

Can I become a Student Ambassador?

Student Government's Alexandr Bogdanets describes the Student Ambassador Program.

First of all, let me tell you a little about this program and you would have to decide if you want to be involved or not. Carol Steinmen, Associate Vice President Dean of Students, decided to create the Student Ambassadors program eight years ago. Dean Steinmen believes that creation of this group of students would be successful for both the college and students. Student Ambassadors is the group of people who are representatives of Parkland College's guests, prospective students and their families. Dean Steinmen states "I am very impressed with the level of our Student Ambassadors and the quality of each student in the program, and I am very pleased and appreciative that they are willing to give their time to Parkland College." Billie Mitchell, Admissions Office Advisor, was asked by Dean Steinmen to take over the program. Mrs. Mitchell started with the terrific number of ambassadors, totaling only one student, but each year the number of students grew and today there are 16 of us. Billie Mitchell states that she is proud to be connected to this group of students. This program is responsible to the President, the Dean of Students, the Director of Admissions and Enrollment Management, and the Director of Student Life. The program's mission statement is "to encourage and develop leadership skills in students, foster and promote the development of mutual beneficial relationships between Parkland and the community, and provide a student perspective on college life at Parkland."

In June 2002 Student Ambassadors created its own Mission Statement that states, "We are a leadership organization that embodies the qualities of our well-rounded and diverse student body. Our goal is to promote success by offering students encouragement, support and resources that will enrich their experiences at Parkland College. As Student Ambassadors we are representatives, and as such provide a student perspective on the college. We strive to lay a strong foundation in the present in order to build a bridge toward the future."

My name is Alexandr Bogdanets and I am one of the Student Ambassadors. Our goal is to guide activities on and off the campus. Some events we take part in are Taste of Champaign, Campus Visit Program, theater productions and more. Last year Parkland College was accredited and a group of students were invited to talk about Parkland and its students—Student Ambassadors were invited as well. Student Ambassadors, this year, attended a leadership conference in Peoria Illinois. It was fun but, also, we learned a lot about the virtue of leadership.

Parkland College has about ten thousand students and only sixteen of us are representing this massive student body. If you want to be a Student Ambassador come by Student Life, X-155, and ask Student Life or Student Government for more information.



Parkland College

Parkland Professor Receives Golden Apple Award

Patrick Yeagle,

Parkland Instructor Julie Weishar is a recipient of cher at the higher education level to have received the award. She teaches speech, theatre, and mass communications at Parkland, and received her B.A. from Rosary College and her M.A. from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her areas of interest include political rhetoric, social effects of mass communication, the art of speechmaking, performance techniques, oral interpretation of literature, and vocal coaching.

According to the News Channel 15 website (www.wicdtv.com), students in Instructor Weishar's classes appreciate how she brings out the best in their speaking voices and also in

themselves. Her classes provide speaking skills, such as pronunciation, as well as confidence.

To nominate a teacher you believe is doing an excellent job, simply send a letter explaining why you think your teacher deserves a Golden Apple Award to: Golden Apple Award, News Channel 15, 250 South Country Fair Drive, Champaign, IL 61821. You may also e-mail the station at kbrown@sbgnet.com with the subject line "Golden Apple Award".

The Golden Apple award is given out by Channel 15 News every two weeks to a teacher in the area that shows commitment to excellence in education. The award is sponsored by Busey Bank.

Phi Theta Kappa announces changes

Press Release

The members and officers of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society have announced changes to the structure of the Parkland Chapter. Previously only applications were being accepted during a specific time frame. In order to accommodate a larger segment of qualified students, they are changing to a "rolling membership." This means that anyone that meets the qualifications of having completed twelve credit hours and have a GPA of 3.5 can apply at any time of the year. Final acceptance will require each potential inductee to attend an orientation session that will be given two times each semester. If accepted, they will be invited to participate in events immediately and attend the next available induction ceremony. It was felt that too many students were missing the cut-off date and were not able to participate in Phi Theta Kappa's events.

Another major change is the addition of a 5-star membership program. Members will be able to receive recognition for their work by taking part in the 5-star program. It is structured after the Phi Theta Kappa's National program. Each star earned will entitle them to increased benefits. Every member is eligible for the program

if the elect to participate. Those that reach the 5-star level will receive, among other things, a letter of recommendation by Dr. Zelema Harris, Parkland College President and a trip to the National Phi Theta Kappa Convention. At the end of the year, a banquet will be held and participating members will be honored.

Phi Theta Kappa offers an important step for those going on to four-year universities. They give members a greater chance of going to the university of their choice and will allow them access to hundreds of scholarship opportunities not available to others. It is of a great benefit to anyone entering the job market as well. Being in Phi Theta Kappa means you have attained a high level of achievement and understand the role of leadership.

Parkland College has one of the strongest Phi Theta Kappa memberships in the state even though we are smaller than several other colleges in size. It is our goal to be the number one chapter in the state and to represent Parkland College at the national level. Anyone that is interested in joining the Alpha Psi Eta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa can contact Marshal Huffman at mhuffman@parkland.edu or stop by the Phi Theta Kappa office in C-242 and pick up an application.

Crisis Nursery Holiday Shop lets kids do their own shopping

By Leah Nordness, staff writer

Saturday was a big day for my three year-old son. He met Santa for the first time, and after three tries was able to tell him that he wanted a T-Wrecks set for Christmas. (It's a two-foot tall Hot Wheels playset in the shape of a certain carnivorous dinosaur that alternately swallows and spits out cars.) Anyway, after that, he went Christmas shopping for the first time at the Crisis Nursery Holiday Shop at Lincoln Square Mall.

According to Kathy Brandt, the Special Events Coordinator at the Crisis Nursery, this is the Holiday Shop's eleventh year. The Shop has raised a considerable amount of money

for the Crisis Nursery. "Over the last few years, we've netted about \$25,000 for our program," said Brandt. The Crisis Nursery offers 24-hour free emergency childcare to those who need it.

Proceeds from the shop go directly to the Crisis Nursery, but the Shop has other benefits as well. Kids get a sense of independence in buying gifts without the assistance of their parents, (they are assisted by volunteer "shopper's helpers") and also get the chance to make others feel happy during the holidays.

Children under the age of twelve can go to the Holiday Shop. In the shop, volunteers "help them manage their money and pick out something special for their family," said

Karin, who works at the Crisis Nursery. "That way they have something to give their mom that she doesn't know about." (Unless, of course, your child insists that you go into the Shop with them. I will, however, act surprised and thrilled when I unwrap my new toy car.) Items at the Holiday Shop are priced from one to six dollars. After purchasing the items, volunteers help kids wrap the gifts, and then they get to pick out a gift for themselves from a box on the way out. My son chose a dinosaur coloring book.

The Holiday Shop is open Saturdays and Sundays until December 14. Hours on Saturday are 10 am to 6 pm, and hours on Sunday are noon to 5 pm.

Classifieds

PROSPECTUS

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Wednesday, December 3, 2003

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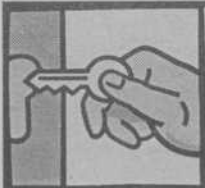
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"How to Transfer, Part 1: Picking Your School"

By Jarrod Finn

Sophomore year here at Parkland, for many students, is pretty much just about halfway over with finals just around the corner. With winter break comes a month's worth of a breather from heavy loads of school work, but at the same time the break also brings time to start contemplating education beyond Parkland.

Some students have already been accepted to schools or are already dead set on the school they will be attending next fall. But there are some out there who have not and are having a difficult time. And that is what I am here for. Although my opinions may not be enough to help, they are coming from a student point of view that is going through the process right now. So, if you do not feel that I provide enough by all means go to a counselor or academic advisor, they provide a lot of help.

Before applying and sweating out the time until the acceptance letter arrives, there is one obvious thing you must do: choose the school you want to attend. When looking at schools, there are a few things that I feel should be considered and they are the quality of the program of study you are going into, and then your sense of comfort at the school (i.e. the campus, personal issues such as friends, etc.).

Now before you consider all of this is, I recommend dwindling your choices to at least three schools and no more than maybe five. I mean you do not want to apply to one school, find out that you do not get accepted and then be screwed because you only applied to one school. The processing fees can get a little expensive, but if you want to apply to more schools than that, by all means go for it; more power to you.

How about we take a look at what I did as far as my choices and use them as an example. My top four schools are as follows in descending order: University of Illinois, Illinois State University, Eastern Illinois University, and Northern Illinois University. As far as choosing these schools there were several factors that played a role in my choices.

The first factor seemed to be at a personal level, and I want you to remember it seems that a big part of doing well in college is being comfortable and happy at the school. The personal factors for me really pertained to the church that I attend. Within Illinois we have about eight to ten branches including the one here in Champaign. In each of the towns that my top

four choices are located, there is a church close by. Each church also has a campus ministry so there would be students around the same age as me that attend the school and believe and endure the same things as me. Through this I would have tremendous support emotionally and religiously. If I went to the U of I, I would still be closely affiliated with my current church and campus ministry, so you can see one reason the U of I is my top choice. You may or may not be in the same exact situation as me, but you still have personal factors that you will need to consider.

Another factor that influenced my choices was my field of study: history with emphasis on education. The U of I is known for having a great history department and a great education program. Plus, it has been my dream school since I was young so that gave it a little push. Then as far as ISU and EIU, when one mentions those name the first thing that pops in to mind is usually that they are very well-known for being a great teacher's school. NIU is also known as being an overall good school. Receiving a good education is very important to me and I have chosen these schools because I know that regardless of which one I attend, I know I receive a good education.

The third and final factor that played a role in my choices was the simple fact of feeling comfortable on the campus. Growing up in Champaign I have obviously gotten to know the U of I campus very well and I love everything about it. I know precisely where I want to live, where I like to eat, where I like to study, and so on. I am simply a "townie" in love with the campus. Visiting the campuses of the school you are interested in, spending a day there and really getting to know the school and everything about it can and will be very helpful. I did this for both EIU and ISU and let's just say if I do not get accepted to the U of I, I'm in a bit of a dilemma.

I realize that you may not be the same as me, but doing all this in choosing my school was very helpful and I recommend it. Like I said, take your time to really get to know the school and everything about it. With that I want to say just two things. I would love to reiterate them over and over again, but for the sake of redundancy and space I will not. Remember, make sure your choice is somewhere you will truly be happy. And do not let the price of tuition keep you from attending a school; there is no cost too high for receiving a great education.

Sports

PROSPECTUS

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Wednesday, December 3, 2003

Number 17 Lady Cobras Upend #8 Kankakee

Press Release

The #17 ranked Parkland College Women's Basketball team charged out to a 16-point halftime lead and held on to defeat #8 Kankakee 66-58 in Champaign on Saturday afternoon. The Lady Cobras (5-1) surged to the early lead by holding the Lady Cavaliers (3-2) to just 22% shooting in the first half and by controlling the boards 26-14. Kankakee pulled within four points on several occasions in

the second half but a three-point play by Alicia Ordner with 3:28 to play gave Parkland a 61-54 lead and could get no closer than six the rest of the way. Ordner was the only Lady Cobra in double figures finishing with 22 points. Gina Grussing returned from an injury and added 9 points and 7 rebounds off the bench.

Parkland will return to action on Tuesday night when they host Moraine Valley starting at 5:30.

Men stay undefeated, women set to host #1 ranked team

Press Release

The #20 ranked Parkland Men's basketball team stayed undefeated on the season winning their first road game of the year, 69-64 over Harper. The Cobras (5-0) built a 37-30 lead at the half and led the Hawks (8-2) by a 6-10 point margin for most of the contest. Three Parkland players finished in double figures with Teran Lee leading the way with 15 points while Maurice Mobley added 13

and Aaron Thais tossed in 12. Parkland returns to action on Tuesday night when they host the Millikin University JV beginning at 7:30.

The #15 ranked Women's team (6-1) will also return to action on Tuesday night when they host #1 ranked and defending National Champion Illinois Central College (5-0) starting at 5:30. ICC has won 33 straight games since Parkland upset them on their home court last December.

Wulf picks up win #200 as Lady cobras cruise to victory

Press Release

Cobras used balanced scoring to dominate Moraine Valley 85-43 on Tuesday evening. Coach Tim Wulf picked up his 200th career win in improving to (200-47) in his Parkland coaching career.

Sarah Vaughn led all scores knocking in 22 points including four three pointers. Sabrina Brandon came up off the bench

to add 12 points while Alicia Ordner added 11. Parkland (6-1) forced the Cyclones (4-2) into 37 turnovers and won easily despite being out rebounded 37-30.

Parkland will return to action a week from tonight when they host #1 ranked and defending National Champion, Illinois Central College, beginning at 5:30.

Parkland Art Gallery Holiday Sale


Ruthie M. Counter, staff writer

The Parkland Art Gallery will hold its annual holiday sale on Monday, December 15 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Tuesday, December 16, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

More than 70 area businesses contributed gift certificates and items for the sale.

Proceeds from the annual

holiday sale will be directed to the Parkland Art Gallery to help finance gallery exhibitions, including an exhibit of rural Midwestern landscapes and farm scenes by Springfield artist George Atkinson and the 2004 National Biennial Ceramic Invitational focusing on transforming the ceramic vessel through surface decoration.



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