

# PROSPECTUS

A STUDENT PRODUCED PUBLICATION SINCE 1969

## A Good Time to Examine Nazi Germany

by Thomas Duggan

The week of May 18, CBS aired the two-part miniseries "Hitler: The Rise of Evil." The program revealed to the American public the methods used by Hitler during his rise to power in the 1930s. One of the executive producers of the mini-series, Ed Gernon, was fired for suggesting that there were parallels between Nazi Germany and present day United States. Nevertheless, anyone paying attention to what the Bush administration has been doing should notice at least a few eerie similarities.

Many believe that George W. Bush did not legitimately win the 2000 presidential election. Rather than winning the majority of votes, Bush was selected by the republicans in the Supreme Court. Hitler was never elected, but was appointed Chancellor of Germany by Hindenburg.

The most obvious similarity is the leader's seizure of power after his nation is paralyzed by a national tragedy. Tragedy struck in 1933, when the German Parliament building, the Reichstag, was burned down. Hitler rushed to the scene and immediately accused Communist terrorists and vowed to fight back, thus starting the war on terrorism. Hitler used this national

crisis as an opportunity to revoke certain civil rights and grant himself dictatorial power. The German congress quickly approved, passing the Enabling Act. On September 11 and the following months, Bush acted in a similar manner. He immediately declared a war on terrorism, and pushed the Patriot Act through congress so he could make decisions quickly without congressional approval. As senators Lieberman, Daschle, and Gephardt said in a memorandum, they had granted Bush "near dictatorial powers." Bush said it himself just before taking office, "If this were a dictatorship, it'd be a heck of a lot easier... just as long as I'm the dictator."

With little evidence to back up his claims, Hitler declared that Czechoslovakia and Poland were threatening the national security of Germany. Germany invaded and occupied them in 1938. Bush said the same of the "axis of evil" countries: Iraq, Iran, and North Korea. He announced his plans for an endless war on terror, threatening any regime he claimed could be a threat to national security. Currently, the U.S. has already invaded and is currently occupying Iraq. Much like Hitler, Bush created conflicts by fabricating evidence and regarding possibilities as fact, effectively

diverting attention away from problems within his own country. The Bush administration went so far as to borrow the Nazi war tactic "blitzkrieg" and rename it "shock and awe" during the Iraq war.

Hitler used propaganda to spread his political ideology to the German people. The American government's use of mass media during the months before war convinced enough Americans that Saddam Hussein was behind the attacks on America. The war coverage began months in advance with media stations repeating their clever catch phrases like "Countdown: Iraq," and "Showdown with Saddam" all the while downplaying coverage of the massive worldwide anti-war protests. At the Nuremberg Trials after WWII, Hitler's Reich-Marshall Hermann Goering said, "the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. This is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same in every country." Indeed, it does.

The government encourages its citizens to report "suspicious" people. Except this time it is Arabs and Muslims, not Jews, who are being targeted. The U.S. government can now call any person, citizen or non-

citizen, a terrorist and detain them indefinitely without a trial or access to an attorney. The prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay, some of whom are as young as thirteen, have been held for the last year and a half without being charged with any crimes. Many prisoners are being held on immigration violations and were never suspected of terrorist activities. Now the U.S. has plans to build a permanent jail complete with a death row and execution chamber at the site, essentially turning the naval base at Guantanamo Bay into a death camp for terror suspects. Attorney General Ashcroft has announced his intentions to build camps to hold U.S. citizens he deems to be "enemy combatants." The Patriot Act is being used for non-terror investigations. The Justice Department is making no apologies for its actions. In fact, Ashcroft is asking for more power.

If the United States were truly a democracy, CBS producer Ed Gernon would not have been fired for suggesting parallels between the attitudes of the German people before WW II and Americans before the Iraq war. While George W. Bush is no Hitler, there are lessons to be learned from Hitler's rise to power.

## Parkland College Urges Students to Apply for Financial Aid Immediately

Press Release

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 increas-

es 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.

## Plan Early for a Secure Retirement

Press Release

Imagine if your boss gave you an extra week's vacation each year. No one would call that a bad thing. But if you really wanted to enjoy that extra time off, you'd need to set aside more money to afford the additional travel expenses. Otherwise you may be forced to scale down your vacation plans — instead of an additional week at the beach, you could spend your extra week in the back yard. Americans face a similar dilemma

when it comes to retirement. With advances in technology and medicine, we are living longer and, consequently, spending more time in retirement. Today, an average 65-year old American can expect to live 20 years in retirement. Just like an extended vacation, a comfortable retirement demands both strong personal savings and Social Security.

Retirement planning is often described as a three-legged stool. The three legs, — personal savings, employer pensions and Social

Security — should provide a stable and reliable retirement income. Unfortunately, the personal savings leg of the retirement stool is weak: Americans save only about 3 percent of their incomes, not nearly enough to provide a balanced retirement. Over the last decade, the number of retirees relying on Social Security for nearly all of their retirement income has grown from less than a quarter to one-third. Without an increased emphasis on personal savings, many Americans may reach retirement

with a dangerously wobbly three-legged stool.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." That's why the Social Security Administration and the American Savings Education Council have joined together to sponsor the "Save For Your Future" campaign, which is an effort to educate the public on basic financial planning for retirement and other life stages.

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## campus news

## Secure Retirement continued

Social Security has provided vital retirement benefits for over six decades. But the future poses serious challenges to the program. Under Social Security's pay-as-you-go financing, today's payroll taxes pay the benefits for today's retirees. Increased life spans, low birthrates and the coming wave of Boomer retirements mean that there will be more seniors collecting benefits with fewer workers to support them. In 1950 there were 16 workers supporting each retiree. Today there are only 3.3, and in the future there will be only two.

As a result, the promised benefits for today's younger workers could be at risk. Unless action is taken soon to strengthen Social Security, in just 15 years we will begin paying more in benefits than we collect in taxes. Without changes, the Social Security trust fund will be exhausted in 2042 and benefits could be cut by 27 percent, with additional cuts needed thereafter.

President Bush has pledged to strengthen Social Security for future generations, including giving younger workers the option of a personal retirement account, while

safeguarding the full benefits owed to current retirees and those nearing retirement. The Social Security Administration is committed to working with Members of Congress from both political parties to build a bipartisan solution.

We want to ensure that Americans are saving enough to enjoy their Golden Years in comfort. It is truly a blessing that Americans are living longer, healthier lives. The additional years spent in retirement, however, mean we must spend more time in retirement preparation.

You don't just want to live those

extra retirement years. You want to enjoy them. And to do so everyone must do their part — from individuals increasing their personal savings to members of Congress working to strengthen Social Security for future generations. The sooner we start the easier it will be to meet the challenges of a secure retirement for all Americans.

By: James B. Lockhart, Deputy Commissioner of the Social Security Administration and Secretary to the Social Security Board of Trustees

## Harry Potter Fever Hits Home

By Leah Nordness

This writer has Harry Potter fever. The fifth installment of the rockin' series by J.K. Rowling will be in stores on June 21. Unfortunately for me, that will be a busy day. I work until three o'clock, then return home, pick up the boys and prepare for my mother's Solstice party that evening. As I mingle and hobnob and eat decadent food by the light of torches in her backyard, my pre-ordered copy of Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix will be sitting on a shelf at the bookstore miles away, waiting to spill its secrets.

I only discovered Harry's adventures in December. I had, of course, heard of all the hype surrounding the books, and decided that the phenomenon was probably just a fad. No way could the books be that good. Then one day, I checked out Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone from the library. I opened it, and whhooosshhhh! I was swept into Harry's world by the magical and

simplistic storytelling of J.K. Rowling. For the next week, I was obsessed. I couldn't stop thinking about Harry, Ron and Hermione, and wondering what was happening at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry that I was missing. It was the same feelings I felt when I read *The Hobbit* for the first time. I was enthralled.

During that week, I read the Harry Potter books during every spare moment—during breaks from work, on the bus, while I was eating dinner. It became quite a challenge to read and take in Harry's adventures while still paying attention to what the boys were doing. It was also a challenge trying to hold the book straight while my one year-old would crawl on me and fuss.

There are four books about Harry Potter. As soon as I finished one, I returned it and checked out the next one. I half-expected the books to lose some appeal, but each one kept getting better and better.

Rowling is an exceptional writer. Though the stories are for older children, the plots are com-

plex, with secrets hidden from the reader until the final chapters. At the end of each book, I marveled at Rowling's genius. The complex mysteries and challenges that Ron, Hermione, and especially Harry endure are neatly wrapped up by the time the term ends at Hogwarts.

My favorite of the series (so far) is the third book, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. Harry learns the truth about his parent's death and meets his godfather Sirius Black for the first time. Harry and Hermione embark on a daring journey to rescue Sirius from certain death. I must have re-read the ending of *Azkaban* half a dozen times.

So the truth comes out—Harry Potter is not just a fad. He is popular and Rowling's books about Harry are popular simply because they are so good. I cannot wait until next Saturday, when I finally learn what is next for the famous wizard named Harry Potter.

## Parkland Sweeps CCCI Athlete Of The Year Honors

Press Release

The Collegiate Conference of Central Illinois has announced that Cobra Baseball player Derek Drage of Bonduel, WI. and Lady Cobra Volleyball player Sima Shah of Bourbonnais, IL. have been named the Male and Female Athletes of the Year in a vote of conference Athletic Directors. This is the first year for the Male/Female Athlete of the Year Award and comes on the heels of Parkland winning six of the eight CCCI titles in 2002-2003.

Drage is a two-time NJCAA First Team All-American pitcher who

was 8-1 this year with a 1.65 earned run average while striking out 100 hitters in 76 innings of work. He was the CCCI, Region 24, and North Central District Pitcher of the Year in 2003. For his career, Derek holds the school record for career victories and earned run average and is second in strikeouts. He won two games at the 2002 NJCAA World Series in helping lead Parkland to the title and earned a no-decision in 2003 when the Cobras lost in the opening round 3-2 in 10 innings. Drage will choose between Purdue and Southwest Missouri State by the end of the week

Shah was the Player of the Year in the CCCI and Region 24 in volleyball this year in addition to being a 1st Team NJCAA All-American and a 2nd Team American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American. Sima led the team in kills (509), blocks (195), and service aces (91). In 2001 she was the Freshman of the Year leading the Lady Cobras to a 6th place finish at nationals. In addition to her fine performance on the court, Shah graduated on the Dean's List at Parkland with a 3.955 grade point average as was named to the CCCI All-Academic Team and is a Distinguished NJCAA

Academic All-American. She will attend Indiana Wesleyan on a volleyball scholarship in the fall.

Parkland female athletes were well represented in the final voting sweeping the top four spots. Softball players Emily Alsup and Erin James tied for second in the voting while freshman basketball player Gina Grussing finished fourth. Parkland center fielder, Mike Coles, finished third in the Male Athlete of the Year voting behind Drage and Lincoln College basketball player Terrance Chapman.

## Prospectus

volume 33, issue 41

since 1969

### HOW TO REACH US

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### 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

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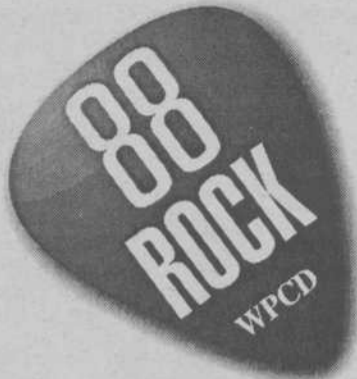
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around campus

## Recent Awards And Promotions

As summer session II begins, traffic is picking up around Parkland but the campus is still relatively slow. The Prospectus itself is coming off a seven-week hiatus. However campus has not been without its important events since mid-May...

All photos by Margot Williams



### Mathematics Department Awards \$300 STRIDES Scholarship

May 13th, Lathisa Sanders-Thompson was awarded a \$300 STRIDES scholarship by the Parkland College Mathematic Department. The award is intended to help purchase academic supplies. The award goes to a student who has, "overcome academic and/or personal past or present obstacles in order to meet the challenges of furthering their education, and have done so commendably in both their mathematics and overall work at Parkland College."

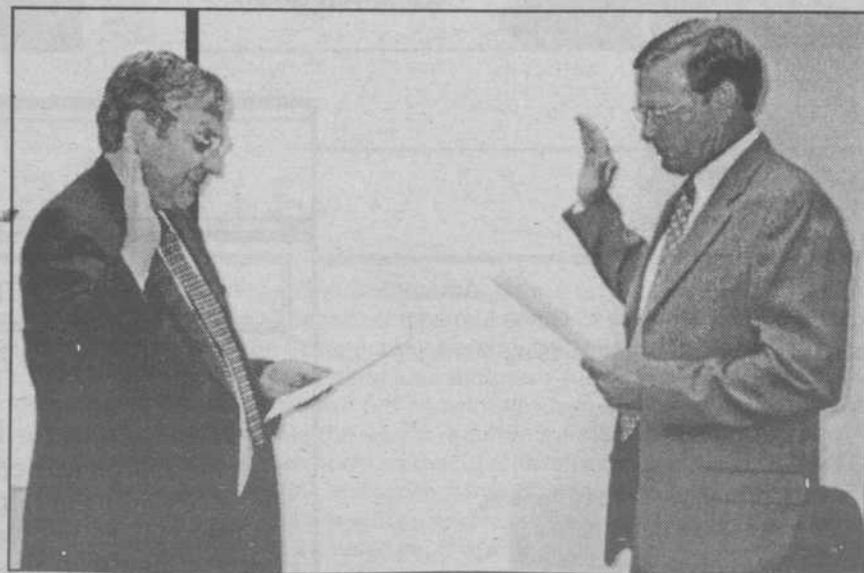
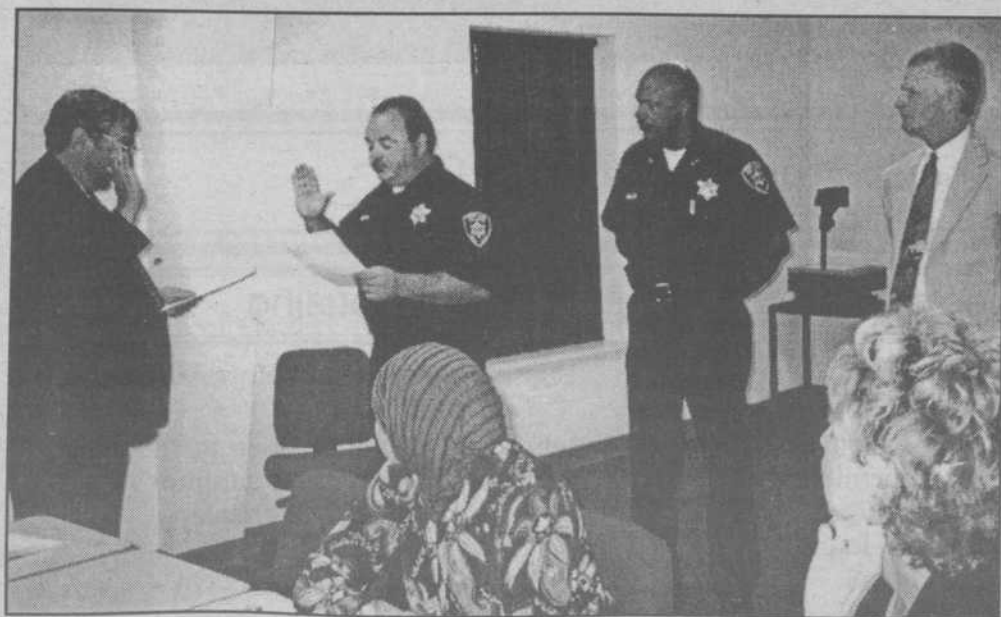
### Graphic Design President's Award of Excellence

Megan Gillette won the \$100 President's Award of Excellence on May Nineteenth. The Parkland College Student Graphic design show follows the Student Art every year in Early Summer. Paul Young and Zelema Harris present the award to Gillette



### New To Parkland This Summer

David L. Ehler was sworn in to replace recently resigned Board member Wayne Bushboom, who served as a board member for ten years (1993-2003.) The Board also swore in Michael Elliott, the newest addition to Public Safety.



Clockwise from top: Von Young, Michael Elliott, Nancy Williamon and Student Trustee Takeya Black attend the ceremony.

Board of Trustees Vice Chairman James Ayers swears in David Ehler, the new board member.