

PROSPECTUS

A STUDENT PRODUCED PUBLICATION SINCE 1969

Parkland College Urges Students to Apply for Financial Aid Immediately

On Wednesday, April 9th, Governor Blagojevich announced his proposed budget for FY2004. Included are provisions impacting Illinois aid programs for the 2003-2004 academic year. In the Governor's proposed budget, the Monetary Award Program will be funded at the current level of 333 million dollars. No increases in the program are anticipated. Because of level funding and statewide application volume

on the rise, Jack Lyons, Director of Financial Aid, anticipates an application deadline date of early to mid July for 2003-2004 for this award. Students applying after the deadline date may not receive a Monetary Award for the upcoming year.

The Parkland College financial aid staff met to discuss how the Governor's proposed budget may impact students and developed ways to be

responsive. Procedures are in place to inform students, current and new, about the need to apply early for financial aid. Notices will be sent to both new and continuing degree-seeking students. Counselors, advisors and admission staff will have fliers encouraging applications by July 1, 2003.

The Ugly Duckling, a Swan-like Performance

By: Sarah Ramey

April 10-13 marked the opening of Parkland College children's theatre's bubbly performance of "The Ugly Duckling."

The theatre seats were filled with children of all ages, with smiles and laughter radiating through the air.

After a group sing and dance-a-long of "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes," the audience members settled back in their seats to experience the timeless tale.

The legend of the Ugly Duckling is a story that we all know and love, a story of finding one's place in a world of differences. This particular play, focuses on a the story of the ugly duckling told by a grandmother to her grandchildren, to teach them a lesson about accepting each other for who they are.



Mollie Vigardt, Tara Golding and Megan Tucker rehearse a scene from Parkland Theatre's upcoming production of The Ugly Duckling, April 10-13.

This magical performance ended, leaving both children and adults with big smiles and young hearts. Next showing at Parkland College's theatre is the 12th Annual Student Show, Moon Over Buffalo, a comedy directed by Joe Sawyer. This show plays on April 23, 24, 25, 26 at 8 pm and April 26 and 27 at 3 pm. Call 351-2528 for details and reservations.

Local Organizations Sponsor Interactive Construction Trades Career Fair

Press Release

The East Central Illinois Workforce Development Commission, Inc., Easter Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council, Parkland College, and TEAM are sponsoring Trade Up!, an interactive construction trades career fair for high school students on Tuesday, May 6th, 2003 at the One Stop Career Center located at 1307 N. Mattis Avenue in Champaign. Those attending can participate in interactive demonstrations provided by representatives from 10 construction trades and receive informative materials about careers in construction and career programs at Parkland. For example, you can try your hand at bricklaying by building a wall, tap-

ing drywall in preparation of mudding, and learn the art of painting window trim. Even sponsors aim to increase students' awareness of and enthusiasm for construction career opportunities, which is one of the largest growing career prospects in our community.

The East Central Illinois Workforce Development Commission, Inc. is funded by a grant from the Illinois State Board of Education and the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994. The Commission was established in June 1997 to coordinate workforce development programs by linking private sector employers, Parkland College, the Illinois Employment Training Center and other government and community-based organizations within Community College

District 505 in East Central Illinois to area K-12 schools in order to assist with school improvement efforts.

Easter Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council represents 13 AFL-CIO constituted Building Trades Unions. The council was established in the 1950's to promote sound labor relations and preserve and protect the well being of its affiliates through training and cooperation between the Building Trades Unions and its signatory employers. The Council hosts safety, CPR, and OSHA training events, and continually monitors the legislature for bills that might be injurious to its members.

As a community college, Parkland's mission is to meet the diverse needs of the community

they serve, including individuals, businesses, and the adult community. One way that they meet these needs is by addressing the changes taking place in the workforce and partner with industries to address their needs.

TEAM is a not-for-profit corporation that provides a voice for the construction industry in matters of economic development and labor relations; offers training on safety, labor relations, and business growth; sponsors recognition events for achievement by both labor and management; and promotes industrial retention, harmonious labor relations, economic development, and job growth.

campus news

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day - Thursday April 24

Press Release

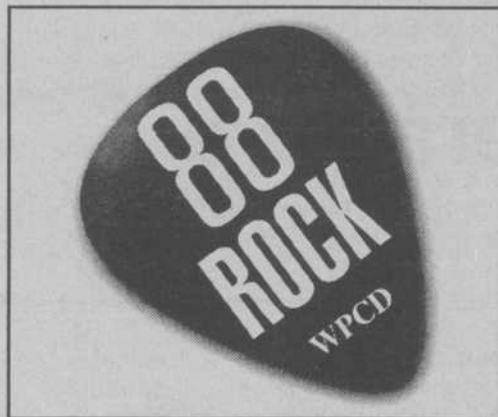
Take Our Daughters to Work Day was originated in 1993 by the Ms. Foundation for Women as a response to the fact that women lagged behind men in many areas related to employment and careers. The foundation had identified girls' inadequate career preparation and development compared to boys as one of the reasons for these disparities. The idea of the day was to introduce girls at an early age to the reality of work and careers. In 2002, the Ms. Foundation decided that boys should be included in the day, in part to make them more aware as they grow into manhood of the many demands on working women, the dual career stresses facing the women in their lives.

Parkland parents and children are invited to attend a pizza luncheon hosted by Parkland president, Dr. Zelema Harris.

For those interested, a tour of Dr. Harris's office, the radio station and Center for Virtual Learning will follow the lunch. There will be a special presentation at the Parkland Planetarium at 2:15 p.m.

Thursday, April 24 at 12 noon
Gallery Lounge
Tour at 1-2 p.m.
Planetarium show at 2:15 p.m.

Call Ext 2538 or 2546 or 2541 to make reservations.



Scholarships at Parkland

Press Release

Accounting Scholarships

Three accounting scholarships will be awarded to Parkland College students in April. The applicant must be a resident of Community College District 505, must be enrolled in the Accounting or Business Administration curriculum, must have completed at least 24 credit hours at Parkland College and must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours at Parkland this semester.

Some of the requirements and the amounts of money to be awarded vary for the three scholarships, which are: The William D. Yaxley Memorial Accounting Award, The Billy Byers Accounting Scholarship, and The Arthur D. Winakor Memorial Scholarship Award.

Scholarship information and application forms may be picked up from an Accounting 102 instructor, from Terri Jones (secretary in room B-116), from Greg Thom in room B-221, or from the Financial Aid Office. Application forms must be turned in to Terri Jones or Greg Thom by May 1.

Community Service Block Grant

The Community Services Board announces the availability of several \$400-\$500 scholarships for the 2003-2004 academic year. To qualify, an applicant must be a resident of Champaign County and must meet specific income limits based on the 2003 Federal Poverty Guidelines. He or she must be enrolled in a full-time course of study at a post-secondary institution in Illinois. The applicant must have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (high school grades) or at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (post-secondary grades). The

grade point average requirements are based on a 4.0 grading scale. Students who have already completed bachelor degrees are not eligible.

The application deadline is Friday, June 20, 2003. The community Services Board will then review the applications and select the recipients. Applications are available on-line at <http://www.ccrpc.org/scholarship/index>, at the Regional Planning Commission's office in the Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 E. Washington St. in Urbana, or by contacting Becky Czoschke, CSBG Scholarship Coordinator, at 328-3313, ext. 195.

Since 1986, the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission has administered the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Scholarship program with funds from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

Single Parent Scholarship Foundation

The single Parent Scholarship Foundation was founded in the year 2000 to help single parents enrolled in college with obtaining their higher educational degree. The Single Parent Scholarship Foundation will be offering two scholarships for the 2003-2004 academic year. The eligibility requirements include you must be attending a college in Champaign County, completed one year of enrollment, provide proof of registration, have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (based on a 4.0 grading scale). Applications will be available at the Parkland College and University of Illinois financial aid departments.

The application deadline is Friday, June 20, 2003. The SPSF committee will review the applications and select the recipients.

Bark in the Park

Press Release

Each year, Parkland's Student Ambassadors do two volunteer service projects. One of those takes place this Saturday, April 26th, from 9am to 12 pm. It's Bark in the Park! This event, sponsored by Insight Communications, Up Close Marketing and Printing, and

Papa Johns Pizza, takes place at Centennial Park, right by Sholem Pool. Festivities begin at 9am with dog demonstrations and contests at the Canine Carnival. The walk begins at 11:00 am. Put your best paw forward to raise funds for Champaign County's homeless and abandoned animals! You can win prizes for the pledges that you raise, such as

bandanas, t-shirts, and a three month subscription to Insight Digital Cable. To qualify for prizes, all pledges must be turned in by April 26, 2003. Help the Champaign County Humane Society help the homeless animals of our community by pledging your tax-deductible support today!

"Festival of Sound" performance at Parkland Theatre

Press Release

"Festival of Sound," a joint concert of the Parkland Chorus, Parkland Chamber Singers, and Parkland Wind Ensemble, is scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parkland Theatre. The chorus will perform opera favorites, while the chamber singers will perform Mozart's

"Regina coeli", some madrigals, and various other choral pieces. The Parkland Chorus and Parkland Chamber Singers will be conducted by Barbara Zachow. The Parkland Wind Ensemble will be conducted by Gregory Grove. The concert is free and open to the public.

Prospectus

volume 33, issue 38

since 1969

HOW TO REACH US

To contact the Parkland Prospectus, phone us 217-351-2216 FAX 217-373-3835. By Email: www.parkland.edu/prospectus By U.S. mail: Parkland College, Room X-155 2400 W. Bradley Ave Champaign, IL. 61821. ADVERTISERS phone 217-373-3855 or FAX 217-373-3835

LETTERS AND EDITORIAL POLICY

- The Prospectus is a student publication.
- It is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, intermittently in summer.
- Views expressed are opinions of staff and contributors
- Advertising is accepted which is non-discriminatory and not in violation of any laws. The Prospectus reserves the right to refuse any advertising. Publication of advertising constitutes final acceptance. Advertisers must verify ads for accuracy.

• The Prospectus welcomes letters to the editor.

- The rules of correspondence: all letters must be signed with a phone number and address. The Prospectus staff must verify the identity of letter writers. E-mail to the prospectus must also include a full name, phone number and address. Unverifiable letters will not be printed. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper.
- Guest writers are welcome and subject to the same rules as other correspondence. We welcome writers from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will consider original works of fiction and short writings, if space is available.
- The Prospectus deadline for all advertising and other submissions is 5PM of the Wednesday immediately before the upcoming issue.

Editorial Staff

Blane McClellan Editor
Sara McDuffee Production Editor

editorial

Got questions about healthy living? Just ask June

Drop your questions in the question box at the Information Desk

Dear June,

One of my all time favorite snacks is graham crackers dipped in lard. My girlfriend tells me that it's not good for me. Is that true?

Lard Lover from Lincoln

Dear Lard Lover,

Yes, it seems that your girlfriend is looking out for you. Animal fats like suet, lard, butterfat, chicken fat, etc tend to be saturated. Saturated fats stay firm at room temperature and the more saturated a fat is, the higher the temperature at which it melts. Two vegetable fats are also saturated. Coconut and palm oils are really hard fats and happen to be two of the most popular fats used in processed foods because they're cheap and don't turn rancid easily.

The danger with consuming saturated fats is that saturated fats increase the amount of cholesterol carried in the general circulation. It is important to note that it is the intake of fat, especially saturated fat, that is the major dietary factor that raises blood cholesterol and it is the elevated blood cholesterol that is a major risk factor for cardiovascular disease.

An exception to the general rule about animal fats, however, is that fatty fish like salmon contain omega-3 fatty acids which are beneficial in reducing the risk of heart disease. Experts advise that we eat meals of fish two or three times a week. Even one fatty fish meal per week has been associated with a reduced risk of heart attack and people who eat more than a fish meal a week suffer from strokes only half as often as those who eat no fish.

For more information, visit the Wellness Center in room L-122 or Just ask June.

Bowling, Kaytlin, Grace, and Luis

By Blane McClellan

I had the pleasure of attending Parkland's IOC (Inter-Organizational Council) Awards and Recognition Banquet on Friday night at GT's Western Bowl. It was a good chance to have some fun while recognizing some of the outstanding clubs and organizations here at Parkland College. That's right, I said GT's Western Bowl; don't act like you're too good to have a little fun with your awards ceremony. Actually, this event has gone informal because, quite frankly, nobody wanted it to be formal. Plus, everybody likes bowling so it was quite a match. There was much pizza to be eaten, and we were also treated to a motivational presentation by burgeoning young entrepreneur

and motivational speaker Carl Chu, who is also the President of Parkland Student Government. As for the awards, it was a clean sweep by Ag Club, who took home the Merit Award for outstanding student member (Jacob Calhoun), the Advisor of the Year award (Bruce Henrikson), and the outstanding organization award. After that, we hit the lanes and made some new friends. I bowled with several people I didn't know at the start of the night, including Kaytlin, Grace, and Luis. The four of us actually bowled until midnight; they turned out to be very nice people, and not bad bowlers either. In fact, by the end of the night we were on good enough terms that Grace suggested I mention them in the Prospectus. Get real,

Grace. As for my performance, my strategy of running at the lane and throwing the ball as hard as I could netted me a high score of 147 on the night, which is not bad for me. Anyway, the point is (and anyone who reads what I usually write will be shocked to find that I actually have a point) that none of this fun stuff would have happened without clubs and organizations at Parkland College. If you join a club, you're bound to get free pizza at some point, you will meet very nice people named Kaytlin, Grace, and Luis (or maybe they'll have other names), you will have fun, and if you work hard enough you may be recognized like Ag Club. Yay Ag Club! Yay Clubs!

Skipping Across My Brain: A Worthless Editorial

Blane McClellan

Some thoughts; because I can. Over Spring Break I had two cavities taken care of, and I've got one more to go. My dentist asked me if I wanted to do the hard ones first or the easy one. Neither wasn't an option, so I took the two hard ones. Apparently they've been sitting in there for six months or so, and that's why my teeth were hurting. Because I brush my teeth well at least twice a day, I was in denial up until he started drilling. Let me just say that I had never had cavities filled before, and it was fantastic. First of all, the anesthesia or whatever goes in the cheek these days, not in the roof of the mouth, which is nice because I think I have a permanent hole from a previous shot. Second, my dentist is the smartest man alive. I couldn't concentrate on the drill because he was telling me about war, journalism, Grand Theft Auto, and everything in between. The only problem with this is that I always want to participate in the "conversation", which quite frankly doesn't work with a bunch of hardware in your mouth. The Dentist's sick joke is to ask you a question and then act like he/she is waiting for a

response. "Look at you... you couldn't even answer me if you wanted to. How pathetic. I own you." I'm house-sitting my sister's apartment this week, and I'm using her car. It's an old, early nineties-ish convertible, not in the best quality, but not falling apart. The only problem is the radio doesn't work, and there is a tape stuck in the tape deck. The tape consists of gangsta rap and Jefferson Airplane, which is a problem. I suppose I could go with no music at all, but in a convertible, that feels wrong. You know what else feels wrong? Dancing. I don't care what anyone says; dancing is stupid and shouldn't be done. What a complete waste of time! (No, I'm not jealous or secretly begging for someone to teach me how to dance. Really...). I'm staring at a very large bookshelf with hundreds of books on it, most of which are about Ireland or the Civil War. Part of me wants to read all of them and just soak up all that knowledge. Another part of me wants to go to bed. When I'm rich, I will SO have time to become enlightened or whatever. Not now though, I'm busy. One book stands out among the Civil War/Ireland/Classics stuff: "LT: Living on the Edge" by Lawrence Taylor and David Falkner. How did that get in there? It must be brilliant...

Advertisement for IMAGES: The Parkland College Students art magazine. Pick up Your Copy May 5th!

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local&regional

Community Educational Programs And Events

Press Release

Adult Degree Completion Center Informational Meeting May 14 Learn how to finish a degree through partnerships with area universities and the wide range of support services offered by the center. The meeting is on Wednesday, May 14, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Parkland College in room X150. Light refreshments will be served. This event is free but registration is requested. For more information call 217/353-2663.

FOR THE RETIREES: Yoga for Seniors May 19-July 7 (Register by May 12) Participants in this class will receive a gentle introduction to the benefits of yoga, beginning with assisted postures. The instructor will work with each participant to increase strength and flexibility in this individually paced class. Classes will meet on Mondays from 12 noon to 1 p.m. at the Living Yoga Center, 202 W. Hill St., in Champaign. The course fee is \$38 for LLI members and \$45 for nonmembers. Instructor Jenna Cameron is a certified Ashtanga yoga teacher. Call 217/403-1429 for more information. Registration deadline is May 12.

Minority Student Celebration

Press Release

The Minority Student Celebration will be held on May 2, 2003 in Room D244 from 12-2 p.m. Minority students who are slated to graduate in Spring or Summer 2003 or have been accepted to another college or university and plan to transfer and those who have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 will be honored. A great luncheon, catered by TLC Select, will be served. This fun event is free and all Parkland College faculty and staff are invited to attend, but tickets are required. For tickets and more information or if you are a minority student who meets the previously mentioned criteria and would like to participate in the celebration, please contact Sharva Hampton-Campbell - Academic Advisor in Room A184 r Donna Tanner Harold - Counselor in Room A256.

The Minority Student Celebration is sponsored by the Academic Advising and Minority Transfer Center and the Multicultural Student Advisory Council.

Student Lobby Day

By Blane McClellan

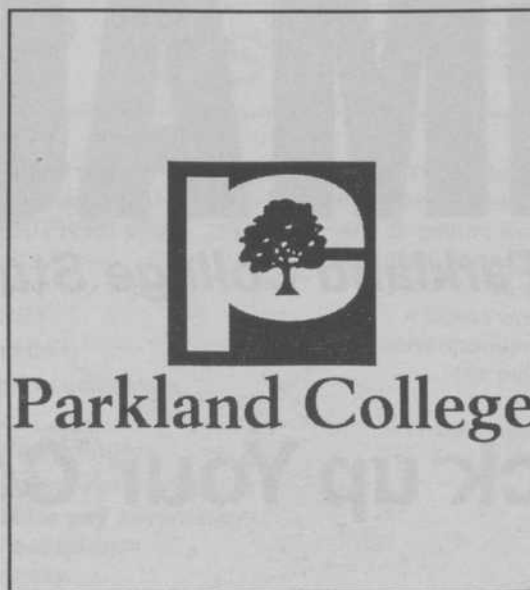
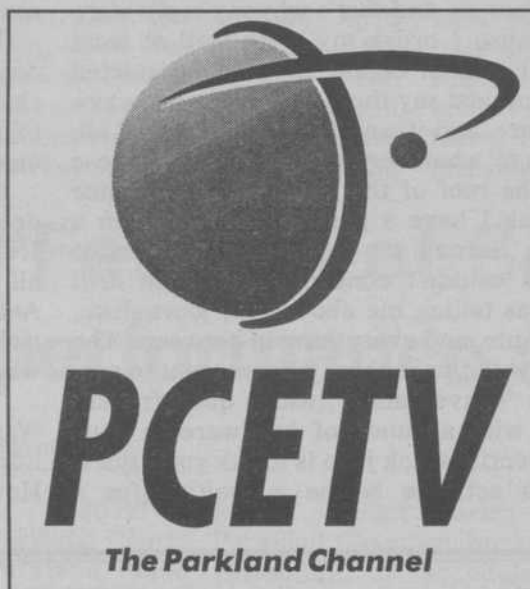
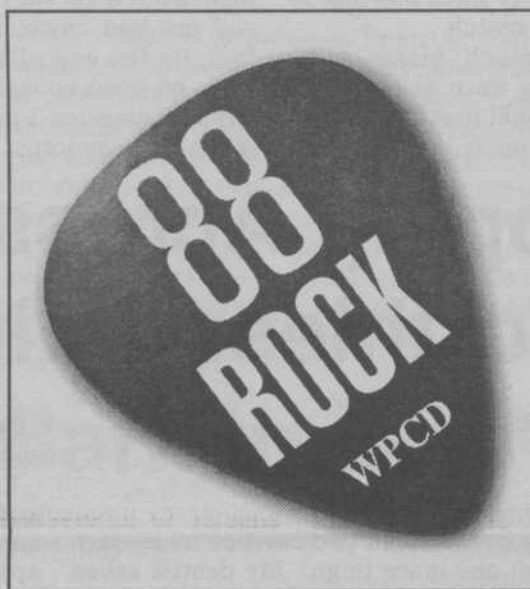
Wednesday, April 16 was Student Lobby day in Illinois. This even, sponsored in part by Phi Theta Kappa and the Illinois Community College Board, gave community college students from all over the state the chance to visit Springfield on behalf of the community college system, all on the same day. Representing Parkland College Student Government were myself and Christi Lockhart (the new secretary), along with advisor Tom Caulfield and with a big hand from Margot Williams, Director of College and Community Relations.

We hit Springfield with a request of continued monetary support for community colleges. Many programs and organizations in the state are hurting for money, but some feel that Rod Blagojevich's newly proposed budget makes the best of a bad situation for community colleges. Because of some scheduling confusion, we were only able to meet briefly with senators Rick Winkel and Dan Rutherford, and thanked them for their support of

the new budget. After an hour wait, however, we got a chance to sit down for 10-15 minutes with senator Dale Righter. We were interested to learn that Righter did not support the new budget; he feels that in the long run it won't benefit the community colleges as much as some think it will.

Regardless of how the budget affects community colleges, it was important for students across the state to visit Springfield in support of their schools. Righter told my group the rote line about how we were the ones that really meant a lot to him, not the lobbyists, but I think he was actually completely sincere.

All in all it was a positive experience. If nothing else, the senators and representatives won't forget about us community college folks. Though lobbying seems futile at times, especially considering the thousands of people who get shuffled in and out of offices on any given Springfield day, it is an important step towards ensuring the future prosperity of Parkland College. If Righter was being honest, then Illinois community college students made a lot of politicians happy last Wednesday.



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Smoking a Problem on Parkland's Campus

by Jordan Holmes

There are many, many entrances to Parkland College. Some of them are new, some old, some of them are brown, and some are silver, some of them are smoking and some are non-smoking. This last characteristic is the most important.

What if there was a No Smoking policy at Parkland College? Each and every entrance to the building would have a No Smoking sign and there would be no ash trays. Of course, this is not likely to happen, but what if it were switched around? What if faculty, staff, and students were allowed to smoke at any doorway or even inside the doorway? For non-smokers, this seems to be the reality. Despite many signs on the building or in the ground that indicate the area is smoke free, smokers and cigarette butts on the ground are found in the same area. Maybe the signs are too small or blend too well with the building, therefore the area is not properly identified Non-Smoking.

Student Government's Campus Concerns Committee has looked closely at this issue and decided that maybe it is the small camouflaged No Smoking signs that are to blame. Large colorful signs should be displayed in designated smoke free areas so it is clear this area can be passed through without walking through cigarette smoke. New signs may be on the way as Jim Bustard, head of Parkland's physical plant, is aware of the problem.

As it may be important to smokers to have areas where they are able to enjoy a quick nicotine fix, it is also important to some non-smokers to have an area to enter the building without walking through a smoky haze.

Another reason why there are non-smoking entrances is because of the landscape around the building. There are signs near many doors asking that cigarette butts not be thrown on the ground. And right next to most of these signs are piles of cigarette butts. It might be strange to some to see trash receptacles by non-smoking entrances, but they're there so nothing is thrown on the ground. No one wants to be a litter-bug.

So, is there a solution to this problem? Should non-smoking signs be bigger and more colorful? Should smokers be pushed further from the entrance in order to smoke? Certainly any of these solutions would help this small problem. The solution most likely to work is awareness. If smokers are made aware of this problem, maybe they will be sympathetic and encourage each other to move to designated smoking areas. That little bit would help tremendously to those who work on the landscape and do not smoke.

Nora Maberry is the winner of the Intellectual Freedom Award Essay Contest and received a scholarship for her efforts.

The following is her essay

Intellectual Freedom: Government, Media, and Education

By Nora Maberry

With everything that is going on in the world, the subject of intellectual freedom is a timely one. Millions of people around the world are not intellectually free. The United States is one of the few countries in the world where intellectual freedom is held in high regard and viewed as a right, not a privilege. Intellectual freedom is the right to gather information and decide, independently, what we believe to be true or false. Intellectual freedom also entails being able to speak our minds, be it orally or through some artistic medium. Americans are extremely lucky in the fact that we are intellectually free. We have the right to gather information through the academic world, media, and through our government and decide what we believe to be true. We also have the right to voice our opinions through writing, artwork, and speech.

Intellectual freedom crosses the boundaries of government, academia, and media. In countries where intellectual freedom is not allowed the government controls everything. All aspects of the media and academia are controlled and used as propaganda machines. Governments all over the world use their control to tell their citizens which religion to be, which works of literature to read, what ideologies to believe and who to love and hate. These repressive governments forbid any form of self-expression, unless it is government sanctioned. Citizens are not allowed to write, read or create anything that is not government approved.

As Americans, our government allows us to be intellectually free. Our government does not force religion upon us, they do not censor what we can read, they do not tell us what ideologies to believe and they do not tell us who to love and hate. We can question our government, protest their policies and demand answers for their actions. We are allowed to stage walk-outs, write editorials, create protest or religious art works, we can write controversial novels or lyrics, we are allowed to worship where we want, when we want and we can choose what ideologies we believe. In countries where intel-

lectual freedom is not valued or allowed by the government, protests do not take place. Protestors are shot and killed just because they had an independent thought. People are jailed for opposing their governments and artists are condemned for what they create.

Intellectual freedom allows us independent thought but it also entitles us to the right to be educated. In thousands of societies people are not given the right to an education. Women are especially singled out as not worth educating in many societies. A society can not be intellectually free when over half its population is not exposed to literature, art, mathematics, science and new ideologies. Thousands of countries have low literacy rates because the public has no way to educate themselves. Those that are literate are often allowed to read certain books, learn certain ideas and theories but are not allowed to expand their minds beyond that. Education is the enabler to intellectual freedom. Without an education a person can not decide on their own what is true, they can not question the powers that be and they can not express themselves fully.

Americans are among the luckiest people in the world as far as education goes. Everyone has an equal chance to be educated. We have libraries that are full of books we can read for free, we have grants and scholarships set aside for people to get a free college education, and we have a public school system that allows everyone to get at least a high school degree. In most countries it is only rich males that are educated, so therefore, half of those countries' populations have no concept of intellectual freedom.

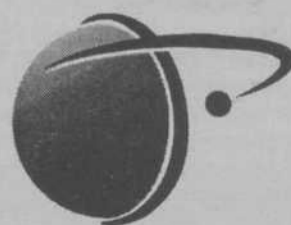
Americans have the chance to be exposed to a wide range of ideologies in an academic setting. In American academic settings students are presented with information and allowed to make their own judgement on the facts, ideals and thoughts presented to them. This is the key to intellectual freedom. Students have the freedom to accept or deny any subject presented to them. That is a freedom not many people in the world are allowed.

The final aspect of intellectual freedom is the ability to take what is seen or heard in the

media and determine if it is correct. In places where intellectual freedom is not permitted the citizens are made to believe whatever propaganda the media puts forth. Media is a powerful tool in controlling a population. If citizens are not allowed to question their media or choose which media outlet to receive information from their intellectual freedom is stifled.

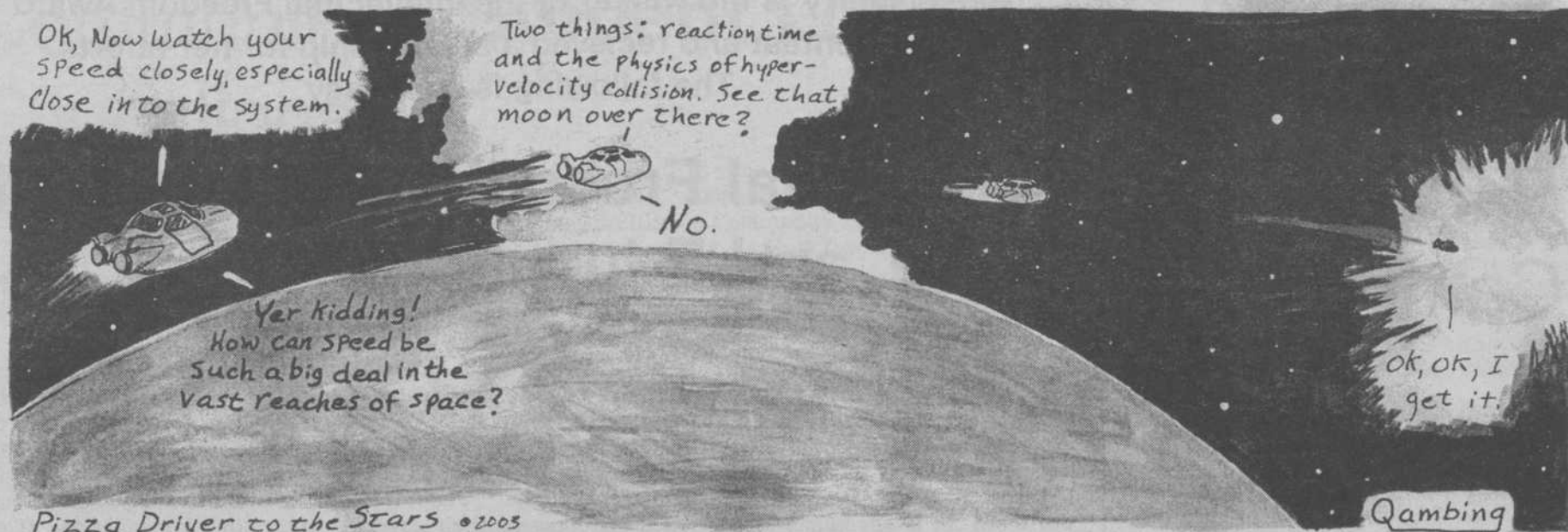
In countries where intellectual freedom is allowed there are several media outlets. The government does not censor these outlets and the citizens that view these outlets are not forced to believe them. American media often questions the government, they provide the public with facts that may otherwise be overlooked. It is the viewer's choice to believe the facts and to question the media and the government. Many people throughout the world are not given that right.

Americans are extremely lucky to have the freedom to determine what they believe and what they don't. We are extremely lucky to have the freedom of education and a free media. Education is the key to intellectual freedom. Without an education a person can not make informed and competent decisions about their beliefs. Without free media citizens are forced to believe whatever propaganda their government puts forth. Without a government that allows intellectual freedom citizens are not allowed to choose for themselves what to read, what to watch, who to listen to, what to create and what to believe. Living in a repressive and censored society is detrimental to anyone's intellect. In light of what is going on in the world it is extremely important, no matter what a person's views are, to realize that America is extremely special. Few countries in the world allow as much intellectual freedom as America does. America's citizens are not repressed mentally. We can question anything we want to. Intellectual freedom is not only the right to express ourselves, question our government and media and receive an education but also the right to use the education we receive by challenging ideas and proposing new ones.



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Golf Team Wins First Round of CCCI Play

Press Release

The defending champion Parkland Golf team opened the 2003 CCCI season with a first place finish in the first of four conference events. The first round was played at the University of Illinois Orange course and will resume on April 23 at Danville. The conference champion is determined by the team with the lowest over-all score after the four events.

With all players shooting under 78, Parkland's total of 300 was ten strokes lower than both Danville and Illinois Central. Matt Fonner, a freshman from Central H.S., led the team firing a 73 including an eagle followed by a birdie on holes 12 and 13. Other scores that counted for the Parkland team total were Matt Golden 74, Craig Toler 76, and Drew Hartrich 77. Also shooting well were Adam Dye 77 and Ty Treacy and John Harvey who both shot 78.

Parkland has already qualified for the NJCAA National tournament in Phoenix, Arizona on May 18-23 via their place at the Region 24 tournament last fall.

Hope Still Lingers in a Die Hard Cubs Fan's Heart

By Jarrod Finn

Cubs win! Cubs win!
As a young Chicago Cubs fan, hearing those words coming out of Harry Caray's mouth was music to my ears. These were the days of Andre Dawson, the double play trio of Shawon Dunston, Ryne Sandberg, and Mark Grace, and when Sammy Sosa was thin, unknown and had what I call a young Howie Mandel mullet.

If you've seen an old cartoon called Bobby's World you know what I'm talking about.

Yes, the early 90s weren't great years for the Cubs and hearing Caray shout those words seemed rare, but I was young and only cared about watching my Cubbies. Now that my ignorance of the Cubs' lack of my success has gone away, at times watching them can be depressing. But as the title of this story says, hope still lingers in my heart. Yes, hearing this from a Cubs fan has become redundant, a cliché even, but that doesn't matter to me.

Every single season my friends and family, who aren't Cubs fans, hear me say, along with every other Cubs fan, that this year is their year. But it still hasn't happened.

1998 was a marvelous year with Sammy Sosa breaking out and becoming the superstar he is now and the Cubs actually making the

playoffs. Now it has been five years since then and there has been only one winning season (2001 when they finished 88-74).

Since 1998 it has been quite difficult to watch the front office put together formidable rosters every year but to see them fall apart due to lack of pitching, lack of offensive support, or just damaging injuries. But I shall not fret because I have a theory that I see coming true.

You see, until 1984 the Cubs had a major post-season drought beginning in the 1950s after seeing major success for many years. In 1984 the Cubbies made the playoffs but were stopped short of the World Series. After that they did not see any playing time in October until five years later they made it to the post-season in 1989.

Now here is where my theory comes into affect. In 1984 they made playoffs and again five years later. The Cubs made it to the playoffs in 1998. It is now five years later.

This may seem a little out there, but I think it may just happen.

I am especially optimistic with the off-season movement that new general manager Jim Hendry made. Although he did not catch Jim Thome, Jeff Kent, or Ivan Rodriguez like many fans were hoping, but he made those small moves that may turn out to be very beneficial to the team. The biggest

being the signing of new manager Dusty Baker.

The biggest steal was definitely trading Todd Hundley and Chad Hermansen to the Los Angeles Dodgers for Eric Karros and Mark Grudzielanek bringing the Cubs a great second baseman and a great first baseman to share time with youngster Hee Seop Choi.

In addition to these moves Hendry got the best pinch hitter in MLB history (Lenny Harris), speed and hitting to the outfield in Tom Goodwin and Troy O' Leary (creating a deep and formidable bench), adding a lefty to the pitching rotation with Shawn Estes, and making a big upgrade at catcher with Damian Miller and Paul Bako.

What is making me so excited is not only is the team they have, probably the best since 1998, but how the Cubs have started. As of Monday they are 12-7, winning 5 out of their last 6. Also in those six games the offense scored a total of 52 runs. In addition their starting rotation, which probably has the best young arms in all of the National League, is off to a marvelous start.

If the Cubs keep playing like they are now we'll see them playing in October and probably further than the first round.

But regardless of what happens I will and always will bleed Cub red and blue until the day I die.

The Search Begins

By Mike Mears

Well, apparently Bill Self didn't read my last column. Self decided on Sunday to accept the head coaching job at Kansas, taking over for Roy Williams. Congrats to the Jayhawks: you just landed the very best coach in America.

Alas, he's no longer the Illinois coach, so the search begins. And the top nominees for the next coach of Illinois?

Tom Crean.

The Marquette coach has accomplished more than Self had at Tulsa, having been to the Final Four this season. Like Self three years ago, he's the current hot young name in college coaching circles. He's a Tom Izzo disciple, which means he'd teach Illinois the fine art of hand-to-hand combat on the basketball court; that Big Ten background and Dwyane Wade's success should keep the Chicago pipeline Self re-established intact, as well.

However, he's not as proven a commodity as some would think. This year, he had arguably the best all-around player in the nation with Wade, and his other top star Robert Jackson- just fell out of the sky into his lap from Mississippi. Marquette may have been a one-hit wonder.

Ben Braun

The California coach has ties to Chicago, which makes him an automatic candidate for this job. He's had success in Berkeley, and would be an excellent fit on the Illinois

sideline. However, he has a very good thing going at Cal, with a top-5 recruiting class on the way. Then again, a group of great, young players didn't stop Self from leaving his job, did it?

Tim Floyd

This might be the best candidate of the bunch. In Floyd, you have your sure-fire long-term guy, whereas coaches like Braun and Crean might pull a Self should one of the superpowers have an opening. He's a proven recruiter and college coach; if he can recruit guys to- and win at- Iowa State, he can certainly do it at Illinois. His unsuccessful stint with the Bulls might be a hindrance, but people in Chicago generally recognize that he didn't have a shot there. Chicago preps will definitely want to play for a guy with NBA ties.

I could go on, naming all the usual suspects; names like Mark Few of Gonzaga or Dana Altman of Creighton come up more often than Braun or Floyd, in actuality. But I feel that Crean, Braun, and Floyd are your best bets to pick up where Self left off. As long as the new coach can keep the current team from dissenting- Dee Brown is pondering a transfer- and convince 2004 recruits like Shaun Livingston and Kalen Grimes that Illinois is still the place for them, the Illini will be just fine.

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