



Prospectus News

A student produced publication since 1969

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Vol. 01 No. 17

Calling all broke Casanovas

Valentine package ideas for our pressing times

By **CASSANDRA CUNNINGHAM**
 Staff Writer

Valentine's Day is quickly approaching and there is a lot of talk about what to get who, what to do, and how to do it. So in light of all of this discussion, the Prospectus has decided to help out those of you in need by putting together several date package ideas that can undoubtedly make this Valentine's Day your best one yet!

City Dwellers
 This date package is for the big spenders. If your significant other at least stand it (and one day) there's no easier thing to do than a trip to downtown Chicago! Two roundtrip train tickets from Champaign to Chicago in the same day are \$140.00. Departing at 6:10 a.m. the train arrives in the city roughly around 9 p.m. After getting off the train, head to Sheds Aquarium or the Children's Museum. Admission tickets are around \$11.00 each. Spend a couple of hours seeing places and things you may have never seen, or haven't seen since childhood. Grab a bite to eat in a diner or a food court and hit the Magnificent Mile for some shopping, even if it's just window shopping! Then, take your significant other out to a delicious dinner. The best places for this include but are not limited to: The Melting Pot, Grand Lux



Photo Illustration by Anthony Burkert/Prospectus

Café, Rainforest Café, or Giordano's Pizza. Before your train departs at 8 p.m. take them for a stroll down the beautifully lit streets and as the sun sets, let them know what they really mean to you.

Total estimated cost: \$350.00

Romantics

For those of you wise and brave enough, there is always

the romantic approach. Head to the store and get a pack of rose petals, decide on a dinner plan (pasta usually says romance), balloons, sparkling grape juice, candles, and a present for your date. Head home and whip up dinner. Set the table nicely and place rose petals leading from the door to the table, with lit candles everywhere possible. Put his or her present and the

balloons near their chair, and just before they arrive, set dinner on the table. When they knock at the door, yell for them to close their eyes and come in. Give them a surprise kiss and tell them to open their eyes. Have them follow the rose petals to the table, and start your romantic night.

Total estimated cost: \$40.00
 Local Cats

If you don't have the money for a day in the city, and don't have the time or the cooking skills to put into a romantic dinner, do something locally. Run to the store and grab your squeeze one of those ridiculous jumbo-sized cards, a stuffed animal, and a box and/or bag of their favorite candy. Call them and tell them to throw something decent on, pick them

up, give them their present, and continue on to a nice dinner like The Great Impasta, Guido's, or Radio Maria. After that, head back to your place and have a big bucket of popcorn and a stack of your significant other's favorite movies waiting. Side note: Go to the public library to rent your movies. Get a good idea of lists by checking out IMDB.com's top 100 romance movies of all time. It's a good way to make sure that this Valentine's Day is all about them.

Total estimated Cost: \$70.00
Just Friends

If you're not yet to the stage of being "official" or you just don't have a Valentine this year, don't sweat the small stuff! There are plenty of things to do with that special friend, your group of girlfriends, or "the guys". First, work up an appetite and take your friend or group of friends to grab some Chinese or Mexican food at Panda Express or Dos Reales; if you're really hungry go to Crazy Buffet with the whole gang and close the house down. Then, get ready for the fright of your life. The new Friday the 13th comes out on Valentine's Day weekend. Go get your scare on and then head back to someone's house for a night of card games and some board games (Imaginiff, Cranium, and Curses are great party games).

Total estimated Cost: \$25.00

Jabali Afrika makes grand return

By **NADA YOUSSEF**
 Staff Writer

February is an important time for many people. For many of Parkland's core students and staff it is a time to celebrate Black History Month—a month of commemoration, pride and history. Traditionally, Parkland has scheduled many events throughout February, focusing on areas such as health, biographies, business, and entertainment.

One of the most popular events that began last year featured a group called Jabali Afrika. The group is comprised of three musicians who form an ensemble, playing cultural music from their home country of Kenya. The style of music they play is that of traditional Afrocentrism.

Jabali Afrika is an attention-grabbing trio that travels all around the United States as well as overseas. To find out more about the Jabali Afrika, go to www.jabali-afrika.com.

This Kenyan band is a very versatile group. It is made up of two percussionists and their lead singer who also plays the keyboard.

"They play traditional melodies and fusions, creating an original rhythm of music. It sounds contemporary; it has that contemporary sound to it, with its unique beats and rhythms. It is very entertaining!" said John Eby, activities program manager in the office of student life.

Jabali does much more than just play music—they dance, utilizing their Kenyan traditional roots, and are known for

involving in the audience members in their performances.

"They perform a dance that is semi-choreographed. And then they bring people out from the audience and teach them how to dance," Eby said.

What does this have to do with Black History Month you ask? To begin with, they provide a great amount of entertainment that is African in origin. This yearly event also brings all types of people together.

"They create a fantastic sense of community," Eby said.

Last year, a wide variety of people showed up for this experience. The audience was made up of Parkland staff and faculty, students, Champaign-Urbana community members, and the children from the Parkland Child Development Center. It was a multi-ethnic as well as a multi-national audience.

"This was a really powerful event that celebrated diversity. It really brought people together in a community atmosphere, as music and entertainment usually does. This is a cool event. I'm really anxious to have people there this year. I want a great turn out," said Eby.

So, don't be afraid! Come out to Jabali Afrika Friday, February 6 from 12-1 p.m. in the Flag Lounge.

Jabali Afrika isn't the only exciting event that you can come out to this February. On February 11, "Black History Live!" a lively, interactive history competition is being held in the Flag Lounge from 12-1 p.m. Prizes and refreshments are included in this fun occasion. Fun times isn't all Parkland

has to offer. There are also educational and interesting events that you just can't miss. "Until the Violence Stops" is a lecture that will be held in the Parkland Theatre on February 13. This lecture is sponsored by the American Association of Women in Community Colleges, Parkland Chapter.

Another important educational experience that you should mark on your calendar is the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The Black History Month Committee with Sister to Sister, Brother to Brother, the Black Student Association, and TRIO/Student Support Services are helping to present this event on February 7. This event will help raise awareness on the importance of HIV/AIDS in the African American community. It will also help promote HIV testing and encourage treatment. For more information on the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, go to www.blackaidstoday.org. Come out and get educated!

Something that you absolutely can't miss is the Soul Food Luncheon. Come out and sample all kinds of famous dishes. Tickets are \$6 for faculty/staff and \$4 for students. The food will be served from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the South Lounge on February 25.

To get more information on the other Black History month events that will be going on this February, go to <http://www.parkland.edu/events.html/blackhistorymonth>. Make sure you don't miss out!

Speech professor explores MLK's lesser known oratory

By **PATRICK WOOD**
 Staff Writer

Martin Luther King Jr. Day has come and passed this year, again reminding us of the man that spent his entire life blazing a path for civil rights. The next day, the first African American president was sworn in to the White House. After Barack Obama's inauguration speech, many people recalled another famous speech: MLK's "I Have a Dream" speech, given on August 28, 1963 from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. What many people don't realize is that although this is one of King's most memorable speeches, it isn't the only significant speech he gave.

At Parkland College, Kent Redmon of the fine and applied arts department is involved with Martin Luther King Jr. in a way that most wouldn't expect. When Redmon isn't teaching any one of his six speech classes, you may find him reciting MLK speeches in his office. This isn't out of the ordinary—Kent Redmon has been reenacting MLK speeches for over twenty years.

"I was a member of the Parkland speech team back in 1978 and there was an event called Oratorical Declamation in which you would take a speech and try to mimic what the speaker was trying to do. At that time, when I was memorizing the "I Have a Dream" speech, it didn't really hit me what the speech was all about. I was just doing it for a contest. But after a while, it really began to sink in and as I did more and more, I became somewhat good at it, and some-

one heard me and wanted me to do it out in the public, and after I did that, it just took off," Redmon said.

The "I Have a Dream" speech is obviously the most well known to the public, however there are several more speeches that are just as important.

"In terms of discourse, discourse meaning speech, he (King) has some discourse that is typically overlooked, namely the speech that he gave to kick off the bus boycott, which is a milestone type of speech. It's very seldom heard, and the speech is called 'Serious Business' where he gets together with fellow African Americans at a packed church, and these people are absolutely tired of paying their money and not getting treated the same way as their white counterparts," Redmon said.

"He would say something like, 'We are here this evening for serious business. On so many occasions Negroes have been intimidated and humiliated and oppressed because of the sheer fact that they were Negroes. Why just the other day, just last Thursday to be exact, one of the finest citizens in Montgomery, not one of the finest Negro citizens in Montgomery, sister Rosa Parks was taken from a bus and cast into jail and arrested because she refused to get up to give her seat to a white person. We have got to work together, right here in Montgomery so that when the history books are written in the future, somebody will have to say there lived a race of people, a black race of people, peo-

ple who have the moral courage to stand up for their rights, and thereby they have injected a new meaning into the veins of history and civilization, and we're going to that, God grant us we do it before it's too late' so that initial speech for example is left almost totally out of the lexicon of King's presentations," said Redmon.

"Another milestone speech of his would have been a speech called the "Drum Major Instinct". This speech is unique because it involved him preaching his own funeral, and that was a unique piece of rhetoric, and that was the one that was played at his funeral. So instead of having a eulogist, they had a person just play the tape recorder and just listen to him preach his own funeral. It went something like, 'If any of you are around when I have to meet my day, I do not want a long funeral, and if you get someone to deliver the eulogy, tell them not to talk too long. I want someone to talk to long. I want Martin Luther King Jr. gave his life serving others,'" said Redmon.

"If I had to place another one of his top five speeches, it would be his 'Mountaintop' speech, and that was the one he gave down in Memphis when he went to help the sanitation workers. That's one that ranks right up there with his 'Dream' speech, and that was the speech that said 'We've got some difficult days ahead. Some are beginning to talk about the threats that are out, what would happen to me from some of our white brothers. Well it really doesn't matter to

Prospectus

The Prospectus is a student publication, and is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, intermittently in summer. To contact the Parkland Prospectus: Phone: 217-373-3876, fax: 217-373-3835, e-mail: prospectus@parkland.edu, U.S. mail: Parkland College, Room X-155, 2400 W. Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL 61821. URL: <http://www.prospectus-news.com>

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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 will 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.

Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

LEAD STORY

They're either earnestly civic-minded or people with issues, but in several dozen cities across the country, men (and a few women) dress in homemade superhero costumes and patrol marginal neighborhoods, aiming to deter crime. Phoenix's Green Scorpion and New York City's Terrifica and Orlando's Master Legend and Indianapolis' Mr. Silent are just a few of the 200 gunless, knifeless vigilantes listed on the World Superhero Registry, most presumably with day jobs but who fancy cleaning up the mean streets at night. According to two recent reports (in Rolling Stone and The Times of London), unanticipated gripes by the "Reals," as they call themselves, are boredom from lack of crime and (especially in the summer) itchy spandex outfits.

Leading Economic Indicators

—People With Too Much Money: (1) The owner of a local ski shop told the Vail (Colo.) Daily in November that he was confident he could sell his parking space in a town garage for his asking price of \$500,000. After all, he said, it was on the top floor and next to an exit. (2) The upscale residents of Gate Mills, Ohio, near Cleveland, are so grateful to their town's 61 government employees that they volunteered \$50,000 in holiday tips in December.

—Among the best-selling and most controversial toys of this past holiday season were the \$39.95 Mattel "Gotta Go" Doll and the \$59.95 Hasbro Baby Alive, both because of their interactive features, especially their digestion/excretion functions. The latter doll comes with its own food ("green beans," "bananas")

and a warning ("May stain some surfaces"). The Gotta Go includes a toilet and brings the flushing process to life for the child. An industry insider told the Washington Post that next season's toys would be even more realistic.

—The Economy in Crisis: (1) The Platinum Lounge, a lap-dancing club in Chester, England, announced in November that it would begin selling advertising, in 4-by-6-inch body-paint squares, on dancers' derrieres. Said the club's agent, "I had to do a lot of research ... to come up with the optimum size for the (ads)!" (2) In the midst of widespread unemployment in Sweden, the Haxriker i Norden company announced in November it would hire 20 professional witches well-versed in tarots, crystals, herbs, exorcism, and "contact with the other side," in the expectation that desperate consumers increasingly would require counseling.

—Although to many outsiders, the concept of "clothing" on Muslim women suggests full-body veils, many married women in Syria are decidedly more playful, feeding a market for daring and quixotic underwear (to be worn in private, of course, and only for one's husband). Musical panties (some that glow in the dark), bras with "hands" covering the cups, and underwear designed to collapse and fall to the floor at the sound of hands clapping are just three of the popular items at boutique shops, according to a December BBC News dispatch from Damascus.

Cutting-Edge Science

—Ewww, Gross! Two brain surgeons in the western U.S. admitted that recent operations had shaken them up, though both said the patients

have since been doing nicely. Dr. Peter Nakaji, expecting to find a dreaded tumor in the brain of a woman in Phoenix, was heard on video of the surgery chuckling when he realized the problem was merely a worm on the brain stem (probably acquired from poor sanitation). And in December, a 3-day-old infant was doing well in Colorado Springs following the discovery and removal of a tiny, almost-perfectly-formed foot from his brain by Dr. Paul Grabb.

—More than 1,000 new animal species were discovered in the last decade in the area surrounding the Mekong River that runs through Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, including striped rabbits and a spider bigger than a dinner plate. Also found was a pink millipede that secretes cyanide, according to a December World Wildlife Fund report.

Fine Points of the Law

In November, a jury acquitted Ms. Johnnie Miles, 42, of \$7,500 worth of fraudulent credit-card transactions against a store in Vero Beach, Fla., and Miles assumed she had thus earned her freedom. However, Judge Dan Vaughn apparently considered Miles a disreputable rip-off artist (even though technically not guilty of "fraud") and used her schemings to convict her of violating probation on an earlier case. Florida law permits such collateral use of a defendant's behavior, and Vaughn sentenced Miles to five years on each of 11 probation violations, to be served consecutively.

Recurring Themes

On successive days in January

in two towns in Britain, loners in their 70s were reported dead from dehydration in their homes after becoming trapped in monstrous labyrinths of, in one case, hoarded garbage, and in the other, boarded but unopened merchandise. Gordon Stewart, 74, was found dead in a tunnel system he had arranged from several tons of refuse in his house in Broughton, Buckinghamshire, and compulsive shopper Joan Cunnane, 77, was buried under so much merchandise and rubbish that it took rescuers in Heaton Mersey two days to locate her body.

Least Competent Criminals

—Failed to Keep a Low Profile: If a motorist is carrying \$18,000 worth of marijuana, he might try to avoid attracting attention (and not go the wrong way on a one-way street, as Samuel Randall, 27, did in Chicago in January). Or if carrying a duffel bag full of marijuana, not driving around in a car that lacked license plates, like the four women arrested in San Antonio in November. Or if there are 78 marijuana plants in the back seat, making sure that her car had a valid state inspection sticker, unlike Tracy Pioggia, in Hampden, Mass., in October.

—Wrong Place, Wrong Time: Torvald Alexander, 39, was able to chase away the unlucky home invader who hit his apartment on Dec. 31 in Edinburgh, Scotland, according to a BBC News report. The two men inadvertently came face to face just as Alexander was preparing to leave for a New Year's party, dressed in full regalia as Thor, the hammer-wielding Norse god of thunder. Alexander said the burglar took one look at him, turned and climbed hurriedly out a window, sliding

down a sloped roof and landing on the ground, where he took off running.

Undignified Deaths

A 77-year-old man was crushed to death in October while visiting his parents' gravesite at the St. Gregoire Cemetery in Buckingham, Quebec, when a tombstone fell on him. And in November, a 67-year-old woman was killed in southern Brazil on her way to the cemetery following her husband's funeral. She was a front-seat passenger in the hearse when another vehicle collided with it, slamming her husband's coffin forward and crushing the woman's skull.

A News of the Weird Classic (July 1999)

Walt and Kathy Viggiano of Wichita, Kan., convinced Judge James Burgess to return their four children from foster care in 1999, following their removal the year before because of the unsanitariness of the family's mobile home. Unlike in many such cases, Judge Burgess realized that the Viggianos had not abused the kids, nor did they have alcohol or drug problems. Also, according to police who made the initial investigation, Walt and the kids seemed to speak warmly and lovingly with each other, even though their intra-family banter in the presence of the investigators appeared to be entirely in Klingon (from "Star Trek").

Read News of the Weird daily at www.weirduniverse.net. Send items to weirdnews@earthlink.net.

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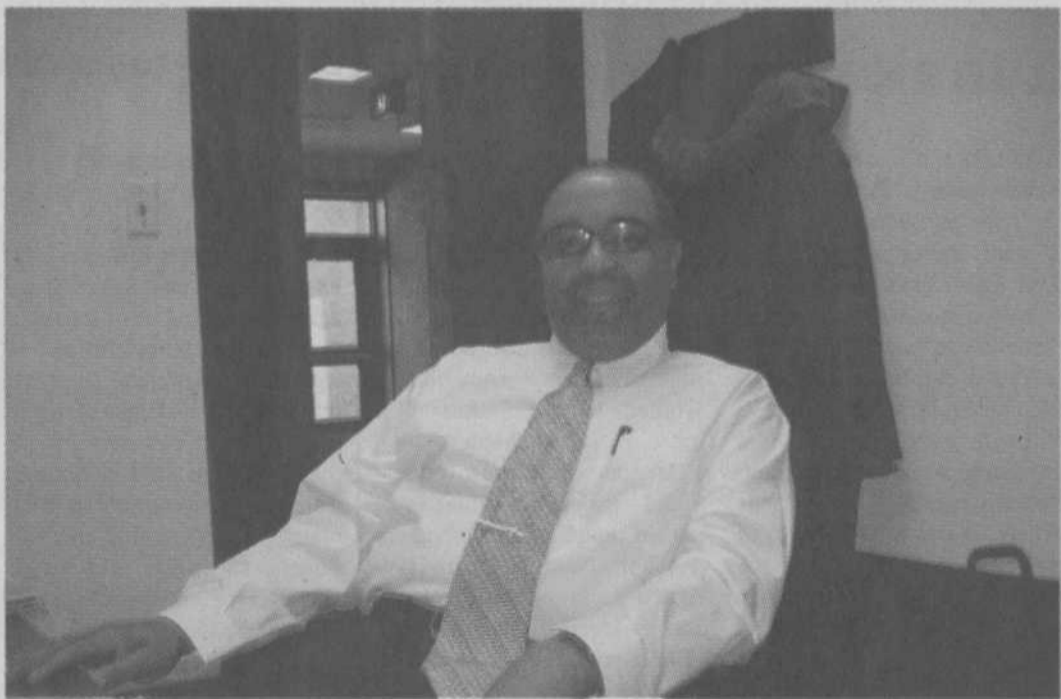
MLK

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me now. I figure I've been to the mountaintop and I don't mind, and like anyone I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place, but I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will and he's allowed me to go up to the mountain and I have looked over, and I have seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the Promise Land' and unfortunately the very next day he was shot and killed, so it actually turned out to be very, very prophetic," he said.

Redmon says that these are some of the speeches that are often overlooked, but that there are also many others. He also maintains that there was no speech that was any more or less important than any other speech.

"Remember that each speech has its own purpose, so his 'Dream' speech was his vision. A good leader has to be a visionary leader. In other words they have to look past trouble now and see the future.



Patrick Wood/Prospectus

He was trying to tell people in the speech that he knew things were bad now, but we need to keep persisting, and we will see a day where all of this is going to go by the wayside, and he was quite right. If you look at the fact that we have gone from King's assignment to Barack Obama's inaugu-

ration, that's amazing. Each speech was equally important. I personally think we draw too much attention to the 'Dream' speech. There's so much more to him than just that."

Kent Redmon reenacts these speeches every year and has over ten full length speeches memorized, including the "I Have a Dream" speech. He says that he has given that one

speech many times. "Oh gosh, I've given that speech easily, easily over two or three hundred times," he said.

"We've got some difficult days ahead. Some are beginning to talk to about the threats that are out, what would happen to me from some of our white brothers. Well it really doesn't matter to me now. I figure I've been to the mountaintop and I don't mind, and like anyone I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place, but I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will and he's allowed me to go up to the mountain and I have looked over, and I have seen the Promised Land.

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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New club focuses on beauty of Japanese culture

By **JESSE WOODRUM**
Staff Writer

There is a reason foreign language studies usually incorporate cultural studies into their programs. As students begin to understand a culture the language starts to make more sense. A handful of students at Parkland have chartered Parkland's newest student organization — the Japanese Culture Club — and the project has hit the ground running this semester.

The group is an outgrowth of a pre-class study session regularly held last fall by students in Japanese 101. The group members soon found they all had a common interest in Asian cultures and eventually Japanese major Dawn Schultz suggested they form a student organization.

They were encouraged by their instructor Takuo Kinoshita, who eventually took the role of Japanese Culture Club's faculty advisor. The students refer to Kinoshita as "sensei" — Japanese for "teacher" — in class as students in Japanese refer to all their teachers by their title.

Schultz, who became Japanese Culture Club's president, says that teachers in general are greatly respected in Japanese culture — a product of a cultural respect for education itself — and Kinoshita's students seem to be fond of him. His students say he makes himself available at all times of the day to help his students with anything he can.



Japanese Culture Club celebrates its formation late last fall. Front: Tim Adams, Dawn Schultz, Gabe Weing. Back: Cheyenne Miller, Bernard Lane.

Photo Courtesy of Japanese Culture Club

The purpose of Japanese Culture Club is manifold—academic, social and financial. While the group originally met before class to study they now seek to attract other students — inside or outside of the Japanese language courses — who share a common interest in Asian cultures.

Finally, as a part of the Stu-

dent Life Office at Parkland, they can raise money for their organization to help fund a trip to Japanese planned for this summer right after finals. Schultz says an itinerary is not final but they plan to visit Tokyo and Kyoto. Schultz also says she is entertaining plans to stay in Japanese by herself for a few weeks after the Park-

land group goes home and that Kinoshita is helping her find out what steps she has to take, including finding a host family.

The club is blooming in the spring semester. They have a new Web page and a burgeoning calendar of events. They hold social meetings and official meetings on alternating Wednesdays. The next social

meeting, Wednesday January 28 is described as a food-and-movie event. They plan to begin advertising their club and their events around campus in the coming weeks.

One notable event they have in mind but unscheduled is a trip to the University of Illinois' Japan House on the south end of campus. Japan house hosts

visiting groups interested in Japanese culture. The UIUC College of Fine and Applied Arts project features a Japanese garden and celebrates the traditional Japanese tea ceremony among other activities.

Another of their plans is a trip to Mitsuwa market in Arlington Heights, IL. Mitsuwa is a comprehensive Asian shopping experience featuring several restaurants, a café, a bookstore, movie rental, a grocery store, a bakery, and produce from several Asian countries.

Schultz says the field trip planned for just after finals is expected to cost around \$3,000 and she realizes that they are up against a deadline. However, the JCC members hope they can find some local sponsorships or raise some money by selling other students a piece of Japanese culture in the form of homemade pocky candy they plan to make at one of their social meetings.

Schultz says that though the club grew from the Japanese language course its members share an interest in a wide spectrum of Asian cultures from Japanese to Chinese and Korean and hopes to attract students who share these interests from future Japanese language students and from students in other fields as well. Interested students can find out more about the group from John Eby, the activities director of the Office of Student Life in X-161.



John Updike dies at 76

By **CARLIN ROMANO**
MCT

PHILADELPHIA—John Updike, 76, the bookish, prolific, Berks County, Pa.-born novelist, poet and critic whose extraordinary and exquisite six-decade body of work made him Pennsylvania's greatest contributor to contemporary American and world literature, died Tuesday of lung cancer.

He died in a hospice outside Boston. He had lived for many years in Beverly Farms, Mass.

Like Joyce Carol Oates, Updike enjoyed a reputation for prolific creativity across almost every genre known to literature. Like an American Flaubert, he astonished the literary world with the pointillist precision of his sentences, the pleasing, surprising lilt and twists of his lyrical diction.

In the manner of Henry James, Updike probed deeply into the 20th-century American psyche, but he departed from that urbane master of prose in favoring the scrutiny of ordinary middle-class American minds of the sort he grew up with, rather than the tortured, precious sensibilities of New York elites.

Born March 18, 1932, in Reading, Pa., where he wrote his first newspaper features for the Reading Eagle, John Hoyer Updike grew up in suburban Shillington, Pa., with his parents—Wesley, a junior high school math teacher, and Linda, a writer herself—and his maternal grandparents.

In 1945, the family moved to the farmhouse in rural Plowville, Pa., 11 miles away, where Linda Updike had been born. Co-valedictorian of Shillington High School in 1950, Updike went on to Harvard, where he served as an editor of the Harvard Lampoon and met Mary Pennington, a Radcliffe fine-arts student, whom he married in 1953.

Graduating summa cum

laude in 1954 with a thesis on the English poet Robert Herrick, Updike pursued art training for a year at the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Arts in Oxford, England.

Originally he aimed to be a cartoonist for the New Yorker. Instead, the lanky young writer, whose beakish profile would become familiar to thousands of literary fans, joined the magazine in 1955 as a "Talk of the Town" writer. Although he left the magazine two years later, he did so only after establishing a tight writing connection to it—his first story there was titled "Friends From Philadelphia"—that would come to define his career.

After daughter Elizabeth and son David arrived in the mid-1950s, he moved to Ipswich, Mass., to write full-time as a freelancer. He largely remained in that setting—solo literary practitioner in small-town Massachusetts—the rest of his life.

His first novel, "The Poorhouse Fair" (1959), about a rebellion by residents of an old-age home against its director, established his sympathetic attention to the experiences of normal folks close to home; he'd often walked past such an institution in his Shillington adolescence.

Yet the novel that put him on the map was "Rabbit, Run" (1960), with its portrait of Harry "Rabbit" Angstrom, a young car salesman nostalgic for his halcyon days as a successful high school basketball player, who deserts his wife and children.

Although readers elsewhere often saw Updike the consummate sophisticated New Yorker writer, whose hundreds of short stories, reviews and poems graced the magazine for half a century, Pennsylvanians continued to view him as the great chronicler of their modest, yet complicated small-town experience through the "Rabbit" trol-

ogy that grew from that book. "Rabbit, Run" was followed by "Rabbit Redux" (1971), "Rabbit Is Rich" (1981), and "Rabbit at Rest" (1990).

The cliché image of Updike, however—nestled in his Massachusetts office, calmly limning contemporary American life through the prism of small-town Pennsylvania and Massachusetts—never really captured a writer who personally and in his imagination frequently ranged far afield.

He traveled to Eastern Europe for the State Department in 1964, lived in London with his family from 1968 to 1969, won a Fulbright lectureship to Africa in 1973, and took up other opportunities to see the world.

Similarly, in his fiction, he engaged in unlikely arabesques—moves responded to in mixed ways by critics—to write about matters beyond his normal experience.

Novels such as "The Coup" (1978), a lighthearted look at the leader of Kush, an invented African country bereft of resources, and "Brazil" (1994), in which Updike retold the Tristan and Isolde story through characters named Isabel and Tristão, displayed the author's choreographing cultures and players that some complained he knew little about.

Late in his career, "Terrorist" (2006), about a convert to Islam, brought similar charges.

But a hallmark of his literary persona was a playful desire, when it suited him, to leap beyond his life and the fictional terrains associated with him.

One of those standard territories, to be sure, was loyal examination of sexual hijinks among the middle class. He did his duty in "Couples" (1968), about young married sorts breaking traditional vows in the New England town of Tarbox (based on Ipswich); "Marry Me" (1976), about the affairs of two couples who exchange

See **Updike** on page 4

Spring Semester Sports Preview

By **SEAN HERMANN**
Staff Writer

The spring semester is now upon us, which means new classes, new students, and for some, closing in on that degree. This also means a handful of new sport seasons will be under way. Here is an update on Parkland athletics, including the latest on coaching changes, season previews, and competition results.

Starting off with volleyball, Head Coach Mike Trame has resigned and accepted a non-coaching position at the University of Illinois. Trame compiled an overall record of 193 wins and 74 losses in five seasons with the Cobras, winning five M-WAC titles, one District title, and four finishes as Region 24 runner-up. He was named the Conference, Region, and Midwest NJCAA Coach of the Year while simultaneously taking the Cobras to Nationals this season.

Assistant Coach Vern Podlewski will step up as to fill Trame's position. Podlewski came to Parkland after completing his professional volleyball career in Germany. He played with teams in Germany and Romania from 2005 to 2008 following a three-year stint with the USA National Men's Volleyball team. Podlewski also spent two years at the University of Hawaii where his team won the NCAA Championship in 2002 and was selected as a 2nd team All-American.

"Mike did an amazing job at Parkland as our volleyball

coach and athletic academic advisor. Not only did his teams perform well on the court but they were excellent in the classroom as well. He was an extremely valuable part of the Cobra athletic program and will be truly missed," said Parkland Athletic Director Rod Lovett.

"Being able to secure a coach of Vern's knowledge and background was important in replacing Mike. I feel he will be able to step right in and keep the program going at a high level and I don't anticipate any drop-off in the success of the program. I look forward to working with Vern to make sure that Parkland remains as one of the elite NJCAA volleyball programs in the country," Lovett said.

Next up is Parkland baseball. An opportunity arose for Coach Kennedy to share with readers how the team was looking so far this season.

"So far the team is looking good. They are working extremely hard and come to practice every day wanting to get better. We are a very deep team so that provides a lot of competition at every position," said Kennedy.

"As far as impact players, I have to start off with Kevin Crane, a sophomore Outfielder that was 2nd Team All-American last year. He will be our three-hole hitter and play left field for us this year. Also Nate Roberts who is a transfer from Northwestern University. Nate will be our four-hole hitter this year and play right field. Also sophomore pitchers Max Friedman, Kory Rom-

bold and Steve Kuligowski will be impact guys on the mound for us," said Kennedy.

"If we continue to work hard and get better every day, I see this team competing for a conference title and regional championship, only if we continue to work hard though," predicts Kennedy.

The team's season opener will take place on March 7 in St. Louis. The team will then take a spring trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina the following week, playing 8 games in a span of five days. The Cobras will play their home opener on March 22, so be sure to make it out to the game to see the great skill and hard work put in by this year's baseball team.

Finally, changing gears, the Parkland Charmers recently arrived back from the UDA nationals in Orlando. The dance team placed 15 overall out of a total of 16 finalists. The Charmers were one of only 25 teams to qualify for the Open Hip Hop Dance competition, and one of only four community colleges to make it to the field. Congratulations to them on a great showing while representing Parkland College on a national level.

Stay tuned for the latest in Parkland Athletics! If you have any questions or comments, please e-mail me at shermann1@stu.parkland.edu.



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Champaign Consortium

Many free resources available on college financial aid

By **CLAUDIA BUCK**
MCT

Getting into college? No sweat, compared to paying for college.

And it's not just freshmen and their parents who are nervously eyeing college costs. Lots of working adults, returning to school for MBAs, job retraining or a midlife career change, also are calculating the price tag.

And no wonder.

According to the College Board, the average annual cost of tuition and fees at a private four-year university in 2008-09 is \$25,000. Pile on books, clothes and living expenses—not to mention fun money—and you're looking at a big chunk of change.

"The economy's having a definite impact on people's anxiety levels on how they're going to pay their tuition bills," said Craig Carroll, CEO of Student Financial Aid Services Inc., a private Sacramento, Calif.-based company that—for a fee—guides families through the financial-aid process. Carroll said calls to his company this month have jumped 40 percent, compared with a year ago.

Given the economy, "Even families that were feeling very comfortable about their savings are starting to feel very uncomfortable," he said.

Among those feeling the pressure is Jessica Lewis, 20, an aspiring teacher who is graduating from Sierra College in Rocklin, Calif., this spring. She's applied for fall admission to the University of California, Davis; California State University, Chico; and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Looking ahead, Lewis and her parents are fretting about how they'll foot the bill this fall. Two years ago, Lewis enrolled at California State University, Sacramento, but even with a part-time job and financial help from her grandparents, the \$2,500 cost per semester for tuition, books and rent quickly became overwhelming. She returned home and enrolled at Sierra, a two-year community college that's considerably cheaper.

"I feel a lot of guilt that we didn't prepare more for college, but we don't know where to go," said her mother, Yolanda Lewis, who works full-time for an insurance company.

"We haven't done loans. We were afraid to get into debt," said Lewis, who also has two younger daughters to send to college. "I'd rather struggle now and be sure it's paid for because there may be unforeseen expenses when she enters a university."

The Lewis family hopes to again bypass student loans by setting aside savings and applying for grants and possible scholarships.

A company like Carroll's would charge \$80 to \$100 to assist a family in the financial-aid process. But you don't need to spend a dime to find financial aid for college, if you know where to look. There's a wealth of Web sites, workshops and financial calculators that you can access for free.

Regardless of where you're looking, there's one mandatory first step: filing the FAFSA.

Officially known as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, it's the gateway to getting virtually any kind of financial help for college. It's free to file at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

With more than 100 ques-

Worried high school seniors

High school seniors who say they have done the following due to the financial crisis:

- Considered less prestigious colleges that may be more affordable

57%

- Changed focus from four-year to two-year college

14%

- Decided to get a job while in college

71%

- Increased time spent searching for scholarships

85%

© 2008 MCT

Source: MeritAid.com online survey sent to 50,000 high school seniors; 2,535 responded Oct. 3-10, 2008

Graphic: Judy Treible

tions, it's earned a reputation as "a pain in the FAFSA," said Jane Bennett Clark, a senior associate editor with Kiplinger's Personal Finance mag-

azine. But Clark, who has filled out the FAFSA for one of her own three kids, said it's not so bad.

Her advice: Gather your

documents, estimate your 2008 income and get it filed ASAP.

"The free (state and federal) money runs out," she said, "so you want to get your application squared away as quickly and accurately as possible."

To see a complete list of Clark's dos and don'ts for filling out a FAFSA, go to www.kiplinger.com ("11 Student-Aid Traps to Avoid").

There are numerous routes to financing a college education: scholarships, grants, federal and private loans, work-study programs, and part-time and summer jobs.

Consult your high school or college financial-aid office. Visit the public library or look for online resources.

If you're opting for student loans, most financial experts recommend that you seek federal loans, rather than private ones. Many private lenders have dropped out of student-aid programs. Federal loans are generally considered to offer lower interest rates and more flexibility with repayment.

But carefully consider how much debt you want to be starting at on graduation day. Even with a college degree, you may be hitching yourself to years of loan repayments, some financial planners warn.

"Don't take on more debt than you're prepared to repay, based on your career goals," said Tamara Zidar, a certified financial planner with CLC Inc. in Granite Bay, Calif. "Too many (students) have been encouraged to go to a high-priced school that somehow would magically pay for itself after graduation."

Obviously, that doesn't always happen, said Zidar, noting it's not uncommon to see clients trying to pay off \$100,000

or more in student loans on a teacher's salary.

For parents, Zidar advises against breaking into your retirement piggy bank to pay for your children's college costs: "Don't derail your retirement savings in order to pay for college. Find a balance between paying for your children's college and your own retirement."

To figure out how much student loan debt you can handle, there are repayment calculators for parents and students alike at Web sites such as www.collegeboard.com or www.finaid.com.

Above all, don't despair. Take it from a veteran. Teresa Loughner of Roseville, Calif., who's working part time while attending American River College for a restaurant management degree, said "persistence and patience" are essential in the hunt for financial aid. The 26-year-old waded through reams of paperwork to score some help this semester: about \$300 in tuition waivers and discounted parking.

Loughner said it required jumping through "a set of hoops multiple times," but the payoff was worth it, "as I can attest."

(Claudia Buck is the assistant business editor of The Sacramento Bee. Personal Finance Notebook answers questions about money matters, tapping a roster of experts for advice on navigating the often-confusing world of personal finance. Submit questions to cbuck@sacbee.com or P.O. Box 15779 Sacramento, CA 95852.)

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The Sacramento Bee

Super surprises: Cardinals and Steelers are similar — but in different ways

By **RANDY COVITZ**
MCT

TAMPA, Fla.—Hall of Fame coach John Madden could have been speaking for the entire pro football world when he pondered the matchup of Arizona and Pittsburgh in Super Bowl XLIII.

"I've said the last few years, the NFL stands for Never Figure League," said Madden, who will broadcast the game for NBC. "When you think you know what's going to happen, you realize you don't know a doggone thing."

No one saw this one coming.

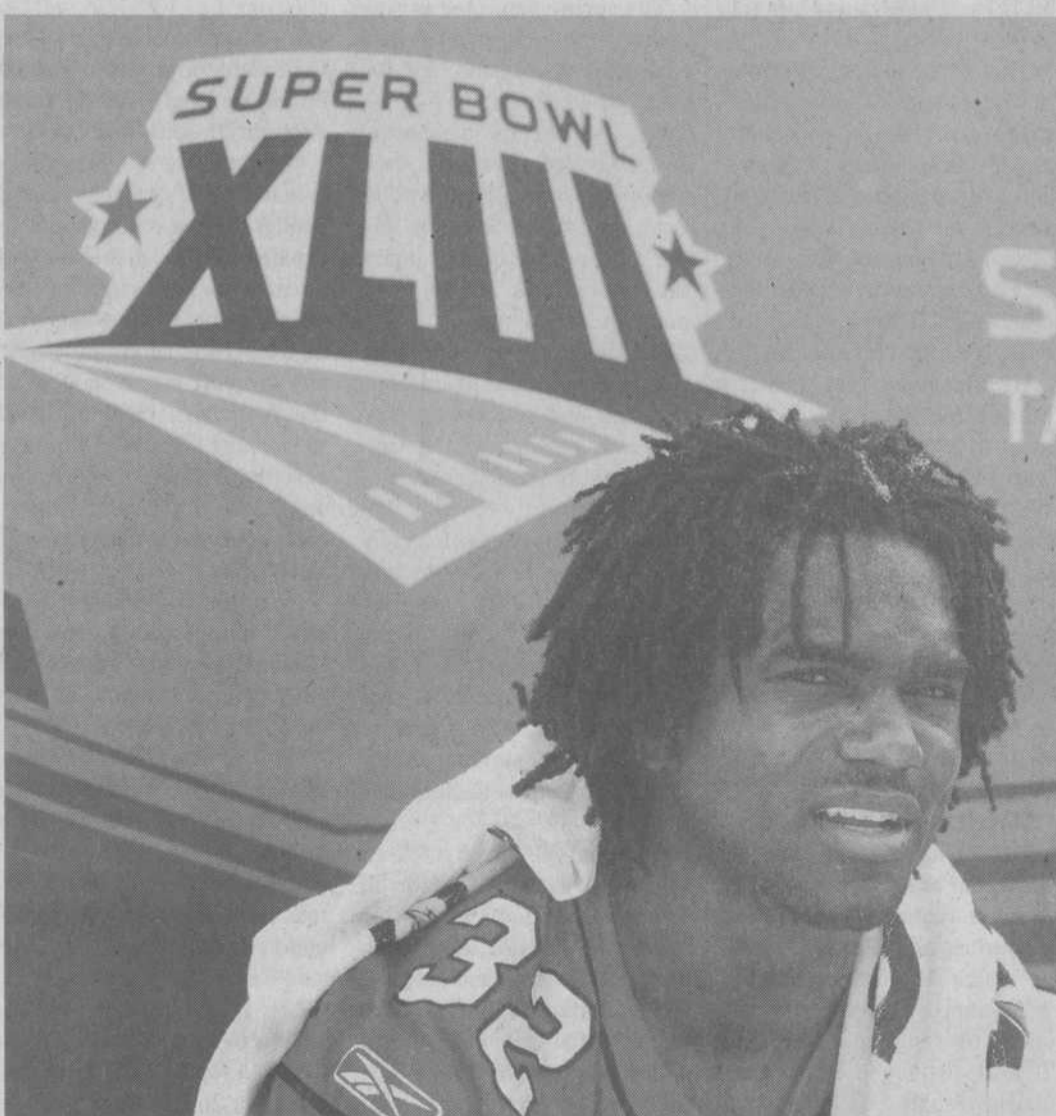
Arizona, champion of a weak NFC West, lost four of its last six regular-season games by an average margin of 24.2 points per game and was an underdog in all three playoff games, including two at home.

Yet the Cardinals, whose last NFL championship was in 1947 when they were based in Chicago, became the first No. 4 seed ever to reach the Super Bowl, and unquestionably are the most unlikely team to play for the title.

"When you look back at it, it's kind of staggering," Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt said of his team's wild ride to the Super Bowl.

Even the Steelers, who won Super Bowl XL as a sixth seed three years ago, are a mild surprise. They were a second seed and had lost 31-14 to top-seeded Tennessee in the second-to-last regular-season game.

But in the playoffs, the Titans were upset by Baltimore in the second round ... Indianapolis, which had won its last nine regular-season games, was taken out by San Diego in the first round ... and Pittsburgh, taking advantage of home-field advantage, beat Baltimore in the AFC championship game and will be appearing in its seventh Super



Arizona Cardinals running back Edgerrin James answers the questions from the press during Media Day for Super Bowl XLIII at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida, Tuesday, January 27, 2009.

Joe Rinkus Jr./Miami Herald

Bowl and aiming for a record sixth Vince Lombardi Trophy.

The seven trips to the Super Bowl are the second most in NFL history, trailing only the Dallas Cowboys, with eight. And Pittsburgh's five rings are tied for the most Super Bowl wins with Dallas and San Francisco.

Both Arizona and Pittsburgh are led by second-year coaches in the Steelers' Mike Tomlin, who at 36 is the youngest head coach to reach the Super Bowl, and Whisenhunt, who was the Steelers' offensive coordinator

when they won Super Bowl XL under Bill Cowher.

Tomlin's pedigree is in defense, and that's what carried the Steelers to the Super Bowl. The Steelers, for the second straight season, were the NFL's top-ranked defense. They also led the league in scoring defense, passing defense, were second against the run, second in sacks and featured linebacker James Harrison, the NFL Defensive Player of the Year.

Whisenhunt's background is in offense, and the high-fly-

ing Cardinals ranked fourth in total offense, second in passing offense and tied for third in scoring.

Yet the Steelers have scored 89 points in their last three games, their most productive three-game output of the season, while the Cardinals have played some stout defense, especially in a playoff game at Carolina where they forced six turnovers.

Both teams have former Super Bowl MVPs.

Arizona quarterback Kurt Warner was MVP of Super

Bowl XXXIV when he led the St. Louis Rams to a victory over Tennessee. Warner, 8-2 in his postseason career, is bidding to become the first quarterback in NFL history to lead two different franchises to Super Bowl titles.

Pittsburgh wide receiver Hines Ward was MVP of Super Bowl XL against Seattle when he caught five passes for 123 yards and a touchdown from quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who is 7-2 in his postseason career.

But the players who have grabbed quite literally most of the attention in the playoffs so far have been Arizona wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald and Steelers strong safety Troy Polamalu.

Fitzgerald tied an NFL record with three straight 100-yard games in the postseason, tied another record with three touchdown catches in the NFC championship game, and his 419 yards in the playoffs are a single-season, postseason record. And he still has the Super Bowl left.

Polamalu has three career postseason interceptions, including a 40-yard return for a touchdown against Baltimore. It was the first interception return for a touchdown and longest return in Steelers postseason history.

The Steelers are seven-point favorites, but remember this. These teams met in the fourth game of the 2007 regular season in Arizona. The Cardinals scored 21 second-half points for a 21-14 victory.

Go figure.

(c) 2009
The Kansas City Star.

UPDIKE

continued from page 3

mates; and "The Witches of Eastwick" (1984), in which a trio of suburban divorcees cavort with Satan.

Another area that regularly drew his devoted attention was religion and spirituality, both traditional and eccentric. "S." (1988), for instance, took us along with a 42-year-old New Englander who joins a phony Hindu-based religious community in Arizona—certainly not a stop in the author's real career. Not infrequently, Updike combined his predilections, as in "A Month of Sundays" (1975), where a clergyman runs wild while stuck in a rest home.

Those tried and true bents made Updike's high-risk novels, such as "Bech: A Book" (1970) and "Bech Is Back" (1982)—in which the unimpeachably Protestant author gave Philip Roth a run for his money by vetrilizing through a successful Jewish novelist—an even greater delight.

Over the course of his career, Updike won the Pulitzer Prize, American Book Award and National Book Critics Circle Fiction Award for "Rabbit Is Rich," another Pulitzer for "Rabbit at Rest," and a slew of other prizes.

For his entire adulthood as a writer, Updike was in some ways best known to his longtime publisher, Alfred A. Knopf, for a calm, craftsman-like commitment to producing at least one book a year, a standard to which the writer kept by daily production of at least three pages a day.

This time there will be no Updike Redux. Updike is at rest.

(c) 2009
The Philadelphia Inquirer.

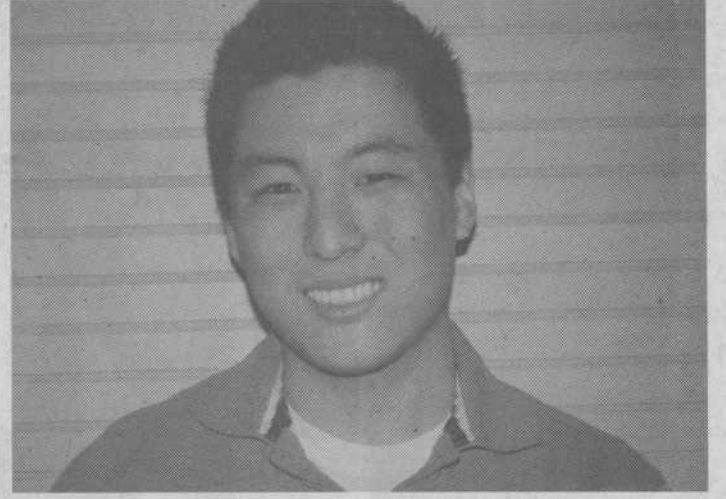
What will be the biggest change Obama makes in 2009?



Kayla Liggett
Major: Transfer Student
"I believe Obama will bring hope to this country, unlike our previous president."



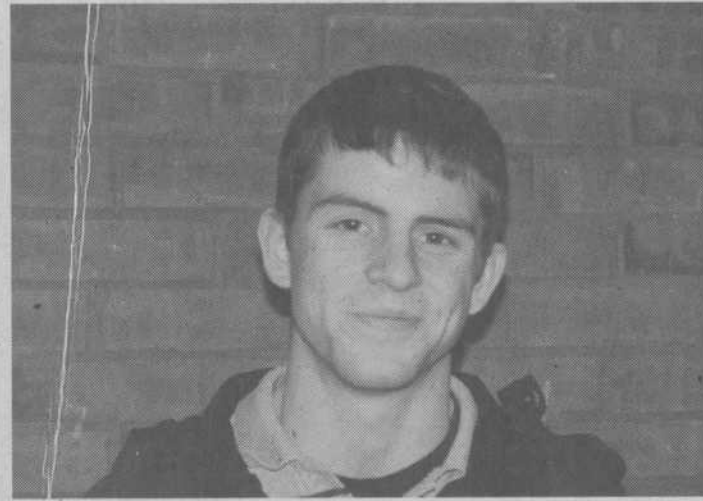
Stephanie Clark
Major: Associate in Science
"I believe that Obama's changes will help this country through these hard economic times as well as our nations position in the world through improved foreign relations."



Dohyun Hawang
Major: Mathematics
"Obama is going to lead a education reformation during his presidency."



Brittany Salm
Major: Transfer Student
"I believe that Obama's presidency will offer our country a fresh outlook on government and an improved sense of patriotism."

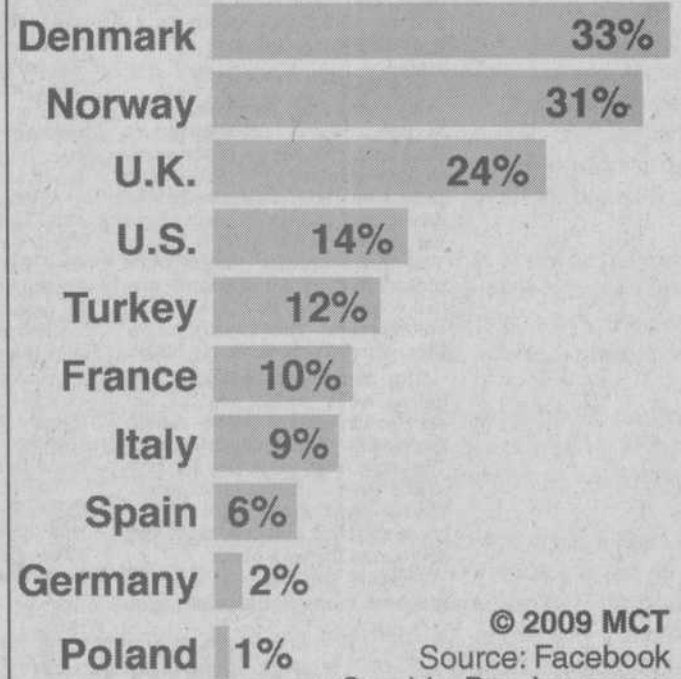


Nick O'Dea
Major: Transfer Student
"He's giving people a restored sense of hope and giving them something to look forward in."

Photos By: Jonathan Bouvet

Facebook fanatics

Highest percentage of profiles per population



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Source: Facebook
Graphic: Bro-Jorgensen

Prospectus News is hiring for Spring 2009 ...



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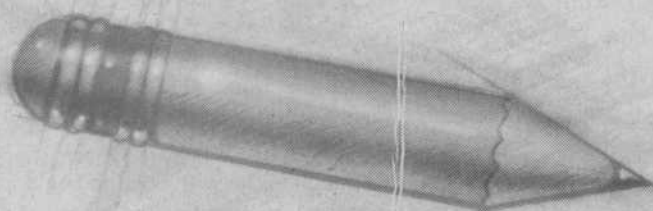
... the artsy creative folk who enjoy theatre, music and design ...



... the Web-savvy Internet gurus who name their pets after social networking sites ...



... those who like to talk a lot, but write it all down ...



... and the sports junkies of Parkland ...

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PROSPECTUS

1969

page 2

Rah, Rah, Black? White? Who Will Cheer For Us?

As will be the continuing policy of PARKLAND PRESS's editorial page, the facts about a situation will be stated as objectively as possible, then opinions will be stated.

The Facts:

A controversy developed about having a black cheerleader at Parkland. All the girls who came to the cheerleading try-outs were judged on their ability and given numerical ratings by each of the six judges on the judging board. The three student judges were picked from a list of people who had volunteered; no black student volunteered. One faculty judge, Mrs. Anna Wall Scott, is black.

The numerical ratings of the judges were added and the top six point getters were named Parkland's official cheerleaders. The next two girls by highest points were named alternates. These eight girls were white, but a ninth girl, according to the original tally, was black.

Then it was found a mistake had been made in the counting of

the ballots.

After a recount, the six top girls stayed the same, but one of the alternates turned out to have fewer points than the ninth girl. To solve this apparent problem, Tom Dobson, senator of athletics, set up three cheerleader alternate positions--including the two original alternates and the black student.

A group of blacks, most notably Mrs. Scott and some of the black basketball players, stated they felt that since the rule had been broken to name three alternates, the rules should be broken again to place the black girl in one of the top six positions.

A compromise apparently was reached by having all nine girls cheer on the sidelines but only the top six gave cheers on the main floor.

These facts were compiled by Glyn Durston, a white student, who gives his opinions on this page with Clarence Davidson, a black student.

A Black View

The cheerleaders supposedly were judged on ability rather than popularity. There were 12 students trying out; two were black. After the votes were tallied Oct. 30, no black student was named to the squad.

Hearing these results, this writer, a black student, had a conference with Phil Walker, black dean of continuing education, and Mrs. Anna Wall Scott, black social science instructor. This writer also went to some of the representatives of the student government to confront them with the issue. The result was a meeting he set up with Mrs. Scott, Dean Walker, Dean of Students Donald Swank and Assistant Dean of Student Activities Richard Karch. Deans Swank and Karch advised the writer to take this problem to student government. A meeting was set up for the next day with the writer, the president of student government, Don Lookingbill, Senator of Athletics Tom Dobson, Stan Taylor, (a black student), and a chairman to Dobson.

Oct. 31: Before having a chance to meet with the student representatives, the writer was confronted by another member of student government with the statement, "One of them made it." The "one" turned out to be Hattie Washington. The government representative explained that the votes points were re-tallied the night before and they had made a mistake in counting the points. She also noted Hattie, a black student, was an alternate. My response was why--after the issue had been raised--all of a sudden a miscount.

This so-called dreadful mistake that student government had made was brought up at the meeting with the representatives, who all seemed very apologetic about the mistake. But the meetings got to be a heated debate. They seemed not to want to regard their mistake as a mistake, but rather as a thing that could have happened to anyone.

Dobson said Hattie was second alternate, "because she beat the girl who is presently third alternate and not the other seven." He said there were nine girls on the squad. Reminded of a notice in the Sprinkler that there would be six starting cheerleaders and two alternates, Lookingbill said after the government was aware of their error they had an extra alternate. They decided to let the last alternate stay on because it was a way for the senate to apologize, he said.

This writer made a proposal that Hattie Washington be put on the first squad. The reply from Dobson was that they could not or would not break any rules to put Hattie on the first squad.

They had already broken the rule by having nine cheerleaders. So why couldn't they break another one? The president answered that the rules had been stretched and broken enough.

The senator of athletics then expressed the idea of letting all the cheerleaders take turns cheering instead of using the alternates as sort of substitutes. Stan Taylor and this writer said that proposal would be accepted. Dobson said he would confront the cheerleaders and get a response to this suggestion.

The meeting adjourned with everyone there under the impression that Dobson was going to confront and explain the issue to the cheerleaders. Later on that night at a student government meeting, Dobson said that the cheerleaders were 8-1 in favor of leaving the functions of the alternates as substitutes.

He then made a motion in the meeting that everything concerning the cheerleading be accepted as it presently was. His motion was passed. But Dobson did not take the opinion of at least one of the cheerleaders, Hattie Washington.

My reasons for wanting this girl on the first squad are:

1. For black representation--the four main starters of the team

PARKLAND PRESS

December 18-19, 1968



By Wes King

DEBUT FOR THEM TOO. Parkland cheerleaders, in the game against Chanute, proved that a scant two weeks is time enough to put together some great cheers. The cheerleaders are: front row, Kae Sterrenberg, left, and Janice Johnson, right; middle row, Ardie Girvin, left, Sharon Josseland, center, and Cheryl Kemmer, right; standing back row from left, Jane Rich, Julie Wisegarver, Rita Gallahue and Hattie Washington. We all wish them the best in the future!

are black.

2. And at a crucial time as today, without black representation, you have created a problem.

Ten years ago if the situation arose, it wouldn't have really mattered to the average black student whether or not he had black representation because of inferlority hang-ups. But now things have changed, and as long as I am here I will always fight to make sure that the black students here at Parkland are fully represented!

By CLARENCE DAVIDSON

A White View

Although this controversy is small and possibly settled I think it points up a big problem in our nation today; the problem of how the Negro is going to fulfill his expanding role in society.

It seems that America has come to legally forced integrations as an answer to the race problem. And a very important part of this legally forced integration is the establishment of quotas for Negroes in all parts of our society.

I sincerely believe and strongly advocate that these quotas have to be established where ever the Negro is being discriminated against, even in cheerleading squads if appropriate. But I just as strongly advocate not filling those quotas if nobody is capable of performing the tasks. Do not put a carpenter in a brick-laying job just because he is Negro and do not put a girl in a cheerleading squad just because she is Negro, if she is not qualified. To put anyone in a job that he is not qualified for is perplexing to the person as well as harmful to the job. And in the case of a Negro--where white people are watching and forming their opinions--it is doubly harmful to the cause of integration.

I plead with all Negroes not to become frustrated with their expanding roles and jobs in society, but to work that much harder to properly fulfill the tasks required of them. I strongly believe that if there is segregation at Parkland or anywhere else, the quotas should and must be set up and these quotas should be filled only by qualified people. Then and only then will integration be successful.

By GLYN DURSTON

Let a Smile Be Your Umbrella When You Wear an Andes Maincoat®



by London Fog®

The Andes gives you all the protection you need. This beautifully tailored coat has a stand-up collar, fly front, self yoke, and is made of the very finest cotton. A comforting feature is the split shoulder with London Fog's special Third Barrier® Construction. It defies the most devastating downpour. For perfect temperature control, this easy convertible is equipped with a zip-out warmer made of 100% orlon pile. Sizes Regular 34-46, Short 36-42, Long 36-45. In natural, olive, black, with black liner. \$150.00

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BLACK RAP

Black Rap will be a regular feature in THE PROSPECTUS. Any PROSPECTUS contributors are asked to consult Clarence Davidson.

by CLARENCE DAVIDSON
In response to an article in the first issue of the Parkland Press by Glyn Durston titled "The White View":

I would like to say first that you are questioning the ability of one Black cheerleader. I personally think that it would be impossible for you to question one's ability without questioning the whole squad. It is obvious that she is qualified unless you are going to doubt the word of Mrs. Trout, the coach of the cheerleading squad.

Also from reading your article I would probably say that you might be a very bigoted person. . . . My reasons would

be first of all you mentioned something about the forcing of integration. This issue of the cheerleading squad had nothing to do with integration, that is, as far as the Black Student Union was concerned. It was merely a problem of representation. White people like you, I strongly feel, have misinterpreted the word integration. Integration to you would probably mean, "Oh, those Black people want to move next door to me." I would also say that integration and the statement about how we, the Black people, are going to fulfill our role in society is all irrelevant from the standpoint of this issue. You had better wake up boy, we are moving on up!

As Blagojevich impeachment trial begins, he takes to airwaves in own defense

By **RAY LONG AND RICK PEARSON**
MCT

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The lead prosecutor in Illinois' historic impeachment trial urged the state Senate on Monday to remove Gov. Rod Blagojevich from office for crimes against the public while the governor spent the day in New York, lashing out at his accusers on national television.

Blagojevich was a guest on national TV shows from morning until night—including sharing the couch with the women of ABC's "The View"—to plead his case that lawmakers were unfairly throwing him out of office.

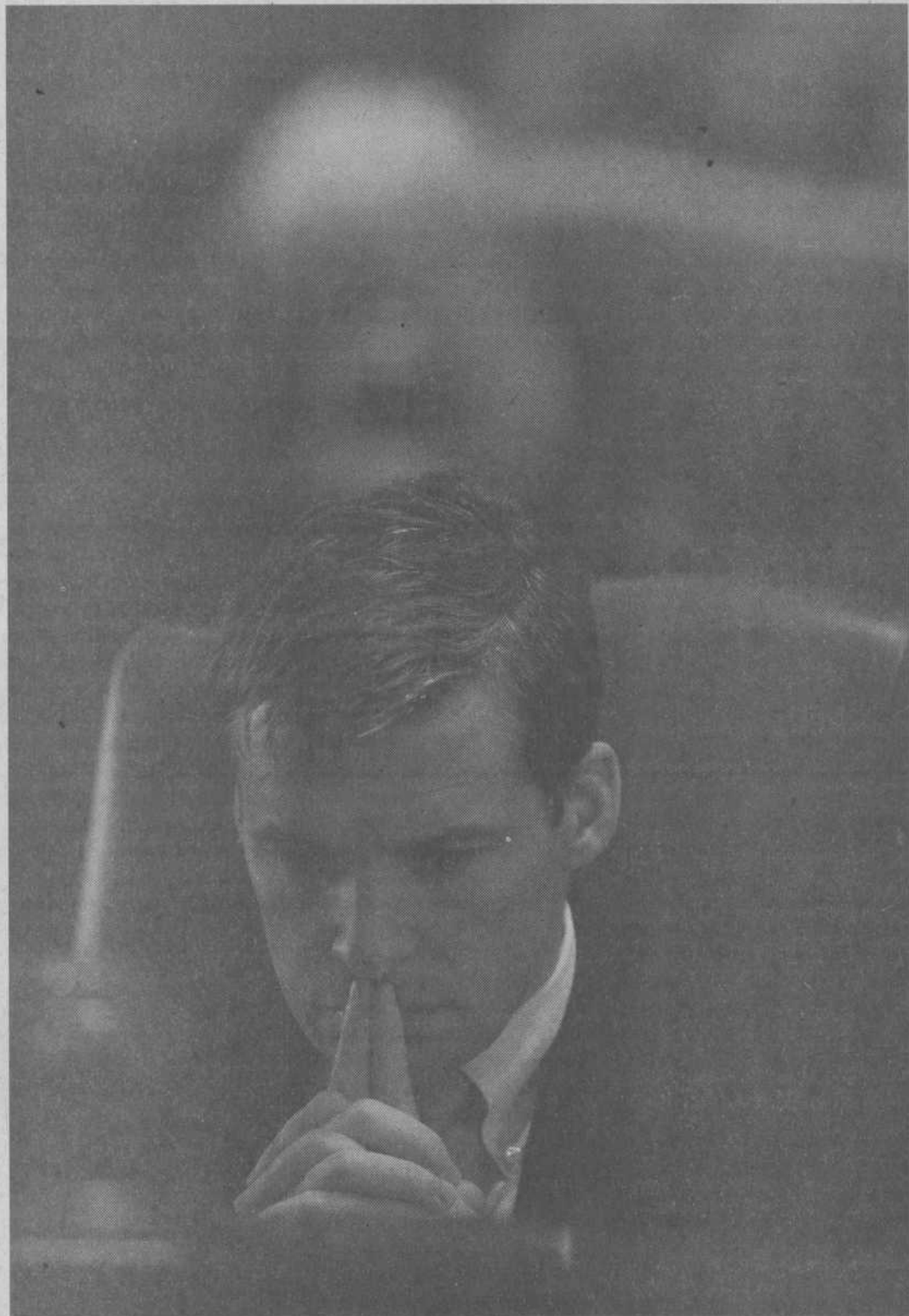
At the Statehouse, prosecutor David Ellis used his opening statement to directly challenge Blagojevich's televised complaints that the political trial was rigged, saying the covert recordings by federal investigators and evidence of the governor's repeated abuse of power were all they needed to convict and remove the governor.

"We will ask you to convict Gov. Blagojevich because of his own words, not those of anybody else," said Ellis, who was appointed by House lawmakers after they impeached Blagojevich. "We are holding him accountable for things that he said and he did."

While the Senate noted for the record that neither the governor nor his representatives were there, the talk show hosts he sought to woo even questioned why he wasn't in Springfield, Ill.

An exasperated Barbara Walters asked Blagojevich whether he was "wasting time" on TV by refusing to acknowledge the accuracy of secret recordings of him allegedly trying to sell the U.S. Senate seat vacated by President Barack Obama as part of an "expletive golden" opportunity.

"I can't confirm or deny anything when I haven't had a chance to hear all the tapes," Blagojevich said. "Under no



Mike Kasper, assistant House Prosecutor, pauses a moment during the first day of Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich's impeachment trial in the Illinois Senate Monday, January 26, 2009, in Springfield, Illinois.

Michael Tercha/Chicago Tribune

circumstances was I trying to sell a U.S. Senate seat. Under no circumstances did I break any laws, and what I'm looking forward to is an opportunity to make my case."

Blagojevich used his TV time to say he had considered talk show host Oprah Winfrey to fill the Senate vacancy left by the election of Barack Obama

as president, but feared naming her would look like a gimmick. Winfrey said on Sirius XM radio that she was "pretty amused" by the governor's comment but was "just not interested."

It was the covert recordings of Blagojevich, obtained by federal agents, that Ellis said would provide the crux of

the case against the governor, whom he said "repeatedly and utterly abused the powers and privileges of his office."

Ellis said an affidavit of those recordings, filed with a federal criminal complaint that led to the governor's arrest on Dec. 9, would show senators, in Blagojevich's own words, that "the governor put up his office

for sale." Senators expect to hear Tuesday a select segment of four covert recordings of the governor that federal and House prosecutors have said will allegedly show Blagojevich trying to shake down campaign donations from a horse-racing industry official in exchange for signing a bill to divert casino gambling revenues to horse tracks.

Those recordings—totaling about six minutes—are expected to be accompanied by the testimony of Daniel Cain, the FBI special agent who wrote the affidavit. The playing of the recordings and limited testimony by Cain in the Senate impeachment trial were approved by U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald in an unusual move since federal prosecutors had asked lawmakers to stay away from the criminal case while their investigation against the governor continues.

Blagojevich, appearing on CNN's "Larry King Live" Monday night, said a Senate vote to remove him from office, likely only days away, was a "fait accompli." He and his lawyers have declined to mount a defense in what he alleges is a "witch hunt."

"But I'm a big boy, and I'll get over it," Blagojevich said.

Ellis dismissed Blagojevich's complaints that he could not call witnesses such as Rahm Emanuel and Valerie Jarrett, two top advisers to President Barack Obama, who previously held the Senate seat the governor is accused of trying to sell. Federal prosecutors have asked that such witnesses not be called because of the criminal investigation and lawmakers have obliged.

In contrast to Blagojevich's declaration that his rights to due process were being violated, Ellis noted "impeachment and an impeachment trial is not a criminal proceeding."

"It is not punitive in nature. We are not here today to punish Gov. Blagojevich," said Ellis, who is the legal counsel for House Speaker Michael

Madigan, the head of the state's Democratic Party and a long-time nemesis of the two-term Democratic governor. "The purpose of impeachment is remedial. It is to protect the citizens of this state from the abuses of an elected officer."

As Blagojevich's Senate trial opened, a controversial health-care program that is cited in the House charges against the governor was dealt a major blow. A Canadian supplier of low-cost foreign prescription drugs said it will no longer work with the state on its I-SaveRx program. A state audit found few Illinois residents took part in the program, despite costly taxpayer-funded promotion and questionable legality.

Blagojevich's national TV blitz in New York threatened to overshadow the start of the first Senate impeachment trial of a governor in the 191-year history of a state with a storied reputation of political corruption involving its chief executives. He disregarded a question from Barbara Walters asking whether "for the sake of your state, for your own dignity" it would be better if he resigned.

"No, that would be the worst thing I could do because I'm an innocent man who's not done anything wrong," Blagojevich said.

His media efforts did little for senators, who sit as both judge and jury of his political fate.

"What I'm going to listen to is what the evidence is put on in the Senate chambers in Springfield, Ill., not in New York, not in Washington (or) anywhere else," said Sen. James Clayborne, D-Bellefonte.

A vote of at least 40 senators is needed to convict Blagojevich, who would then be automatically removed and replaced by Lt. Gov. Patrick Quinn.

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Chicago Tribune.

Researchers find traces of mercury in high-fructose corn syrup

By **MICHAEL HAWTHORNE**
MCT

CHICAGO—A swig of soda or bite of a candy bar might be sweet, but a new study suggests that food made with corn syrup also could be delivering tiny doses of toxic mercury.

For the first time, research-

ers say they have detected traces of the silvery metal in samples of high-fructose corn syrup, a widely used sweetener that has replaced sugar in many processed foods. The study was published Monday in the peer-reviewed journal Environmental Health.

Eating high-mercury fish is the chief source of exposure for most people. The new study

raises concerns about a previously unknown dietary source of mercury, which has been linked to learning disabilities in children and heart disease in adults.

The source of the metal appears to be caustic soda and hydrochloric acid, which manufacturers of corn syrup use to help convert corn kernels into the food additive.

A handful of plants across the nation still make the soda and acid by mixing a briny solution in electrified vats of mercury. Some of the toxic metal ends up in the final product, according to industry documents cited in the study.

Corn syrup manufacturers insisted their products are mercury-free. But the study noted that at least one maker of caustic soda that has used the mercury-based technology listed the corn syrup industry as a client.

"This seems like an avoidable source of mercury that we didn't know was out there," said David Wallinga, one of the study's co-authors and a

researcher at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, a Minnesota-based advocacy group.

The researchers cautioned that their study was limited. Only 20 samples were analyzed; mercury was detected in nine.

Still, the impact of the findings could be significant. High-fructose corn syrup has become such a staple in processed foods that the average American consumes about 12 teaspoons of it daily, according to federal estimates. Teenagers and young kids tend to eat more of it than adults.

There is no established safe dose for elemental mercury, the type discovered in corn syrup. But the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says an average-sized woman should limit her exposure to 5.5 micrograms a day of methylmercury, the kind found in fish.

If that same woman regularly ate corn syrup contaminated at the highest level detected in the study—0.57 micrograms per

gram—the researchers estimated that she could end up consuming an amount of mercury that is five times higher than the EPA's safe dose.

One former EPA scientist who reviewed the paper said more study is needed to establish the risk, if any, posed by contaminated corn syrup. She urged the Food and Drug Administration to conduct a review of food made with the sweetener.

"For the most part, previous studies haven't found mercury in foods other than fish," said Kathryn Mahaffey, a former EPA scientist who co-wrote a landmark report to Congress on the perils of mercury contamination. "Is this an outlier or something we didn't know about before?"

In response to a 2005 Chicago Tribune series about mercury hazards, then-U.S. Sen. Barack Obama introduced legislation that would force chlorine plants to phase out its use or shut down. One plant in Wisconsin later vowed to switch to a mercury-free process by this

year, leaving four others—in Georgia, Ohio, Tennessee and West Virginia—that still use the older technology.

The new study's lead author, Renee Dufault, began her research while investigating the Wisconsin plant for the FDA in the mid-2000s. But her results weren't published until now, a year after she retired from the agency.

An FDA spokesman said he still was waiting for a response to the study. Industry representatives, meanwhile, said the study was outdated.

"It is important that Americans are provided accurate, science-based information," Audra Erickson, president of the Corn Refiners Association, said in a statement. "They should know that high fructose corn syrup is safe."

In another statement, the Chlorine Institute said, "It is conceivable that measurable mercury content can be found in high fructose corn syrup regardless of how it is processed."

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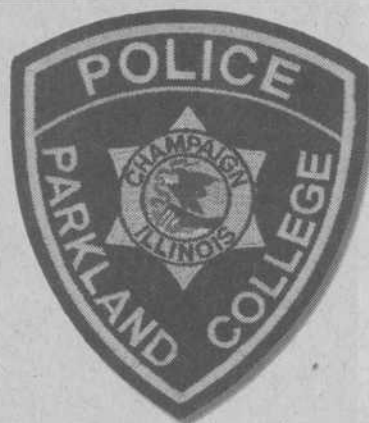


Weather Forecast

Thursday: Scattered flurries. Cloudy, with a high near 29. Wind chill values between zero and 10.
Thursday Night: Scattered flurries. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 13.
Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 20.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 10.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 33.
Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 25.
Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 36.
Sunday Night: Scattered flurries. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20.
Monday: Scattered flurries. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 32.
Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 20.
Tuesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 35.

CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

Champaign Police investigators are asking for information regarding an incident involving criminal damage to property and reckless conduct. On Saturday, November 8th, at approximately 1:11 a.m., officers were called to the location of Market Street and Bradley Avenue in Champaign. Officers were advised that a group of four or five black male subjects were seen standing on the southwest corner of the intersection. As three LEX buses approached the intersection, one of the black males was observed throwing a paving brick, completely shattering the windshield of one bus. Another paving brick was thrown, which shattered two full-size passenger windows of another bus. Some of the passengers were sprayed with shattered glass and suffered minor cuts. One passenger was struck by a brick and suffered minor facial injuries. The young black male subjects were described as being 14 to 16 years of age. One of the subjects seen throwing a brick was wearing a white shirt. Investigators are seeking any information you might have regarding this incident.



Immediate Response Information System (IRIS)

If you have not signed up for the campus emergency alert system, I would urge you to do so right away. In an on-going effort to make Parkland College as safe as possible, the IRIS (Immediate Response Information System) has been implemented. If you go to www.parkland.edu/publicsafety/alerts, you can sign up there. The purpose of the system is to disseminate information as quickly as possible in the case of an emergency to students, faculty and staff.

One of the major benefits of the IRIS alerts systems is that it can broadcast emergency information to multiple sources simultaneously. For instance, it can notify you by cell phone, computers, faxes and land lines at no cost to you. So please sign up right away and remember, safety is everyone's responsibility.

MoreOnTV

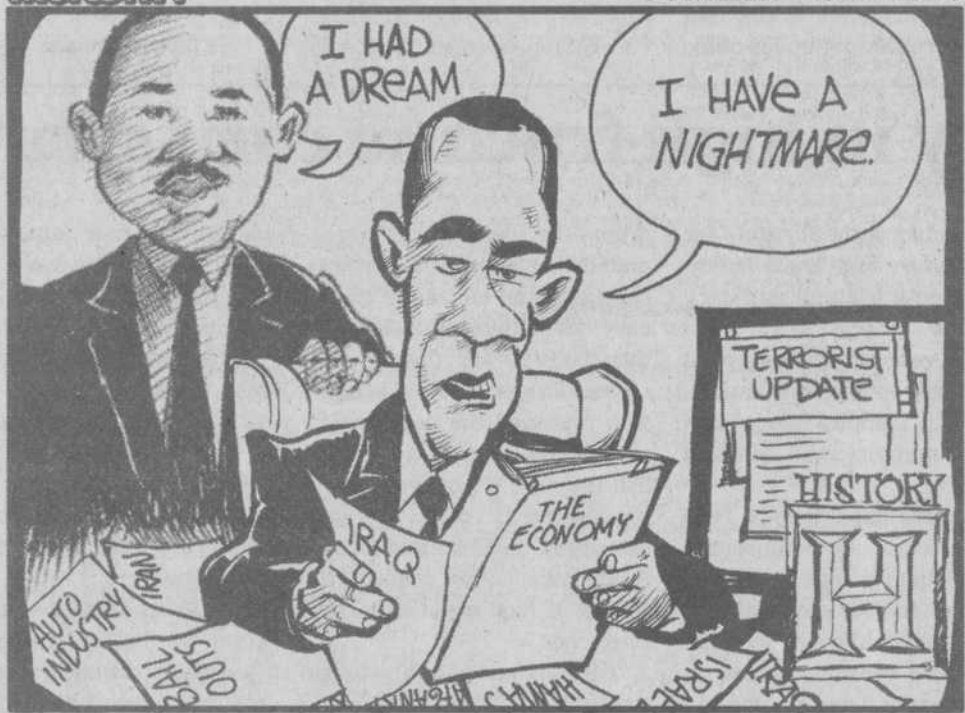
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MoreOnTV

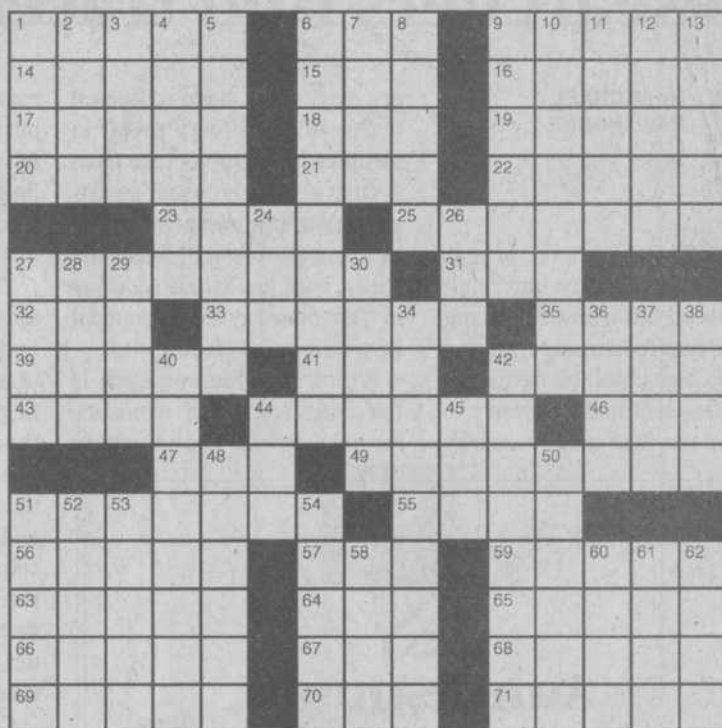
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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Church table
 - 6 Derek and Jackson
 - 9 Actor's platform
 - 14 Drench
 - 15 Pacer maker, briefly
 - 16 Large villages
 - 17 Uneasy feeling
 - 18 Australian joey
 - 19 Opera songs
 - 20 Penny pincher
 - 21 Pull behind
 - 22 Present, e.g.
 - 23 Daytona 500 or Indy, e.g.
 - 25 Sleds
 - 27 Subway stops
 - 31 Motel
 - 32 Old card game
 - 33 Absolutely not!
 - 35 Roosevelt follower
 - 39 Bancroft and Baxter
 - 41 New Haven student
 - 42 WWII riveter
 - 43 Young adult
 - 44 Former Spanish dictator
 - 46 Printer's spaces
 - 47 TV guide abbr.
 - 49 Belgrade populace
 - 51 "Waltzing ..."
 - 55 Earth orbiter
 - 56 Privileged few
 - 57 Youth grp.
 - 59 Gas containers
 - 63 Log structure
 - 64 Mare's morsel
 - 65 Shiraz resident
 - 66 Wept
 - 67 Cycle starter?
 - 68 More adorable
 - 69 Stock up on
 - 70 Shamus
 - 71 Tucks away

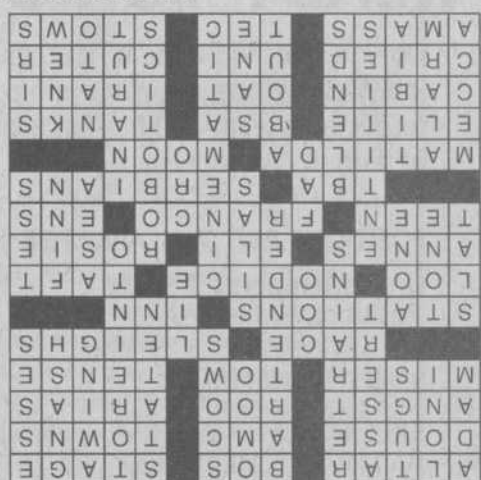


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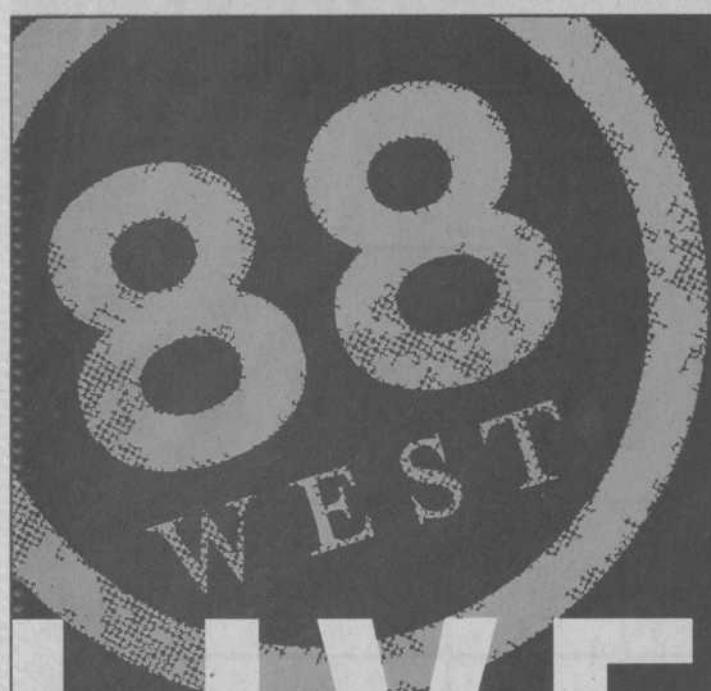
- DOWN**
- 1 Sandler of "Little Nicky"
 - 2 Anderson of "WKRP..."
 - 3 Harbor vessels
 - 4 Declare to be true
 - 5 Gets back into shape
 - 6 Mixologist
 - 7 Herman Melville novel
 - 8 Flat boats
 - 9 Island, NY
 - 10 Ripped open
 - 11 Inspiring reverence
 - 12 Grind together
 - 13 Slalom curves
 - 24 Pigeon call
 - 26 Prevarication
 - 27 Blind strip
 - 28 Verbal subtlety
 - 29 Top-drawer
 - 30 Marner of fiction
 - 34 Of films
 - 36 Going by yacht
 - 37 Mark Twain's Huckleberry
 - 38 1979 Polanski film
 - 40 Beings
 - 42 Branch of automation

Solutions



- 44 Passing
- 45 Magnon
- 48 Combines
- 50 Doing the same old same old
- 51 Islamic holy city
- 52 Red light
- 53 Shinbone
- 54 Circa
- 58 Rational
- 60 Allied org.
- 61 Recognized
- 62 Knights

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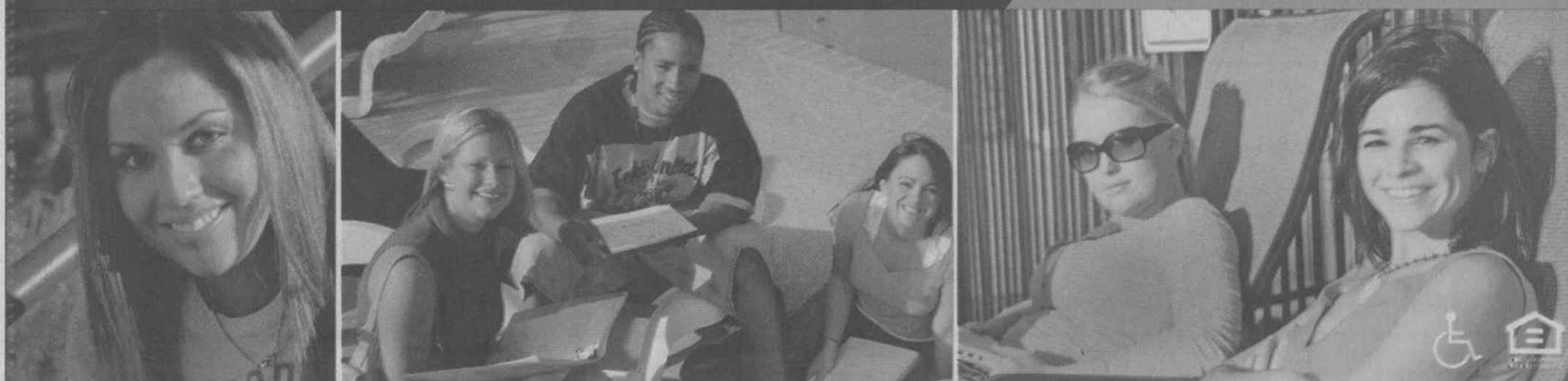


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SUPER BOWL BINGO

Football fan or not, here's a game everyone can play

BY DEBRA BASS
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

THE RULES:

1. Read your game cards and voice your reservations about the clues before the game starts. No whining allowed after the kickoff.
2. Playing multiple cards is allowed. You decide what people "pay" for extra chances to win.
3. Winning doesn't have to conform to a straight line with five squares in a vertical, horizontal or diagonal row. Maybe in honor of football-viewing tradition, you might want to have a six-pack version. This means you have two adjacent rows of

three adjacent clues that look kind of like a six-pack if you viewed it from the top (this can occur anywhere on the card). Or you can insist that all of the clues be checked off for a game card to win.

4. When you see one of your clues on-screen, you have to call it out. If various people have the same clue on their card, you can either play nice and say that everyone gets to mark off the clue whether they saw it or not OR you can insist that only the first person(s) to shout out gets to mark off the clue and the others will have to wait for another shot of the redheaded cheerleader or what have you.

5. Keep going until one player completes the designated bingo pattern and wins the prize.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

SUPER BOWL BINGO

Sleeping kid in jersey	Person on cell phone	"D" + fence sign	Any politician	Coach's challenge
Wardrobe malfunction	Full face paint	Live animal	End-zone dance	A blimp
Coach hiding mouth from spies	Touchdown throw by non-QB	FREE SPACE	Too much makeup	Championship ring
John 3:16 sign	Team owner	Father/son No. 1 finger	Towel waving	Lip-syncing glitch
Cheerleader belly-button ring	Dot-com you don't know	Celebrity	Gatorade bath	Fan watching mini-TV

SUPER BOWL BINGO

Lip-syncing glitch	Full face paint	"D" + fence sign	Touchdown throw by non-QB	Double-fisted drinker
A player's wife	Talking-pet commercial	Championship ring	Fan watching mini-TV	A blimp
Chin or cheek Band-Aid	Celebrity	FREE SPACE	End-zone dance	Coach pumping fist
Kicker practicing	First-aid cart on field	Fan with emblem carved in hair	Female interviewer	Body slam
John 3:16 sign	Live animal	Nonblond cheerleader	Coach's challenge	Too much makeup

SUPER BOWL BINGO

Coach's challenge	Double-fisted drinker	Chin or cheek Band-Aid	The wave	Shirtless fan
Body slam	John 3:16 sign	Kicker practicing	Triple butt smack	Talking-pet commercial
Female interviewer	Full face paint	FREE SPACE	Leaping chest thump	Wardrobe malfunction
Lip-readable cursing	Nose-strip wearer	Cheering with a beer can	"Hi, Mom" sign	Coach hiding mouth from spies
Women's product commercial	Mohawk	Nonblond cheerleader	Sleeping kid in jersey	Fireworks

SUPER BOWL BINGO

"Hi, Mom" sign	Nose-strip wearer	Female interviewer	Fireworks	The wave
Sunflower seed-spitter	Women's product commercial	A player's parents	Lip-readable cursing	Guy in dress
Blocked kick	Towel waving	FREE SPACE	Leaping chest thump	Someone trampled on sideline
Cheering with a beer can	Body slam	Kicker practicing	Person on cell phone	Triple butt smack
Player celebrates a sack	Talking-pet commercial	Redheaded cheerleader	"I'm going to Disneyland!"	Coach's challenge

SUPER BOWL BINGO

Mohawk	QB putting on a ballcap	Cheerleader belly-button ring	Father/son No. 1 finger	Lip-readable cursing
Person on cell phone	Gravity-defying commercial	Shirtless fan	Gatorade bath	Fan with emblem carved in hair
Wardrobe malfunction	Sleeping kid in jersey	FREE SPACE	Someone trampled on sideline	Towel waving
A player's parents	Dot-com you don't know	First-aid cart on field	Nose-picker	"Hi, Mom" sign
Cheering with a beer can	"I'm going to Disneyland!"	Coach pumping fist	Guy in dress	Sunflower seed-spitter