# Prospectus

A STUDENT-PRODUCED PUBLICATION SINCE 1969

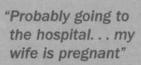
Wednesday, December 10, 2003

Vol. 34 No. 11

### What are you going to do over break?



"I plan on sleeping."





Martin



"I'm probably going to stay locked in my bedroom with my girlfriend playing Castlevania and Final Fantasy 10 II.

Ray who is called Smurf

"I'm going to stay in Champaign and work."



Scott



"I'm going to Minnesota to the great Mall of America."

Yan

"I'm going on my honeymoon ... to the Caribbean and Mexico."



Jeff

## Why should one learn another language?

by Renato Rodriques Coordinator of Spanish Program

Well, there is a straight answer to this question: Because knowing other languages brings innumerable opportunities in your life. Take a look at the following facts: Knowing a foreign language will extend your reach, it will also help you discover a new culture, and could get you a better job.

Consider the following advantages that learning a foreign language brings you:

Learning a foreign language will give you a competitive edge. Did you know that being able to speak, read, write and understand a foreign language can improve your academic skills and your grades in other subjects such as Math and English and it helps you improve your entrance exam scores such as the SATs, GREs, ACTs, MCATs, and LSATs? Research has shown that math and verbal SAT scores climb higher with each additional year of foreign language study, which means that the longer you study a foreign language, the stronger your skills become to succeed in school. Studying a foreign language can improve your analytical skills and interpretive capacities. And two to three years of language study on your record will catch the eye of anyone reading your job or college application.

Learning a foreign language will give you an advantage in a Global economy. More and more businesses work closely

with companies in other countries. These companies may need different kinds of workers who can communicate in different languages and understand other cultures. No matter what career you choose, if you have learned a second language, you will have a real advantage. A technician who knows German or Japanese, the head of a company who knows Spanish or French, or a salesperson who speaks Russian or Arabic can work successfully with many more people and in many more places than someone who knows only one language.

Learning a foreign language will help you discover other cultures and your own. When you speak a foreign language you get an insider's view of another culture and a new view of your own. Studying a new language, reading other people's stories, and connecting with people in their own language can be a source of pleasure and surprise. Learning about other cultures will help you expand your personal horizons and become a responsible citizen. Your ability to talk to others and gain knowledge beyond the world of English can contribute to your community and your country.

Learning a new language can be exciting, especially now with the many new ways to do it. You will learn a second language in exciting new ways, using technology and focusing on communication. Learning a new language is not just learning grammar and vocabulary; it is learning new sounds, expressions, and ways of seeing; it is learning how to act in a certain culture, how to know a new community from the inside.

It is never too late to learn a new language. You are never too young and it is never too late to begin. Depending on how long you study, you can gain different levels of fluency. You will probably not sound like a native speaker who has spoken the language at home as a child. Don't worry; you are not expected to. To a greater or lesser degree you will, however, make yourself understood, read magazines or books for pleasure or information, and meet and talk with new groups of people. Of course, it does not happen overnight. Like learning math, history, or playing the piano, language learning takes time. And it adds to who you are.

Here at Parkland College we are committed to making learning happen at all levels and in all possible fields and learning a foreign language is considered an integral part of a well-rounded education. The Office of International Education offers courses in Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Kiswahili, Russian, and Spanish. The Office of International Education is located in C150 and the telephone number is 353-2263. Which language should you learn? There is no one answer; but, whatever language you choose, learning it will make a difference in how you see the world and in how the world sees you.

## humble op

by Jordan Holmes

I have always found it difficult to review events in which I was not directly involved. This however, has never stopped me from giving my humble opinion on any event. This is especially true of theatre events put on by Parkland's theatre program. This time is different. This time Parkland theatre students have made it more than easy to review one of their plays, in particular, the thirteenth annual student production,

It started out as a simple extra-marital affair in London's Westminster Hotel between oversexed British Conservative MP Richard Willey (a.k.a. Dicky), played by Gibby Kirby, and Jane Worthington, the secretary of the leader of the opposition, played by Stefanie Snodgrass. Little did either of them know, but there would be an extra surprise in the window of their suite. The surprise is a dead man and the culprit-a window. Who was the man? And what was he doing in the window? Both are questions Mr. Willey, Mrs. Worthington, and Mr. George Pigden try to hide. Pigden, Willey's aide comes to the rescue reluctantly, only to blunder the situation even more. Willey is wildly trying to avoid being caught with his hand in the cookie jar by trying to hide the dead body. But the hotel manager, the waiter, and a confused maid make the task nearly impossible. With all of the confusion and lies, it is almost difficult to keep the plot straight. But Willey and Pigden keep themselves and the audience straight, barely. Who's married to whom?

Who has three brothers? What are Willey's wife and Mrs. Worthington's husband, Ronnie, doing in the hotel? All questions are wrapped up neatly by the end of the play.

This farce is the funniest performance I've seen at Parkland's theatre, only contending with last year's production of the comedy Nunsense. Each member of this cast added their own comical touches to the play's overall effect. Between the double entendres, sex appeal, fast pace, and allusions to current British politicians turned authors, the play sends the audience into a constant peal of laughter.

One highlight was The Body, played by James Schirmer. Talk about body language. Acting like a dead man may not sound difficult, but being dragged around stage by the other actors and even being put on a hook attached to a door must have been difficult. However, Schirmer

made the task look effortless.

The culprit of the assumed death, the window, presented a challenge to the cast-good comical timing. The loose window fell often making a startling bang, which the actors reacted to perfectly each time. Timing can often ruin the effect of a play, especially a comedy. This group seemed to have no problems with theirs.

With the exception of an over-zealous cuckolded husband, Ronnie, played by Kevin Cates, who had a problem keeping his accent, the entire cast did a wonderful job keeping in character, keeping timing, and keeping the audience well entertained.

The Prospectus will not publish during exam week Our next issue will appear on newsstands January 21, 2004

Have a great break!

Photos by Patrick Yeagle

# Features

**PROSPECTUS** 

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Wednesday, December 10, 2003

## The politics of film production

by Leah Nordness, staff writer

Boardman's Art Theatre on Church street in Downtown Champaign is not quite five miles away from Savoy 16 or Beverly Cinema. Why is this an important fact? Because New Line Cinema retracted the highly-anticipated final movie of the Lord of the Rings trilogy for this reason.

According to a message posted on The Art's website by owner Greg Boardman, "we were told we'd be given a print for the Art Theatre by a New Line representative but it turns out that we are TOO CLOSE to big multiplexes and given the choice, you know where you would go!"

The Return of the King will open December 17, and because of the decision of a movie company with headquarters thousands of miles away, moviegoers in C-U will now have to brave the massive crowds and mediocre sound systems of the multiplexes to watch the feasibly greatest movie of this generation.

New Line Cinema, a subsidiary of AOL Time-Warner, did not comment on their decision, but the reality is that the company believes it will make more money through the multiplexes. New Line's website is devoted to plugs for Lord of the Rings, all geared toward getting the audience to part with their dollars. The first page of the website advertises the Special Edition DVD of The Two Towers, the second movie in the trilogy, which is also

"now playing on Pay Per View and On Demand!" You can also shop at NewLineShop.com, boasts the website, where you can find the best LOTR toys, games, posters, even the necklace worn by Arwen in the movie.

Boardman expressed his disenchantment to New Line, and even offered the notion of a few more dollars for the company, but their decision to deny the Art a print remained. "If exhibition is going to compete with high-end video presentations in consumer's homes, (which is getting cheaper every day), it must offer bet-ter presentations," Boardman said in his statement. "It seems totally unfair that the only exhibitor who is offering a studioquality presentation in a movie palace, is the only one who is not being allowed to present the film. Another print at the Art, "wowing" moviegoers would only make for repeat attendance and more money for New Line." This statement still did not convince New Line.

Yet hope remains for the LOTR fans here in Champaign-Urbana. Instead of settling for the mediocrity of multiplexes, you can drive to Hoopeston, and see The Return of the King in the historic Lorraine Theatre on Main street. The Lorraine was built in 1922, and now boasts an eight chan-nel sound system. The staff guarantees that you will agree that the Lorraine is the Best Place for Movies, or your money back. See you there on December 17!

## Woe, woe, woe

## An uncharacteristically cynical dissection of an American December

by Jesse Woodrum, editor

Although I am especially fond of Halloween I'd have to say that Christmas is my favorite holiday. The fact that the holiday is marked by a month-long break from class may or may not have anything to do with my preference. Of course I love a break from class but, the holidays are always good on another level. I don't think I could make it through a Midwestern winter without something cheery like Christmas and the New Year. Especially Christmas. It reaffirms my desperate faith in mankind, just enough to last until next December. However, whether I grow cynical with age I know not, but I seem to be making more negative observations this year than I typically do. So, herein I will (as someone does each yearand probably has since the Industrial Revolution) complain about how the real meaning of Christmas is completely lost on society.

First of all, let me say that it is hard for me to get into the Christmas swing of things because there is so much school work to deal with in December. I can't tell you how much of my unfinished work is due by the end of the week. (Well I could, but you don't want to hear itjust ask my roommate.)

Also, if there's anything worse that class in December, it's working in retail during the holiday sea son. I can't help but have a jaded view of the "Christmas Sprit" now that I've seen the dark side of this consumer-driven frenzy. Of course, I could be one of the teenage Chinese kids making etch-a-sketch toys for 24 cents an hour (9 cents less than the legal minimum wage there.)

Of course money does make the world go 'round, and our consumer culture is a part of why our country is so strong, but let us consider the follow-

ing story. Patricia VanLester was at the front of the pack when the holiday shopping season got underway in ridiculous fashion and at a maddeningly early hour in the morning this past November 28th. Wal-Mart (God help us, Wal-Mart) became the scene of a good ole' fashioned trampling when our Patricia was overcome by more quickly moving consumers than she in their quest for a \$29 DVD player.

I hear stories like this and I can't help but say to myself, "TWENTY-NINE DOLLARS FOR A DVD PLAYER!" God bless America.

Sorry Patty, but it's survival of the fittest out there. Of course it turns out VanLester has a more litigious history that Metallica. Before this incident she had filed nine lawsuits against Wal-Mart. Personally, if I were a Wal-Mart exec I would have someone following this woman at all times. At the front of such a bull run is not the appropriate place for such a frail, accident-prone woman (as I imagine her.) But maybe this is karma at work folks.

Seriously though, holiday shopping takes no prisoners. Whether you're a shopper or a retailer, just try to look some-one in the eye tomorrow, or try to switch lanes on North Prospect Avenue around 5 pm some day this weekend and see what kind of responses you get. Everyone is in his own zone. It's not about people, and giving, this is WAR!

Also, I am amazed by how early the Christmas season starts. Of course the beginning of "the season" is the beginning of the holiday sales. The "Christmas Spirit" cannot be denied when a DVD player is going for 29 bucks. In October a friend of mine suggested that Halloween would eventually be swallowed into the holiday dynasty that now runs from the end of November until the first of January, and that eventually we would wake up and find a bag of candy under our beds-early compliments of St.

I am not especially religious. I have been turned off to religion by the institution of "the church" (one of the worldwide institutions still more powerful than Wal-Mart-for now, I think Wallyworld has Christmas working more for it than does the Vatican) but I still hold the values of Christianity very dear to me. Also, the persona of Christ is very fascinating to me, and very humbling.

If Christ is going to come back to Earth, I hope he doesn't come to America dur-ing the holiday season. The scene would be something akin to Moses returning to the base of Mount Sinai.

Honestly, it surprises me that a Christian holiday is getting bigger when all traces of religion are being sterilized from pubic life. The political correction crew is on the rise these years but wait until they come after our Christmas break in the spirit of fairness and "inclusion" in the words of the great UIUC Chancellor Nancy Cantor. Those PC bastards have another thing com-

Anyway, there is no organized moral here, just some food for thought to go with the rest of your consumption this

If you want to hear what Christmas really means listen to "The Christmas Song" by Dave Mathews. It's on Live in Chicago at the United Center 12.19.98. It's a great song about the ideals and the purity of Christ which may be of some relief in the midst of our con-

I'd love to continue rambling but I have to get to Wal-Mart before the sale ends on that DVD player.

Merry Christmas!

To contact the Parkland Prospectus, phone us 217-351-2216 FAX 217-373-3835. By E-mail: prospectus@parkland.edu

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 5 p.m. of the Wednesday immediately before the upcoming issue.

#### **Editorial Staff**

Jordan Holmes, Jesse Woodrum Makaila Shackelford (position available)

Editors Production Editor Advisor Office Manager Advertising Manager

Staff Writers Jarrod Finn, Tara Gray, Adam Luckey, Leah Nordness, Sarah Ramey, Rachel White-Domain, Patrick Yeagle

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#### **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE UPON** REVIEW

For Further Information contact: jeby@parkland.edu or visit Room X-153

### **Final Examination Schedule** December 15-19, 2003

## DAY COURSES

If your first class meeting during the week is:

The final exam

Monday at 7 a.m. ...... 8-10 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16 Monday at 9 a.m. ........ 8-10 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17 Monday at 10 a.m. ........... 8-10 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 18 Monday at 12 noon ... II a.m.-I p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17 Tuesday at 8 a.m. ............ 8-10 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 16 Tuesday at 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. . . . . 8-10 a.m., Friday, Dec. 19 Tuesday at 12 noon ...... 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 19 Tuesday at 1 p.m. ........ 2-4 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17 Tuesday at 2 p.m. ........... 2-4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 18 Tuesday at 3 p.m. ...... 2-4 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17 Tuesday at 4 p.m. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2-4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 18

#### **EVENING COURSES**

If your evening class is held on The final exam (first meeting of the week): Monday . . . . . Monday, Dec. 15 Tuesday . . . . . . Tuesday, Dec. 16 

Any day class after Tuesday . . . . . . 2-4 p.m., Friday, Dec. 19

Thursday ...... Thursday, Dec. 18 All evening finals (5 p.m. or later) will be at the regular class time.

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# Classifieds

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Wednesday, December 10, 2003

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The 8 and 1 Lady Cobras have seven games over break, including three in Florida. The Ladies will host Grand Rapids, Michigan at 6 p.m., Friday, December 19.

# S.A.M.E.

~Student Alliance For Multicultural Education~

These are some possible questions we will be basing our future discussions on:

Are all Whites Racist? Is America an arrogant Nation? Is American society sexist or are women only complaining? Do blacks self-segregate themselves? Should gay marriage be Legal? Is the Middle East Americas problem?

The Student Alliance for Multicultural Education is dedicated to increasing cultural sensitivity and understanding of the student body, faculty, and staff of Parkland College. If interested in learning more or assuming a leadership role in helping others learn more about these topics, please contact us.

s\_a\_m\_e@juno.com



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# Sports

**PROSPECTUS** 

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Wednesday, December 10, 2003

## **Parkland women** knock off top-ranked **Illinois Central**

**Parkland Press Release** 

Samantha Greer hit a runner in the lane with 7.4 sec-onds left and the Parkland women withstood two last second shots as the 8th ranked Cobras stunned #1 ICC 74-73 in Champaign on Tuesday night. The victory ended the Cougars 33 game winning streak that started after Parkland upset ICC on their home court last December. ICC went on to win their next 28 games in route to winning the NJCAA Division

On Tuesday, Coach Tim Wulf's squad built twelve-point leads in both halves only to see ICC rally to tie the game at 59-59 with 8:00 minutes remaining. Parkland built the lead back to 70-63 before

ICC scored seven consecutive points to tie the game at 70-70. After Alicia Ordner hit two free throws to give the Cobras a 72-70 lead, guard Shannon Williams banked in a 3-pointer to give ICC their first lead of the second half at 73-72. Both teams had chances to score before Greer hit the game win-

Sarah Vaughn led Parkland with 21 points while Gina Grussing added 15 points and 8 rebounds and Alicia Ordner tossed in 13. LaTrice McMichel led all scorers with 31 points and Nekisha Stevens added 18 points and 10 boards. Parkland is now (7-1) on the season and will host Glen Oaks CC of Michigan at 3:00 on Saturday. ICC falls to (5-1) with the loss.

## **Parkland women rout** Glen Oaks 80-55

The #8 ranked Parkland Women's Basketball team ran out to a 40-15 halftime lead and cruised to an 80-55 rout of Glen Oaks CC of Michigan on Saturday afternoon. Parkland (8-1) was led by Sarah Vaughn

and Sabrina Taylor who both scored 15 points while Sabrina Brandon (13) and Alicia Ordner (12) also finished in double figures. Parkland will return to action on Tuesday night when they host Lincoln Trail (7-2) starting at 5:30.

## Parkland men win **Triton Invitationa**

**Press Release** 

The #16 ranked Men's Basketball team improved to a perfect (8-0) on the season after winning the Triton College Invitational over the weekend. On Friday night, Parkland whipped Morton College 82-62 behind 24 points and 14 re-bounds from Maurice Mobley.

In Saturday's championship game, Parkland built a ninepoint halftime lead before seeing Triton pull ahead late in the game. Trailing by three with just 1.8 seconds remaining in regulation, Eugene Green took an inbounds pass just behind the three-point lane and banked in a three-pointer with no time

remaining on the clock to send the game into overtime. From there, Parkland made their free throws and got several defensive stops to defeat the hosts 82-78.

Mobley was named the tourney MVP while Green and freshman John Edmison were named to the All-tourney team. Parkland will face two tough road tests this week when they travel to Ancilla on Tuesday night before traveling on Thursday to red-hot John A Logan (9-2) who re-cently upset NJCAA D-I and defending National Champion

## **Registration for ACT/ SAT test preparation**

**Parkland College News Release** 

High school juniors planning to take the ACT and/or SAT college entrance examinations can sharpen their skills through a preparation course sponsored by Parkland College.

Coordinated by Cambridge Educational Services, the prep classes feature English, science, reading, and mathematics, emphasizing test-taking techniques and strategies. They also include instruction and practice designed to help students develop the skills that they need to improve test scores and overcome test anxi-

The fee for either the ACT or the SAT course is \$275, and a combined course is offered for \$475. These fees include an official pre-test, a textbook, classroom instruction, an official post-test, and a personalized assessment for each test.

Tuesday evening Saturday morning classes are available. The deadline to register for the SAT prep class is January 6. The deadline to register for the ACT prep class is February 10.

For further information, call the Parkland Community Education office at 217/351-