

FY04 budget cuts: the cliff notes

by Rachel W-Domain

You may have heard about the stifling budget cuts that Governor Blagojevich has released upon the colleges and universities of Illinois. Skipping over the articles, thinking, "that has nothing to do with me," I turned to the comics, as you may be doing now.

However, the state of the educational budget affects everyone. If you don't believe me, last year, in 2002 students paid \$57 per credit hour. Just this year, the cuts that were put into effect raised your tuition by \$5 per credit hour. If you're a full time student, that's an additional \$120-\$160 just this year. Still don't believe me? Ok, maybe that doesn't sound like too much. Over the last seven years, tuition has been being driven steadily up, in \$2 increments, with the exception of last year's \$5 jump. Still doesn't sound like a lot? In 1996, students paid \$43 per credit hour. If you are a full time student, that's an additional \$225-\$300 that you paid this year. This is money you spent to make up for budget cuts that have slowly been lowering the money given to higher education since 1996.

If I skimmed anything from the News Gazette articles about the state of the Illinois budget over the summer, much of it was written in incomprehensible legislative lingo. Not only that, but they never mentioned community colleges such as Parkland and how the cuts would affect us.

I met with the Chief Financial Officer at Parkland College, Jon Surma, and he explained

how the cuts are related specifically to Parkland. To give me a visual picture, he showed me some charts detailing how the financial need of Parkland was determined, and how the state plans to respond to the massive gaps between how much they need, and how much they got. He also explained several ways that Parkland will be combating their chunk of the state deficit, that is, apart from the portion made up for by raised tuition, as in the part made up for by us.

In 1996, Parkland was receiving approximately 25% of the cost to run the college from the state. In the year 2000, the state had dropped to paying 21%. As the percent they pay drops, the percent we pay raises- if only in \$2 or \$5 increments, it adds up. In 2004 the state drops to paying only 18.79% of Parkland's yearly operating cost which is \$38,953,102. So if only 18.79% is being afforded by the state, who is paying the other 81.21%? Half of the 30 million is being paid by a combination of sources, including over \$100,000 in federal grants, property taxes, sales inside the college (snack machines etc) and other sources. The other half, over 17 million is being paid by the students, in the form of tuition and fees.

During the review process of Parkland's needs and operating costs, the Illinois Community College Board and the Illinois Board of Education both approved the grant money to be paid to Parkland as necessary. But it was at the governor's desk that much of the money was withheld, drop-

ping the grants a total close to a million dollars. Some grants needed for specific areas such as upgrading the technical equipment used in classrooms, and upgraded the skills of the staff along with other specific grants were eliminated altogether.

Parkland will have to absorb the cuts in other ways than through tuition raises. Jon Surma assures that the remainder of the deficit "will be spread across the institution," so that no one area or program will be hit harder than the rest or eliminated completely. Examples of this include limited new equipment, limited money available to student workers, and limited use of programs considered "public service" as in, those which are available as a service to the community. They have also eliminated four full time positions and several part time positions altogether due to lack of funds. Jon Surma assures us that, "The college will make every effort to still provide the quality of the instruction that they have in the past."

However, added stress from these elements is undeniable. With less equipment, less staff training and less staff, combined with a fast rising student enrollment, class size will be bigger and student teacher ratio wider, as well as less equipment available to the growing number of students. All this with a higher price.

In short, a tight budget is affecting everyone. Don't be naive as to how much it is draining out of your wallet and why.

Student Government elections to be held

By Jesse Woodrum

Later this month the student government will hold elections to fill five open spots in the Student Senate. Just over half of the senate was vacated by outgoing students this past spring and now new (or old) students will have to step up and fulfill the void in the local democratic bureaucracy connecting students to Parkland's Administration.

Elections will be held the 17th, 18th, and 19th of this month and applications are due in the Office of Student Life (in X-155) by Friday at 5:00pm. Adam Colba, the Student Body President, says Student Senators are a direct representation of the student body, they are the eyes and ears of the students. Elections came up quickly this semester, as many students are still getting settled in to their routine but, as Colba indicated, there is a lot of work to be done.

Student Senators must put in 8 hours of work in the Student Government Office each week. Usually senators are on the phone to administration or constituents, writing, or planning events. A lot of what

senators do is communicating because it is their primary function to serve as the channel between those who experience Parkland, and those who decide what that experience is going to be like.

As passive as that sounds, Student Government workers are usually some of the hardest working, most ambitious students on the campus because parts of their job are proactive as well. Colba says he wants to increase the Council's philanthropic activities. This fall projects are underway to raise money for the Uganda Connection. The Uganda Connection is a project to raise money for educational technology in war-ravaged parts of Uganda.

Senators must also be available for weekly meetings on Thursday's from 2-4 pm. They are expected to help at Student Government functions, and they must have an accumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

Besides philanthropy the Student Government also helps groups around campus. Some of their funds are given to groups around campus. They have given money to Colors (the local gay, lesbian, bisex-

ual, transgender organization) and to the automotive club to send students to conferences or to fund research.

Colba says he thinks the government could be more active and especially wants to increase philanthropic participation in the community. Most importantly of all, he says, the senators are the people you can see around campus and say, "Hey, I've got an idea."

Outside of it's own functions some student government workers represent the Parkland Student Body in other settings. Colba himself has a chair and a vote in the Parkland College Association's type of advisory board to the board of trustees and to President Harris herself. Takeya Black, the Student Government Senator also holds a seat and a vote in the Board of Trustees.

Needless to say, Parkland's bureaucracy is (by definition) a complex one. However, students now have the chance to take part at the senator level, the one closest to the constituency. Time to apply is running out but applications will be accepted until 5:00 pm in X-155.

Prospectus asks:

How will the extension of the bars' closing times affect the lives of Parkland Students?



Aimee Manuel

"I think if a student stays out at the bars that late, the likelihood of them showing up for a class the next morning is slim to none."



Chris Glebel

"I don't think it will have any effects because before, after bars, people would just go to after hours parties anyway, so this is just allowing for bars to make more money."



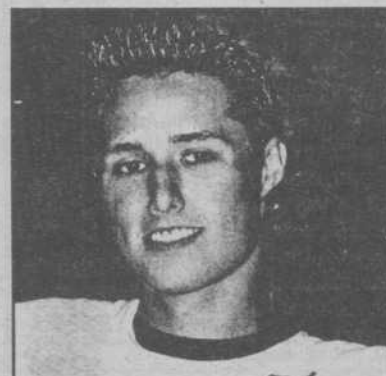
Ron Carpenter

"I think that if you keep the bars open longer people are not going to want to get up and go to their early classes."

"The reason they extended the bar hours is to try to stop house parties. The principle is ineffective. This will result in people just staying out later drinking and still empowers the capabilities of a house party over those of a bar."



Caleb Klamann



Nicholas Dalton

"I think it will affect their lives because students focus on school work too much sometimes and they need to let loose every once in a while and stay out late at the bars."

Photos by Sarah Ramey

Features

Visit Aroma Cafe, August 11th thru September 30th, 2003, when we host

OBSERVATIONS

A Photographic Perspective On life

by Stephanie Faison

Aroma Café is very proud to exhibit the original photographs of Stephanie Faison

Though born in Chicago Stephanie Faison thinks of Las Vegas, Nevada, as her home. She was five years of age when her family moved to Las Vegas, where they lived for seven years. She was not only inspired by the landscape, but the cultural diversity between the Native Americans, the Mexicans and her family. At age seven, one of her first pieces was featured at a Highlands University student art show. At age eleven, she was offered a full scholarship to attend Highland University, and held a promise to be one of their youngest graduates. Unfortunately, her fam-

ily moved back to Chicago the summer before the beginning of her first semester to be with her brother, Stephen, who was ill and died shortly thereafter. During her junior year at Calumet Sr. High School in Chicago, Faison was selected to represent Calumet by submitting one of her drawings to the United Nations, where it remains to this day. After accepting a full scholarship to Southwestern College, in Winfield, Kansas, she pursued degrees in Marine Biology, Art and Spanish. Faison currently resides in Champaign, Illinois. She is presently seeking a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts in painting at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana campus.

OBSERVATIONS is a narrative divided into three seg-

ments: "Lover's Rendezvous", "Flirting With Barcelona", and "Chgo 606". At first glance the pictures seem dissimilar, but the theme running through them is one and the same. This exhibit is about passion. It is reflective of one's passions. These pictures share a common thread that weaves through the psyche, producing a tapestry that serves as a counterbalance to the chaos of this world. Though seemingly innocuous - even abstract - these loves, these passions, hold more strength and value than monetary gain.

For more information about the show, contact Amanda Bickel, Art Coordinator at Aroma Café (356.3200 or art4aroma@yahoo.com).

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Wednesday, August 27, 2003

Got a question about healthy living? Just ask June

Drop your question in the question box at the Information Desk

Hey, June:

Classes just started and I'm feeling stressed already. I have no idea how I'm going to get everything done that I have to do. I'm already feeling overwhelmed. How can I deal with this? I need help!

Signed: Stressed Out

Dear Stressed Out:

Accepting the challenge of making a commitment to attend college can certainly appear overwhelming. Begin by taking a deep breath, take a look at the big picture, step back and take each challenge a little step at a time. Don't get bogged down by looking at everything. Begin by looking only at the near future. Assess what needs to be done next week but focus on tomorrow. Get organized by making a schedule that includes special relaxation time for yourself. Set some priorities and accept that you may not get to the items at the bottom of the list. Be sure to keep yourself sufficiently and regularly nourished and well rested. Exercise burns up the unhealthy chemicals that accumulate during stress so be sure to balance exercise with the stress. The greater the stress, the more strenuous the exercise should be. Give yourself a quick vacation by closing your eyes and imagining yourself wherever you'd like to be. Your body reacts the same whether the pleasure is real or imagined so take yourself to the beach whenever you need a break.

For more information on managing stress, visit the Wellness Center in L-122 or email *Just ask June* at jburch@parkland.edu

IMAGES

Fall '03 submission deadline for poetry, prose, and visual arts is November 14.

For free copies of images 2002 and images 2003, and for further information call or e-mail:

353-2627
jeby@parkland.edu

Parkland Press Release

Parkland Theatre announces open auditions for Story Theatre. Auditions will take place Sunday, September 21 from 2-4 p.m. or Monday, September 22 from 6-8 p.m. at Parkland College Theatre. Rehearsals will begin shortly after casting. Performances are November 5-16. Developed by Paul Sillis (a co-founder of Chicago's Second City), Story Theatre is a sequence of 10 inventive, fun-filled stories

from the Grimm Brother's Collection and Aesop's Fables brought to life by an ensemble troupe using improvisational techniques. The 10 scenes in Story Theatre are: The Little Peasant, The Bremen Town Musicians, Is He Fat?, The Robber Bridegroom, Henny Penny, The Master Thief, Venus and the Cat, The Fisherman and His Wife, Two Crows, and The Golden Goose. The director, Dallas Street, will be casting 8-12 versatile actors (male and female) ages 18 and older

to play a variety of character: (70 plus roles). Members of the community, Parkland students and University students are welcome to attend. We encourage diversity. We will not be casting children in this production of Story Theatre. The audition will include reading from the script. Excerpts can be found online at www.parkland.edu/theatre/audition.htm. Also, be prepared to tell a joke. Call 217/351-2529 for more information.

Prospectus

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 5 PM of the Wednesday immediately before the upcoming issue.

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Classified

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Wednesday, September 3, 2003

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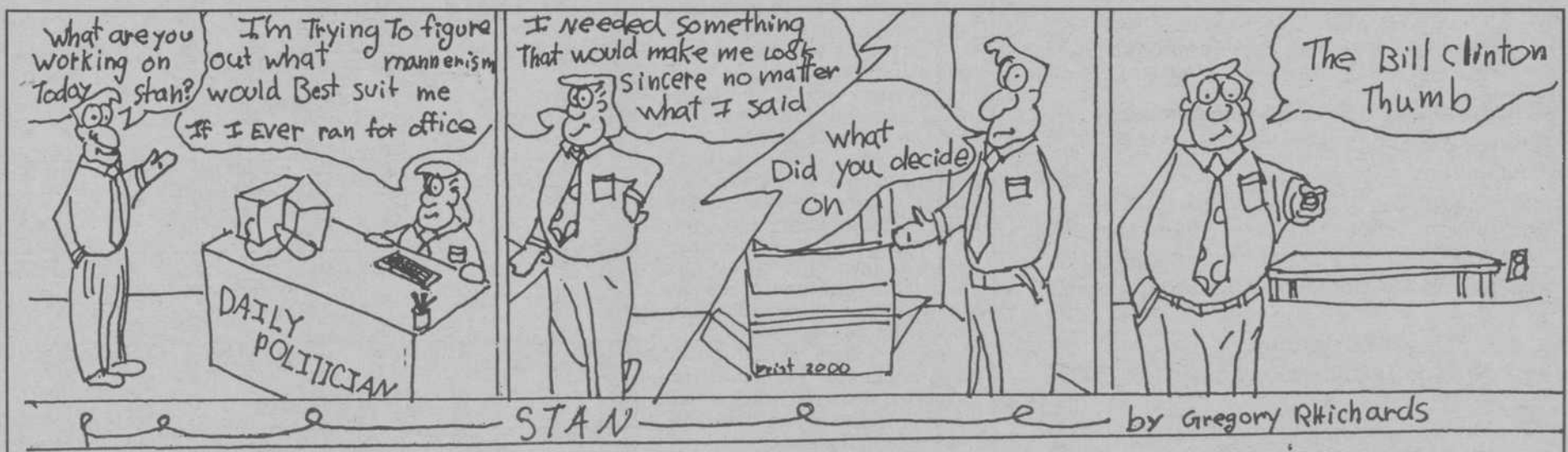
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2. Ads cannot be canceled after the above deadline.

POLICIES

1. Advertising Copy is subject to the approval of the Prospectus and may be revised, rejected, or canceled at any time.
2. All ads must be accompanied by a signed insertion order and payment.
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5. The Prospectus cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Report errors immediately at 217/351-2216. A corrected ad will appear in the next edition.
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Phone 217/351-2216 or 351-2278



Parkland Soccer Team set for home opener

Parkland News Release

The Parkland College Men's Soccer team will open their 2003 home season with a match against Waubensee CC beginning at 1:00 on Saturday. The Cobras lost 2-0 on Tuesday evening in their season opener

against Illinois Wesleyan University.

Parkland is led by sophomores Josh Alford, Nic Wedig, Casey Anderson, Sam Bush, and Adam Noggle and are joined by an exciting group of new players including goalie Paul Jennison of England.

All games are played at the field on the northwest side of campus at a location between the track and tennis courts. There is no charge for admission so come out on Saturday and support the Cobras!

Soccer 2003: looking ahead

By Adam Luckey

After a disappointing loss in the regional semifinal round of last year's NJCAA soccer tournament, the Parkland College Men's Soccer Program is looking ahead to bigger things this year. The loss of a large number of sophomores from last season may lead some people to believe that a lack of experience could lead to a lack of wins. Not so, according to sophomore defender Sam Bush. "We have a great combination of experience and talent, and that's going to help us throughout the season. The sophomores are trying to set good examples for the freshmen to show them how much hard work you have to put into this to take the benefits away. We are better this year than we were last, and should do very well."

This year, coaches are using a few techniques to better prepare this team for the national tournament. Some of these include harder summer conditioning, providing dietary guides for the players, watching game films of top European teams, such as England's Manchester United, and also attending some games of a few of the top Division 1 schools in the nation, such as Bradley, Eastern Illinois, and St. Louis. The coaches and players alike hope that they will be able to learn from seeing more experienced and talented top-notch players play the game. Also, a trip to Minnesota this fall to play two of the top Division 2 teams is planned, because there is no

substitute for playing great teams.

The team's first game was an away game Tuesday, August 26, against Division 2 Illinois Wesleyan. Although the team dominated the entire game, out possessing Wesleyan by over half the game, they failed to capitalize on the many chances they had. With at least 15 shots on goal, they did not score. They held Wesleyan to 3 shots on goal the whole game, but unfortunately, Wesleyan scored on two of them, making it a 2-0 result. A positive aspect of this game were that it allowed the team to see how well it *could* do, by completely outplaying a high-quality team. A negative aspect is that the team has yet to realize its vast potential, not taking advantage of the plethora of talent that it's comprised of.

Most players on the team agree that the opportunity to be more than just "good" is there for the taking. "We have a chance to do some great things this year," says Bush. "If we can just correct a few mistakes here and there, we should be set." What is the number one thing they need to work on? "Finishing goals, definitely finishing goals," laughs Bush. When a team has as many chances in a match as this team does, it's almost harder to not score than it is to score.

As the season progresses, be sure to make it out to the games and support the team. Hopefully with more people there, it will encourage the team to correct that mistake, and they will be able to finish.

Attention: Fans Needed

Jarrod Flinn

With the first day of school and the beginning of a new school year, comes a new season for Parkland athletes.

Athletes have endured their training and push through their practices with nothing but success on their mind. Parkland athletes give their heart to their sport and for fans. But it is an unfortunate occurrence when the fans do not return those feelings. This is quite obvious by just looking at the attendance of the men's basketball teams. Very few fans showed up to support

their school.

In this reporter's opinion, that is quite sad. It just seems that a sense of school spirit is lacking. Yes there are students that attend sporting events and show their support, but they are few. This reporter will admit that Parkland is indeed a small school compared to the likes of schools such as the University of Illinois, but that is not a reason to not show spirit. There is a correlation between a team's success and their attendance, wherein a losing team does not draw a large crowd. But there is also a correlation between how much

a team wins and how much support they have. The more a team has its fans behind them, the harder they will play and the chances of victory and success rise. If a team sees that there are numerous fans there, they may feel that the fans care. Knowing this leads to the players trying harder and playing to their full ability. Playing to their full ability most likely will lead to victory.

On the other hand, seeing barren stands leads to a team feeling as though the fans do not care. This in turn leads to a lack of good performance. The result of this is obvious. An assertion like this only comes from experience, not out of thin air.

This reporter has experienced happenings such as these from playing football in high school. Seeing hardly any fans caused low self-motivation and team spirit. When this happened the team lost.

Although a correlation does not prove cause and effect, it does indeed show a relation.

This reporter believes that Parkland sports could be much more successful if there was a larger fan turnout. This reporter urges all that read this to attend more Parkland sports events and show their team spirit, if there is any. Just because Parkland is only a community college and there is no attention like NCAA Div. 1 schools receive, the school's athletics should receive attention from its students.

As a sports reporter and a student of Parkland this reporter does not want to see gaping holes in the bleachers at basketball games.

Just remember that athletes need support. Otherwise there would not be spectator sports.

Want to be a part of Parkland's Student Government?

Next month Parkland College will hold elections for student senators. The Office of Student Life will be taking applications for senate positions until Friday, September 5th.

If interested note the following timetable:

Pick up election packet in office of Student Life

Application, petition, and essay must be turned in to the Office of Student Life in X-155 by 5:00pm. Friday, September 5th, 2003.

Candidates will hold a meeting in room X-150 at 3:30 m on Thursday September 11th, 2003.

Student elections held September 17th, 18th, and 19th 2003 in the College Center in the X-wing.

Sports

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Wednesday, September 3, 2003

Parkland College Fall Soccer Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Location
Sept. 4	4:00 pm	Lewis & Clark	PARKLAND
Sept. 6	3:00 pm	Monmouth College	Monmouth
Sept. 11	4:00 pm	Lincoln	Lincoln
Sept. 13	1:00 pm	Illinois Central	PARKLAND
Sept. 16	4:00 pm	Lincoln Christian	Lincoln
Sept. 20	12:00 pm	Southwestern Illinois	Belleville
Sept. 23	4:00 pm	Lincoln Land	PARKLAND
Sept. 26	4:00 pm	St. Louis-Forest Park	PARKLAND
Sept. 30	3:30 pm	Danville	PARKLAND

Parkland College Fall Golf Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Location
Sept 4	10 am	Parkland Invitational	Savoy, IL
Sept 6	11:30 am	John Logan Invitational	Marion, IL
Sept 7	8 am	John Logan Invitational	Marion, IL
Sept 13	11:00 am	Illinois Central Invitational	Peoria, IL
Sept 14	12:30 pm	Lincoln Invitational	Bloomington, IL
Sept 15	8 am	Lincoln Invitational	Bloomington, IL
Sept 25	11:30 am	Danville Invitational	Danville, IL
Sept 26	8:00 am	Danville Invitational	Danville, IL