think about something else." Weishar also recommends that students sit toward the front of the room because being close to the instructor makes it harder to stray from the lesson.

Psychological noise can also occur if the student has a bias or objection toward the topic being discussed. For example, a devout Christian might find it difficult to focus on a lecture on humans evolving from primates. This may also go as far as prejudice towards the instructor; therefore not caring about what they have to say. These personal stances need to learn to be controlled for the classroom setting, and after

all, different people have different beliefs, it's a fact of life.

Other notable distractions include random noises by students, professors constantly using filler words such as "um" and "uh," and the temperature of the room. Some find it easier to stay focused by counting the number of filler words used in class. Others find it easier just to tune it out and focus on the real message given. If you put your mind to it, you more than likely will be able to stay focused. Just don't put too much in that mind. Now that you understand how to fight against classroom distractions more effectively, you're on your way to getting that A!

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What Fitness Fits Your Personality?

Megan DAWSON
University of Illinois C-U

For Amanda Robbins, finding an exercise routine in the residence hall her freshman year at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was a challenge. "I tried the P90X workout with several girls on my floor," the pre-vet student says. "I enjoyed the routine, but it only lasted a week before the other girls lost interest and decided it was too difficult to find a convenient time to do it together."

Knowing the importance of maintaining an active lifestyle in college, Robbins started her own fitness routine at the gym. "I found it much easier to work out by myself," she says.

Robbins discovered a fitness regimen that worked for her by finding her "fitness personality." According to Dana McPherrin, fitness and wellness programs coordinator of the DePaul University Recreation Center in Chicago, "a fitness personality is a dimension of one's personality as it relates to his or her expression of physical fitness and health."

By recognizing that exercising with her friends was holding her back from reaching her fitness goals, Robbins pursued a solo routine that allowed her to "not worry about keeping up conversation with someone."

To find your fitness personality, reflect on your personal preferences and habitual patterns. Do you plow through calculus problems on your own, or does collaborating with peers help you to stay focused? Are you someone who loves to travel to different locations on vacation or do you prefer

returning to a familiar spot every summer?

You probably don't fit just one type of fitness personality, but thinking about who you are can help you decide what exercise regimen will suit you best. "There's no one type of activity that works best for everyone, so the key is to keep exploring until you find what you like," says Barbara Alvarez, manager of Mission Fitness at the University of San Diego in California. Take a look at the fitness personality types here and think about which ones best match your interests and style.

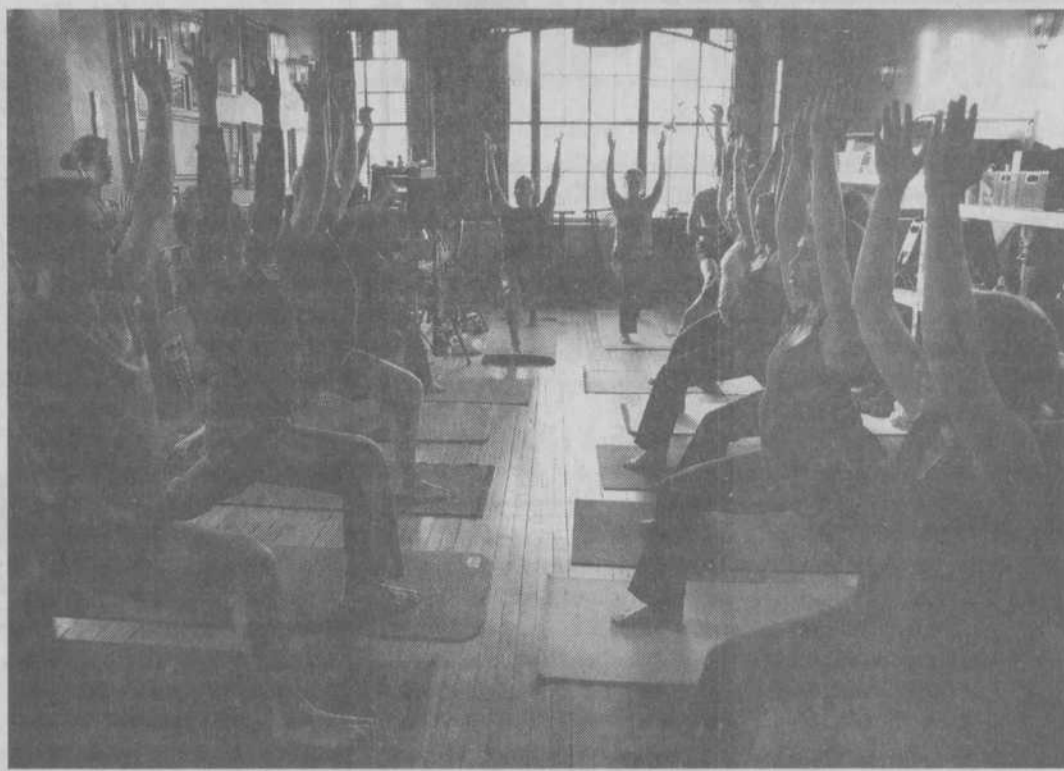
Social Butterfly

This student thrives from having a positive entourage at his or her side and enjoys the company of others. Think Pauly D, The Situation, Vinny, and Ronnie's GTL (gym, tan, laundry) routine. By creating a social ritual out of exercising, the boys of Jersey Shore successfully motivate each other to hit the gym every day.

Even if fist pumping and hair gel isn't your thing, you can find a social fitness routine that works for you. Group aerobics classes, spin classes, and water aerobics all offer an environment that promotes interaction, and the opportunity to meet more exercise companions.

Lone Wolf

For this type of student, fitness comes easier when it's solo. After Robbins found that independent fitness worked for her, she pursued biking and running. "I enjoy being able to focus on what I am doing and not worry about being limited by others," she says. "By running and biking, I am able



Group aerobics classes, spin classes, and water aerobics all offer an environment that promotes interaction, and the opportunity to meet more exercise companions.
(Tom Wallace/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT)

to go at my own pace or pick up the pace for a better workout." In addition, McPherrin suggests that people who consider themselves introverted explore "activities that allow time for inner reflection," such as yoga and swimming.

Team Player

For this driven individual, Motivation is all in the competition. Competing to be on the dean's list, competing with coworkers to earn a promotion, or competing with friends in a game of basketball are all things that provide gratification for this student. Like the social butterfly, the team player likes company. However, fulfillment is found in his or her optimal performance rather than socializing. "Col-

lege intramurals and sports clubs provide great options for competitive-spirited students of all skill levels, as well as for those who enjoy participating on a team," Alvarez says.

Adventure Seeker

Rush, excitement, and challenge are the criteria for adventure seekers like sophomore Alexa Howard at Indiana University Bloomington. "Sure, using the elliptical keeps you in shape, but every time I wakeboard or snowboard, I have a different experience that keeps me intrigued and excited about getting exercise!" she says. Like the lone wolf, adventure seekers enjoy an independent element in their fitness routines. "When I'm riding, I really feel like it's

'me' time, and it's all about how I challenge myself," Howard says. If opportunities for outdoor recreation such as skiing or mountain biking are limited, McPherrin suggests that "an indoor climbing wall might offer a sufficient challenge" for the adventuresome kind.

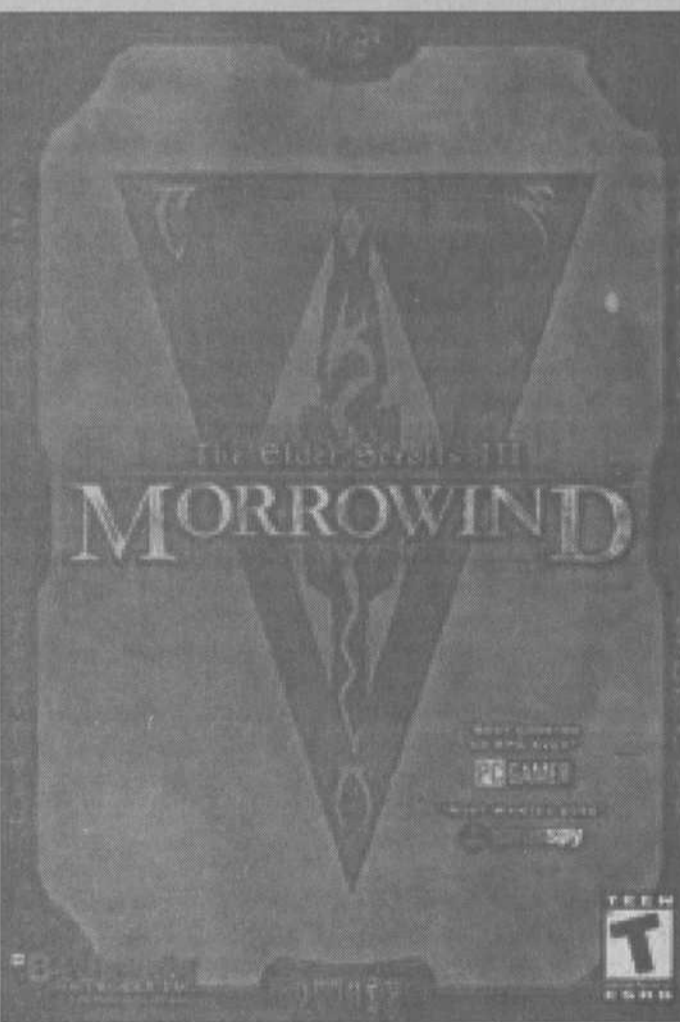
who can design an individualized program for them to follow that challenges their self-discipline.

"Goal-oriented people may consider it especially motivating to create a list of fitness-related goals (e.g. body fat percentage goal, running endurance goal, etc.) to work towards," McPherrin says. "Seeing that you're making progress towards your goals is a great way to ensure adherence to your program."

If you've read through our fitness personalities and still can't envision putting on the pair of tennis shoes collecting dust next to your junior prom attire, Alvarez recommends trying different types of exercise. "Be open to new things," she says. "Keep a sense of humor to carry you through new experiences. It can take time to find and enjoy certain forms of exercise. And remember, ultimately, any activity is better than none."

Student Health 101 is an online health and wellness magazine — find the latest issue online, and Enter2Win \$1,000 cash, at <http://readsh101.com/parkland.html>

Prospectus Pick: Morrowind



David BUSBOOM
Staff Writer

In November of 2002, my father and I went to Circuit City in search of a new Xbox game. We already had a particular title in mind; trailers for the BattleMech action shooter MechAssault had filled us with excitement and the game had just been released that week. When we arrived at the store MechAssault was already sold out, but the salesman suggested we try a role-playing game called Morrowind instead. We had never heard of it, but the salesman's description enticed us and we bought it. It's a purchase I will never regret.

Morrowind is the third installment in The Elder Scrolls game series developed by Bethesda Softworks, and was well-received publicly and critically, with over four million sales and more than sixty awards, including Game of the Year. The main story takes place on Vvardenfell, an island in the Dunmer (or "Dark Elf") province of Morrowind, which lies in the large empire of Tamriel. The central quests concern the malevolent deity Dagoth Ur, housed within the volcanic

Red Mountain, who seeks to gain power and break Morrowind free from Imperial reign. The game begins with the player's character, imprisoned for reasons unknown, arriving in Morrowind by boat in order to be pardoned. A tutorial depicting the player's release moves the player through the process of character creation, and then the player is free to roam as he or she wishes, without necessarily following the main quest.

Morrowind was designed with an open-ended, freeform style of gameplay in mind, with a lessened emphasis on the game's main plot and no constricting boundaries on the player's actions. To allow for this behavior, Morrowind provides detailed discursive quests or tasks for a variety of factions, in addition to side-quests found by mere exploration. The game world itself is expansive and full of variety, taking elements from Egyptian and early Japanese cultures as well as Medieval Europe and the Middle East. Eight years have passed since my initial exposure to Morrowind and it remains my favorite video game to this day.

Parkland Master Plan revised and updated

Jake GODIN
Staff Writer

Taking a look around Parkland and seeing all of this construction work that's taking place it's easy to ask yourself, "When is this place going to be finished?" Though it may seem like Parkland is trapped some sort of construction limbo, the fact of the matter is that Parkland is actually constantly being improved to accommodate the every growing student enrollment. All of the solutions to this growing student enrollment are part of Parkland's Master Plan, which covers construction projects from new buildings to remodeled interiors of the current wings here at Parkland.

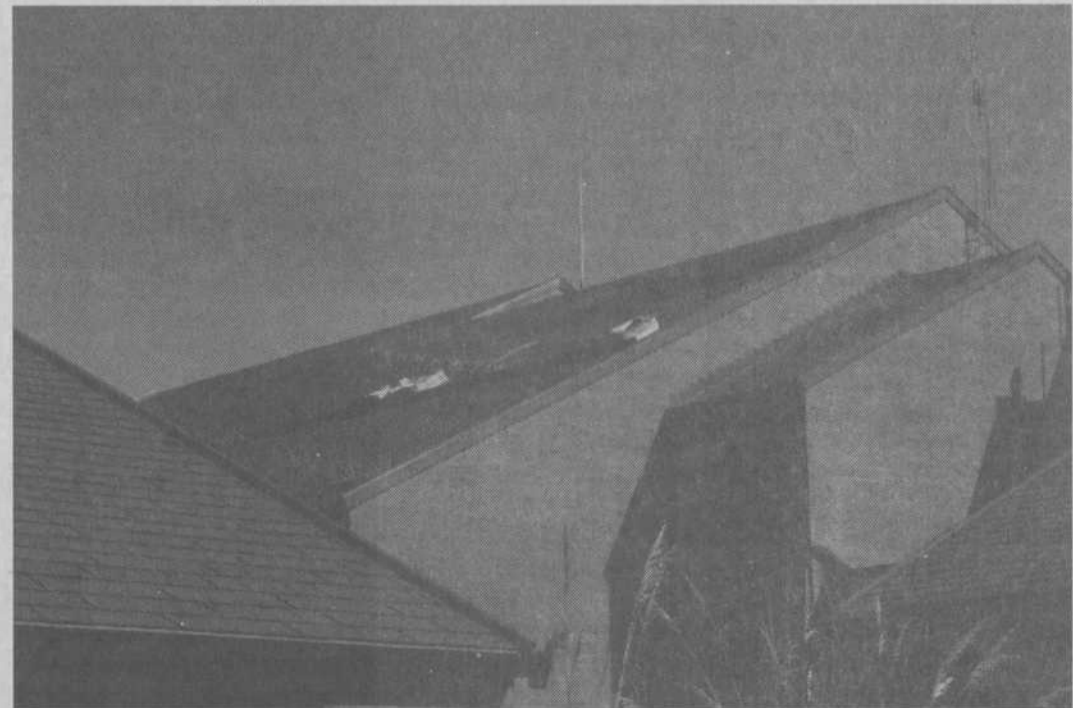
One example of a part of this master plan is the new Tony Noel Agricultural Technology Center that is being added to the current Tony Noel facility. This 17,000 square foot building is about ninety or ninety five percent complete and is expected to be done by the week of October 18th. This building isn't even the biggest project though. In fact, it's one of the smaller buildings that are currently in store for the master plan.

Scheduled to be complete in spring 2012 is the new Applied Technology Center that will be just north of the new Tony Noel building. The building is expected to be approved on October 13th and James Bustard hopes that the construction will get rolling this fall. The ATC will be about 64,000 square feet and will house classes such as Welding, Industrial Technology, and Collision Repair.

The biggest building that will be added to Parkland's campus is the new Student Service Center (SSC). This lies in Parkland's master plan phase two and is expected to have around 90,000 square feet. An architect from Perkins+Will, a

Chicago based architect firm, will design the new SSC, which is a twenty seven million dollar project. The design process for the building won't be finished until next summer, and that's when the construction will hopefully begin. Right now plans are to have it connect to the L, A, and B wings.

Another project that is being planned for during phase two of Parkland's master plan is the new Fitness Center that will be adjacent to the current gymnasium. This will be a four and a half million-dollar project that



Though it may seem like Parkland is trapped in a construction limbo, the fact of the matter is that Parkland is actually constantly being improved to accommodate the every growing student enrollment.

will also include the remodeling of the gymnasium's basement. Some services that the new Fitness Center will be able to offer are Kinesiology, dance and aerobics, strength training, and an indoor walking track. The construction is being planned to start late spring or summer and is planned to be done by the fall of 2012.

It's common knowledge that construction is a noisy process. If you've been at Parkland for even just one semester, you've no doubt heard the roof work

that's been going on somewhere above your classroom. Well now you can finally stop putting those earplugs in or banging your head against the desk...at least until next year.

So far this semester, they have finished redoing half of the roof and will continue with the other half sometime next year. Same goes for that noisy elevator work that has been ringing throughout the classrooms in the wings. There remains only one more elevator, the one in the A wing, and after that Parkland will be done with its ele-

in from annoyed teachers. James Bustard, Parkland's Physical Plant Director, certainly did. But contrary to that expectation, James said that there actually weren't a whole lot of complaints coming in. He said that the faculty understands that what's going on is improving the campus and it benefits everyone. As cooperative as the faculty was, there were some that had their breaking points and absolutely needed the noise to stop, causing either roof work or elevator work to have to take a pause

vators. Other smaller projects that may cause minor disruptions amongst the classrooms or inconvenience students will be taking place throughout the semesters, though. Such projects range from the small remodeling updates going on throughout the wings to the complete lab overhauls that will be occurring in the L wing sometime in the future.

With all of the roof and elevator work that has been going on around Parkland, one would expect the complaints to flood

Patrick WOOD/Prospectus

while the class was in session. All of these updates are really adding to the campus though. Whether it's the new carpet that can be found in the stairwells or the remodeling that was done in the C wing by the auditorium or even the addition of entire wings, Parkland is taking on a whole new look that's a definite improvement. So keep that in mind next time you start pulling your hair out hearing the hammers and drills and try to ignore it, after all, it's for a better tomorrow.

NFL owners are set to meet amid several signs labor fight could derail 2011 season

Sam FARMER
Los Angeles Times

Imagine if Drew Brees and Brett Favre were teammates. For a moment, they were.

Minutes before the New Orleans Saints and Minnesota Vikings kicked off the 2010 season at the Superdome, the players for both teams stepped off the sidelines toward each other and raised one finger to the sky.

It was a show of NFL Players Assn. solidarity - a message that "we are one" - and a very public reminder to team owners that players are united in negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement. The labor fight threatens to derail the 2011 season.

Last week, DeMaurice Smith, executive director of the NFLPA, met with the Green Bay Packers and said he sees clear signs the owners are preparing for no football next season.

As part of that visit, Packers players voted to give the union decertification approval in the event of a lockout. Several teams had already given the union their approval, among

them Buffalo, Dallas, Indianapolis, Philadelphia and the New York Jets.

So what does all this mean before the owners convene in Chicago on Tuesday for their final scheduled meeting before the CBA expires in March?

Los Angeles Times NFL writer Sam Farmer asks and answers questions about the labor situation:

Q: Isn't this just greedy owners vs. spoiled players? What have they got to fight about?

A: It's about money, of course. Owners say that to continue to grow the league, they need to sink incredible amounts of cash into things like new stadiums, new media opportunities, international games and the like.

In 2006, when their deal with the players was just about to expire, they agreed to a CBA extension they almost instantly regretted. They say it didn't adequately address the kind of investment they have to make to keep the NFL on top. As soon as they could, they opted out of that agreement.

The current CBA expires in March.

And what do the players say?

Prove it. Open your books and show us that you're limping along and can't afford to pay your bills. The success of this league was built on our backs, yet we don't have guaranteed contracts, we don't get a piece of those stadiums, you don't cut us a check when that franchise you bought for \$100 million sells for 10 times that. Stop poor-mouthing us.

Q: What is this threat to "decertify" the union?

A: Well, first it might be helpful to define in a very basic way how labor and antitrust law factor into all of this.

Think of the big auto manufacturers. They can't get together in one room to collectively decide - or collude - to fix their prices, what they're paying employees ... anything like that. That would be a violation of antitrust laws.

But there's something called the "labor exemption." If the employers get together and approach the employers as one unified body - a union - then, in order to make it simpler and more efficient for everybody, the employers can act collectively in negotiating with that union.

In the NFL, if there were no players union, the 32 teams couldn't get together and negotiate a salary cap, player benefits, or most anything else that's in the current CBA. Those teams would be in violation of antitrust law.

Q: Why would players want to decertify?

A: If the CBA expires, and the sides have yet to agree to a new one, the owners can lock out the players. In that case, NFL football is kaput until a new deal is in place.

But if the union votes to decertify - or no longer act as a union - that means there is no longer a legal collective bargaining unit for the players. All of a sudden, those 32 teams are not within that labor exemption to the antitrust laws.

And if antitrust laws apply to this situation, owners cannot collectively lock out the players. That would be a form of collusion called a collective boycott, and it would expose the owners to individual and class-action lawsuits by the players. That could be extremely costly considering the real economic damages in antitrust suits are tripled.

Q: If that happened, what would the owners say?

A: They would then claim the move was a "sham" decertification, saying the players didn't really decertify. If you walk, talk and smell like a union, they'd say, you're still a union, even if you call yourself a trade association or something like that. You're not allowed to decertify simply to gain leverage at the negotiating table - particularly if you're still at that table acting like a union.

Whether the decertification was sincere would be for the courts to decide.

Q: From the players' perspective, what's the risk of decertifying?

A: Assuming the decertification works, that means the union has blown itself up. Anytime you blow up something with the intent of putting it back together later, there's a chance all those pieces won't fit together the way they once did.

Q: What's the risk to the owners?

A: They could lose in court and wind up with the same deal they have now, or one they like even less.

Q: Is there going to be a lockout?

A: I think there will be, even if it only takes place between March and the traditional start of training camps in late July.

The players want to force the issue and get a deal done sooner rather than later. The longer it drags on, and especially if players start missing paychecks, the more difficult it will be for the union to hold things together.

The owners still get TV money whether games are played or not (money they have to repay the networks, with interest) and many teams might actually be better off in the short term because they won't be paying those player salaries.

In short, the owners have a financial bomb shelter that most players don't have. But bomb shelters aren't forever.

Eventually, you have to come up and face the fallout.

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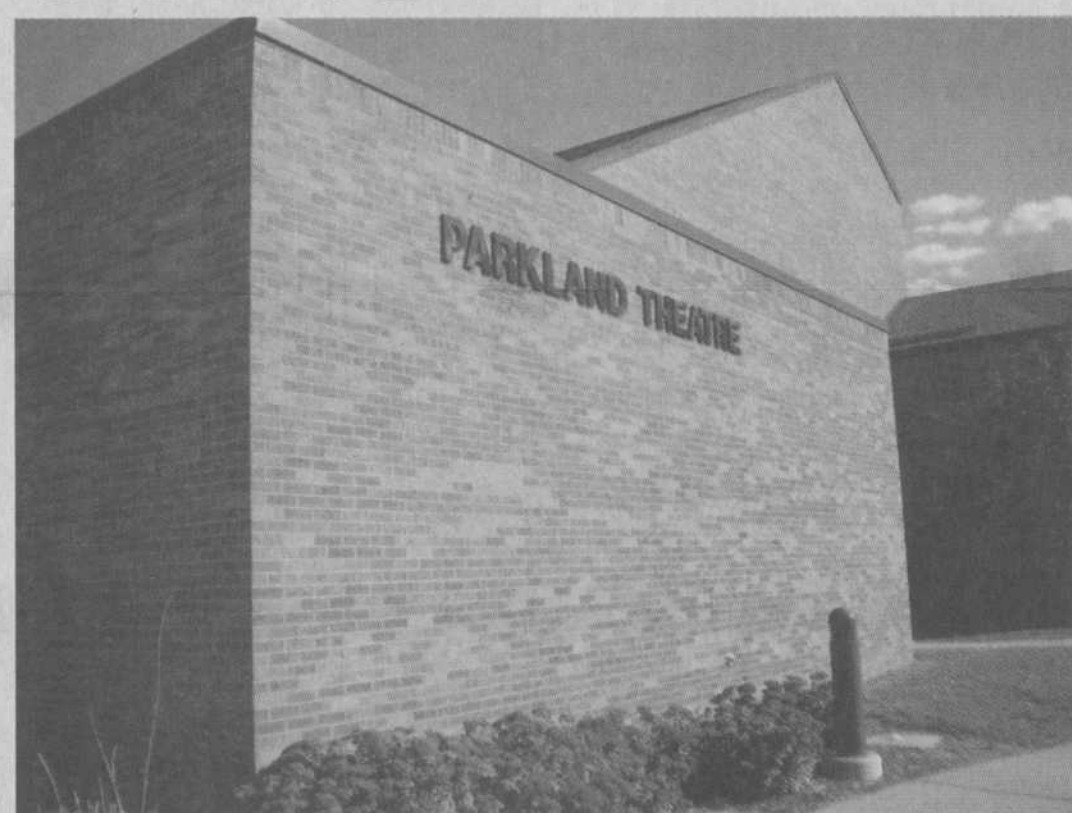
Parkland Theatre brings quality productions to the community

Kelley HEANEY
Staff Writer

The lobby of the Parkland Theatre is filled with hundreds of photographs of past performances. Photos line the lobby and the hallway, memorializing actors, directors, and stage crews. They remind visitors that the enchantment of a theater production often seems to be something akin to magic, where makeup, clothing and lighting combine to create an illusion, and transform people from their normal everyday selves into something more; more sinister, more beautiful, or, perhaps, more funny. The theater at Parkland College is not really any different than most theaters, it has seats and curtains and a backstage area where the magic begins. It also has lighting crews, and

scenery crews, an orchestra pit and a director for the production. The illusions only happen with practice and patience, paint and persistence. The main difference at the Parkland Theatre is in the current high quality productions for this season's patrons. Those productions were chosen by the Parkland Artistic Director, Randi Hard, who took submissions from area directors or matched an established play to a participating local director, resulting in a season of theater works that promises to thrill audiences.

This season's opening production was the entertaining comedy, *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel*. It is the first comedy performance written by *Tuesdays with Morrie* author, Mitch Albom. The Parkland production was directed by Thom Schnarre, who also



The Parkland Theatre promises to be high quality, with several opportunities for the family to have an enjoyable night out throughout the semester.

Jessica Wilson/Prospectus

For more information contact Jmorrissette@parkland.edu.

The still to be announced, Annual Student Production starts off the New Year. "The announcement of the play usually happens in December," said Dallas Street. "The students will read and find something with good opportunities for student actors." Past student productions have included, *All Out*, *The Murder Room*, *Harvey* and *A Christmas Story*.

The planned productions continue with *Once Upon a Mattress*, a beautiful, romantic fairytale with some bizarre twists. This hilarious, musical comedy helped to launch the career of Carol Burnett, back in 1964, when she played the super-sensitive princess, who must pass the queen's unpassable test, before being allowed to marry the handsome prince. The original fairytale had a pea hidden in a pile of mattresses but in this situation, it isn't a pea in the pile. Opening Feb 23, 2011, this comedy is considered to be appropriate for families.

Also family friendly is the final selection of the season, *The Little Prince*. This whimsical story, described as fantasy, comedy and drama, was written, in 1942, by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, and was adapted to the stage by Rick Cummings and John Scoullar. The chronicle tells about an aviator stranded in the Sahara Desert and his encounter with a prince from another world. The encounter leads to the transformation of the pilot so that he understands that "what is essential is invisible to the eye." The play contains themes emphasizing not only the dangers of narrow mindedness, but that enlightenment often comes through exploration and that relationships teach responsibility. It opens April 6, 2011.

The current season promises to be high quality, with several opportunities for the family to have an enjoyable night out. Ticket reservations are available through the theatre's website, by calling 217-351-2528 or 1-800-346-8089. Prices are \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and seniors, \$6 for youth, but several nights have discount options available; check the Parkland College Theatre website for the specifics of each production.

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directed last years hilarious *Lend Me a Tenor*. This years play involved two blundering brothers hunting ducks in an Alabama slough, when they shot what they thought was an angel. A disheartened tabloid reporter was sent to cover the story, interviewing the brothers while dealing with a crazed boss, and other assorted, peculiar characters, with an astonishing conclusion. Acclaimed by audiences, the play had "themes of redemption, race, media and north vs. south..." as components in the fabric of the comedy, according to the

mitchcalbom.com website.

The next selection for the season was to be the classic drama, *The Glass Menagerie*, by Tennessee Williams, but it was cancelled due to "a lack of production time and proper staffing issues," according to Theatre Marketing Coordinator, Dallas Street. It will be replaced by a weekend of one-act plays on Nov 4-7. Open auditions are to be held October 10, 5-8 p.m.

The scheduled productions continue into the Holiday Season with the greatly anticipated return of those wacky

sisters from Hoboken, in *Nun-crackers - the Nunsense Christmas Musical*, written by Dan Goggin. In this, Parkland's third production with the nuns, the nutty sisters try to make a televised Christmas concert special and that is when the "nunsense" transpires. Muddled Christmas carols, that the theater brochure promises will have audiences "ho-ho-ho-ing in the aisles," make up much of the musical element of this production, along with bizarre antics and classic wit. The nuns in the *Nunsense* stories are always hilarious, silly and high energy. Open auditions to be held on October 16, 1-5 p.m.

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★ POLITICAL ★ JOCKS

Put your knowledge of athletes-turned-politicians to the test

BY GREGORY CLAY
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Who is the only U.S. Supreme Court justice to finish as a runner-up in the voting for college football's prestigious Heisman Trophy?

That would be Byron "Whizzer" White, appointed to the bench by President John F. Kennedy in 1962. By the way, White, a star running back and Rhodes Scholar from the University of Colorado (hence the "Whizzer"), finished second to Yale's Clinton Frank in the Heisman balloting in 1937. The next year, White led the NFL in rushing, and enjoyed a nice \$15,000 salary, a hefty sum for that era.



J.C. Watts

White's is not the only tale of athlete-turned-office holder. From Orange Bowl MVP-turned-congressman J.C. Watts to Baseball Hall of Famer-turned-senator Jim Bunning, the political bench of former athletes is deep.

As we are in the serious throes of two busy seasons — a contentious election period and an overlapping, non-stop sports schedule — we offer a meeting of politics and sports in this dynamic trivia quiz:

1. What U.S. president played football and captained the swim team for a small college in the Midwest?

- A. Richard Nixon
- B. Barack Obama
- C. Ronald Reagan
- D. Gerald Ford

2. What cabinet member in the Barack Obama administration played on her college basketball team?

- A. Hilda Solis
- B. Kathleen Sebelius
- C. Janet Napolitano
- D. Hillary Clinton

3. Name the track sprinter who competed in the 1936 Olympics and later became a U.S. congressman.

- A. Marty Glickman
- B. Ralph Metcalfe
- C. Jesse Owens
- D. Sam Stoller

4. Which influential U.S. senator spent much of his spare time as an amateur boxer before entering the political stage?

- A. Mitch McConnell
- B. Patrick Leahy
- C. Harry Reid
- D. Chuck Schumer

5. Name the former NBA big man who won the Republican nomination for Oregon's gubernatorial race in 2010.

- A. Chris Dudley
- B. Bill Walton
- C. Bill Bradley
- D. Arvydas Sabonis

6. What former Oklahoma quarterback led a dynamic wishbone offense before becoming the state's lieutenant governor?

- A. Thomas Lott
- B. Jack Mildren
- C. J.C. Watts
- D. Cale Gundy

7. Which former baseball slugger played the role of a New York state senator adamantly fighting to pass legislation against college hazing in a made-for-television movie featuring actress Linda Gray (of "Dallas" fame)? The movie's central theme focused on an anti-hazing message in relation to college fraternities.

- A. Mike Schmidt
- B. Harmon Killebrew
- C. Barry Bonds
- D. Rusty Staub

8. Jack Kemp was MVP of the old American Football League with the Buffalo Bills before becoming a New York congressman, vice presidential running mate and secretary of Housing and Urban Development. For which president did Kemp serve as HUD secretary?

- A. George W. Bush
- B. Ronald Reagan
- C. George H.W. Bush
- D. Bill Clinton

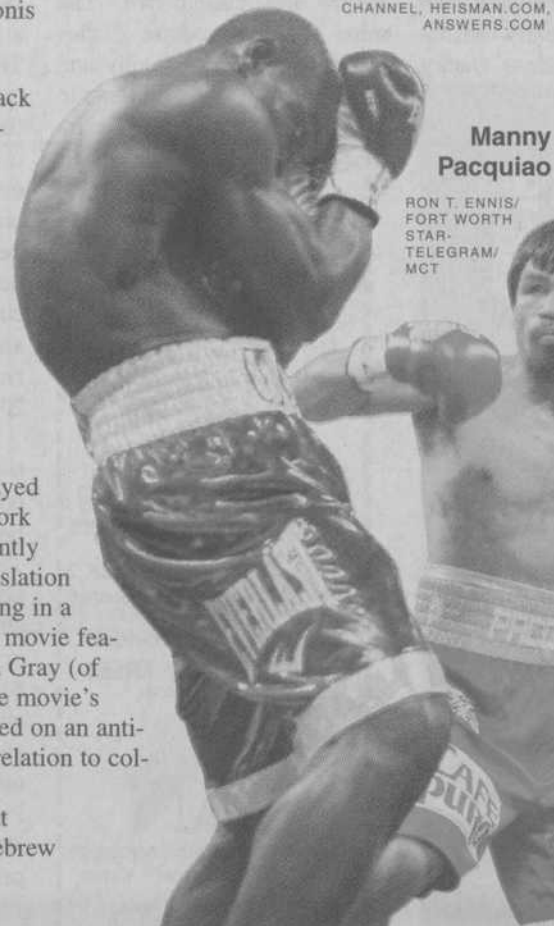
9. On May 10, 2010, boxing superstar Manny Pacquiao was elected as a member of the House of Representatives in his native Philippines. Pacquiao also is the first Filipino athlete to:

- A. Appear on "Dancing With the Stars"
- B. Be named to People Magazine's "Most Beautiful" list
- C. Win a gold medal in the Summer Olympics
- D. Have his likeness on a Philippine postage stamp

10. This former quarterback from the Southeastern Conference was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from North Carolina's 11th Congressional District in 2006. Name him.

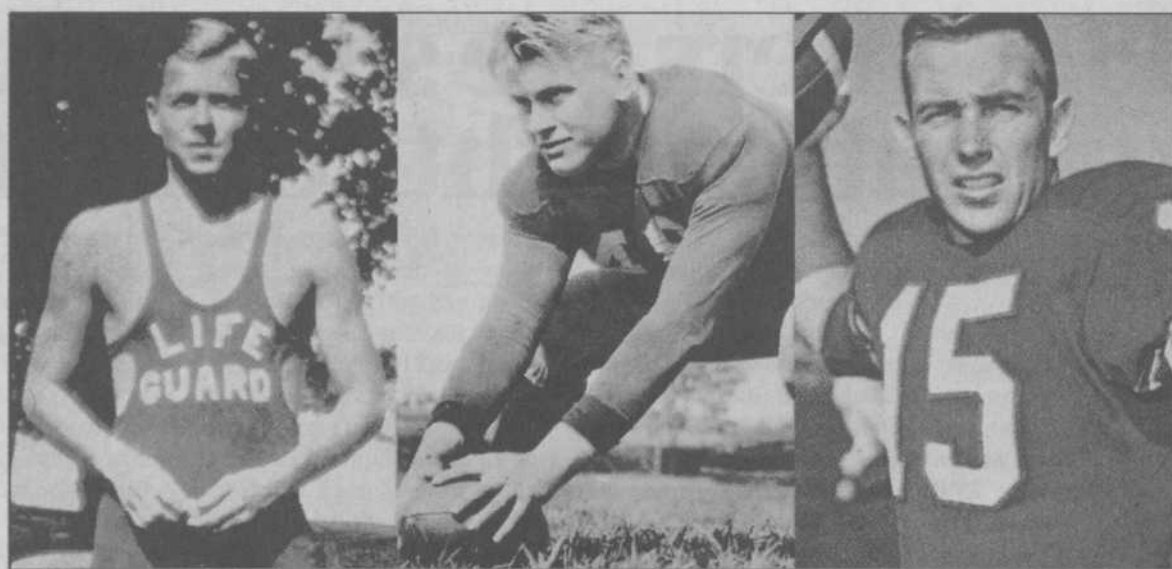
- A. Pat Sullivan
- B. Bart Starr
- C. Tim Couch
- D. Heath Shuler

SOURCES: WWW.BIOGRAPHY.COM, CNN, NATIONAL JOURNAL'S ALMANAC OF AMERICAN POLITICS, NBA.COM, IMDB.COM, MSNBC, FOX NEWS CHANNEL, HISTORY CHANNEL, E! NETWORK, LIFETIME MOVIE NETWORK, BIOGRAPHY CHANNEL, HEISMAN.COM, ANSWERS.COM



Manny Pacquiao

RON T. ENNIS/
FORT WORTH
STAR-
TELEGRAM/
MCT



Ronald Reagan

Gerald Ford

Jack Kemp



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC GOODWIN/MCT

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ANSWERS ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

1. C — Ronald Reagan played guard on the football team, led the swimming team and participated in track and field for Eureka College in Eureka, Ill., from 1928 to 1932. And, of course, he was an actor, too (remember him in the westerns of the 1950s) and the 40th president.

2. B — Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of Health and Human Services, graduated from Trinity College in Washington, D.C., in 1970. She played on the basketball team there, as well as the tennis and field hockey squads. She still likes to play golf and go jogging and scuba diving. Interestingly enough, her father John J. Gilligan was the former governor of Ohio. When she was elected governor of Kansas in 2002, they became the nation's first father-daughter governor team.

3. B — Ralph Metcalfe won the silver medal in the 100-meter dash (his friend Jesse Owens took the gold) and a gold in the 400-meter relay in the 1936 Berlin Olympics, then was elected to Congress from 1970 to 1978 in Illinois (1st Congressional District). Metcalfe, a co-founder of the Congressional Black Caucus, also introduced the resolution that officially recognized Black History Month.

4. C — Harry Reid, born in Searchlight, Nevada, was a middleweight boxer in high school and junior college. The title of Reid's memoir: "The Good Fight: Hard Lessons from Searchlight to Washington."

5. A — Chris Dudley, who played 16 seasons in the NBA, including six with the Portland Trail Blazers, won the gubernatorial primary in Oregon on May 18, 2010. The 6-foot-11 former center from Yale (with a degree in economics and politics) was most known for rebounding and missing an NBA-record 13 consecutive free throws in one stretch. Dudley's grandfather, Guilford Dudley, served as ambassador to Denmark under Presidents Richard

Nixon and Gerald Ford. And, interestingly enough, his wife also is named Chris.

6. B — Jack Mildren was elected lieutenant governor of Oklahoma in 1990, holding the position until 1994, when his bid to become governor failed against Republican Frank Keating. Mildren, who was Oklahoma's first wishbone quarterback in 1971, led the Sooners to a school-record 567 yards total offense per game that season, including 472 yards rushing, with 7.1 yard-per-carry average, also both school records.

7. C — Barry Bonds, who has 762 career home runs, played the role of Sen. Wilson in the 1994 television movie, "Moment of Truth: Broken Pledges." Bonds reportedly refused to join a fraternity when he attended Arizona State University because he did not want to participate in hazing.

8. C — Jack Kemp was secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President George H.W. Bush, being appointed on Feb. 13, 1989. Kemp, who was the AFL MVP in 1965, was named as the vice presidential running mate for presidential candidate Bob Dole in 1996 (Bill Clinton, of course, won the election).

9. D — Manny Pacquiao's stamp, with the design handpicked by him, was issued as a limited edition collectors' item by the Philippine Postal Corporation (PhilPost) in 2008. Pacquiao, who represents the southern province of Sarangani on the island of Mindanao, lost badly in his previous attempt at the Filipino Congress in 2007. Pacquiao is considered by many to be the most popular boxer in the world.

10. D — Heath Shuler, who was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from western North Carolina in 2006, played quarterback for the University of Tennessee from 1990-93. Shuler, who was the No. 3 overall pick in the NFL draft's first round by the Washington Redskins in 1994, also is a member of the well-known Blue Dog Coalition, a caucus of moderate-to-conservative House Democrats.