

P the Parkland College prospectus

Volume 31 Issue 30

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

SPORTS

Pagels paces Parkland's offensive attack with a .407 AVG.



POLICE REPORTS

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Parkland additions being considered

BY: JACOB LIVENGOOD
PROSPECTUS STAFF WRITER

Parkland may receive a facelift in a couple of years with additions to the southwest portion of the library and possibly a student center, Pres. Zelema Harris said last week.

Funding for those projects is the road-block.

A new \$13 million wing housing support programs and technology has been in the works for several years to the southwest portion of the library, said Harris.

"Our vision is to build a facility in the year 2000," said Harris. "It should be funded in FY 2000.

Funding for the additional wing has been a long and complicated process, said Harris.

"Parkland competes with every community college in the state for funding," said Harris. "We're then put on a list for funding." There are 49 community colleges in the state.

Harris said state funding is enrollment driven and is figured from enrollment around Thanksgiving of the

Fall semester.

Theat funding has decreased in the past 6 couple of years and Harris said the closing of Chanute Air Force Base and the addition of Heartland Community College has taken away enrollment and funding.

"That's why we've had to raise tuition," said Harris. "Technology is also our greatest expenditure and we've had to increase funding to stay on the leading edge."

Harris said the technology budget is \$90,000, and that's to help guide Parkland to the leading edge, not the cutting edge.

Younger students are the market that Parkland has trouble keeping, said Harris.

"We're trying to keep our students here," said Harris. "We've implemented our orientation course, peer tutoring and the mentoring program. We do a much better job at keeping our older students."

Also being submitted this year is a new student center, but Harris says it might be five or six years down the road.

"We need a student



Dr. Harris discusses Parkland's future projects with NewsWriting II students.

center," said Harris. "Students need a place to congregate and have fun."

The C-118 lecture hall has been a problem with noise in the past, said Harris.

"We've done everything possible to keep noise from there," said Harris. "We placed study carrels there a couple of years ago to help reduce noise."

A new student center project has been submitted in the past, but Harris said state funding is given priority to academic space, not student space.

Harris said a study was done two years ago to

evaluate Parkland's space needs.

"That study showed Parkland was 126,882 square feet short of what we need to serve the current population," said Harris. "Our deficit in overall space includes 10,000 square feet for the business training center and 12,688 square feet for the equine facility."

Any additions will be th the main building, said Harris.

"Do you know what a convenience it is to be under one roof," said Harris. "Students here are very fortunate."

Games, food & money

Spring Fling celebrated all day Friday

BY: TOBIAS G. SIMPSON
PROSPECTUS STAFF WRITER

Once again Parkland is celebrating the coming of spring and the end of the semester.

Games, food, and money to win will be some of the highlights of this years Spring Fling.

Spring Fling will be Friday, May 1, from 10 am to 4 pm in the gymnasium.

Games this year are more high-tech than Student Life has ever brought in.

First is the M-4 Virtual Reality. The M-4 is the world's only 360° rotating motion simulator. It is a state of the art 2-seat simulator that offers a choice of three flight scenarios.

Scenarios range from dodging asteroids to face-to-face air combat.

There will also be an indoor Lazer Tag arena. Packed



into 1400 square feet are black lights, 5 chambers, 32 obstacles, interconnecting portals, dense fog, and neon colors.

Up to 10 people can go to war in this psychedelic battle-

field.

Further excitement will come in the form of an adventure ride and several other games.

nities to win prizes and money.

Food this year will be a barbeque provided by Student Government.

The food is free and will begin being served at 11 am out near the fountain, weather permitting.

Isabel Castro, Student Activities Director, expects a large crowd, "probably three to four hundred," she said, "We had around three hundred last year."

Last year the games were much less high-tech, available last year were an inflatable mountain course, an obstacle course, and a bungee run.

"I'd like to see lots of students come out and have a good time and enjoy the good food," said Isabel Castro.

There will also be opportunities to win real money. At noon there will be a game show in the tradition of *Hollywood Squares*.

There will also be a 'Dash for Dollars' and other opportu-

POLICE REPORTS

Department of Public Safety
Media Log

Tuesday, April 21

~Possible fight at door X2. Students were just playing around.

Wednesday, April 22

~A staff member reported that a counterfeit bill was passed at the Bookstore. Upon investigation the bill was legal tender that had a sticker on it.

~A student reported that on 4/15/98 that his wallet was stolen from the gym team locker room. This is the third reported theft from this area. Do not leave any valuables in this area. The Department is currently conducting an investigation into these thefts. If you have any information, please contact our office.

Thursday, April 23

~A student reported that someone was downloading pornography in B-117. A student conduct report was sent to the Dean of Students.

Friday, April 24

~A student reported that someone was viewing pornography in L-217. A student conduct report was sent to the Dean of Students.

Monday, April 27

~A faculty member reported that a set of college credit cards were lost or stolen. The cards have been cancelled.

~A student was issued a traffic citation for illegal left turn from the Bradley Ave. exit.

~A student reported that a trash can outside of the Bookstore was smoking. Officers arrived outside of the X-8 doors and put the small fire out with a fire extinguisher.

The Department of Public Safety responded to one emergency medical call for service and 197 non-emergency calls for service.

Twin Cities score well on national literacy test

Urbana has a 12% level 1 (lowest) literacy level, and Champaign is at 13%, according to a recent national study.

The study conducted by the National Institute for Literacy includes every Congressional district, county, and city in the U.S. with a population of more than 5,000.

The "State of Literacy" results show that 40 to 44 million adults nationwide are "struggling with literacy problems and falling further behind."

Instead of classifying individuals as "literate" or "illiterate," the study involved three literacy scales: prose literacy, document literacy, and quantitative literacy. Each scale reflects a different type of real-life literacy task.

Level 1 (lowest) can usually sign his/her own name but cannot locate eligibility from a table of employee benefits; can identify a country in a short article, but

cannot locate an intersection on a street map; can locate one piece of information in a sports article, but cannot locate two pieces of information in a sports article.

Level I also can usually locate the expiration date on a driver's license but cannot identify and enter background information on a social security card application; can total a bank deposit entry but cannot calculate total costs of purchase from an order form.

Champaign County's low rate of 11% is surpassed by only four other counties in the state.

Chicago is second-high on the illiteracy list with a 37% level, topped only by East St. Louis with 56%.

Illinois — 20% at level 1 — is not among the states with the lowest illiteracy rates. They are: Maine, Oregon and Washington, 15%; Minnesota 13%; Vermont 12%, and Alaska, Utah and

Wyoming 11%.

Mississippi led the states with the lowest literacy level: 30%. It is followed by Louisiana, 28%, and California, New York and Texas, 24%.

Thirty-seven percent of adults in the District of Columbia are at the lowest literacy level.

"The report is a wake-up call that we must do better," Sen. Paul Simon, a member of the NIFL Board, said.

"Cities with low literacy rates are less able to attract the kind of employers than can make the difference between a thriving and dying economy," Andrew Hartman, director of the National Institute for Literacy, said. "These data can help companies make informed decisions about where to relocate."

A copy of the report is available in the Prospectus office and may be borrowed by students, faculty, staff with permission.

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2400 West Bradley Avenue
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For better or for worse...

Arranged marriages pros & cons

BY: ALEX ALFREDO
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
(BOSTON UNIVERSITY)
COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Adnen, a senior at Boston University, never mentions the women he's dating in the letters he send home to Pakistan.

So far, none of his girlfriends have been Muslim — a religious difference he says his parents would never tolerate.

With graduation just around the corner, the 22-year-old business major suspects his parents are eager for him to find a wife — or have them find one for him. Though Adnen says independence is the best thing about living in America, tradition and his Islamic faith bind him.

He's far from being the only one. Many students from families who believe in arranged marriages will be assigned their spouses shortly after graduation.

"Everyone thinks that love is a big thing you have to have beforehand; people can't imagine attaining it after," Adnen said. "I don't think you'll ever know 'Yeah, I love this person.' You have to look for things that are more important ... because if everything else matches — your way of thinking, your ideals — you're going to get along, and love will come."

Thoughts of relying on Mom and Dad to play matchmaker send shivers up the spines of many American

students, but in most of the world, arranged marriages are the norm.

One survey of urban professionals living in India indicated that 81 percent had arranged marriages. Of that group, 94 percent rated their unions "very successful." More than half of the survey's respondent said they wanted their families to choose their mates "because elders know best." Another 20 percent said because they were guaranteed someone of similar social standing, and about 10 percent said they liked knowing they could count on family support during times of trouble.

"We're the oddballs," said Rebecca Manning, a professor of India studies and religion studies at Indiana University. "We (Western societies) seem to be more oriented toward the individual; older cultures think of the culture or community first."

Doing weddings the Western way — "love marriages," they're called in India — hasn't seemed to work, many advocates of arranged marriages say. They're quick to point out that more than half of all marriages in the United States end in divorce, while in India the divorce rate is a mere 5 percent. In Middle Eastern countries practicing arranged marriage, the rates are also in the single digits.

"When choosing a mate for their children, parents want to make sure their child is compatible with the family of their mate," Manning said. "Since the woman joins the

man's family (and typically lives with them), the man's family wants to make sure she is compatible with them."

Until a few decades ago, even the most educated Indian families married their children off without consulting them. A bride and groom weren't allowed to meet each other before their wedding or to refuse the match.

Marital customs in rural parts of the country among lower classes and highly conservative business families haven't changed much. Recently, a young couple was beheaded at a village meeting because they eloped.

But for most educated Indians and people from the Middle East, much has changed. Families who once relied on neighborhood matchmakers now use computerized marriage bureaus and highly detailed ads place in newspaper. In India, young people are playing a bigger role in the selection process and have the power to veto unsuitable candidates, Manning said.

Despite modern influences, the "arrangement" process is difficult, many students say.

"It's like you're just waiting for something to happen — waiting for someone to talk into your life," said Sandija, a Pakistani who is pursuing a Ph.D. in engineering at Boston University. "I cannot be proactive because (women) are not suppose to be proactive, and that makes me feel powerless. I'm just

sitting around waiting for someone to (choose a husband) for me, and that's not something I'm used to.

"But my parents have been right about many things in the past, she continued. "So I don't think I'd like to venture out alone against their wishes."

Not Aisha Kahn, a 19-year-old majoring in international relations and anthropology at Boston University. Though her parents had a successful arranged marriage in their native Pakistan, Kahn said she wants to choose her husband.

"I think my parents will understand," she said. "They won't force me to marry somebody who I'm clueless about. Imagine marrying somebody you don't know; that's horrible."

Sandija says she not only imagines the scenario but also hopes it will come true before she graduates in 2001.

"I don't want to have a Ph.D. after my name when I go looking for a husband because that would make it almost impossible to find someone," she said. "(Because) men fear that their wives might be smarter, richer.... I would be put in a position where I would (have to) marry someone who has a Ph.D., M.D. or the equivalent."

Why would such an independent thinker agree to an arranged marriage?

"Because I've seen it work," Sandija said.

Internet Club
w2.parkland.cc.il.us/~internetclub

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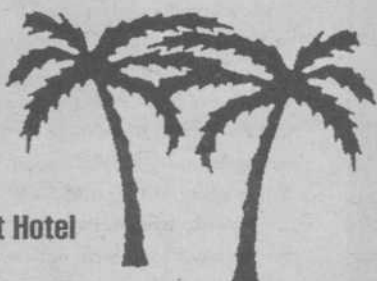


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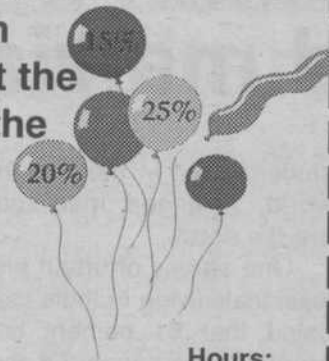


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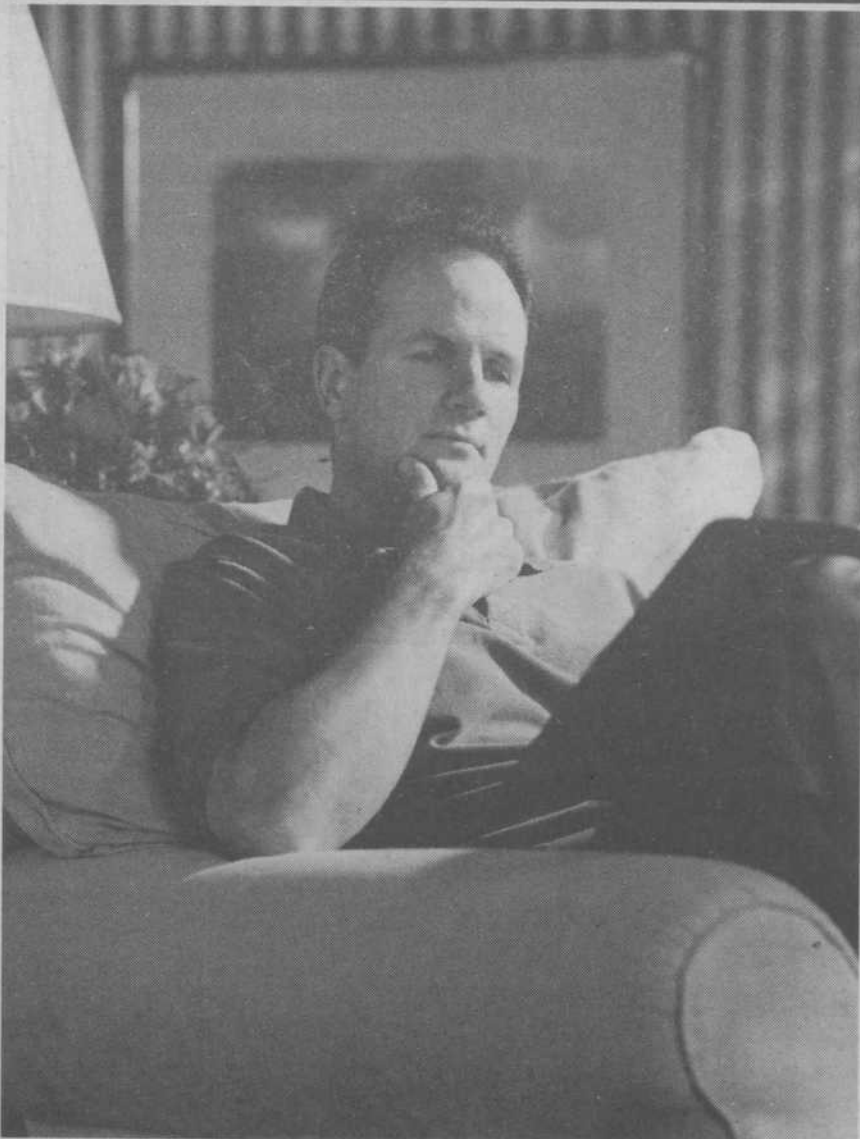
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Indiana University takes bold step

By: CHAD BROOKS
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
(INDIANA UNIVERSITY)
COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Indiana University thinks it has found a way to fight grade inflation — considered by many to be one of the biggest problems plaguing higher education.

Giving students better grades than they deserve might enhance their resumes in the short run but will devalue them in the long one, many experts say. After all, what good are good grades if everyone gets them? And if everyone gets good grades, what does that say about a university?

"I am a great example of why the system is failing," said Scott Hayman, a senior at Indiana. "I get great grades and barely do anything for them."

It's clear that grade-point averages are on the rise around the nation. At the University of California at Berkeley, the average under-

graduate GPA rose from 2.91 in 1986 to 3.08 in 1996. In 1986, 47 percent of students had a C average. A decade later, only 35 percent fell in that range.

At Duke University, the average GPA rose from 3.0 to 3.3 between 1986 and 1994. And in 1992, more than half of undergraduate students at Stanford University were getting grades of at least an A minus.

Officials at Indiana University had similar scores to report. Between 1976 and 1996, the school found that its average student GPA rose from 2.83 to 2.96.

To ensure that a C remains average and that average students get what they truly deserve, Indiana officials approved the Expanded Grade Context Transcript.

Implemented in March, school officials say it is the first grade-reporting system of its kind to

be adopted by any university in the nation.

"What we are trying to achieve by this is a way to put each grade in a context so it can be appreciated and its value can be shown" said Richard Carr, co-chair of IU's educational policies committee.

The new system of reporting offers much more than the traditional information: department, course title, credit hours and grade. It also includes the instructor's name, the average GPA of students enrolled in a particular section. The report also shows students how many of their classmates scored higher, lower, or the same as they did.

Carr concedes that many of Indiana's faculty members don't like the new system.

"I must admit that when brought before the faculty, it did not pass unanimously," he said. "There were many faculty

members who want the right to give whatever grade they see fit."

Despite instructors' complaints, many students have embraced the more detailed reports.

"They really let you know how you did in comparison with the other people in your class," said Senior Jason Rosenthal.

Even with the new system, Carr said he believes there is no way to completely stop grade inflation. Many experts agree.

Louis Goldman, author of "The Betrayal of the Gatekeeper: Grade Inflation," wrote that the trouble started in the 1960's when professors gave students higher grades to help them avoid the draft. Today, however, he cites several factors contributing to the current problem. Among them is one Carr said he has observed at Indiana University: Teachers fear for their job

security.

"The younger faculty is concerned, and they do tend to grade higher," he said. "Students want to be challenged, but they aren't going to go into a class knowing that the highest grade they can get is a C."

If given some time to work, the new system will wind up helping everyone in the long run, Carr said.

"Is the average student being put in a bad position by this?" he asked. "Maybe. But we have to think of the people we're most proud of. This group will benefit the most."

Campus Correspondent Keith Perine, of the University of Iowa, contributed to this report.

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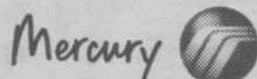
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BIRTHRIGHT

SPORTS



Parkland Cobra's baseball roundup

BY: NICHOLAS TRAXLER
PROSPECTUS SPORTS EDITOR

As the season is winding down the Parkland baseball team is looking for leaders. Emerging as the go-to man on offense is Eric Pagels. With a .407 hitting average in 81 at bats Pagels is on a roll. Sophomore Scot Scharlau is the second leading hitter with a .318 average. To Scharlau's credit he has the second leading average with seventy more at bats.

The duo's offensive firepower will be needed starting Saturday when the team opens regional play at Rend Lake Community College. The team will open with a 9 a.m. game versus Lincoln Trail and then a game noon against host Rend Lake.

The pitching staff can use all the help they can get. Although they have had a solid season, they have been giving up a large number of runs lately. The team's ERA has sprung to 4.09 and the entire Cobra

team will need to be rattling the bats.

COBRA WEEK IN REVIEW

In the past week Parkland has gone 3-5. Included were a split with Danville (6-4W, 16-6L) and a sweep of John A Logan (6-5, 8-5). The major blows came later in the week with 4 straight losses. Double-header sweeps by Olney and Rend Lake have dropped the Cobras near .500 again for the season. This week the team closes out against South Suburban College.

Letter from the Editors

The co-editors and online editor of the *Prospectus* wish to thank Scott R. Wennerdahl, Web Page Specialist, for his help in getting the *Prospectus Online*.

His suggestions and assistance in designing and programming the page have been invaluable.

We all wish to say: Thank you!

Cory Gibon,
Stephanie Hodge
Prospectus Co-editors
Victor Lopez,
Online Editor



Good Luck
Parkland Cobras!!

APRIL/MAY 1998

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| | |
|---|---|
| MONDAY, APRIL 27 | 7:00 p.m. Outside Looking In |
| 6:00 p.m. CREATING INCLUSIVE EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITIES Educators tell about making classrooms more user friendly for all students. | 7:30 p.m. Walls and Bridges |
| | 8:00 p.m. BLACK HISTORY MONTH GOSPEL CONCERT, 1998 |
| | 9:00 p.m. PARKLAND REPORT Parkland's Agricultural Programs, Bruce Henrikson & Larry Thurow |
| 6:30 p.m. REAL PEOPLE, REAL STORIES, REAL JOBS What do you do when you lose your job and don't know where to turn? See how others have turned their lives around with around with the help of JTPA and Parkland College | SUNDAY, MAY 3 |
| | 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. CLASSIC ARTS SHOWCASE |
| | 6:00 p.m. PARKLAND CHALLENGE High School Quiz Bowl Rantoul Vs Schlarman Ridgeview Vs Blue Ridge TORNADO PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR Ed Kieser, Meteorologist |
| 7:00 p.m. GOALS 2000: THINKING COLLEGE EARLY: PREPARING ACADEMICALLY AND FINANCIALLY U.S. Department of Education town meeting to help parents, teachers, and students understand the payoff of preparing for and going to college; and the vital importance of preparing academically and financially for college early in middle school. | 7:00 p.m. ED KIESER, METEOROLOGIST |
| | 7:52 p.m. ED KIESER, METEOROLOGIST: "HOLD THE ANCHOVIES," Ed Kieser |
| 8:00 p.m. APPLES MAGAZINE: Introduction to the project approach | 8:40 p.m. FRANCES NELSON COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER: THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE Presentation by Catherine Hogue to the Parkland Lifelong Learning Institute. |
| 9:00 p.m. A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CHINESE AMERICAN WOMAN Brown bag presentation, Office of Women's Programs and Services | MONDAY, MAY 4 |
| TUESDAY, APRIL 28 | 6:00 p.m. PARKLAND REPORT Parkland's Agriculture Program Bruce Henrikson & Larry Thurow |
| 1) Berlin Brich! | 6:30 p.m. FOR ARTS SAKE Interpreting Surroundings: Four African-American Artists Denise Seif, Director of the Parkland Art Gallery, talks with Chicago artist Tracey Moore about the exhibition in the Gallery. |
| 2) Germany's Educational Apprentices System | 7:00 p.m. GOALS 2000: MAKING MATH COUNT World-Class Achievement Starting With Algebra, U.S. Department of Education town meeting explores results of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). Panel discusses ways to support efforts to build a strong foundation in math and science in the middle grades; raise standards and measure student performance; encourage schools to offer a challenging curriculum and students to take tougher courses; and improve the teaching of math and science through teacher preparation, certification, and professional development. |
| 6:00 p.m. PRISMA IN ENGLISH | 8:00 p.m. APPLES MAGAZINE: EVERY MOVE COUNTS A Sensory-Based Approach to Communication and Assistive Technology. Strategies for identifying interests and abilities; symbol system hierarchy; the "frotten" implementation keys; & considerations for monitoring results. Inservice Training for professionals and parents. |
| 6:30 p.m. PRISMA IN GERMAN | 9:00 p.m. CULTIVATING SHAKTI: FEMININE ENERGY Presentation at Parkland by Paula Hamman |
| 7:00 p.m. PRISMA IN FRENCH | TUESDAY, MAY 5 |
| 8:00 p.m. GERMAN SCENE IN ENGLISH The Gummy Bear Collection from the Rhine; Expo 2000 World's Fair Projects in Hanover; Young Cycling Talents Follow on the Tracks of Iddi Jan Ullrich; A European Research Probe Heads Toward Titan; Market Model Trains; Tennis Star Michael Stich Helps HIV-Infected Children, and more. | 6:00 p.m. PRISMA Wilhelm Conrad Rontgen, discoverer of the X-ray; Otto Lilienthal and the Dream of Flying. English version. |
| 8:30 p.m. GERMAN SCENE, in German | 6:30 p.m. PRISMA, German version |
| 9:00 p.m. GERMANY LIVE Bergisches Land, in German | 7:00 p.m. PRISMA, Spanish version |
| WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29 | 7:30 p.m. PRISMA, French version |
| 6:00 p.m. CROSSROADS CAFE Opportunity Knocks | 8:00 p.m. THE GERMAN SCENE Danish Minority in Schleswig-Holstein; "Bruno Banani" Designer Underwear from Mittelbach; The Multi-Media Culture Factory in Karlsruhe; Interpreter Training in Garmersheim; Freinberg, City of Silver and Baroque Organs; Germany & Europe: Past, Present, & Future. English version. |
| 6:30 p.m. The People's Choice | 8:30 p.m. GERMAN SCENE, German version |
| | 9:00 p.m. GERMANY LIVE: OBERHAUSEN Presenter Cheryl Korman shows Oberhausen with all its prestige projects and all its legacies from the era of heavy industry. In German. |

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