

Prospectus

Champaign, IL since 1969

PARKLAND COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Wednesday November 3, 1999

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Parkland Leads in Online Courses

by Liz Davis
News Editor

It's 6 a.m. on a cold, rainy Monday morning. The last thing you want to do is roll out of your warm, cozy bed, but you have that test today....

Or perhaps you would like to further your education, but between work and family life you just don't have the time to go to school.

What to do? Parkland College can help.

Thanks to innovations in technology, state funding and a dedicated staff of computer and education experts, Parkland now offers 39 courses with 60 sections on-line, and six degree options that are almost or completely available on-line.

Parkland leads all Illinois community colleges in online course offerings. It is ranked second in the state among all public and private two and four-year educational institutions. Only the U of I offers more.

Tom Ramage, Department Chair of Distance and Virtual Learning, has been instrumental in increasing non-traditional course offerings at PC.

One addition has been to

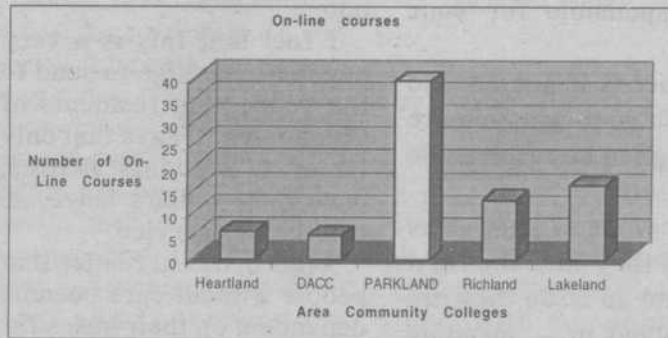


Tom Ramage

make Parkland a founding member of the Illinois Prairie Internet Consortium (IPIC), which is an alliance of Illinois community colleges that, according to Ramage, "jointly develop and share online courses."

The IPIC currently consists of nine colleges: Parkland, DACC, Heartland, Richland, Lakeland which are founding schools, and Joliet, Illinois Valley, Illinois Central and Lincolnland, whom just recently joined the organization.

The Illinois Virtual Campus is another option for students seeking non-traditional methods of education. The IVC is a catalog of every course and program



offered in the state of Illinois; students can search the site based on school, course, or method of instruction, whether that be online, telecourse, or interactive video.

Ramage explained that with telecourses, classes are videotaped and then broadcasted or played in a VCR. Interactive video uses high tech video cameras set up in area classrooms that link the classes to an instructor at Parkland.

According to Ramage, Parkland began offering online courses in 1995; the first was Sports Psychology. Interestingly, the original instructor of that class still teaches that course for Parkland, and also maintains a teaching position at Mesa College in Arizona.

Ramage said that students from 30 states and countries from as far away as Japan, Jordan, Israel,

the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, South America, and Mexico have enrolled in online courses through Parkland.

The adaptability of on-line courses is illustrated by a student who was employed on a cruise ship. She would download course assignments and homework while in port, and work on course projects while at sea.

Ramage himself is no stranger to high tech classes. He earned his master's degree completely online, which allowed him to work a full time job and still spend time with his family.

David Jones, Department Chair of Fine and Applied Arts, said his department is one course short of having two degree options in Mass Communications online: Advertising/Public Relations and Journalism. He estimated that within a semester or two, these de-

grees will be available on-line.

Jones said the number of students enrolled in online courses this semester exceeds the total number that enrolled all of last year.

He cautioned that online courses are not for everyone. "Those who do best in these types of courses," he said, "are self-motivated, disciplined, and comfortable with computers."

Ramage said the benefits of off-campus courses are numerous, including reduced commuter and on-campus time, and increased scholastic independence.

Although some experts have predicted that the traditional campus-based university will become a fossil in future years, Jones disagrees.

According to a study conducted by UIUC this summer, students seemed to be happy whether they were taking courses on campus or online.

So go ahead...

Sleep in another hour...

Play with your child instead of dashing off to class...

If you're online, your class will be waiting.

104 Inducted into Honors Society

By Liz Davis

More than 100 Parkland students were inducted into the Alpha Psi Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society of two-year colleges, Wednesday night in a formal ceremony in the Parkland Theatre.

Dr. Jim White of Prairie State College and the Regional Coordinator of PTK, was the keynote speaker. In his address, he challenged the inductees to become involved in the society at the chapter level, but also regionally and internationally as well. "There are so many opportunities that are going to come your way as

a member of Phi Theta Kappa," he said, "and I want you to take advantage of these."

He also urged them to make "connections of the heart" with fellow society members.

Dr. White praised the large audience turnout and gave special thanks to all who made the event possible.

After his speech, he was presented with a Parkland College baseball cap and leather bookmark by chapter president Collin P. Corcoran.

Also, during the ceremony, Rich Lake, vice president of Parkland and a former PTK advisor, was made an hon-



NeilBernstein/Prospectus

orary member of PTK, and the chapter was named a five star chapter. "You see, right now, the best — at the highest level a chapter can be," said Dr. White as he presented Alpha Psi Eta officers with the award.

Before the ceremony, Champika Kazor said she was "thrilled" about becoming an honor society member. "Hard work pays off," she said.

Susan Cook, another inductee, echoed Kazor's enthusiasm. "I knew my grades were good, but not that good," she said. She added that it was a nice change for her to be the center of attention and her children to be in the audience.

Inductees recited an oath of membership and were then invited to sign the membership book, signaling that they were now recognized as official PTK members. Each student was then personally congratulated by a panel of Parkland officials and presented with a white carnation and a certificate of recognition. They will receive PTK emblem pins at a later

date.

Chapter officers are: Collin P. Corcoran, president; C. Austin Steffenson, vice-president; Nicholas A. Maag, treasurer, and A. J. Williams, public relations secretary. Dr. Umeeta Sadarangani is their advisor.

Requirements for membership are: 12 completed hours of 100-level or above credit courses earned from Parkland, a declared associate degree (A.A.S., A.A., A.S), a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, a completed and signed application (available in C-120) and payment of fees.

Community Calendar

Wednesday, Nov. 3

Raising NonRacist Children—
An Introduction
Guest Speaker: Imani Bazzell
12 noon
Room A208

Phi Theta Kappa
Bi-monthly meeting
5-6 pm
Room X150

Off-Campus
Reston Papers
3:30 p.m.
Gregory Hall
University of Illinois

Saturday, Nov. 6

46th Annual Contest PowWow
Van leaves C-4 parking lot at
8 am,
Will return by 6 pm
FREE! Entrance fee provided
by Student Life
Students, Staff, Faculty,
Friends and Family Welcome
Sign up in X149 or call 351-
2206

Policies for letters to the Editor

--Opinions printed in the *Prospectus* are those only of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the *Prospectus*.
--All letters must be signed.
--Submission deadline is Friday at 5 pm.
--All submissions become property of the *Prospectus*.
--The *Prospectus* reserves the right to edit or reject any submissions.

From the Editor

I would like to commend all who participated in the Phi Theat Kappa induction ceremony last Wednesday evening in the Parkland Theatre.

It was extremely gratifying to see the administration and organization members put so much effort into making the event special for both the inductees and the audience. Dr. Jim White, the keynote speaker, was truly inspirational and a wonderful choice for featured speaker.

As a PTK alumna from another chapter, I was extremely impressed with the level of dedication by all involved. The event was informative, impressive, and fun for all who watched. I hope the new members of this wonderful chapter truly appreciate how fortunate they are to be a part of such a special chapter.

It was obvious to me that those involved in this chapter truly care about their organization and strive to make it the best.

Congratulations to all on your chapter's Five Star recognition. It is truly deserved.

U of I Policy Up for Debate

To the Editor:

I have a serious question of why U. of I. officials feel they have the right to notify parents when their children are drinking. The school notifies parents after the student is picked up for underage drinking.

I am not condoning underage drinking, but if you are over 18 years of age, you are considered an adult in court, making you, not your parents, responsible for your actions.

The fact is if you are old enough to go to war, you are old enough to be responsible for yourself.

I also want to know why they feel they have the right to dip into an issue they are not involved in — meaning family.

It's not a difficult question, but what gives them the right?

Grant Thompson

MTD Should Rethink Summer Schedule

To the Editor:

Even though it's almost winter, I'm still very disappointed with MTD regarding their annual policy of reducing bus service during the summer months in the Champaign-Urbana area.

In case you are unaware of it, after the U. of I. finals are over, MTD cuts all of the campus buses, and they reduce the other bus service from once every 30 minutes to once an hour. Most of the buses stop running at 10 p.m.

I feel that this is a very negative message to send to the year-round residents of Champaign. It says that only U. of I. students matter; once their dollars leave, so can the bus service.

MTD needs to realize that people without cars become dependent on their buses for work, shopping, and recreation. When you take them all away, it makes it difficult for people to live their normal lives.

Donald Dennis

Support Parkland Athletics

To the Editor:

I am a captain on the Parkland men's basketball team. I've been here for two years now, and I am still wondering why the fan support is so low at our school.

I'm not saying that there isn't anyone who comes to the games. When we play good teams, there are some fans who come out to see us play.

I want to let everyone who reads this paper know that the Parkland Cobras are a great team with heart, lots of good athletes and a great coaching staff.

So as a player and a writer, I'd like to invite you to our home games. The first home game is on Tuesday, Nov. 9 and Thursday, Nov. 11.

GO COBRAS!

Aaron Love

PC Alcohol Policy Questioned

To the Editor:

I am somewhat confused by a policy here at Parkland College. Is alcohol consumption acceptable or not?

If a student (age 21 of course) were walking around campus drinking a beer, the Parkland police would most likely make sure that the student refrain from this action.

Why is it then when administration hosts a party in the Gallery Lounge, students can walk past and see these authority figures sipping their wine? Isn't this quite the double standard?

If the school weren't so cheap, maybe we would have this problem. Why doesn't the college hold such parties at a local hotel or hall? I guess that would just make too much sense.

Thank you for allowing me to vent my thoughts.

Marissa Manuel



The Early Bird Gets the Worm

To the Editor::

I read the letter from Greg File with interest. He began his letter by stating that being a full-time student is stressful. I agree with that statement, but from then on, I could not find much to agree with.

In the first paragraph, he attributes some of his stress to uncooperative professors and deadlines. I agree that deadlines can exact a certain amount of effort from a person, but in my experience, if one begins a project when it is assigned — and not the night before it is due — the deadline becomes much less stressful.

And uncooperative teachers? First suggestion: to the assigned work on time without complaining, and teachers will be filled to overflowing with joy. Second suggestion: cooperate with the instructor, and he/she will cooperate more with you.

In the second paragraph, File griped about "climb(ing) our hard working butts out of bed," going to morning class, "only to find there is not a parking spot within five miles of the classroom."

I live exactly five and one half miles from Parkland college, and I do not park after driving the first miles. I wonder if Greg File knows how many cars it would take to fill every parking space within within a five-mile radius of Parkland? But I digress.

If a student budgets enough time to walk from the farthest parking space to one's classroom, one wouldn't be late, and would probably get a better parking

space than those who wait until the last minute to drive in — and how can they expect a good parking spot? Remember that saying: the early bird gets the worm?

The argument that File's letter was supposedly really about, though, was people talking in the hallways.

First off, I have never had trouble getting to class on time due to people in the hallways. In fact, sometimes I will stop between classes to check my email, drop by the radio station, or talk to friends. This semester I have a class deep in the C wing and one right after it on the third story of the X wing, and I have yet to be late.

If someone can't make it to class on time, I can only think of a few reasons why:

1 - Their teacher takes too long to end the class.

2 - They can't walk from one class to another in the ten minutes allotted for class switching.

3 - They hang around somewhere too long and then can't make it to class in time.

If the first reason is a problem, candidly and calmly discussing the situation with your teacher is a suggestion. He/She just might listen.

I have experienced no difficulty with the second reason — which Greg File wishes to blame — once a student learns where his/her classrooms are, ten minutes should be long enough to go from one end of the campus to the other.

If the third reason is truly a problem, then some self-control is necessary.

Let's assume that someone comes in five minutes before her/his class starts. That

person walks through the hall and happens upon a group of people standing in the hall. Is it possible for a group to totally block a passageway? If the student really wants to get to class on time, he/she could either be polite and request a lear passage or weave her/his way through the group, of, in an extreme situation, find another way to go.

If this "passageway blockage" is truly a serious problem, I would suggest n entrance switch. There are many, many entrances to Parkland, and many ways to get to the same place. One could easily go in a different door and approach the classroom from a different direction.

Is martial law really necessary to keep hallways clear? Do we want officers escorting us out of the way whenever Greg File and other latecomers are running to class? I think that approach would be silly and a waste of our officers' time.. I also think that this martial law would destroy the friendly atmosphere of Parkland.

And if I left my lights on, I would appreciate any effort on the officer's part to help me out.

I don't think that blaming tardiness on parking lots or the Public Safety officers is warranted. If someone has a problem with timeliness, that person ought to find examine hi/her own habits, decision, and actions before blasting away at everyone and everything other than him/herself.

We students need to re-evaluate our habits and attitudes before attacking Parkland's teachers and officers. Please accept that responsibility.

Philip Gioja



Prospectus

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Production Editor: Tim Higgins
News Editor: Liz Davis
Features Editor: John Isberg
Photo Editor: Neil Bernstein
Advertising Manager: Rachael Brumleve
Production Manager: Matt Gillenwater
Advertising Reps: Amy Kincaid
Brandi Sumption
Doris Barr
Advisor:
Online Editor: Matt Gillenwater

News Office: 217-351-2216
Advertising: 217-351-2278
Fax: 217-373-3835

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Student Profiles

Mahmoud At-taras

President of Student Government

By John Isberg
Features Editor

"I don't like politics, let me say it again, I don't like politics," laughed Mahmoud At-taras, a rather ironic statement coming from the President of Student Government. It is interesting and up-front statements like these that make Mahmoud a person you should know.

Born in the Sudan, Mahmoud moved to America at the age of 6. His family settled in Champaign, IL, where his father worked toward his Ph.D at the University of Illinois. He is a graduate of Champaign Central High School. His extracurricular interests included sports such as football and basketball. He is currently a student at Parkland College, he plans to apply to the University of Texas.

Mahmoud's strong ideologies are reflected in his loyalty to friends and



Neil Bernstein/Prospectus
Mahmoud At-taras

family, which play a strong role in his life. He also considers himself a bit outspoken. "I've got an opinion on everything. It tends to get me into trouble," he said. "I get a lot of it from my father. He doesn't buckle to pressure and he never wavers," he explained.

When asked about his heroes, the conversation went back to his family. "I think my hero is definitely my father. He commands a lot of respect from people."

During his life,

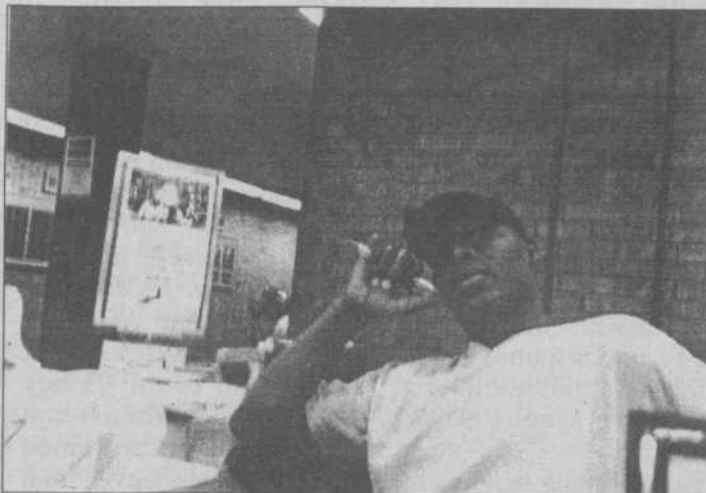
Mahmoud has traveled across the globe from London to Paris, and to even more exotic locales such as Saudi Arabia and Yemen. "Saudi Arabia was amazing. It was modern and yet simplistic with outdoor cafes and bazaars."

As far as his assets and contributions to Student Government as its leader, Mahmoud emphasizes that he will do his best but admits that he always has room for improvement. He also discussed new programs such as "Donuts and Dialogue," a forum that gives students the opportunity to ask student government any questions and concerns they may have.

"We also have a showcase for clubs on campus coming November 10th," Mahmoud added.

With all the life experiences Mahmoud has had, he is sure to go far.

A Personal Tribute: In Memory of Michael Hicks:



Neil Bernstein/Prospectus
Michael Hicks

by Candice Tillman

Throughout the hustle and bustle of everyday life at Parkland College, I and others probably don't every recall all of the encounters we have with our peers. We shoot through the halls, class to class, commitment to commitment, oblivious to our surroundings. Most conversations are profoundly lost in the deep dark grey matter of our memories.

However, I cannot say that holds true for one moment in time that I shared with Michael Hicks.

We often passed one another while switching shifts in Student Life, exchanging "hi's" and "How's class going", never anticipating the one day before he would leave this world, we would share a *real* and momentous conversation

He just needed to use the directory at the Information desk on Tuesday, Oct. 26. We found ourselves immersed in a deeply emotional and intellectual conversation. He wanted the African-American race to love themselves and to not expect it from others. Wow, can we all apply this notion to our own lives!

He wanted to make a difference with his own children. "They should come up respecting themselves and knowing their image is accepted," he said with such intensified emotion. I felt we were tackling the world together for 30 minutes in time! I know he was *real*! I believe he thought I was too. He said, "Do what makes you happy or it just doesn't count!" He meant for it me, but mostly for himself.

I perceived him as a content and determined individual who was inevitably going to make a difference, just by being Michael.

Our last words were, "I really like listening to you!" I also let him know how intelligent I felt he was.

I'm so glad I talked with Michael for those 30 minutes. I'm glad I seized the moment, and let him know what kind of a person I felt he was.

Thank you, Michael Hicks, for moving me...

May your spirit move many others.

Set your goals high. We'll help get you there.

Sometimes reaching your goals seems like an impossible task. In the Air Force you'll get the tools you need to reach any goal you set. We'll help get you there by:

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PC Honor Society Receives Highest Rating

By Liz Davis
News Editor

A five star rating in any realm, whether it be motels or movies or fine restaurants, is rare in any realm; but Parkland's honor society chapter has received such a rating.

The Alpha Psi Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges, was named one of the best of the best by PTK Regional Coordinator Dr. Jim White at the induction ceremony for new members last Wednesday night.

According to the chapter's advisor, Dr. Umeeta Sadarangani, vice president Austin Steffenson, who served as president last year in the

ly responsible for the honor bestowed upon the chapter.

Steffenson, however, remains modest. "So many helped get us there," he said. "A.J. [Williams, public relations secretary] didn't hesitate to step in to be an officer. He also credited Dr. White and other area chapters for their advice and encouragement in obtaining this award. "It's not easy to do," he said.

According to Steffenson, the five star race begins every spring at the International PTK convention, but Alpha Psi Eta did not begin their efforts until fall. It was then when they committed to a service project--they chose the America Reads campaign--and an honors project to work on. In

earned their distinction in only half the time of the other chapters.

Currently, as part of its honors program, the organization is holding dialogue sessions that are open to all Parkland students.

Steffenson said that exciting plans are in the works for Alpha Psi Eta, and the more members that actively participate in the chapter, the more successful the organization will be. He also pointed out that PTK members are eligible for the organization's scholarships; in Illinois alone, according to Dr. White, \$4.8 million in scholarship money is available to the honor society's members.

The chapter will be spon-

for All Ages in Savoy November 13-14. To participate, simply mention Phi Theta Kappa when making a purchase--no additional contributions are necessary--and Pages will donate a percentage of the sale to PTK. The proceeds from the sale will be split between scholarship programs and the American Reads programs.

Members of the chapter are invited to attend organizational meetings that are held every first and third Wednesday of the month in X150

For more information about the chapter, Steffenson recommended logging onto the organization's web page, which can be found at: www.ptk.org

animal (an • i • mal) n.
a living being capable of feeling.

—To find out what you can do to help animals, contact PETA.

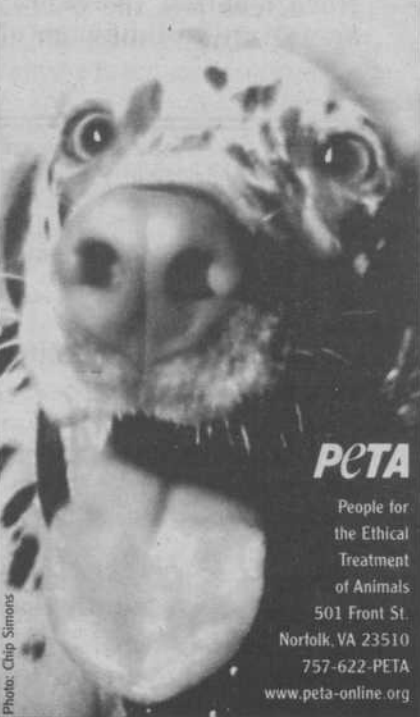


Photo: Chip Simons

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The Chief Illiniwek Controversy Still Prevalant in C-U

by: Austin Germaine
Staff Writer

It seems that almost everybody is complaining about something these days. Recently, mascots depicting Native Americans, like U of I's Chief Illiniwek, have come under fire. Is this just another attempt to extort money from wealthy establishments, or do we have a real point here?

For quite some time now, the issue regarding mascots of athletic teams has been a heated debate. The Atlanta Braves, Kansas City Chiefs, Cleveland Indians, and particularly, the Washington Redskins, have been pressured by various anti-racist groups to change their symbols.

These mascots are charged with portraying Native-Americans in a stereotypical, racist fashion, which may be demeaning to the people of that culture. The Redskins have come under a particularly strong attack due to the derogatory nature of the term. Redskin was coined in the mid-1800's as a degrading label for Native Americans. Who could

blame this group for protesting such a thing?

A group of Cheyenne Indians filed a complaint against the Redskins, stating that the team name was derogatory and demeaning in nature. The result? A judge ordered that several of the Redskins' trademarks be revoked from the corporation that owned the team. They would not lose their team name and logo, but since the copyrights have been lost, anyone could print Redskins t-shirts and other apparel, causing the team to lose millions of dollars. Unfortunately, this verdict will not solve the problem; Redskins merchandise will still be circulated as it always has. However, at least they Native Americans have, with this victory, taken the first step along the road to equality.

Are all these legalities actually necessary? The Braves aren't intending to humiliate Native-Americans with their "Tomahawk Chop". In fact, one might say that by naming a team the Braves or the Chiefs, the Native Americans gain respect. Some may even

interpret the mascot as a revered term. However, it should be up to the Native Americans to decide if they feel flattered by these figures.



Perhaps the teams are not intending to be racist by using these mascots. But the way an Indian chief or a Brave is used seems to poke fun at an otherwise serious and important aspect of Native American life. No one wants what he or she holds sacred to be disgraced. All that the Native Americans seem to be asking for is to keep their customs and traditions respected.

Contrary to popular belief, they have not sued any team for monetary gain. Money is not their goal, just some well-deserved respect.

Rather than meaningful dialogue between pro and anti-mascot supporters, what we do see is a lot bickering between them.

Chief Illiniwek has come under substantial debate in recent years. Groups against the Chief find his routines during Illini sporting events to be humiliating and dehumanizing. With his face painted in the timeworn "wild Indian" fashion, the Chief jumps around like a buffalo, in the way that a stereotypical Indian Chief has been negatively depicted by the media. The noble chief of Native American culture is thus reduced to the role of a court jester; and becomes a source of cheap comedy. This sends the message that all Native Americans behave in this manner and perpetuates a negative stereotype. It is therefore not surprising that Native Americans are offended by and want to be rid of these figures.

One must keep in mind that Native Americans were kicked off their homeland, humiliated, and ruthlessly murdered by American frontiersman. After all this time, one would think they would deserve a break.

All this bickering seems to be headed nowhere. The pro-mascot groups are just as strong in number as those who want to change teams' representation. The arguments go back and forth between sides and nothing seems to get resolved. Eventually, the arguing turns into a criticism of tactics, and the initial point becomes trampled underneath the stomping feet of its supporters.

Some say that changing the mascots would have a huge effect on the sports industry, especially regarding the national teams. This would mean that many years of American sports tradition would be lost. But then again, a big price is always paid for human rights.

Should the price be paid? What is more important to you—the name of a sports team, or the degradation of a people?

Navajo Code Talkers of WWII

by: John Isberg
Features Editor

While the war raged on in Europe and the Pacific during the 1940's, the need for secrecy in transmitting messages was extremely important. The Axis and Allies devised various encoded machines. The various cryptologic methods were very complex and were intended to be unbreakable. By the end of the war, all of these codes had been broken, all except one.

The code was simply the language of the Navajo nation. Navajo is an unwritten language of

extreme complexity. It's syntax, tonal qualities and dialects made it unintelligible to anyone without extensive exposure and training. It has no alphabet or symbols and is spoken only in the Navajo lands of the American Southwest.

The idea to use Navajo for secure communications came from Phillip Johnston, the son of missionaries to the Navajos. Johnston was a World War I veteran who knew of the military's search for a code. He also knew that Native American languages were used during World War I to en-



Code Talkers in formation at Camp Pendleton CA. Photo Courtesy of Northern AZ University

code messages.

The Marines adopted the use of the Navajo code. In May 1942, the first 29 Navajo recruits were sent to boot camp. Later, at Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif., they created the Navajo code.

Once the Navajo code talker finished his training, he was sent to the Pacific Theater. Once there, they transmitted and received important battlefield messages and also acted as messengers.

The code talkers were instrumental in the taking of Iwo Jima. Major Howard Connor, 5th Marine Div. Signal Officer, declared, "Were it not for the

code talkers, the Marines would never have taken Iwo Jima." Connor had six Navajo code talkers working non-stop during the first two days of battle. Those six sent and received more than 800 messages, all without error.

After the war, The Navajo language remained valuable as a code. For that reason, many code talkers remained out of the public eye. Only recently have they earned recognition from the government and the public. The code talkers were honored for their contribution to the war effort on Sept. 17, 1992 at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

The incalculable contribution of these brave men should be greatly recognized by us all. To fathom that they helped a country who has treated them as not even second class citizens is testament to the brave and beautiful spirit of the Navajo. Our government owes them more than just fancy ceremonies and decorations. We owe them the freedom that they fought for all of us to have.

Native American Heritage Month
Students, Staff, Faculty, Friends & Family Welcome

Hoop Dancing & Story Telling

Concert by **Mitch Walking Elk**

Six Indian Panel Discussion

ISU American Indian Fest
Tuesday, November 9, 1999
Leaving at 4:30pm from the C-4 parking lot and returning by 10:30pm

FREE
Space for 58 persons, classes welcome.

SIGN UP NOW!
in X149 or Call 351-2206.

Native American Heritage Month
Students, Staff, Faculty, Friends & Family Welcome

American Indian Center of Chicago
46th Annual
Contest PowWow
Saturday, November 6, 1999

Leaving at 8am from the C-4 parking lot, returning by 6pm.

Sign Up NOW!
Space for only 28.
Call 351-2206
or stop by X149.

Hundreds of dancers in full regalia
 Over 40 Indian Traders

FREE
Entrance fee is provided by Student Life.

Real Indian Food



Leonard Peltier, A Native American Tragedy

By John Isberg
Features Editor

The relationship the U.S. government has had with the Native American people has been a dark and turbulent one, full of lies and deceit. From the murderous slaughter at Wounded Knee to more modern day outrages such as the government's planned, "gradual termination," spawned back in the 1920's, the Indian people have suffered massive injustices. More recently, during the periods of 1972 to 1976, there was active aggression by the FBI towards the Indian people.

During this time, there was much interest in uranium mining and many of the deposits were on Indian land. The U.S. government backed Tribal Government was very eager to gain from this mining and any attempt to stop this progress was met with violence. Possibly attributed to this, there were over 60 reported violent deaths to American Indian Movement (AIM) members between the years 1972 to 1975.

A July 9, 1975 US Civil Rights Commission letter confirmed FBI buildup prior to the forthcoming firefight and cites the FBI was supplying weapons, ammunition, surveillance and field intelli-



Leonard Peltier
Photo courtesy of Internet

gence to local law enforcement and vigilante forces to be used against AIM. This buildup of hostility led to a boiling point on June 26, 1975. Out of a firefight on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota came one of the most controversial examples of abuse of power exercised by our government.

Two young FBI agents drove off the main highway in unidentified cars directly into an AIM camp. Supposedly they were in pursuit of Native American, Jimmy Eagle, who was suspected of stealing a pair of cowboy boots. A firefight ensued and the two agents and one Indian, Joe Stuntz Killright, were killed.

Preluding later FBI disasters such as Ruby Ridge and Waco, the government worked quickly to assign blame. The government pinned much of the blame on Native American, Leonard Peltier. The sole piece of evidence tying Peltier to the murders was a single thumb print found on a paper bag (which contained many other prints) found in Oregon which allegedly contained a gun used in the shooting.

During this time, Peltier traveled to Canada. Because Peltier was in Canada, the U.S. had to work with Canadian prosecutor, Paul Halprin to extradite Peltier so he could be tried. Halprin provided U.S. officials with knowledge of what would and wouldn't work in their attempt to extradite him. Halprin further was involved in manipulation of evidence presented to Canadian Courts in order to ensure extradition. Later in 1986, 1993, 1995 and 1997 U.S. prosecutors admitted they, "do not know who killed the agents," and admitted in 1986 that falsified affidavits were submitted to Canadian officials to secure the extradition.

Peltier went to trial.

From the start, Peltier was going to lose. The judge was changed at the last minute from Judge McManus (who presided over the acquittals associated with the other Indians) to Judge Benson, known for Indian convictions. The government even fabricated a murder weapon to help gain a conviction. It was later proven that the shell casings used by the government did not match the weapon attributed to Peltier and the deaths of the agents. Nonetheless, Peltier was convicted on two counts of 1st degree murder. Since 1977, Peltier has languished in prison. He is currently at Leavenworth Prison.

New developments have come forward in the ongoing controversy regarding the unethical methods in his extradition. In the June 25, 1990 issue of the National Law Journal, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Gerald Heaney cited, "The FBI had not followed the law in its investigation and the FBI was equally to blame for the shootout."

The newest development may bring Peltier closer to freedom than ever before. On May 5, 1999, Canadian Minister Anne McLellan stated to the press that she would soon release the results of an internal review of the

Peltier extradition. Essentially, if there is sufficient evidence to effect that the U.S. wrongfully extradited Peltier, he would rightfully be a free man under protection of Canada. Unfortunately, McLellan is holding the release of the report until she feels it is ready.

I talked to Irene Arsenaeau, Attache to the Minister's Office of the Department of Justice, directly under Canadian minister of Justice McLellan about the possible release of the report. The following is a transcription of our conversation. "P" represents Parkland Prospectus.

"McLellan is currently reviewing the report and has recently published a statement regarding her position," she said.

P-"How has the Canadian public responded to the report?"

"There was a rally in Toronto on Monday for the release of Leonard Peltier and the report," she cited.

P-"Could you comment on the direction this is heading?"

"With state to state relations, things take time to process and work through," she explained.

P-"How much of a priority is the release of the report and the release

More Tragedy page 6

Pinnell Active in Native American Programs

By Liz Davis
News Editor

Although Susan Pinnell's Native American ancestry is distant, her interest in their culture has become an intimate part of her life. It has taken her across the country and into the company of some of the greatest Native American leaders of today.

Besides working as program assistant for Student Services, Pinnell also serves as the advisor of Parkland's American Indian Cultural Society (AICS), whose purpose, according to Pinnell, is "to support Native Americans on campus, in the community, and the world through education and activities."

Last year, AICS raised \$100 for a scholarship open to any tribally enrolled Native American at Parkland.

This year, three club members took part in the National Coalition Against Racist Mascots rally at the University of Illinois. The group also distributed



Prospectus file photo
Susan Pinnell

pumpkin recipes during Parkland's Jack O'Lantern carving contest, in tribute to the early Native Americans who taught the Europeans how to cook with the fruit.

Pinnell has also taken part in several Alternative Spring Break programs that have traveled to reservations. One trip took her to the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota where she, along with several University of Illinois students, local Unitarian church members, and

McKinley Foundation members, helped renovate the Su Ann Big Crow Boys and Girls Club on the reservation. The club had been named in honor of a popular basketball player who was killed in an auto accident; when she died, Pinnell said, so many mourned her loss that a lasting memorial--the Boys and Girls Club--was built in her honor.

The building was constructed of tin, and a large gap separated the roof from the walls. Pinnell said that one job of the group was to build an attic that not only provided storage space for the facility, but also made the rooms below less drafty.

Another task involved repairing computers that had been donated to the club; out of 60, only six were able to be made operational.

For another Alternative Spring Break, Pinnell traveled to an Ojibwa reservation in Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin. Her group helped construct a tourist display

demonstrating the maple syrup-making process used by the tribe. During her stay, her group learned traditional beading projects, and a few members were allowed to attend a traditional naming ceremony.

One aspect of Native American culture that particularly struck Pinnell was their hospitality to strangers. She cited one instance where a group she was studying with visited a Crow reservation in Montana. With little advanced notice, the tribe members mowed a large section of land for her group to camp on, and when they arrived, they were met with dinner--including a steak for each of the 24 visitors.

While there, Pinnell spoke with Tribal Chief Charlie Chief Onefinger, who discussed the dilemma of owning land but having little income to support it, and therefore being forced to rent it to coal miners who destroyed it.

Not only did she learn Native American ways

through her trips, she also attended the Lakota Institute at Sinte Gleska University in Mission, South Dakota, where she studied Lakota tradition, education, history and philosophy. Because the classes were taught by the Lakota people, Pinnell said she felt more comfortable trusting the information given to her.

She stressed the importance of understanding that each tribe, each family, has a different set of values and views. Just like the group "Caucasians" cannot be generalized by any standard, neither can Native Americans.

It is also important to keep in mind that the Hollywood version of "Indians" that are most familiar are also the most degrading. "Indians are human beings," Pinnell said, "first and always."

For more information on Native American affairs or the AICS, contact Susan Pinnell at 351-2206. The group meets every Thursday in X239 from noon to 1.

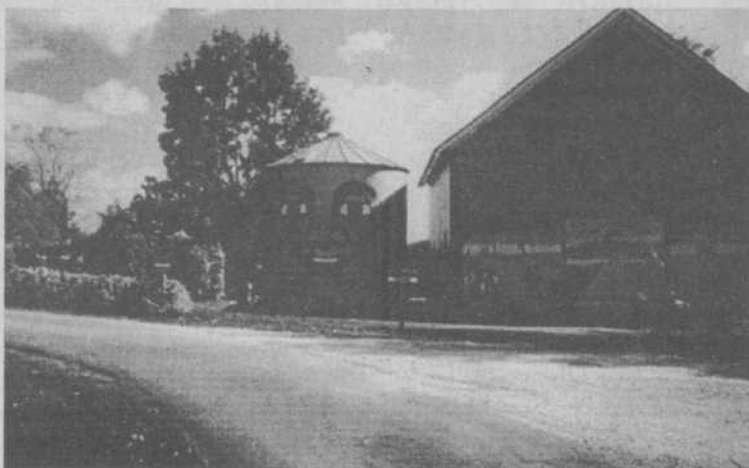
Apples Aplenty

Curtis Orchard Offers Something For Everyone

By Liz Davis
News Editor

Past the toney new subdivisions and harvested fields of southwest Champaign lies a slice of Americana, complete with a red barn, a silo that bears a striking resemblance to the Tin Man from the Wizard of Oz—and just about anything relating to apples.

Follow the winding gravel driveway of Curtis Orchard to the rustic-looking cabin. Inside, bags of fresh apples await, grouped by variety. For those unfamiliar with the different types, signs describing the apples and their best uses hang above the shelves. Jugs of freshly made cider sit in refrigeration units waiting to be snagged, and rows of homemade baked goods like pies and doughnuts tempt even the



Curtis Orchard

least-hungry customer. Perhaps this should be renamed the Garden of Eden.

The orchard boasts almost 5,000 trees that produce 37 varieties of apples, said Donna Edwards, an employee of the orchard for eight years. Besides the ubiquitous Red

Delicious and Granny Smith, there are more exotic varieties like Liberty, Mutsu, and Ozark Black. All the apples are hand-picked and washed before being sorted by "graders," who carefully eye each apple for blemishes or bruises. The apples that pass inspection

are bagged for retail or wholesale purchase.

Those that don't are placed in the cider bin and sent on for juicing. The bad spots are cut out by hand. Then the apples are washed again and sent through a press that chops and squeezes them until nothing is left but a dry pulp.

"Can it squeeze a kid?" one third-grade boy from Baum Elementary School of Decatur asked about the press. Another inquisitive student asked how much force it took to squeeze the apples. The answers: yes, and 2,000 pounds.

The tour guide explained that it takes a variety of apples to make cider, and the cider makers constantly sample the product as it is pressed to make sure that the balance between sweet and tart is correct. No additional sweeteners

The X Files
Season Premiere
Sunday @ 8:00 pm



or ingredients are added, but it is pasteurized for safety.

Once the juice has been completely extracted, the apple pulp, or pomace as it is technically known, is saved and used as fertilizer for the 17-acre pumpkin patch that adjoins the orchard.

The orchard is a popular stop for school tours, said Edwards. She said that schools from as far away as Bloomington and Decatur make the journey to see how apples and cider are produced. The orchard is also available for birthday parties and special events.

Curtis Orchard is located at 3902 South Duncan Road in Champaign, and is open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information call 359-5565.

Tragedy Continued

of Peltier?

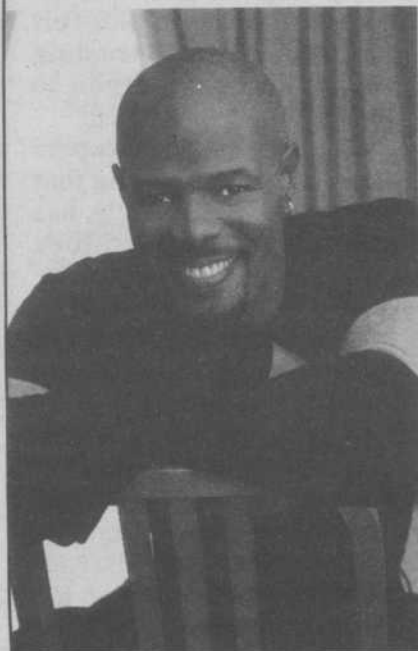
"I can't comment on that," she said and referred me to their website for any additional questions.

In reality, if Leonard Peltier is ever to be freed, he needs the help of people not afraid to take a stand against the injustices that our government has wrought against the original Native Americans. Native Americans have the highest rate of alcoholism and suicide. Education is sorely lacking and the state of most

reservations is at or below the poverty level. We should understand that our government which preaches to us the virtues of freedom has stripped a nation of people of that very thing.

The land of the free and the home of the brave? If this has any meaning left in our hearts, we shouldn't stand by meekly and let the freedom be stripped away and see brave men locked away from the light of day.

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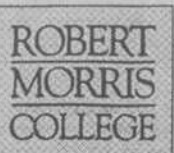
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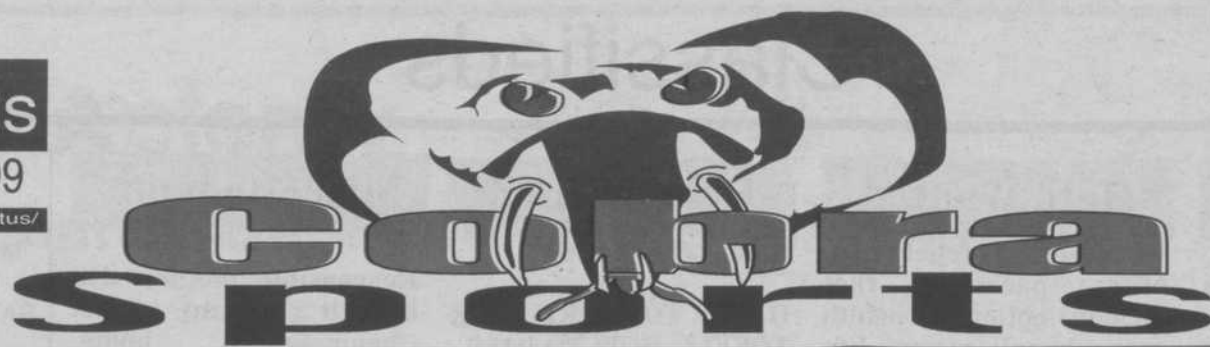
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Parkland sweeps team titles

by Mitchell Wilson

The men and women cross country teams competed on Friday in the Halloween Scramble at Kickapoo Creek State Park. The women's race was two miles and the men's was three miles. Parkland swept both team titles by beating Danville. The men edged out Danville by a score of 26 - 32 and the women easily beat Danville by a score of 22 - 39.

The men avenged last weekends loss to Danville with a strong team performance and have beaten them two out of three tries. The men were led by freshman Juan Ortega in a time of 15:20, who nearly outkicked Danville's Kyle O'Brien for the win. The second finisher for Parkland and fourth overall was freshman Jackson Johnson in 15:50 with freshman Robert Hanners following right behind in 15:52. This was a very positive performance and a strong rebound after their disappointment a week ago. They should have some

added momentum heading into the Nationals.

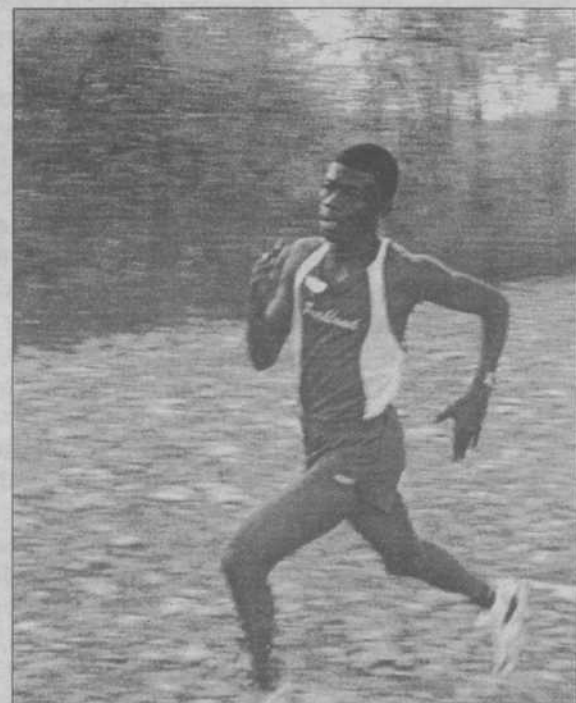
The women won their second consecutive meet against Danville and have beat them every time they have faced each other. As a team, they continue to get stronger as the season progresses. The women were led by overall winner sophomore Jodi Huddlestun in a time of 12:20 on a pretty tough course. With the way she has been running this year she has a good chance to come away with a top five finish. The next finisher for Parkland and third overall was sophomore Shannon Dietrich in 13:08 with sophomore Candy Ard coming in fifth overall in 13:18. The women as a team have been on a roll and this just adds to their momentum heading into Nationals.

Both teams have a little less than two weeks until the National Meet in Lansing, Michigan on November 13, 1999. They both have their sights set on a National Championship and are prepared to make a strong showing.



Mitch Wilson/Prospectus

Parkland Cross Country runner Jodi Huddlestun leading at Halloween Scramble at Kikapoo State Park



Mitch Wilson/Prospectus

Travaughn Gathing



Mitch Wilson/Prospectus

Parkland runners, from left to right. Stephanie Hedrington, Meggie Andrew, Unknown, rhonda Loftus, candy Ard



Mitch Wilson/Prospectus

Leading is Travaughn Gathing followed by Jackson Johnson, Lewis Powell, and Robert Hanners.



Mitch Wilson/Prospectus

Parkland runner Juan Ortega making his charge for the lead.



Mitch Wilson/Prospectus

Nick Coats leading a group

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