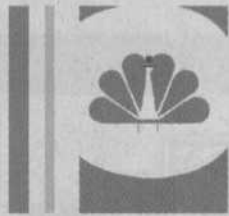
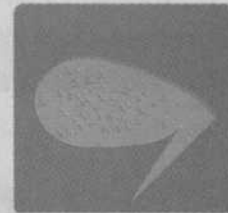




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Prospectus News

A student produced publication since 1969

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Thanksgiving Edition Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Vol. 03 No. 02

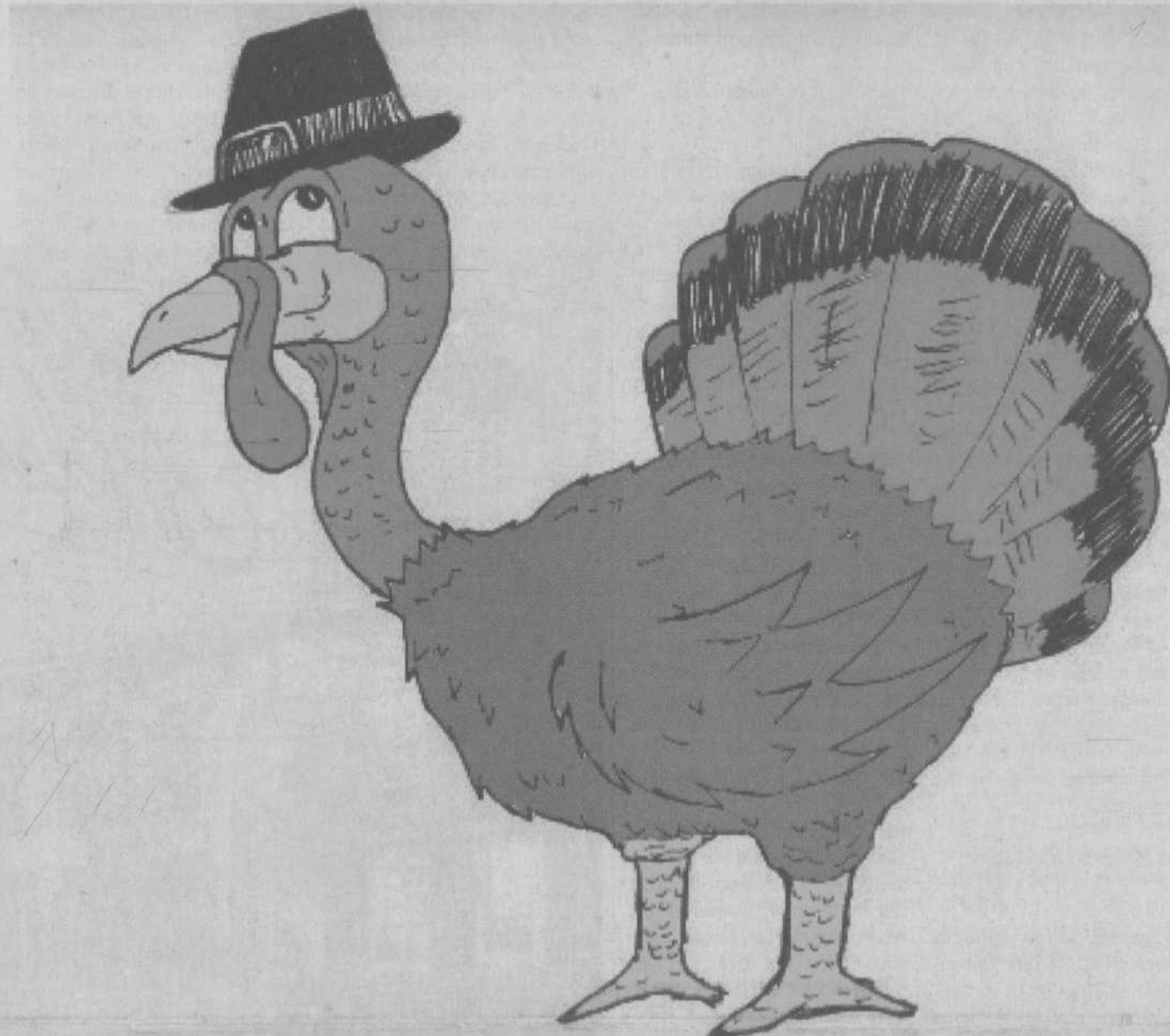
The origin of Thanksgiving

Kelley HEANEY
Staff Writer

Once again, it's that time of year when families gather around the TV to watch football, and stuff themselves into a food coma. No, we're not talking about the Super Bowl, but Thanksgiving. Between television and football, Thanksgiving has changed from family honored traditions to sitting on the couch while cheering for a favorite team.

Football alone can't be blamed for this transition from tradition to sports. Football games on Thanksgiving have been common since the 1880s, when Harvard would battle it out with Yale at the New York Polo Grounds. But now, more families seem to do things separately on the holiday with a general male/female split. The men gather around the TV and the women gather around the newspaper ads for the following day's shopping trip. Although this may be the latest, it is certainly not the first time that this holiday has changed through the years, which started with the landing of Pilgrims at Plymouth, Massachusetts...or did it? Many events and myths have contributed to what we now celebrate at the end of the month of November.

Thanksgiving, as we now know it, has taken over 300 years to evolve. Since a record of the Plymouth harvest celebration has not survived from 1621, details are unknown, but, given that the Pilgrims were religious people, giving thanks to God was part of



Color Illustration By Lucas Crawford & Ian Winston/Prospectus

a daily routine and often went unrecorded. Although there is no recorded version of the event, history has produced its own, using an 1858 Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem called the Courtship of Miles Standish, to "immortalize the events of those early years"

according to Jack Santino, in his book *All Around the Year*. Other records depict days of praise and thanksgiving happening often in the colonies, resulting in some uncertainty about the actual "first" Thanksgiving. It has been recorded that in 1564, French Hugue-

nots, near what is now Jacksonville, Florida, gave thanks for a safe sea voyage. Two years before the landing at Plymouth, the people of Jamestown, VA also had a feast and prayer day called Thanksgiving and now have a plaque commemorating the event.

Texas later joined the debate by claiming that it was the first, when in 1541, Padre Fray Juan De Padilla gave thanks with the men of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado as they marched north from Mexico City, searching for a gold city called Quivira. Apparently, none of the

events were originally meant to stick and were merely brief praises and thanksgivings for specific circumstances.

The first annual festival of thanks was declared in Connecticut in 1649. "Thanksgiving day in Connecticut was held every autumn not for special reasons but 'in gratitude for the ordinary blessing of the year past'" writes Diana Karter Appelbaum in her book, *Thanksgiving, An American Holiday, An American History*.

While Connecticut may have been the first state to have an annual holiday tradition, New York was first to make it law. In 1817, the governor made the statewide decree, causing opposition from Long Island, who had his or her own date for the celebration and didn't want to change. Pennsylvania followed suit the same year, setting November 19 as the big day, resulting in objections from the Pennsylvania Dutch, who preferred their Harvest Home celebrations. Due to a lack of general interest, the holiday did not catch on there for another 20 years.

The Harvest Home festival, which ensued at the end of the crop gathering, entailed family reunions, a harvest queen and general "merry making". Celebrated in England and other home countries of the colonists, aspects of this festival are recognizable in current Thanksgiving customs as are characteristics of Christmas celebrations. The Mayflower Puritans, however, neither approved, nor participated, in either holiday, claiming that the celebration's pagan origins

Thanksgiving continued on P.5

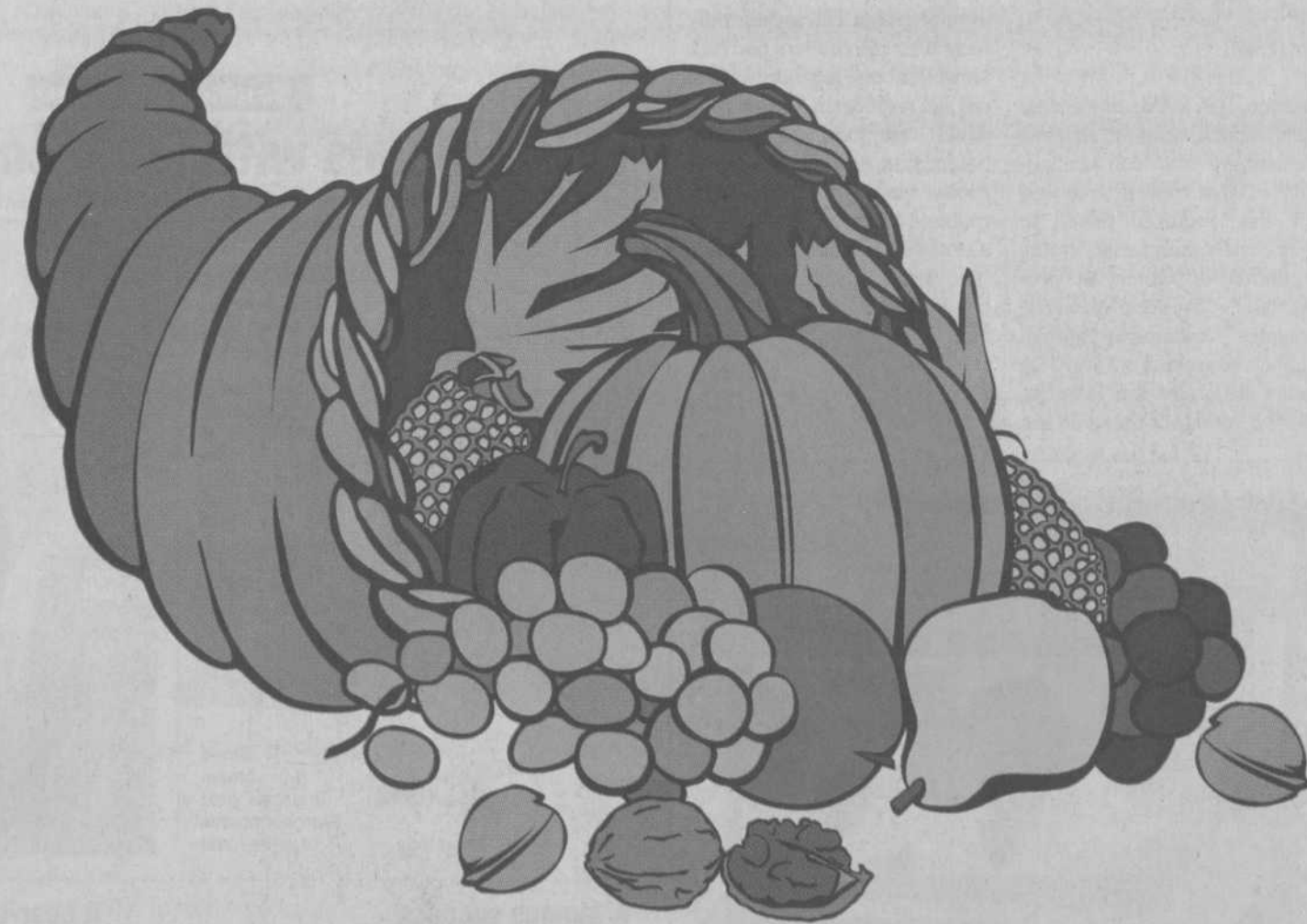
A Cornucopia of Cultures

Kassandra COAN
Staff Writer

Campus is a peculiar place during Thanksgiving break. Many students return to family living in neighboring states and cities, leaving just a few students behind. Talking with students from various age groups and ethnic backgrounds, it was found that the majority of people who stay at school during break consist of students from far-away states, such as California and Florida, and students with foreign heritage.

Americans with foreign heritage comprise a large group of students that remain at school during the holiday. The majority of students from this category seemed to all have the same motive for gathering on Thanksgiving. "It's not so much the origin of the holiday that I care about, but the fact that I have an opportunity to relax from exams and enjoy a weekend with my closest friends," said a Korean student from Virginia.

Many American families had this perspective as well. Elizabeth Rigg, a student raised in Illinois, gave her opinion on why Thanksgiving was more enjoyable to celebrate than Christmas. "There is no controversy over Thanksgiving. It's everyone in America getting together with friends and family, no matter where the friends



Color Illustration by Jennifer Pritchard/MCT

and family are from." Multiple students mentioned how they liked the fact that Thanksgiving wasn't associated with any religion. Some students talked about how December holidays that are tied with religions separate their groups of friends. However, Thanksgiving is for all people who are here in

America, no matter their backgrounds or beliefs. Many students that don't travel to see family on Thanksgiving gather with their friends for dinner. Alyssa Leigh, a senior from Florida, spoke about her Thanksgiving at home compared to her Thanksgiving at college. "With

my family, it was never really a special day. We just ate a lot of food. It's only because of elementary school that I even know the purpose of Thanksgiving. Here at college, it's a big gathering with friends." She went on to explain why she doesn't visit her family on Thanksgiving. "It doesn't

make sense to travel all the way home, just to do it again a month later during Christmas."

An out of state Parkland student mentioned how Thanksgiving was always an important family event at home, but the Parkland calendar didn't allow for him to see his family.

"I have class the day before Thanksgiving. This year, I only have Friday (Thanksgiving Day) and the weekend off. Even if I was willing to fly to see my family for just day, I wouldn't be able to afford a plane ticket that close to the holiday."

Other foreign students are doing all they can to embrace the culture. A freshman from China, who was clearly enthusiastic about learning English, said that she's "doing every American culture event" she can. She explained how she finds it easy to make Chinese friends and that while Americans are nice, most do not have time or patience to deal with her broken English. However, she has made a couple of American friends and is planning on joining an American family here in Champaign for their Thanksgiving dinner.

Ryan Liu, a student from Japan, says that he doesn't go out of his way to celebrate Thanksgiving. However, he does eat turkey each year. "Of course I eat turkey on Thanksgiving; it's on sale."

Everyone is encouraged, no matter your background, beliefs, or previous Thanksgiving experiences, to get together with the people closest to you this Thanksgiving, and just enjoy the season together.

Prospectus

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• 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 Friday immediately before the upcoming issue.



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CHUCK SHEPHERD'S NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Cultural Diversity

In Afghanistan, as in many less-developed countries, boy babies are much preferred to girls for economic reasons and social status, but some thus-unlucky Afghan parents have developed a workaround for "excess" girls: simply designate one a boy. All references to her are male, and she dresses as a boy, plays "boy" games and does "boy" chores, at least until puberty, when many parents of the "bocha posh" convert her back. In some tribal areas, according to a September New York Times dispatch, superstition holds that creation of a bocha posh even enhances prospects of the next child's being a boy.

Although India has forbidden discrimination against lower-caste "Dalits" (so-called "untouchables"), rampant oppression still exists, especially in rural areas. In October, police were investigating reports that a higher-caste woman had disowned her dog after it had been touched by an "untouchable" woman. A village council in the Morena district of Madhya Pradesh state had reportedly awarded the higher-caste woman the equivalent of \$340 compensation after she witnessed the dog being given food scraps by the Dalit woman.

Latest Religious Messages

Symbols: Although the dress code at Clayton (N.C.) High School prohibits it, freshman Ariana Iacono demanded in September that she be allowed her nose ring, which she said is "essential" to her practice of religion. Her Church of Body Modification, she said, teaches that "the mind, body and soul are all one entity and that modifying the body can bring the mind and soul into harmony."

Some Ultra-Orthodox Israeli Jews came under criticism in September during the pre-Yom Kippur Day of Atonement because, unlike most Jews, they shunned the euphemistic twirling of substitute objects over their heads for forgiveness insisting on hard-core expression by twirling sacrificed chickens.

Chutzpah!

In June, the Mexican government filed a brief in Arizona challenging the constitutionality of that state's proposed law that required police to check the immigration status of detainees, which, according to its Foreign Ministry, "violates inalienable human rights." However, a May USA Today dispatch from Tultitlan, Mexico, noted that Mexico has

a similar law ("Article 67" of its immigration code) and that police allegedly harass immigrants from Honduras and other Central American countries. Said one pro-immigration activist, "There (the U.S.), they'll deport you. In Mexico, they'll probably let you go, but they'll beat you up and steal everything you've got first." (Bills to overturn Article 67 have been pending in the Mexican legislature for months.)

Questionable Judgments

Awkward: The charity Brain Injury New Zealand, organizing a community benefit in the town of Rotorua, decided in October to stage — of all things — a "zombie walk," inviting townspeople to shuffle around in support. The TV station TVNZ reported numerous complaints alleging BINZ's insensitivity.

The city government in Seoul, South Korea, warned in October that the local delicacy "octopus head" contains toxic amounts of cadmium and recommended a two-head-per-week maximum. Fishermen and restaurateurs, as well as those who eat octopus head for its supposed libido-enhancement, protested.

More Redneck Chronicles

In October in Seminole, Fla., near Tampa, two men, ages 36 and 52, sitting on a porch, drew the attention of two passersby, who made derisive comments and eventually beat up the porch-sitters, who were in costumes as beer bottles.

In Portage, Ind., in July, Michael Perez, 36, and brother Eric, 28, got into a fistfight, then ran outside, jumped into their respective pickup trucks, and commenced to ram each other. Multiple charges were filed against both after Eric accidentally crashed into a mobile home.

Least Competent Criminals

Two men robbing a Waffle Shop in Akron, Ohio, in October ushered customers and employees into the back and had them give up their cell phones, which were collected in a bag, with the plan to lock the phones in a supply room, retrievable only long after the robbers had fled. However, one robber walked out the restaurant's front door, which automatically locked behind him, and when the other robber walked into the supply room to drop off the bag, an alert hostage locked him inside (and resisted when the robber began "demand(ing)" to be let out).

Album Review: Matt & Kim's Sidewalks

Patrick WOOD
Music Columnist

Matt & Kim, the synth-pop twosome from Brooklyn, should be all too unfamiliar to 88.7 listeners in the C-U area. Last September they performed a free, live concert at Parkland, consequently the same night that they won "Best Breakthrough Music Video" at the MTV Video Music Awards for their song "Lessons Learned," making their performance all that more special. Since then, the pair has been gaining tremendous musical

momentum for the release of their third album, *Sidewalks*, which just dropped November 2.

Kim seem to explore throughout the album. "Cameras" shies away from the high-tempo, quick-and-crazy music style that Matt & Kim have coined. The rest of the album is at least half "classic" Matt & Kim and half "new" Matt & Kim. Hitting number three on iTunes Top 100 Albums the day after its release, *Sidewalks* overall seems to be toned down quite a bit in comparison to Matt & Kim and *Grand*. Like "Cameras," the tunes "Block After Block" and "Good For Great" resound with a subtle, but noticeable hip-hop noise,

tomato. However, with tracks like "Red Paint" and "Wires" you can still bask in the musical glory of the Matt & Kim that we all know and love. Plus, we finally get an official album version of "Silver Tiles," which has been floating around on the Internet in the form of live performance recordings since Lollapalooza 2007.

Taken as a whole, new music style or not, this album is still solid Matt & Kim. It still displays two of the happiest artists in the world making some of the most upbeat, fun music that they can. It doesn't matter



momentum for the release of their third album, *Sidewalks*, which just dropped November 2.

On August 31, fans were able to get a small taste of the album with the release of "Cameras," the album's first single. Upon hearing this song, you immediately pick up on an almost hip-hop like element that Matt &

which gives Matt & Kim listeners a new alternative to the simple-lyric, drum and keyboard music style that Matt Johnson and Kim Schifino are typically known for.

The only downside to this new music avenue is the loss of raw energy. There aren't many songs on this album as untamed as fans may be accus-

if you've been a fan for years or if you just heard of Matt & Kim last week, *Sidewalks* is worth a listen. Check out Matt & Kim's website mattandkim-music.com, follow them on twitter, or request their music on WPCD Champaign, 88.7 The Wave.

Science Matters

Wild animals with tame cousins

Humans have been domesticating animals for thousands of years, mostly by controlled breeding. Turkeys are an extreme example.

Domestic turkey	Wild turkey
Captives with over-developed flight (breast) muscles	Woodland bird of North America; wary of humans
Artificially inseminated; few manage to mate	Mate naturally in early spring
Live for 1 year	Usually live 2-3 years; may reach age 10
Unable to fly	Can fly up to 55 mph (88 kph)
Short legs	Broad breast muscles yield large amounts of white meat
	Sprints as fast as a horse

A famous success

Wolves, the ancestors of dogs, began living with humans first in East Asia, perhaps 15,000 years ago



Gray wolf

Highly social, intelligent predator

A near-total failure

Africa's zebras are related to wild horses domesticated in Asia about 6,000 years ago



Only a few docile zebras have ever been trained; most refuse to be controlled

Source: The Wild Turkey by James G. Dickson, National Wildlife Turkey Federation, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, Science, MCT Photo Service Graphic: Cindy Jones-Hullachor, Sun Sentinel; Helen Lee McCormas



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How to survive group projects

Josh GRUBE
Staff Writer

One of the most frightening things a student can hear their professor say is “group project.” Despite the negative association attached to working along with other classmates, it can actually be a knowledgeable and fun experience. As long as you do your part and only your part, that is.

Curious about why instructors implement group assignments, *Prospectus News* asked Mass Communications teacher Kendra McClure to shed some light on the reasoning behind group projects. “Often after students graduate and enter the work force they will be asked to work on projects on a team,” McClure explained. “Working well with others is a skill that can be practiced and it’s something that we all have to do, so I think group projects at the academic level can help students practice it and become more comfortable working with other people for when they graduate and move on to a job.”

“Personally, I hate group projects,” Timothy McCoy, a Parkland student said. “From my experience, I’ve noticed every time I’ve been in a group of people I didn’t really like the way other people wanted to go about doing things. I prefer to do things my own way when it comes to completing an assignment because a lot of times I don’t agree with what the rest of the group wants to do. I prefer just to get my own assignment, my own grade, so I know I got it.”

The biggest complaint about group projects is that students often get stuck working



Despite the negative association in working along with other classmates, group work can actually be a knowledgeable and fun experience. Just keep in mind the ACE method: Assign, Communicate, and Evaluate.

Photo by Levi NORMAN/Prospectus

with a teammate who doesn’t bring much, or anything, to the group. This leaves the other members to hurriedly make up the work or suffer a lower grade. “It’s really hard to get a passing grade when someone in your group doesn’t do their fair share,” said Parkland student Michael Bergonzi. “You have to put a lot of trust in other people and sometimes, in my opinion, it’s not the best possible choice for me to make.” Many other students expressed a similar opinion to Bergonzi’s.

However, not all students hate working in groups. “I enjoy group projects, especially when I know the people I am working with and I know they’ll work just as hard as I do,” said Parkland student,

Preston Gawthorp. “They help you learn how to work better with other people, especially whenever the other people in the group don’t work as hard as you, you learn to pick up their slack.” Group projects do not have to be as scary as they seem. In order to get a good output from everyone in your group and not have to pick up their slack, *Prospectus News* has devised the ACE method: Assign, Communicate, and Evaluate.

Assign:

When first discussing the project with your group, the most important thing to do is to assign specific jobs and due dates for every member. By doing this, every member will

know what each other’s job is, so if someone doesn’t deliver, the other members know whom to blame. It also makes it much simpler to convey to the teacher who was slacking off when only a specific part of the assignment is missing or lacking, and it is a great way to practice organization.

“I think my number one tip is to collaboratively come up with a very clear plan and timeline,” said McClure. “Make sure that everybody has a say in that plan and timeline. Also, make sure that the timeline reflects individual due dates that are well before the day that the project is due, so if someone does go off base with their portion or doesn’t deliver, the group has time to compensate.” In order for the

whole group to compensate, keeping good communication amongst each other is vital.

Communicate:

Communication is extremely important amongst your group. Make sure to exchange phone numbers and email addresses with your group, so everyone can prove to each other that they are doing their end of the work. Some people may need an extra push to keep up; staying in contact with them will show the importance of completing their assigned work. Follow up on others and keep not only yourself but others in check as well.

“Stay in good communication with each other. That can pre-

vent someone from falling under the radar. If you set up a culture within your group that you’re keeping each other informed about your individual progress that can ward off those students who may not carry the weight,” said McClure. Assigning a reliable leader to remind members of different due dates and to make sure everyone stays on base can also prove to be extremely helpful.

Evaluate:

It is important to make sure that the teacher will provide a peer evaluation after the project is due. Also, make sure your teammates know that there is a peer evaluation. Knowing that individual participation will be considered may provide the push some students need. If your instructor doesn’t plan on student evaluation, try to explain their importance and find other students who also want them.

“I think peer evaluations are very important and I do take them into account as I’m grading the projects,” said McClure. If a member of your group ultimately doesn’t deliver, fill out the evaluation honestly, and make sure the other members do the same.

The next time you receive a group assignment, don’t fear! Just set up a plan, stay in contact, and accurately evaluate in the end. Hopefully you will be able to learn a lot about the subject matter while gaining helpful experience in one of the most despised methods of working: collaboratively.

A guide to great holiday buys

Morgan BERNIER
Social Media Editor

As Thanksgiving draws near, many people are reminded of one important thing: Holiday shopping. The day after Thanksgiving, one of the busiest shopping days of the year, has been known as “Black Friday” since at least the 1960’s. Although it is not the most profitable day for retailers, it can be for consumers. Some of the most popular products, year in and year out, are electronics, children’s toys, and jewelry. While those might be the most

popular products with slashed prices, there are also great deals on a number of other items on sale as well.

Where should you begin? www.black-friday.net is a wonderful website that lists Black Friday sales by store, proving to be a very helpful tool for holiday bargains. You can also check the latest newspaper ads and store websites for special holiday ads, too.

For those shopping for electronics, Best Buy always has a great selection and great buys during the holidays. Some of the “door buster” deals they

offer this year are huge discounts on cell phones and game consoles. Of course, there are also an assortment of cameras, televisions, and computers available at heavily discounted prices as well.

Another one of the most popular Black Friday stores is Wal-Mart. The juggernaut this year by breaking their mold after Thanksgiving sale with deals on clothing, toys, and house wares starting at midnight. Then, at 5:00am, the door buster deals will become available. Some of the best deals

they will be offering on Black Friday include price cuts on HDTVs, computers and a large selection of Blu-ray movie titles.

If you prefer to do your shopping online, there are a number of online stores offering great deals around Black Friday, too. Amazon.com is holding a “Countdown to Black Friday” weeklong sales event, offering special buys every day leading up to the big day, beginning on November 22. Also, sites such as Zappos.com and Newegg.com among many others will be taking part in the online

sales promotions during the holidays, as well.

If you are on the more creative side, or like to stay on a tight budget, try creating your own gifts. There are many different things that can help cut costs tremendously. One option would be to gift your own art. Take a nice photograph or a painting, frame it, and gift away. Family and friends will especially enjoy the creative touch to your gift. Another option is to gift time or skill. If you are good at a certain hobby or task, donate your time to help someone who might benefit from it. One example would be to give guitar lessons. Other ideas could involve a lesson on

changing the oil of the person’s car or starting a garden. For people that enjoy food, try gifting tasty treats.

There are many great deals during the holiday season, and there always seems like an endless list of people to buy for. Staying organized and doing some research before heading out can save you both precious time and money. Find out which stores might be best for a specific category. See if you can find better deals online. If you don’t quite have the money or time to go shopping, make your own gifts. Whatever you decide to do, best of luck and may your holiday gifting be a great success.



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“Season of Light” warms audiences with history of holiday lights, rituals

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Noah Adams of National Public Radio.

Originally produced by Loch Ness Productions in 1993, “Season of Light” makes its central Illinois debut on the planetarium’s new full-dome digital projection system on Thanksgiving weekend. “For 21 years, we ran our own original show called ‘Rites of the Season,’” said Dave Leake, planetarium director. “But ‘Rites’ would not easily convert to our new system, and the staff thought it was time for a change.”

The William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College is pleased to introduce a new holiday program to its show lineup, called “Season of Light.” The show opens at 8 p.m. on Friday, November 26 and will run Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. through December 18.

“Season of Light” traces the history and development of many of the world’s most endearing holiday customs, all of which involve lighting up the winter season—from the burning Yule log, sparkling Christmas tree lights, and candles in windows, to the lighting of luminarias in the American Southwest and the traditional ritual of the Hanukkah menorah. The show is narrated by

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students, seniors, and children under 12 with all tickets being sold at the door. Friends of the Staerkel Planetarium are admitted free of charge. For more information on Staerkel Planetarium programs, call the show hotline at 217/351-2446 or visit

Opinions

Interested in writing a letter to the editor?

- All content is subject to review by the editorial staff. - All submissions must follow the Parkland College code of conduct. All violations of said code of conduct will be turned over to Parkland College administrators and/or Public Safety. - All content, once published, becomes property of the Prospectus. - All submitted content must be original work. - All submissions must be by Parkland students/faculty with correct and updated contact information. E-mail prospectus@parkland.edu, subject "Letter to the Editor"

No, Internet won't kill the video star

McClatchy-Tribune NEWS SERVICE

At this rate, the cable guy is running out of excuses for being so late. An increasing number of American households are cutting the cable, and they aren't defecting en masse to other providers, such as satellite or phone-companies-turned-TV operations.

For example, Time Warner and Comcast lost a combined 430,000 subscribers in the third quarter of this year - more than double the losses from the same period last year.

Company executives say this is merely a sign of a bad economy. Plus, when analog TV broadcasts ended last year, cable companies offered special introductory rates, and those rates just expired. Time Warner also points out that many of the customers it's losing don't even have access to high-speed Internet.

Why should you care? Because the alternative explanation is pretty cool. Techno-geeks suggest the exodus has a lot to do with the fact that people don't need cable to watch their required hours and

hours of TV. For example, videos streaming online from Netflix now account for the largest chunk of primetime Internet traffic.

Folks are watching new releases, classic movies and episodes of that edgy HBO series they heard so much about at work. All for a lot less per month than they paid for cable. They are streaming this content over 55-inch plasma-screen televisions in their media rooms and on their laptops at Starbucks. They access it through home-theater systems, game consoles and even

most new TVs. They create low-cost accounts with Netflix, Zune, iTunes, Amazon or even Blockbuster, the locally based video and gaming giant that is going full throttle into the on-demand world as it works its way through bankruptcy.

All of this is happening against a backdrop of annoying dust-ups between networks and TV providers. For example, Dish Network and Fox Networks recently played a game of chicken, with sports fans caught in the middle. AT&T and Scripps Networks just ended a showdown that

will return endless versions of house-hunting shows to TV screens far and wide.

Given viewers' frustration with changing subscription plans and lineup battles, hopeful geeks can't help but wonder: Will the Internet kill TV?

Well, it hasn't killed the recording industry, the news industry or the postal service. But it has changed all of them, and it will continue to change the way people get their TV fix.

Really, there are only two things we can know for sure: We'll keep getting more and better options for where, when

and how we choose to watch TV and movies. And no matter how few customers satellite, DSL or cable TV providers have, the repair man will still show up two hours after the four-hour window you were given when you called customer service.

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The Old Letters Go the Editor

For the past year, I have served as Chair of the national Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). ACCT is a non-profit educational organization, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees who govern over 1,200 community colleges and affect the lives of 11 million students. ACCT has worked hard to give a strong voice as to the critical role that trustees play in addressing community college issues.

These have been challenging times for community colleges; we have simultaneously experienced double-digit enrollment increases, significant decreases in state fiscal support, and increased competition. In October, it was refreshing to watch the U.S. government eagerly acknowledge the role that Parkland College and the entire community college system play in

training America's workers, building and supporting its middle class, and generating sustained economic prosperity for its many communities.

The first-ever White House Summit on Community Colleges brought together policymakers, business leaders, and college administrators, faculty, students, and trustees. As one of two active trustees at the summit, I was invited because of my role as Chair of ACCT and because of Parkland College's role as a leader in online education in Illinois.

While the summit did not provide quick fixes to the economic situation that students and community colleges face, the Obama administration plans to announce the first \$500 million of a \$2 billion investment in community colleges. This federal investment will support training to help Americans re-enter the job market.

Discussions at the state and national levels are putting more focus on community college student retention/completion, student success, and how success should be measured. Meanwhile, we continue to examine what we're doing here at home to help Parkland College be an important and valuable resource for our local communities.

Yours for a stronger workforce,
Thomas M. Bennett
Immediate Past Chair, Association of Community College Trustees
Vice Chair, Parkland College Board of Trustees
540 Clover Court
Gibson City, IL 60936
H: 217/784-8540
C: 217/649-3250

As Acting Commander of Illinois State Police District 10, my highest traffic safety priority is the reduction of fatalities resulting from traffic crashes. Since the beginning of 2010, District 10 has experienced an alarming number of traffic crash fatalities, and reversing this trend is essential to the safety of families, friends, and communities.

District 10 consists of nine counties in east central Illinois including: Champaign, Coles, Douglas, Edgar, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, Shelby, and Vermilion. Since January 2010, these nine counties have experienced 59 fatalities caused by 51 traffic crashes. This is nearly 16% above the total fatalities encountered in District 10 for this same time period last year and almost 10% above the average for the same time period over the past 5 years. Three familiar and dangerous driving behaviors have been primary factors in these tragic incidents. Alcohol and/or drugs have been involved in at least 23% of the crashes, and at least 25% of the victims

were not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash. Speed played a factor in nearly all of the crashes. A fourth driving behavior, distracted driving, is emerging as a more frequent factor in fatal crashes this year in District 10.

These four driving behaviors - driving under the influence, speeding, failure to wear a properly adjusted seatbelt, and distracted driving - are all too familiar problems to law enforcement personnel attempting to address the needless tragedy caused by these crashes. The victims of these fatal crashes are typically not strangers to our communities; they are neighbors, friends, parents, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, husbands, wives, and perhaps the most disturbing, our children. It's impossible to investigate these crashes without feeling the unimaginable loss their loved ones experience when they hear the sudden and permanent news. Most people causing these crashes would not intentionally harm another person; however, their driving behavior had devastat-

ing consequences that forever changed the lives of many more than just the victims.


Those who drive recklessly and/or under the influence of drugs or alcohol rightfully face criminal charges, and I can assure you District 10 investigates these crashes and actively pursues prosecution of the responsible person. Although this may not bring back the victims, removing dangerous drivers from the roadways will make our communities a much safer place.

As we move into the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday driving periods, please help District 10 and all of our local and county law enforcement partners address this serious problem by not drinking and driving, reducing your speed, always wearing a properly adjusted seatbelt, and removing distractions when driving. Lives depend on it, and that life could be yours!

Lieutenant Roger Hayden
District 10 Acting Commander

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Prospectus Advice

Q: Concerned student asks: "How do I get to know my student government better?"

A: Parkland Student Government is always looking to meet and talk with students. They conduct many surveys and hold office hours in which anyone can walk in to bring up any issues or other matters. Their office is X-159 and you can also send them an E-mail at stugo@parkland.edu. They hold meetings every Thursday at 2pm in X-150 to discuss issues and find ways to make Parkland a better place for students.

Prospectus advice is a weekly advice column. If you have a questions you would like to ask, please E-mail prospectusadvice@gmail.com

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The Office of Disability Services: A Solution for those in need

Jake GODIN
Staff Writer

There are over 600 students at Parkland who have learning disabilities in some form or another. Fortunately, Parkland College offers academic accommodations for those who believe they have a disability from the Office of Disability Services. With the newly appointed director, Cathy Robinson at the helm and Nancy Rowley as assistant director, Parkland's ODS attempts to make student life for those with disabilities as easy as possible. After looking at the ODS website, one can find some information regarding their mission and five main goals.

The first of ODS's goals is to "help students determine, access, and use" academic accommodations." When asked about how they go about doing this, Rowley recalled a favorite rule of thumb that she follows, "You can have three students, three sets of documentation that may say the same thing, and those three students will need three of that things." She went on to say that this was because each student learns in a different way. The role that ODS plays in this is that they provide the proper assistance that a student with a disability might need in order to be on a



When it comes to disability services, Parkland has got it covered. Cathy Robinson, Director of the Office of Disability Services, brings a positive and enlightening attitude to the table and works hard to make student life for those with disabilities as easy as possible.

Photo by Levi Norman/Prospectus

level playing field.

Second on the list of goals is "to equip students having disabilities with the technical resources that help them reach their educational goals." Rowley was pleased to list off software such as Read & Write Gold and Zoom Text that assist students in learning with more ease. Read & Write Gold is a newer program that actually reads to the student as they type on a computer. One could also use it to scan documents, such as a textbook, and put it into a typed format that can then be read to the student. Rowley often uses it to convert textbook pages or notes into MP3 files that she can then share with her students to further aid them. ZoomText is a program that helps those with problems seeing smaller type fonts on the computer, enlarging text making it easier to read. Along with Read & Write Gold, there is another program that ODS has to offer: WindowEyes, a program designed to help students that are blind. With it, one can execute commands that would normally require a mouse to do with simple keystrokes. There is also a voice that assists the student along the way. Boasting around 10,000 different keystrokes, it's hard to imagine a student having trouble doing anything on a

computer, as long as they could master the main keystrokes.

The third goal that ODS upkeeps is "fostering an environment that encourages personal and academic growth and facilitates independence." For this, Robinson explained that students come from all walks of life and that the ODS attempts to boost the confidence of those who need it and let them know that they can have a safe haven in the office. With a computer lab supporting five computers and staff on hand, there's plenty of help in the office at all times of the day. For the days that the lab sits idle, Robinson likes to believe that those are the days that the ODS built some confidence in the students and they were able to utilize the bigger labs or classrooms.

The fourth and fifth goals of the ODS deal with helping students understand their abilities/resources and to educate other students, faculty, staff, and the community about disability concerns, respectively. For the fourth goal, Robinson explained that they're here to tell the students, "Yes you can" and to inform them of everything they can use. Concerning the fifth and final goal, both Robinson and Rowley explained that the ODS is very active in informing the public

of their presence. They attend expos regularly and have open houses on the campus in order to let people know what their options are. They also go to high schools occasionally to talk to prospective families about their services.

Going through the goals, one can get a general idea for everything that the ODS does. And don't think that just because you don't have a permanent disability that you're not qualified to receive help from the ODS either. Handicaps such as a broken arm are considered temporary impairments that utilize the ODS as more of a service rather than an accommodation. You can still receive assistance with writing if you have a broken bone though, so feel free to stop by.

When it comes to disability services, Parkland has got it covered. They have had the service for a long time, even before it was mandated by law to be present in every college. If you have a disability, don't ever think for a moment that you are alone in this college and have to struggle to keep up in your classes. The people of ODS will be more than happy to help, not because it's their job but because they genuinely want to help.

THANKSGIVING

continued from page 1

made them unseemly in the sight of God.

Two other practices contributing to the instigation of the holiday were Civil Proclamations, in which governmental variances were read aloud in church each Sunday, and Religious Proclamations, in which days of fasting, prayer and thanksgiving were declared as the result of some traumatic event such as war, floods, droughts etc.

An example appears when, in 1777, the Continental Congress declared December 18 as a day of solemn Thanksgiving and praise for the "signal success." Later, during his presidency, George Washington declared two special days of thanksgiving, and Adams and Madison each declared their own, none of which became annual events.

During his presidency, Lincoln declared a day of Thanksgiving set for the last Thursday of November, 1863. Many New England communities already had their own day

for Thanksgiving and feasting, which were eagerly anticipated and joyfully celebrated, but not all states felt the same. Southern states particularly wouldn't celebrate, calling it a "damned Yankee institution" and Catholics refused to participate, because it was a Protestant holiday, maintains Appelbaum.

It isn't exactly clear why Thursday became the popular day for Thanksgiving celebrations and, in fact, the first Connecticut Thanksgiving was declared for the last Wednesday of October, writes Santino, who cites the 1949 work of Ralph Linton. Reasons may include that Catholics had already set Friday aside for fasting, prayer and thanksgiving and many Protestant colonists didn't want to do anything that hinted at Catholicism. Saturday and Monday were spent with Sabbath preparations and aftermath with too much work to be done.

But Thursday seems to have become the traditional day for most of the community

celebrations. After Lincoln's 1863 proclamation, Johnson did the same and it became an annual tradition in itself. But it wasn't until Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1939 "Franksgiving Day" fiasco, that it became legal. That was the year when he tried to increase the number of shopping days between Thanksgiving and Christmas, by changing the date from the fourth Thursday to the third Thursday, resulting in a nightmare for many communities who couldn't decide whether to change with the president, or stick to the traditional holiday. After two years of confusion and bickering, Roosevelt grudgingly signed into law the fourth Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day.

One thing that didn't need a proclamation or law was the dinner menu. While it is possible that the Puritan's Thanksgiving had turkey, (and 90% of Americans eat it on this day, according to the National Turkey Federation and History.com) and cranberries as well as pumpkins, it is more

likely they had deer, bear, goose, duck, apples boiled into a sauce, and maize, or corn, which was made into Indian pudding. Flour and sugar had run out before the colonists had left the ship the year before and so pumpkin pie was probably not present at that dinner. However, according to Appelbaum, pumpkins, or pompions as they were first called, were a staple in their diet and were probably eaten at almost every meal in some form, much like potatoes and rice are eaten today.

Early on, dinners included several varieties of pies, including a chicken pie, which was the main feature instead of turkey, and preparations were often started as much as 10 days prior to the holiday. The mincemeat pie especially needed that amount of time to ripen properly and each cranberry for the sauce had to be sliced and its seeds removed.

Cooking expert and author of the time, Fannie Farmer, offered what has now become the traditional Thanksgiv-

ing menu, in 1914, with turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie. The "traditional" meal seems to vary upon region and ethnicity. Many families, especially southern African Americans, traditionally fix chitlins, greens, black-eyed peas and baked macaroni and cheese for their feasts.

Other Thanksgiving Day traditions that we enjoy today include parades, which began in New York City in the mid 1840's, when male members of trade unions, known as "Fantastics," dressed up in costumes and paraded through the streets, waking the city at daybreak by blowing on fish horns.

In 1921, Philadelphia department store owner, Frank Gimbel, sponsored the first official Thanksgiving Day parade. Macy's Department Store followed in 1924 and three years later introduced the large, helium filled balloons for the first time. At the conclusion of that 1927 parade, according to the Macy's website, the bal-

loons were released into the air, only to burst before clearing the skyline and fall onto the crowds below. The balloons were redesigned with a safety valve for the following year.


While parades have had small changes, Thanksgiving has come a long way from the early colonists and their lack of celebrations. Football and shopping have become the newest traditions, with families gathered around the TV instead of the table. Stores now stay open on the holiday, this year Sears is joining the likes of Wal-Mart and Meijer, increasing the amount of Christmas shopping time.

The original holiday's focus wasn't on food, and, in the odd way that history has of repeating itself. The event seems to have come full circle, retaining the same center as the original Harvest Home celebrations with many families looking forward to gathering together, enjoying each other's company, and giving thanks for just about anything and everything one might think of.

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Athletes use fame for those who will never be famous

Linda ROBERTSON
MCT

Udonis Haslem began giving back to his hometown in small ways, first by donating Thanksgiving turkeys to his mother's church, then by providing financial and emotional support to the two children of a friend who died.

Today, eight years into his career as a Miami Heat basketball player, Haslem oversees his own charitable foundation and recently hosted his sixth annual gala to raise money for South Florida children.

"All athletes remember somebody who helped them along the way," Haslem said. "My philosophy is, every kid deserves a chance. I want to make a difference in their lives."

Haslem's commitment is part of a growing trend among athletes who have embraced the opportunity to use their fame on behalf of those who will never be famous. The increased emphasis on sports philanthropy isn't just the right thing to do, but the smart thing, say experts who advise athletes and teams on the altruistic and financial benefits of charity, such as bonding with fans, generating positive publicity, raising their brand profile and earning tax breaks.

"A foundation is a status symbol for an athlete these days," said Marc Pollick, founder of the Giving Back Fund for celebrity philanthropists. "A team that is really giving is more beloved and supported by the community."

Pollick cited the examples of Andre Agassi and Lance Armstrong, who have converted their competitive energy into raising money for their favorite causes - education for Agassi, cancer research for Armstrong.

"There's been a proliferation in the number of pro leagues, teams and athletes who make service a priority," said Ivan Blumberg, a former sports agent who is CEO of Athletes For Hope.

LeBron James and Chris Bosh, who joined Dwyane Wade to create the most dazzling threesome in the NBA, plan to bring more than a title to South Florida. Both say they intend to put down roots,



Miami Heat basketball player, Udonis Haslem (40), oversees his own charitable foundation and recently hosted his sixth annual gala to raise money for South Florida children.

(Curtis Compton/Atlanta Journal-Constitution/MCT)

get involved and share their wealth and influence.

James has been a longtime supporter of the Boys and Girls Clubs, especially in his hometown of Akron, Ohio. In fact, he said the main reason he went on TV for his much-maligned Decision, during which he announced he was leaving Cleveland for Miami, was to raise \$3 million for the organization.

"I could have done it with better execution, maybe, but it was for a great cause," said James.

"I grew up in the inner city and I know how bad it was for me, so it is important for me to be an inspiration to others."

Bosh would like to lend a hand to children's charities, which is the choice of 90 percent of his athlete clients, Pol-

lick said.

The Heat hopes to capitalize on the excitement surrounding the team to sign up more donors and corporate partners for the foundations it supports. Since 1997, the Heat has given \$13 million to South Florida organizations, including Safe Space, Jackson Memorial Hospital, the Miami Coalition for a Safe and Drug Free Community and Project Medishare, according to Steve Stowe, executive director of the Heat Charitable Fund. Pat Riley recently created Home-Strong, an appreciation fund for returning soldiers.

Marlins catcher John Baker, the team's nominee for Major League Baseball's Roberto Clemente Award, said devotion to community service was instilled in him by his parents,

who required their children to work at a homeless shelter every Christmas, "so we could see how many people never get Christmas presents or Christmas dinner," Baker said.

During the past year, Baker visited soldiers in Iraq and Kuwait and homeless people in Haiti. Those experiences inspired him to give support to the Stand Down House for veterans and Home for Haiti.

Athletes can be most useful if they join forces with established organizations rather than attempt to create their own foundations, Baker said. "People have a misconception that all athletes are in the Derek Jeter category, able to afford \$20 million condos," Baker said.

Nor do athletes have the management skills or legal knowledge to operate a foundation efficiently, said Pollick and Blumberg, who have seen plenty of foundations waste hard-earned money or get shut down by the IRS.

"In all other aspects of their lives, athletes are hiring top professionals, but for the foundation they give jobs to their friends from the 'hood or their mom or their French poodle," Pollick said. "If a foundation isn't run properly, it damages your brand."

Fundraising events, including the ever-popular golf tournament, are usually money pits, Pollick said, "fundraisers without the 'd' because the athlete brings in friends and puts

them up first class."

The Giving Back Fund has started about 100 foundations for celebrities, managing the grant-making and tax compliance responsibilities so that "95 percent goes to charity and five cents goes to overhead instead of the other way around," Pollick said.

New client Jonathan Vilma, a New Orleans linebacker, wants to build schools in Haiti. But running a successful foundation isn't a slam dunk. Even Michael Jordan's foundation imploded in the mid 1990s. Pollick said less than 10 athlete foundations can count \$1 million in the bank.

Athletes for Hope, founded in 2006 by Agassi, Armstrong and Mia Hamm, and now affiliated with 1,000 athletes in 20 leagues, matches athletes with causes and conducts workshops on community service.

In 96 percent of celebrity foundations, the celebrity does not contribute any money, Pollick estimates - in part because they're used to getting everything for free, whether it's from restaurant owners or shoe companies.

"We've been trying to change the culture of celebrity philanthropy to make it more authentic," he said. "We require our clients to make a meaningful gift so they can look the public in the eye when they ask for checks."

Athletes can also be leaders in the diversification of philanthropy.

"The average philanthropist is a 65-year-old white male," Pollick said. "What he gives to is very different from a 25-year-old black male. Plus the young man has 50 more years to be a donor."

A personal connection is crucial, otherwise athletes are performing service as a means of image enhancement, James said.



"It's only cool if you're passionate about it," James said. "Every athlete should not be pressured to do it. I don't do it for the newspaper. I do it for the smiles of the kids who know they have a future."

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Easy Eats: Thanksgiving recipes to bring to the table

Janelle O'DEA
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving gathers family members, friends, and colleagues around the table to truly share and enjoy a meal, as well as give thanks for the important things (but, mostly the people) in our lives. Even though you're busy keeping up with classes, you can still fix up one of these fairly cheap and easy recipes to contribute, and, even more fun, recipes can be a conversation starter.

Eggnog

From: www.instructables.com

This recipe is best when made and served immediately. So impress your dinner companions even more and make it for them later in the evening after dinner.

Eggnog made in stores has been said to ruin its reputation, because it's not fresh and the real flavors are often masked by sugary additives and flavorings. This 'nog is made with fresh eggs and spices, which bring out the real eggnog flavor.

6 eggs at room temperature, separated

¾ cup sugar

6 tbsp sugar

½ teaspoon vanilla

Fresh ground nutmeg (use whole nutmeg, not pre-ground; it will give the 'nog its true flavor)

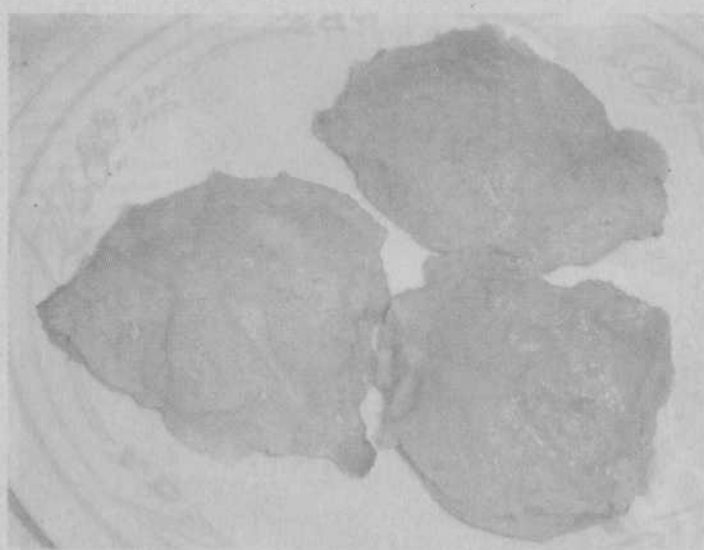
3 cups whipping cream, chilled

2 cups whole milk

Optional: 1-cup brandy/rum OR 1 and 1/3 cup bourbon

To make a single serving, simply divide everything by six.

Place egg yolks in large mixing bowl. Place the whites in another bowl, to be used with your hand/standing mixer. Be sure the bowl with the egg whites has no oil residue on it — any substance can interfere with the whipping of the egg whites. Mix yolks vigorously with a wire whisk. Whisk in ¾ cup sugar and ½ teaspoon vanilla, whisking steadily. Add a little ground nutmeg (start small, nutmeg can be powerful) then add 3 cups cream, 2 cups milk, and any alcohol (if you're using it) whisking steadily with each addition. Everything should be well incorporated. Beat the egg whites until they form soft peaks. Add the 6 tablespoons of sugar, one tablespoon at a time, until the mixture reaches stiff peaks but still looks moist. Gently fold egg whites into yolk mixture with a rubber spatula. Be careful not to stir or whisk them in, all of the air you just worked so hard to get in them will be lost. Refrigerate if you must wait; but the mixture will separate, so be sure to give it a quick fold before you serve it. Ladle into some fancy glasses and top with nutmeg for the ultimate homemade holiday treat.



Pumpkin cookies with brown sugar frosting

The recipe for these cookies was submitted by Parkland student Chelsea Garrett.

2 cups sifted flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp cinnamon
½ tsp salt
1 cup sugar
1 cup shortening (or substitute butter)

1 small can pumpkin
1 egg
1 tsp vanilla

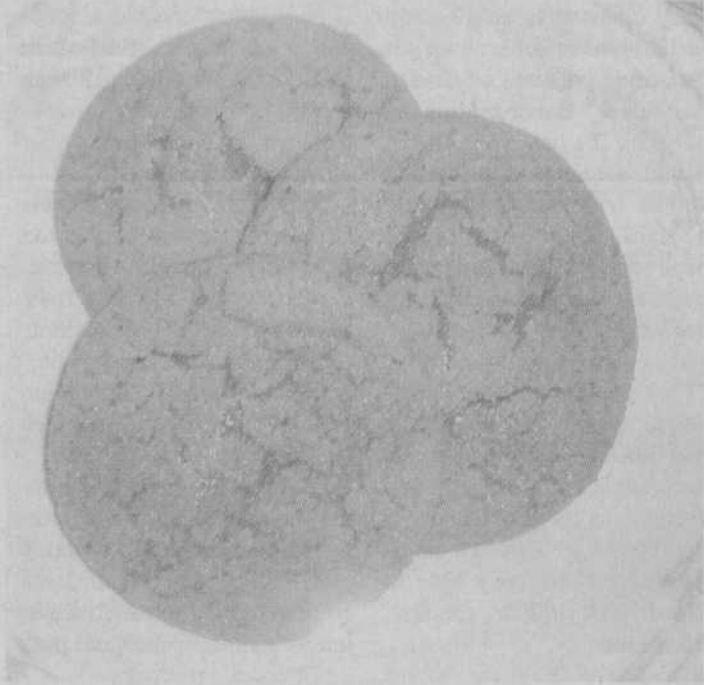
Mix dry ingredients. Cream sugar and shortening. Add egg and pumpkin. Blend in flour mixture and vanilla. Drop from teaspoon onto greased cookie sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes in a 350° oven. Cool thoroughly and frost.

For the brown sugar frosting:

½ cup brown sugar
3 tbsp butter
4 tbsp milk
1 cup powdered sugar
¾ tsp vanilla

Boil brown sugar, butter, and milk for two minutes. Pour in powdered sugar and vanilla. Stir to spreading consistency.

*Tip from Chelsea: when making the icing, after adding the powdered sugar, use a whisk or beater from your mixer. It helps break up the sugar lumps a little faster. Also, to make swirly/splatter designs on the cookies with the icing, drip it over the cooled cookies while the icing is still hot and in liquid form.



Molasses cookies

Submitted by Chelsea Garrett

1-cup sugar
¾ cup softened margarine/butter
1 egg
4 generous tbsp molasses
2 cups flour
2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp ground cloves
1 tsp ground ginger
½ tsp salt

Cream together sugar, butter, eggs and molasses. Add gradually the dry ingredients. Mix until creamy. Chill for a while in the freezer. Roll dough into balls using about 1 tbsp of dough for each cookie. Each ball should be about ½ inch in diameter. Roll each ball in a bowl of sugar. Bake for 8 minutes on a greased cookie sheet at 325°.

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Cheddar Garlic Biscuits

From: www.instructables.com

For garlic spread:

1 stick butter
1 ¼ teaspoon garlic salt
¼ teaspoon parsley

Dough:

4 ½ cups Bisquick
4 oz shredded sharp cheddar cheese
11 oz water (1 cup [8 oz] + 2

shot glasses is the easiest way to do this part)

Place butter in small saucepan on medium-low heat until it melts. Add garlic salt, parsley, and set aside. Mix Bisquick, water, and cheese together in separate bowl. Drop a generous tablespoon of dough onto the cookie sheet for each biscuit, and do not roll into perfect balls. They must be misshapen for the garlic coating. Bake for 10-12 minutes in a 375° oven. Place biscuits on wax paper and cover in garlic butter.

Turkey with green beans stir-fry (for leftovers)

From: www.seriousseats.com

1-pound turkey leftovers
2 tsp curry powder (more or less, depending on preference)
1 cup mashed potatoes
2 tbsp canola oil
4 medium-size cloves garlic, cut into slivers
3 lengthwise slices fresh ginger, cut into matchstick strips about 1½ inches long and 1 inch wide
1½ tsp coarse kosher or sea salt
1-cup fresh or frozen green beans
2 tsp finely chopped cilantro

Toss turkey with curry powder in a medium-sized bowl. Pat mashed potatoes to get some moisture off with a paper towel. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Always use caution with hot oil. Add garlic, ginger, and potatoes, stir-frying until the vegetables have a golden-brown edge to them (about 5-8 minutes) add the turkey and continue stir-frying for about another two minutes. Pour in ¾-1 cup water, sprinkle salt, and scrape bottom of skillet to deglaze it. Stir in green beans and heat the mixture to a boil. Reduce to medium heat, cover, and simmer. Stir occasionally, until the potatoes are fork tender, or about 15-20 minutes. To thicken your sauce, add a mixture of cornstarch and water. Sprinkle cilantro over curry and serve.

Sweet potato casserole

From: www.ichef.com

2 16-oz. cans sweet potatoes
¼ cup butter
¾ cup sugar
½ tsp salt
2 eggs
½ cup milk
1 tsp vanilla

Topping:

1-cup brown sugar
¼ cup butter
2 tsp cinnamon
¼ cup flour

Drain sweet potatoes and mash. Add other ingredients and mix well. Pour into ungreased 9" square baking pan. Mix all topping ingredients till crumbly. Spread on yams then bake at 350° for 40 minutes.



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