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## Parkland crew has "Alternative" Spring Break

### ■ Group spends week building homes in Louisiana

By AARON GEIGER  
*Prospectus Editor*

A crew of students and two faculty members made a long trip to the southern portion of Louisiana during Spring Break with a mission—to aid Habitat for Humanity in helping to rebuild what hurricane Katrina destroyed.

Greg Walberg, of the Construction Design & Management department, and John Eby, Activities Program Manager of the Office of Student Life, facilitated the trip. The students represented two groups—the Parkland Student Government, and Construction Design & Management.

The students put together several fundraising events to help cover the costs of their trip. They sold candy and mugs, they hosted a faculty vs. student basketball game, they changed oil in a co-op program with Parkland motor sports, sponsored a Jazz concert (Jazz It Up), and recently held a 5K charity run.

The rest of the money will come from Student Government budgets, and possibly through one more fundraiser. The total expense of the

trip cost over \$6,000, but the students were able to make the journey for free, thanks to their efforts and support from Parkland faculty, staff, and fellow peers.

On the first weekend of Spring Break, the team embarked on a 13-hour drive to a construction site just outside of Houma, Louisiana, situated south of New Orleans among the wetlands and bayous. According to a few of the participants, they had expected to see a lot of damage and disrepair, but were surprised by the rapid pace of reconstruction.

"It was actually hard to see the evidence of destruction, or harder than I imagined before arriving there, at least. Roughly a dozen or more of new one-floor houses were already built up," said Takamichi Kono, a senator for Student Government.

Kono, an exchange student, witnessed the destruction and aftermath of Katrina on television from his home in Japan.

"It was pretty frustrating that I could not do anything for sufferers while I really wanted to do something. Due to schoolwork, cost, etc., it was impossible for me to go there. I was skeptical about the monetary donation through some unfamiliar organizations—I remember [the] U.S. media reported that there were many cases in which the money did not reach people who really needed the money. I thought that a foreign teen-

age kid can do nothing for people who needed immediate help to eat, sleep, and survive," Kono said.

Kono had no idea that he would be not only visiting the infamous site that he saw on the television, he would actually be making a difference.

Yusif Radeef, Student Government secretary, also traveled to Houma.

"The Habitat project that Parkland College accomplished [during] Spring Break was a great project. The fact that the houses I am building today will build smiles on people's faces...pushed me every day to work," Radeef said.

And work they did.

"Oh, we were working twenty minutes after we arrived at the construction site," said faculty member John Eby. "The students worked from 7:30am until 3:30pm every day. They got a break at 10:30am, and had lunch at noon," he said.

Parkland wasn't alone. Also at the construction site were youth from AmeriCorps, Babson College (Wellesley, MA), and adults from the "Care-A-Vanners" RV group.

The Parkland students ultimately put their care into two houses. "A few students did some side projects on other houses...we actually worked on about four houses, but we really worked extensively on two of them," said Eby.

Although about half of the Park-

See **Katrina** on page 4



## Prospectus

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- The *Prospectus* welcomes letters to the editor. We accept submissions from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will also consider original works of fiction and short writings if space is available.

- The rules of correspondence: all submissions must be signed with a phone number and address. The *Prospectus* staff must verify the identity of letter writers. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper. The deadline for all submissions is 12 p.m. of the Thursday immediately before the upcoming issue.

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## Dollars and Sense from FinAid

### Scholarship Scams

By **DONNA MAYER**  
*Prospectus Guest Writer*

Scholarships are a great way to increase your capital while going to school. Unfortunately, not every scholarship offer is on the up-and-up. Knowing the following warning signs can keep you from being a scholarship scam victim.

- Fees: You should never have to pay to search or apply for scholarships or financial aid. Be careful of offers like: "For a small fee, we'll give you the most comprehensive list of scholarships for which you're eligible from the largest database available."

The biggest and best scholarship databases are available for free online. FastWeb is a free scholarship search that will search nationwide for you. [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

- Credit card or bank account information needed: You should never have to give credit card or bank account information to award providers.

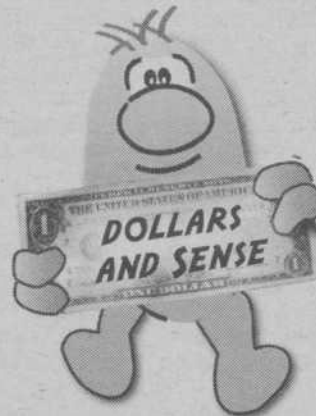
- Scholarship guarantee: No one can guarantee up-front that someone will win anything.

Some of the more common

statements made are:

"You are guaranteed a minimum of \$1,000 in financial aid sources."

No one can guarantee that you'll win a scholarship because no one can control scholarship judges' decisions. "Everybody is



eligible."

While scholarships are awarded based on a variety of merits and needs, some set of restrictions always apply since sponsors are looking for candidates who match certain criteria.

- High success rates: This is a case that if something sounds too good to be true, then it probably isn't true.

Don't be misled by statements like "We have a 96% success rate."

That usually refers to the percentage of students they've matched with the database, not the number of students who actually receive money.

- No work involved: There is no way to avoid putting in time and effort to complete a scholarship application.

- No contact information: Legitimate sponsors should provide contact information up-front. If a valid e-mail address, phone number and mailing address (not a P.O. box) aren't available up-front, and aren't provided even after you request it, be aware that it may be a scam.

- Unsolicited scholarships: If you are called to receive an award for which you never applied, be alert—it's most likely a scam.

- Pressure tactics: Don't allow yourself to be pressured into applying for a scholarship, especially if the sponsor is asking for money up front. They might use wording like:

"You must use our service to qualify for aid."

Scholarship matching ser-

vices don't control who wins a scholarship, they just match you to a list of possibilities.

"Awards are given on a first-come, first-served basis. Time is limited. Apply now!"

Most scholarships have set deadlines—very few have rolling submission dates.

- Claims of "exclusive" scholarships: Sponsors don't make their scholarships available through only one service. They want to award their scholarships, and will promote them in as many places as possible.

- Sponsor goes out of their way to sound "official": Beware of official-sounding words like "national," "education" or "federal," or an official-looking seal in their aid. They may be trying to fool you into thinking they are legit.

- Your questions aren't answered directly: If you can't get a straight answer from a sponsor regarding their application, what will be done with your information, or other questions, proceed with caution.

If you have any questions about a particular scholarship or search service, please contact our office at [finaid@parkland.edu](mailto:finaid@parkland.edu).



## Parkland hosts 5K run charity for Habitat for Humanity ■ Muslim, Army veteran collaborated on event

By ELLEN SCHMIDT  
*Prospectus Assistant Editor*

It was an unlikely pairing, an Iraqi and a U.S. soldier. Yousif Radeef, president of the Muslim Student Association and Sam Slaven, a veteran of the U.S. Army who spent almost a year in the Middle East worked together to combine understanding, athletics, and charity in the "Run for Home" race held on Saturday at Parkland College.

Despite the cold weather, almost 150 walkers and runners showed up to participate in the one-mile race and the 5K race that boasted some of the biggest prize money seen in a race of this length. Runners included two from Kenya, a group from Indiana that has run in the Olympics, as well as local loyal runners.

Champaign personality and magician Andy Dallas was on hand to start the race and to award prizes to the top finishers.

The winners from the 5K race for both the men and women were from Kenya. Joseph Koskei clocked a time of 14:40, while Florence Jepkosgei finished with a time of 15:23. First prize was \$1000 for each of the winners of the 5K for men and women.

Winners of the one-mile run were Adam Anderson and Susan Ponder who went home with trophies.

All of this hard work and dedication was the work of the SMA, student volunteers as well as the coordinated efforts of the Parkland Department of Public Safety.

The Muslim Student Association reactivated last April to bring together Muslim students with students of other cultures. Radeef had a passion for the association, "I started the orga-

nization because I saw the need, all the news stuff, media stuff, someone needed to correct what's going on, all of the negative images." His goal is to foster the change through mutual respect and understanding.

While the number of the group is small—about 15 members—Radeef is hoping to see it grow.

He cites the run as the greatest accomplishment of the association this year. This effort was

attended a meeting to see what they had to offer. Just seeing some of the members of the group triggered feelings that he had when he was in Iraq.

One of the people that he saw at the meeting was the advisor of the MSA, Dennis Kaczor.

Kaczor was excited about this group and the mission. "I just like the whole message behind the organization. Even if there was no conflict going on in the Middle East it is a wonderful

activity in the newspaper and on the news everyday," he said.

While Slaven has been involved in many races, this is the first race that he has played a major organizational role. Slaven was a competitive runner and has enjoyed many racing victories of his own.

Clearly his time in the Middle East was stressful. Slaven talks of the positives, remembering that he learned to read and write in Arabic while in the



It may have been cold last Saturday morning, but that didn't deter this group of runners from participating in the fundraising races at Parkland.

Ellen Schmidt/Prospectus

a collaboration between himself and Slaven. Profits from the race will benefit Habitat for Humanity.

Slaven, who was deployed for almost a year around the time of the invasion of Iraq, bears the emotional scars of serving in a troubled area of the world. It didn't get any better when he returned home.

He recalls the time, overseas, that he and his buddies went to help a woman and a child who were in need. After stopping to help them, they were ambushed. Many of his unit were killed or wounded. The next day he heard that the ambush was done in the name of Allah.

All Slaven could think was, "I don't like this religion anymore, if they're going to kill my buddies because of that. From that point it was like, they are all like that...I knew that couldn't be true," so he went seeking a different understanding.

Slaven talked about his eventual involvement with the MSA. "I saw a poster said they (MSA) were meeting and I thought, you know, I've got a bad taste in my mouth about the whole situation," he said.

Despite his reservations, he

opportunity for kids from the Midwest who don't get exposure to different countries," he said.

Kaczor talked fondly about the group. "We attracted other typical American kids too at first and we're trying to do more of that, but Sam and Yousif represent the whole concept behind the MSA here at Parkland at least as how we discussed it," he said.

"Having a bridge of cultures you couldn't have a more odd couple from the outside appearance, a soldier and an Iraqi—yet they work together in conjunction to pull this race off which never has been done at Parkland before," said Kaczor.

The pairing has had tense moments. While they were successful in securing sponsorships from an impressive group of businesses in the Champaign area, Radeef and Slaven also ran into resentment and a lack of desire to sponsor this activity from other businesses.

While Champaign offers a more open-minded approach because of its cultural diversity Kaczor offered a different viewpoint. "It's a challenge to try to get people to be open minded when there's nothing but nega-

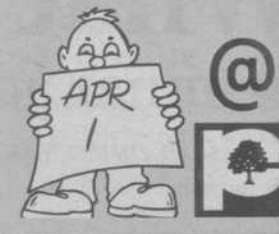
Middle East as well as spending time with children and offering them candy.

Slaven has a different perspective about his education, acknowledging that his experience in Iraq has made school somewhat easier. "I was a poor student before I joined the army, I didn't focus or do anything, whatever I do now I always just tell myself there are worse things in Iraq," he said.

While Slaven will attend EIU in secondary education next year, Radeef is waiting on word from Harvard for his fall enrollment.

The departure of these two students will leave a gap in the MSA. Radeef, who was instrumental in drawing up by-laws and holding official meetings, hopes to see the association continue. He urges students to check out the meetings that are held on Thursday's at noon in room D-146.

*Editor's Note: The event organizers would like to thank the following sponsors—Parkland College, Cardinal Fitness, Body n Sole, Urbana Lodge #157, UC Auto, MTD, and the United Car Center.*



### Parkland Planetarium

Friday, April 13:  
7:00 p.m.—Spring Prairie Skies  
8:00 p.m.—Skywatchers of Africa  
9:30 p.m.—Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon  
Saturday, April 14:  
7:00 p.m.—Zubenelgenubi's Magical Sky  
8:00 p.m.—Skywatchers of Africa  
9:30 p.m.—Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon

### Parkland Theatre

April 13 & 14:  
8:00 p.m.—Spoon River Anthology

### Parkland Art Gallery

Monday, April 9-Saturday, May 5:  
Fine Art Student Juried Exhibition  
Thursday, April 12  
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.—Reception

### Parkland Athletics

Thursday, April 12:  
2:00 p.m.—Softball vs. Danville @ Danville  
Saturday, April 14:  
1:00 p.m.—Softball vs. Spoon River @ Home  
1:00 p.m.(DH)—Baseball vs. Illinois Central @ Home  
1:00 p.m.—Men's Soccer vs. Naperville Lighting @ Parkland  
Sunday, April 15:  
1:00 p.m.—Baseball vs. Illinois Central @ East Peoria, IL  
2:00 p.m.—Softball vs. Robert Morris @ Springfield, IL  
Tuesday, April 17:  
2:00 p.m.—Softball vs. Lincoln @ Home  
3:00 p.m.—Baseball vs. Lincoln Land @ Springfield, IL  
Wednesday, April 18:  
4:00 p.m.—Baseball vs. Oakton @ Home

See Center  
Spread  
photos on  
page 9!



## “What Will It Take?”

### ■ Seminar addresses issues on the abuse of women

By **LEAH ZIMMERMAN**  
*Contributing Writer*

On Wednesday, April 4, a town hall meeting was held in the D-Wing at Parkland addressing the problem of abuse against women and girls and how the public could find solutions. The meeting was titled and themed, “What Will it Take? Building the Safest State for All Women and Girls.”

This statewide movement is led by the Chicago Foundation for Women, and they are accompanied by a theatre group called Inner Voices-Social Issues. The theatre group performed two moving skits, one about a date rape, and another about the dismissal of rape cases and the injustices that happens after rape. The meeting addressed male violence against women at the U of I, violence targeted toward Latina women and other female immigrants, and violence against elderly and disabled women. The foundation presenters spoke about wanting

to involve men by trying to change the viewpoint of a lot of men and helping them help others.

The presentation on men's violence against women at the U of I, by Ross Wantland, shared some concerning statistics.

“One in six U of I undergrad women have experienced an actual or attempted sexual assault. And 84% of them knew the person who tried to sexually assault them,” Wetland said. The presentation also displayed some disturbing facts about the Greek system and the number of athletes who commit sexual assault. The average age of assaulted women at the U of I is 18 1/2.

The presentation on violence against immigrant and Latina women was also surprising to the audience. The speaker, Charlotte Laguna, shared some personal stories about Latina women she knew and some of the problems they faced when it came to seeking help for a violence or sexual assault incident. Some

problems they face are the language barrier, immigration status, lack of knowledge about their options, and the lack of culturally sensitive social workers. One woman she spoke of was afraid to report her husband because he was an illegal immigrant and couldn't survive without the extra income and support.

The presentation on violence against disabled women and elderly women was equally, if not more shocking, than the others. The presenter, Hadley Ravencroft, was from the PACE organization and was herself disabled. She shared personal and second-hand stories about the lack of concern for violence and sexual assault against disabled women. One story Ravencroft shared was being told, after reporting a sexual assault, that she didn't matter because she was disabled.

After presentations on each one of these topics were discussed, the audience discussed their concerns and suggested solutions to the problems presented. Audience members suggested

teaching girls and boys to respect themselves and each other, as well as teaching students on sports teams what is acceptable behavior toward women.

There were a variety of people who attended this meeting, from students who were required to be there for a class, to teachers, to activists, to concerned members of the community.

Eloris Nash represented her church, which facilitates programs that help women deal with some of the issues discussed.

Keli Rieck was there for her psychology class, but found the event to be moving.

There are other opportunities to attend related events in case people were unable to attend, or who would like to learn more. On May 10 there is a 5K “Run, Walk, Roll” at Chicago's Grant Park and on June 7 there is a concert called Music Matters Concert featuring Jill Scott. There is also more information about this statewide movement at [www.nsvrc.org](http://www.nsvrc.org).

## KATRINA

*continued from page 1*

land students were not involved in construction studies, they found that with direction, they could accomplish tasks that ultimately resulted in the completion of their project.

“The hardest and the most dangerous part [was], I think, putting ‘roofs’ on the wall.

Without a machine crane, the only thing we could use to lift those woods [were] our hands and 2x4 lumber. That was the moment I realized that I was ‘building a house,’” said Kono.

“I think the best experiences were Parkland students leading other volunteers on the house builds,” said Eby. “It wasn't reading a lot of blueprints or anything. It was just watching, and doing. They really got some good experience. I also think the Construction & Design students got some great hands-on experience.”

The students may have been working hard, but they had some great experiences besides learning how to build frames and hammer hundreds of nails. They chatted with other students from Babson College. They met people from all over the United States that were there to share in a common goal of charity and love-intensive labor. They lamented that they should have used sunscreen in the 80-degree

Louisiana heat. And they ate the cuisine of the south.

“I got a chance to eat alligator,” said Kono. “Some ate frog legs, I guess. Unfortunately, turtles were sold out...”

“The food was fantastic! We ate at a place called Schmoopy's down on the water. It was surrounded by small fishing and shrimping boats. It was picturesque; kind of like the scenes in Forrest Gump. I can't believe how good the food was,” said Eby.

Ultimately, the trip was a sound success, and the students who participated expressed their thanks for being able to participate in such an adventure.

“I would like to say thank you to all the people who supported the project here in Illinois and helped us in Houma,” said Kono.

“It gave us a great opportunity to meet new people who were different in age, race, [and] belief, but the same in one goal,” said Radeef.

And ultimately, somebody, somewhere down by the bayou south of New Orleans, is going to come home one day to a pretty little house that was built by the generous hands of Parkland College students, who gave up their vacation time to do something that mattered.

(A special thanks to John Eby, Takamichi Kono, and Yusif Radeef)

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## House is stripped after an ad for free stuff appears on Craigslist

By ADAM LYNN

McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

TACOMA, Wash.—It's difficult to discern the most unbelievable part of the tale of the ransacked rambler.

Is it that someone mad at Laurie Raye was vindictive enough to post a sham entry on craigslist.org inviting people to go to a house Raye owns on Tacoma's East Side and help themselves to its contents?

Is it that people actually did so, stripping the house of everything from the water heater to the kitchen sink to the baseboard molding?

Or is it that Tacoma police might have a line on the person who placed the ad because one of their officers surfing for bargains on the Internet saw the entry and made a mental note about it?

Whatever.

The bizarre story took on a life of its own Thursday, with media outlets across the country begging the 44-year-old Raye for interviews as local news crews did live shots from the front yard of the rundown house.

"Look what can happen to anybody," a harried Raye said by cell phone as she rode in the backseat of a luxury car hired by a national media outlet to transport her to Seattle for an interview. "It's unbelievable."

It's at least a cautionary tale about how the unbridled power of the Internet can be used for

ill. "It's pretty much open to anyone," said detective Gretchen Ellis of the Tacoma Police Department, which has assigned

The tale began March 29 when Raye evicted her sister from the house that once belonged to their mother.

Once her sister was out, Raye

empty and went home.

Raye didn't want to go into details about why she kicked her flesh-and-blood out of the ancestral home.

dows are missing."

Raye drove over to find the house a wreck.

The kitchen sink was gone. So was the water heater. And light fixtures. And some of the door jambs. And the front window, complete with frame. Even the front porch light was gone.

"I was sick to my stomach," Raye said. "It was a destroyed house."

She talked to the neighbors. They told her cars came and went from the house for hours Friday with people carting stuff off left and right.

"Sounds like it was a free-for-all," she said.

But the neighbors figured it was legitimate because there were so many folks involved and it was the middle of the day, she said. They didn't call police.

Raye did, though.

And that's when she said she learned about the Craigslist ad.

The officer who saw the ad Friday heard about Raye's burglary report, put two and two together and alerted her of the Craigslist entry.

On Thursday, Jim Buckmaster, chief executive officer at Craigslist, said officials "have released all the information we have" about the ad.

It was posted last Friday and was on the site for less than two hours before it was flagged down by users, Buckmaster said in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Raye said she doesn't blame Craigslist for what happened. The company sent her as much information as it had about the posting Thursday, she said.

That included a Hotmail e-mail address that police may be able to use to track down the poster, though Ellis said she's not sure a crime was committed.

"It could be a civil matter," she said.

Raye said she thinks insurance will help pay for some of the damages as she gets the house ready to sell.

In the meantime, she hopes police can get to the bottom of what happened.

"Somebody knows something," Raye said. "Somebody invited the public in to destroy my house."



A TV videographer steps gingerly through the debris strewn kitchen of Laurie Raye from Tacoma, Washington, Thursday, April 5, 2007. A fake Internet classified ad on Craigslist invited the public to take anything they wanted from Raye's rental home.

Dean J. Koepfler/Tacoma News Tribune(MCT)

an investigator to the case.

Someone with a mean streak apparently used it to get even with Raye.

said she carried furniture and several bags of garbage outside and called the city to come haul it away. Then she left the house

Pierce County Superior Court records indicate Raye requested a domestic violence protection order against her sister in 1998. That same sister requested one against her later that summer. One of the orders still is in effect.

But Raye she said Thursday she doesn't think her sister is the one who placed the ad. "She's not smart enough," Raye said.

Efforts to reach the sister for comment were unsuccessful.

Last Friday, an off-duty Tacoma police officer was cruising Craigslist when he spotted a "strange header" on an entry, Ellis said. The ad piqued his interest because it listed an address on the East Side, the sector he works, she said.

The entry mentioned that people could come by any time and take what they wanted from out front or inside. "Please help yourself," it said.

On Saturday, Raye got a phone call.

"They said I might want to go over to my mother's house," she said, "that the doors and win-

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## Ethiopia, the birthplace of coffee

By COLLEEN MASTONY  
Chicago Tribune (MCT)

JIMMA, Ethiopia—Inside the coffee plant's corrugated metal fence, men look more like mules as they lug 100-pound sacks of coffee on their backs.

But as midday nears, a heavenly scent wafts from the corner, where Ahmed Achoumeto, 25, pounds a pile of black coffee beans in preparation for the noontime break.

"I am terribly addicted. If I don't get coffee, I can't see properly," he said, standing barefoot in the dirt, grinding the beans with a primitive 3-foot-long wooden pestle and a mortar made of a hollowed tree stump. "Almost everyone here is addicted."

Ethiopia is the birthplace of coffee. And in this caffeine-addled corner of the world, coffee is a blessing and a curse swirled together in a cup.

Amid the lush hills and misty valleys, peasants endure bleak conditions and back-breaking labor to bring the beans to the world market. While nearly every worker detests the process—the picking, sorting, washing, shelling and drying—they are also hopelessly hooked on the sweet and delicate flavor of the black elixir.

Here, comfort comes from the very thing that causes so much pain: the little brown bean.

People sip the brew morning, noon and night, calling together large groups of friends and neighbors, burning incense while they roast the raw beans, brewing the drink in a black pot with a narrow spout and serving it in small handle-less cups. This is not a quick cup of joe, but a coffee ceremony—a slow, sensual process that soothes aching bodies and revives minds.

"Coffee is the backbone of our country," said Frew Demeke, 40, a former official at the Coffee and Tea Development Authority, as he sipped a steaming cup in a local restaurant. Ethiopia is among the poorest countries in the world. But as another patron, noted, "even the smallest coffee shop has an espresso machine and milk frother."

The coffee plant—a woody perennial evergreen shrub that can grow to 12 feet—was first cultivated in this region of southern Ethiopia.

The Arabica strain, which today accounts for at least 75

percent of the world's production, originated in these green, rolling hills.

A popular legend dating to as early as the 8th Century claims that a shepherd discovered the coffee buzz when he noticed his goats rearing and bleating. The goats had just eaten the leaves and berries of a nearby bush, and so the shepherd tried some berries too. Feeling a strange euphoria, the shepherd ran to a nearby monastery to share his great find.

inates the central square. A huge panoramic mural shows a woman picking coffee among the hillsides.

This is a breathtakingly beautiful place of low-hanging clouds and deep green hills. Groves of eucalyptus and banana trees line the winding roadsides. White trumpet flowers bloom around every corner. Baboons and black-and-white colobus monkeys frolic in the forests. Outside of town, coffee plants blanket the hillsides, growing

On small family-owned farms, every hand is needed in the coffee harvest, which means that children as young as 4 years old will pick coffee with their families. The place is so tied to the little beans, that when coffee prices rise on the world market, thatched roofs on the mud huts here begin to disappear, as people can afford to replace their roofs with tin.

Every morning, just after sunrise, people walk the rough dirt roads toward the coffee

beans, coffee peasants dream of a better life. Asegedch Malutu, 20—a beautiful woman crouched on a thin plastic mat to sort the beans—fantasizes about working in a shop. "Anything but this," she said. Etensh Sisay, 16, a tall girl with big eyes, said she is so tired when she goes home, she immediately falls to sleep. When she closes her eyes, she said, she dreams of coffee.

Most of the factory workers are girls and women. Boys go to school, and men work in the fields. Aynalem Bekele, 14, in a Calvin Klein T-shirt and a bandanna around her head, sometimes wishes she were a boy because, she said, "they are free."

The grueling process leaves the workers with little more than aching backs, stiff joints and—if they are lucky—\$1.50 a day in wages. At the end of the day, the workers shuffle out of the factories and back to their houses. They gather together around the fire to take their share of comfort from the coffee.

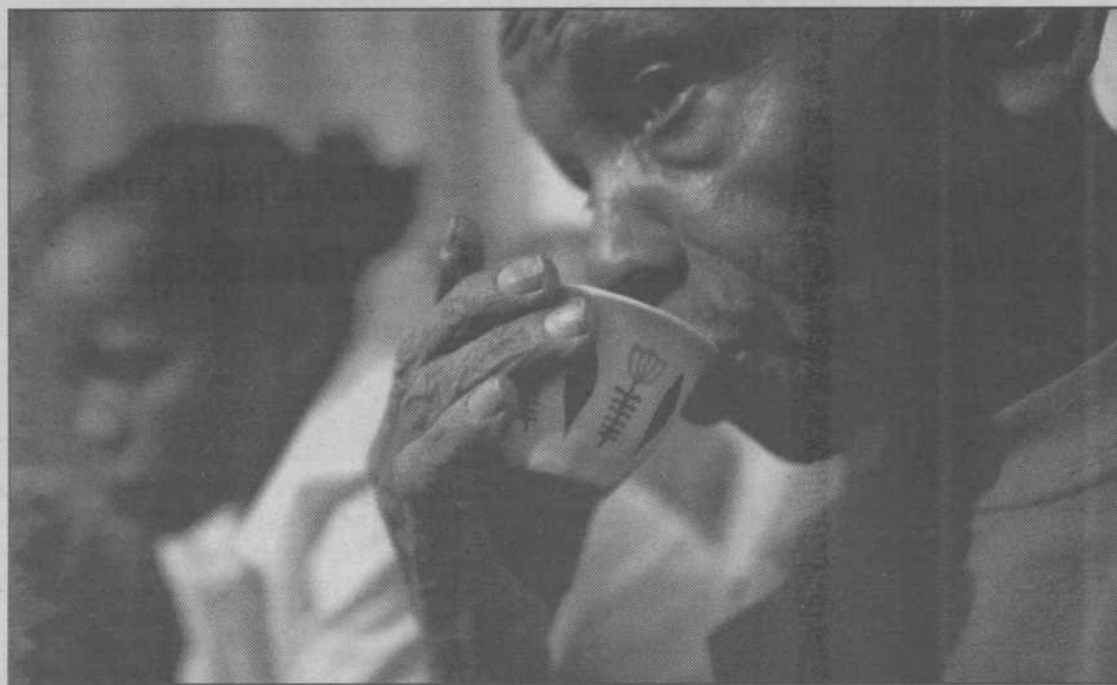
In a rustic one-story house, with dirt floors, earthen walls and a papaya tree outside the door, nearly 30 friends and neighbors gather for their evening cup. Mekonnen Leka, 78, the half-blind and elderly homeowner, sits on a wooden stool, waiting for his daughter to make the coffee. "The smell, the taste, the feeling it gives you," he said of the drink. "When we come home tired, it makes us strong."

His daughter, Elfenes Mekonnen, 33, tends a small charcoal fire in the center of the room. She roasts the green coffee beans on a metal pan until they turn dark and oily. The charcoal glows red and gives off a soft light. Smoke fills the room, which feels warm and cozy. On benches along the walls, people chat and take in the aroma.

She pours each cup with flourish, not spilling a drop. The first cup goes to Leka, the eldest in the room.

Everyone in the room watches as Leka brings the small cup to pursed lips. He blows on the coffee. And then he takes a sip. His whole body seems to relax. He smacks his lips and then smiles.

"Very good," he says.



Mekonnen Leka, 78, takes a sip of his evening cup of coffee with nearly 30 friends and neighbors who have gathered at his home in Afeta, Ethiopia, February 13, 2007. As the elder, he gets the first cup.

Wes Pope/Chicago Tribune(MCT)

Thus, a global obsession was born. The monks began chewing coffee beans before lengthy prayer sessions, and the custom spread throughout Christian Ethiopia. Coffee traveled along spice routes to Yemen, Turkey and Europe. Along the way, someone began brewing the beans to make a hot drink.

Today, the French call it cafe and the Italians call it caffe. Whatever the language, the word for coffee points to its birthplace: the ancient region of Ethiopia called Kaffa, a highland area with rich soil and cool temperatures that make for the perfect conditions to grow *Coffea arabica*.

In the central square in Jimma, one of the largest cities in the Kaffa region, a 6-foot decorative coffee cistern dom-

under the shady canopy of acacia trees.

Little has changed over the centuries. People still live in mud huts, bathe in open streams and transport coffee on the backs of donkeys. And while people here don't have much—there is no running water, and electricity arrived only recently—they do have coffee. Lots of coffee.

The plant accounts for more than 50 percent of Ethiopia's exports, 95 percent of which is grown by small farmers. About 700,000 households are dependent on coffee, and another 15 million are partly dependent on coffee for their livelihoods, according to Oxfam, the British-based charity, which has worked to increase living standards for coffee workers around the globe.

processing plants—long, rustic buildings with corrugated metal roofs.

Inside, large shelling machines roar and belch clouds of dust. Dozens of women and girls—some as young as 12 years old—use large white pans to sift the beans, throwing them in the air in a continuous rhythmic action that fills the room with a shh-shh-shh sound like one hundred maracas shaking in unison. Dozens more crouch on the ground picking impurities from the beans. And every few minutes a barefoot man drags another bag of beans inside for processing. Outside, piles of coffee beans are spread on the ground to dry in the sun.

It is dreary, monotonous, exhausting work. But amid the burlap sacks and the rattling of



## Women in Guard ready for war zones

By **CHUCK CRUMBO**

*McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)*

CAMP SHELBY, Miss.—On the firing range, Lt. Leslie Madron waited to shoot.

Just like her male comrades, Madron is expected to be ready to fight when her South Carolina Army National Guard unit reaches Afghanistan in a few weeks.

To Madron, a medic, it isn't a big deal that she could wind up in combat. "I knew what I was doing when I signed up," she said.

The role that Madron and about 100 women from the South Carolina National Guard will play in Afghanistan would have been unthinkable less than a generation ago. But the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq forever have changed what the military and the public think about women in combat.

Female soldiers are no longer stationed safely out of range of combat. Instead, they can be surrounded by the enemy on battlefields that have no safe rear areas.

The fact that women are in greater danger is made clear by some grim statistics. Since the war on terror began in September 2001, more than 80 women in the U.S. military have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. That compares to just eight women killed

during the Vietnam War.

About 100 women are in the South Carolina National Guard's 218th Brigade Combat Team, which is training here for an upcoming mission to Afghanistan.

The women hold a variety of jobs such as clerks, truck drivers, medics, nurses, supply sergeants and mechanics.

They also train alongside men, learning defensive tactics such as conducting security patrols, operating checkpoints and detecting bomb threats.

Although the recruiting of women has increased in the past 20 years, the Army is still a man's world.

Of the 1,600 members of the South Carolina Guard brigade combat team that will go to Afghanistan, only about 100 are women.

Overall, there are 1,260 women in the South Carolina Army National Guard, about 13.5 percent of its force. That's comparable to the percentage of women in the active-duty Army.

A smaller percentage of women are in the 218th because most of the jobs in the Newberry-headquartered unit are in combat arms—infantry, armor and artillery. Federal law prohibits women from being in ground combat units.

So most of the women in the

218th are members of the South Carolina Guard's 163rd Support Battalion, which will have about 350 soldiers working in support roles during the Afghanistan mission.

Because they work in a unit that has a large number of women, younger female soldiers said they don't feel isolated or unusual.

But Maj. Karen Frabel, a 25-

nate to the male. It's common to see a man beat his wife in public.

"I don't know how I'm going to feel about that," Frabel said. "I'll try to be understanding."



Sgt. Natalia Levesque, a combat medic from Greenville, takes aim during a reflexive fire exercise at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, March 9, 2007. About 100 of the 218th Brigade Combat Team's 1,400 soldiers training for the upcoming mission to Afghanistan are women.

Chuck Crumbo/*The State*(MCT)

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year veteran of the Army and Guard, remembers the old days, when she felt like she was in a "glass bowl."

"You do it for so long that you kind of get used to it that there a lot of men and few women," said Frabel.

In Afghanistan, Frabel will work in a civil affairs slot with the 218th's headquarters unit. That means she'll be spending much of her time visiting Afghan villages, meeting with local officials and citizens, and trying to win their support.

She also will see how differently women are treated in Afghan society.

Because the education of girls is discouraged by some faiths, illiteracy among Afghanistan's population is about 85 percent.

Adult women in the predominantly Muslim country usually wear scarves to conceal their faces and their role is subordi-

The hardest part, said Spc. Tina Smith, will be resisting the urge to step in and stop a woman from being beaten.

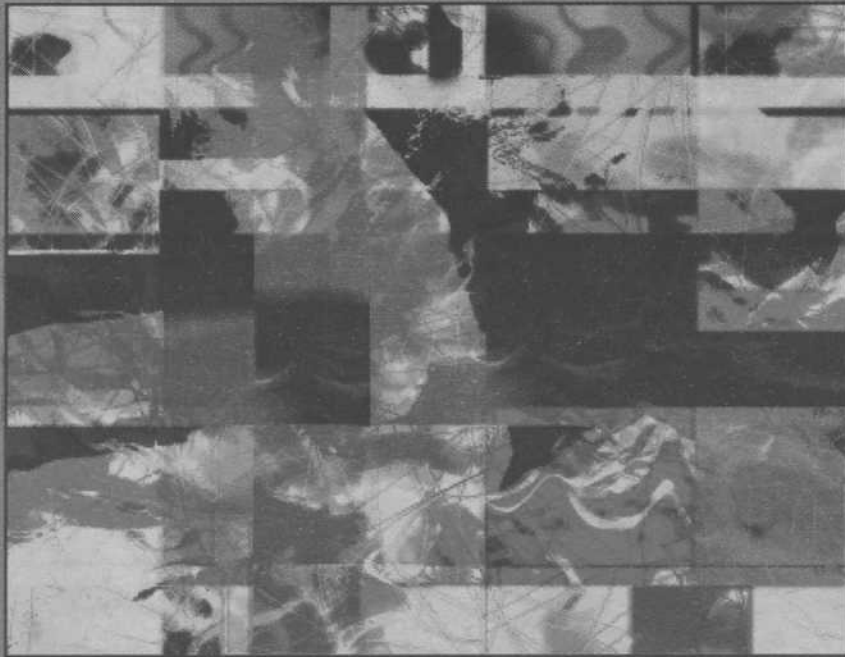
"We're not there to change their culture," Smith said.

While it may be unsettling, U.S. troops are told to be respectful of Afghan ways and not interfere.

Madron, who's leaving behind her fiancé and two Labrador retrievers, said morale among all soldiers in her unit—male and female—was high.

"We're all volunteers. We all knew what we were getting into when we signed on the dotted line," Madron said. "If you signed for the school money, then you did it for the wrong reason."

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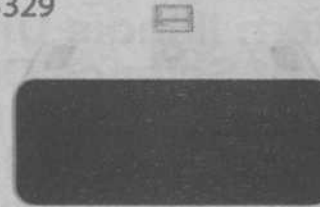
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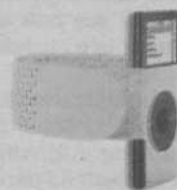
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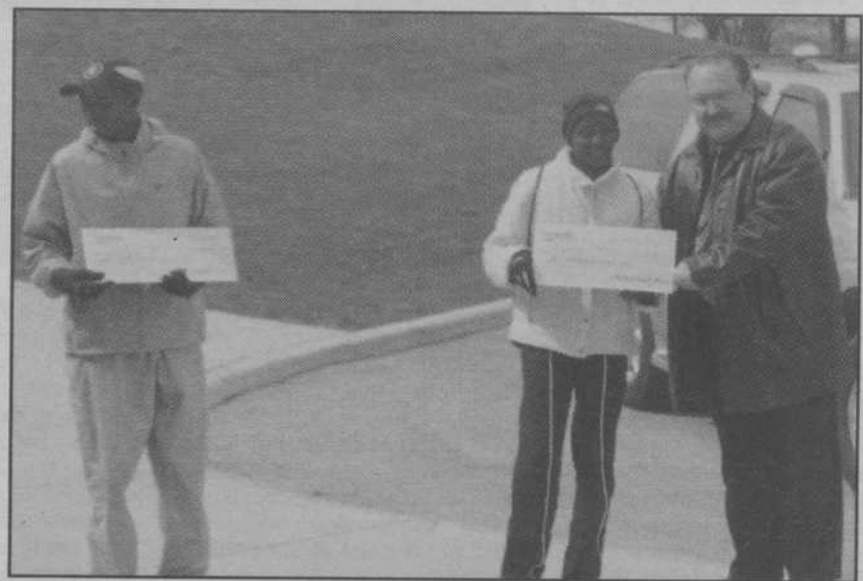
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Clockwise from top left: Yusif Radeef and Dennis Kaczor watch the race; Florence Jepkosgei takes 1st place for the women's 5K (15:23); event organizers Dennis Kaczor, Sam Slaven, and Yusif Radeef; Magician Andy Dallas presents awards; runners and staff try to stay hydrated; Joseph Koskei takes 1st for the men's 5K (14:40).

Ellen Schmidt/Prospectus



## Government ruling could price Internet radio stations out of the show

By SAM MCMANIS

McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—The Web site's font is large and vibrant. And in case a visitor's eyes somehow still gloss over it, it's set in boldface and italics to boot:

"Welcome to Wild West Radio  
"Quite Possibly The Best  
Damn Streaming Internet Radio  
Station On Planet Earth!"

Scroll down a bit, past the caricature of a wizened cowpoke, beyond the name of the song playing and a link to buy the album, and you see another cheeky, mock-boastful declaration:

"Warning: If you're looking for mainstream Vanilla Flavored, Homogenized, Corporate Country Music, you've come to the wrong place."

Well, now, that's enticement enough to double-click and check out the site, owned and operated by Jeff Scammon of Roseville, Calif.

Listen to a set of Scammon's commercial-free music and you're bound to come away convinced that the guy makes no idle boasts.

A sample set: alt-country's "Bottle Rockets," followed by Steve Earle and then Todd Snider. Then, after a station ID—Scammon, with a slight drawl, saying, "You're tuned into Wild West Radio, playing fewer hits more often"—on comes a James McMurtry ballad.

The odds of hearing any of the above artists on Sacramento's commercial country radio stations, KNCI FM and the Wolf (KNTY FM), are, well, pert-near impossible, podner.

That's the beauty of Internet radio, supporters say, thanks to some computer-savvy users with a couple hundred bucks to spare on software who go online and create a station: The range of music options is broadened, and emerging artists are given a boost.

And folks are obviously listening. About 70 million people are said to listen to an estimated 10,000 online stations worldwide, according to Edison Media Research. Digital music streams are provided by the big boys (Clear Channel and CBS Radio, for example), as well as the little guys (Scammon's [www.wildwestradio.com](http://www.wildwestradio.com)).

But a ruling in March by the U.S. Copyright Royalty Board could change all that. The board

is proposing to raise the royalty rates paid by Internet stations, which could put smaller operators out of business and dissuade the larger ones from paying the hefty fee.

At least, that's the doomsday scenario being put forth by Internet radio providers, who are mobilizing online petition drives and planning to appeal the ruling before the new regulations take effect in May.

Both broadcast radio and online stations pay royalties to publishers of the music, but over-the-airwaves radio is exempt from paying "performance fees" to artists and

uses only to pay royalties to music publishers (currently \$22.50 a month) and for Web site maintenance.

"If what I hear is (accurate)," Scammon says, "you'll see genres like my music disappear. And that would be awful. Great for corporate radio, but not for the consumer or artists who need exposure."

Even one of the largest online radio operators says he would be forced to shut down. Kurt Hanson, a Chicago businessman who runs AccuRadio, says the station gets more than a million listeners a month and that he accepts advertising.

agent in his "real" life, and others counter that Internet radio gives voice to artists.

"Ninety-nine percent of the stuff I play, there's no way that'd be on KNCI," Scammon says. "A couple of the big stations have been approached about playing people like (Earle and Snider), but they say, 'Oh, no, our conservative listeners wouldn't approve of this.'"

"So the corporate broadcasters just play the regurgitated (music) day after day, year after year, that you can hear on five different stations in any given market. How does that help emerging artists?"

"The attitude that really has to change is the idea that the people playing this music on the Web are somehow doing artists a favor," he told the paper.

Goldsmith calls Simson's stance "disingenuous."

He charges that the record industry is pushing for the royalty increase because it made a mistake years ago by letting commercial radio stations pay significantly less in fees. (Several decades ago, radio lobbyists had argued that commercial broadcasting constituted free promotion for artists and record companies, and Congress agreed.)

Broadcast radio, therefore, has a huge advantage over online competition, Goldsmith says.

"I don't like the greed with which they are pursuing the maximum amount possible from Internet radio," Goldsmith says.

Of course, commercial radio may not be exempt for long. Simson says SoundExchange and the record industry might be going there next, also telling the Washington Post: "There's really no justification for broadcast radio not paying, and we're going to address that."

Online stations hope Congress will step in—as it did to a limited extent in 2002 for the same reasons—to help webcasters.

Last month, the House panel on telecommunications and the Internet met to discuss the issue. And the panel's chairman, Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass., said the royalty board's ruling "represents a body blow to many nascent Internet radio broadcasters and further exacerbates the marketplace imbalance between what different industries pay. It makes little sense to me for the smallest players to pay proportionately the largest royalty fee."

In the meantime, Scammon says, he will continue streaming his curious mix of alt-country, bluegrass, folk and blues until he no longer can afford to do so. He says it serves listeners who log on from as far away as Argentina, Taiwan and Sweden—"places," he adds, "where you wouldn't think they'd understand country music."



Jeff Scammon chooses songs to play on his independent internet-only radio station, [www.wildwestradio.com](http://www.wildwestradio.com), March 23, 2007, in Sacramento, California. Scammon is among Internet radio purveyors who hope Congress will ride to the rescue against the U.S. Copyright Royalty Board.

Autumn Cruz/Sacramento Bee(MCT)

record companies. Internet radio has no such exemption.

The music industry is applauding the idea of increased rates for online music use. A statement released by SoundExchange, created by the record industry to collect royalties from Internet streaming, called the board's proposed action a "fair and reasonable decision."

But guys such as Scammon say it casts doubt on their future.

"I'm not sure how it's going to affect me," says Scammon, who's been online for less than a year and reports 200,000 total "hits" for his streaming audio.

To support his online operation—which he views essentially as a hobby—he accepts donor contributions, which he

He writes in a newsletter that he currently pays \$50,000 in royalty fees out of the \$500,000 he makes a year. Under the new system, he says, he would pay \$600,000 annually in royalties.

"Internet radio is in danger of becoming extinct," he writes.

It's all a matter of fairness, argue the folks at SoundExchange.

"Artists have earned the right to be fairly compensated for the performance of their work by webcasters who benefit—financially or otherwise—from their talent," the organization's statement says. "Without these royalty payments, these artists would, in many cases, be unable to continue contributing to the music world."

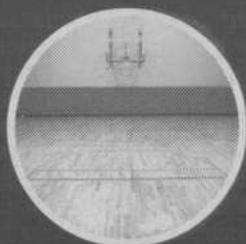
But Scammon, a real estate

Indeed, the Internet has helped propel some artists to stardom. Rock groups such as the Shins and Arcade Fire credit play on the Internet stream of "Morning Becomes Eclectic" (on Los Angeles public radio station KCRW) for helping them reach wider audiences.

In addition, Scammon, Goldsmith and most other Internet radio sites provide one-click links to Amazon.com, allowing listeners to purchase the CD from the artist they are hearing.

But John L. Simson, executive director of SoundExchange, apparently isn't buying it. He told the Washington Post in March that he believes Internet radio providers are exploiting musicians.





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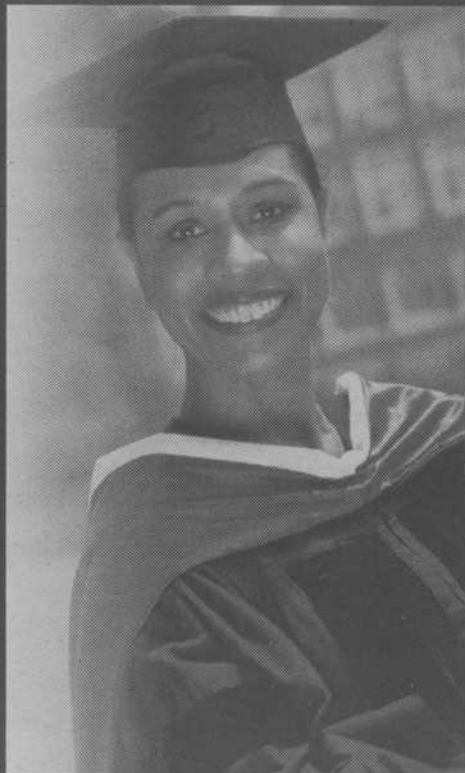
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### A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner



### A College Girl Named Joe



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BY BILLY O'KEEFE MRBILLY.COM/PAUL



## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Wall covering
  - 6 Baby's bed
  - 10 Stable youngster
  - 14 Sneeringly derogatory
  - 15 Part of ADC
  - 16 Far from terra firma
  - 17 Commit theft
  - 18 Part to play
  - 19 Ananias, e.g.
  - 20 Conclude
  - 22 Odor
  - 23 Old hand
  - 24 Utters suddenly
  - 25 Formed
  - 29 Wall covering
  - 31 Polished
  - 32 Umpire's pocketful
  - 36 Pint drinks
  - 37 Procrastinator's word
  - 38 Abound
  - 39 Propped up
  - 41 "The Count of Cristo"
  - 42 Presses
  - 43 Tongue-lash
  - 44 Kind of cold?
  - 47 Mare's morsel
  - 48 Steer clear of
  - 49 Infuriating
  - 55 Expressions of disapproval
  - 56 Beyond risque
  - 57 Scoundrel
  - 58 Coagulate
  - 59 Organic compound
  - 60 Conjure
  - 61 Towel word
  - 62 As expected
  - 63 Takes the plunge
- DOWN**
- 1 Attention getter
  - 2 Game starter
  - 3 Landing place
  - 4 Cheese from Holland
  - 5 Experienced again
  - 6 Jeweler's weight
  - 7 Wild profusion
  - 8 Without work
  - 9 Speller's contest
  - 10 Common adder
  - 11 Basketry material
  - 12 Emulated Pisa's tower
  - 13 Small open pies
  - 21 Actor Beatty
  - 22 Thick piece
  - 24 Fox's title
  - 25 Medicinal applicator
  - 26 Aura
  - 27 Skater's leap
  - 28 Doomsayers
  - 29 Spouses
  - 30 Played for a sap
  - 32 Farm outbuilding
  - 33 Home or Olin
  - 34 Riga resident
  - 35 Hook's underling
  - 37 A Spinks
  - 40 Trampled
  - 41 Gauged
  - 43 Spoiled
  - 44 Nab

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- 45 Botanic structure
- 46 Word before oil or mouth
- 47 Curiously
- 49 List of dishes
- 50 Mil. truant
- 51 PBS series
- 52 Composer Stravinsky
- 53 Heat in the microwave
- 54 Launch forces
- 56 Set the pace



# Classified

PROSPECTUS  
Wednesday, April 11, 2007 — Page 14

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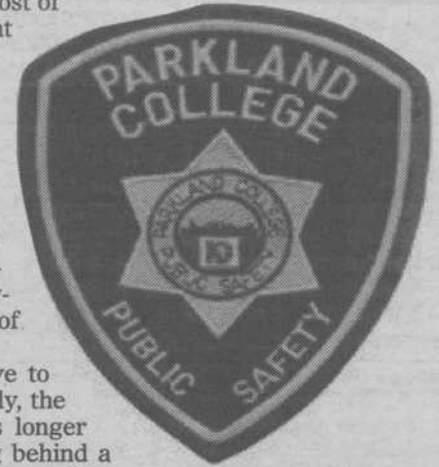
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Any questions can be directed to Kate Kaput, Business and Advertising Manager for the Prospectus at 217-373-3876.





## Weather Forecast

**Wednesday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 36.  
**Thursday:** Partly cloudy, with a high near 55.  
**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 41.  
**Friday:** Showers and thunderstorms likely. Cloudy, with a high near 60.  
**Friday Night:** Showers and thunderstorms likely. Cloudy, low around 48.  
**Saturday:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cloudy, high near 59.  
**Saturday Night:** A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39.  
**Sunday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 56.  
**Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, low around 38.

# Digital music industry finally faces reality

By **TERRY LAWSON**  
*Detroit Free Press (MCT)*

When Apple Inc. called a news conference last week, reporters on the tech and music beats believed they knew what was coming: CEO and Beatles freak Steve Jobs was going to make the announcement expected more than three months ago, that the coveted Beatles catalog was going to be digitized and available on iTunes.

He didn't. Apparently Paul, Ringo, Olivia, Yoko and however many lawyers it takes to fill the Albert Hall have yet to come to terms on how the new Apple

can be sliced. Instead, Jobs made an announcement that should prove a lot more momentous: The end of what the download and MP3 industries politely refer to as DRM—digital rights management.

For the download elite, this means nothing; they not only get the music they want free, they get it before it's released; as a computer-savvy pal of mine says, he has "friends in Central America."

But for the vast silent majority of casual consumers, it means that the restrictions of legal downloading—the ones that prevent them from playing the music they buy from iTunes on other players, like the increasingly popular Zune or the cheap iPod alternatives you can buy at Wal-Mart, or burning them onto discs for the car or home stereo—will be removed from all product released by EMI.

The company distributes the catalogs of the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, the Beach Boys, Garth Brooks and hundreds of other pop, R&B, classical and jazz artists.

EMI's best-known brand labels are the venerated Capitol, Virgin, classical colossus Angel and jazz legend Blue Note. It hasn't had much luck breaking new acts or selling new albums, even though it has been gifted with new artists like Lily Allen. Paul McCartney announced that he was leaving after 40 years, and Bob Seger, who caught Capitol off guard by producing a million-seller, has put the company on notice.

Yet the EMI library is deep and invaluable, and the company has been convinced by Jobs and Apple that it will sell more songs by giving buyers freedom to use what they purchase in any manner they see

fit. Does that mean EMI and the artists will lose royalties when the buyer makes duplicates? Sure it does—the same way an author and publisher lose when you loan a book to a friend.

More to the point is what Viacom, for example, refuses to acknowledge when it sues YouTube for violating copyright: You can't put toothpaste back in the tube.

It's only a matter of time

before the other music companies follow suit, and if they stubbornly refuse, old fogies like me will learn how to make new friends in Central America. Think about it: We don't have to learn how to set the clocks on our VCRs anymore, because our TiVos and DVRs know what time it is.

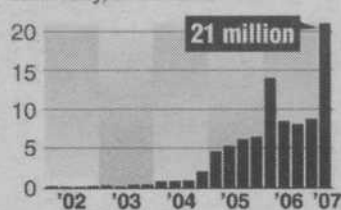
(c) 2007, Detroit Free Press.

## iPod hits high

Apple announced the 100 millionth iPod has been sold, making the MP3 player the fastest selling in history.

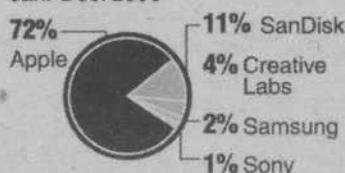
### iPod sales since launch

Quarterly, in millions



### Market share

Portable MP3 players  
 Jan.-Dec. 2006



Source: Apple, NPD Group  
 Graphic: Melina Yingling

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## CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

This week, CrimeStoppers and Champaign Police investigators are seeking information regarding a burglary that occurred at Macy's department store, located at Market Place Mall in Champaign.

On Friday, March 16, at approximately 10:55 a.m., an unidentified black male subject entered Macy's and cut the retaining cables

from eight Dooney and Bourke purses on a display rack. He then grabbed the purses and

ran from the store to a waiting blue Chevy Astro van.

If you have any information regarding this crime, please call CrimeStoppers at 373-TIPS. Callers do not have to give their names or appear in court. CrimeStoppers will pay a reward if the information you provide leads to an arrest for this crime. Rewards are also paid for information on other felony crimes or fugitives in the Champaign County area.



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# Zach Johnson masters Augusta National

By E. RAY WALKER

McClatchy-Tribune News Service  
(MCT)

AUGUSTA, Ga.—News flash: Tiger Woods is human! Stop the presses.

The cool air at sun-splashed Augusta National Golf Course on Sunday was charged with electricity in anticipation of the red-shirted golfer winning his fifth Masters title. Instead of Woods' coronation, little known Zach Johnson from Iowa donned the champion's green jacket and claimed a place in golf's history books.

Johnson, who played collegiate golf at Drake University, overtook Woods, third-round leader Stuart Appleby and Justin Rose to claim his first major tournament win, finishing 3-under 69 for the day and 1-over for the tournament. The winning score of 289 equaled the highest at the Masters set by Sam Snead in 1954 and Jack Burke Jr. in 1956.

"You know, today was a day of perseverance and patience," Johnson said. "I felt like my game was good coming in to today. I felt like I had a chance to really move up the board."

Speaking of Woods, Johnson said, "The next person to come along like him, who knows how long it's going to be? It makes it that much more gratifying knowing that I beat Tiger Woods, there's no question about it."

While Johnson, 31, was celebrating his triumph, Woods was left to consider what might have been.

The world's No. 1-ranked player stumbled right out of the starting gate, bogeying the first hole. He got that stroke back with

a birdie on No. 2, then bogeys on No. 6 and No. 10 seemed to put his hopes for a 13th major title to rest. But the two par 5s on the back nine seemed to fire him up again. An eagle on No. 13 brought back the famous Tiger uppercut, and another accented his par on No. 15 after hitting his second shot in the water.

"I hit a crappy shot and ended up in the water and still somehow was able to make 5," Woods said. "So I kept myself in the game."

Still, it wasn't to be. He finished par-72 for the day 3-over for the tournament, two strokes behind Johnson, and tied with Rory Sabbatini and Retief Goosen.

"This one's disappointing today," Woods said. "I threw this tournament away on two days when I had good rounds and I went bogey-bogey. So four bogeys in the last two holes basically cost me the tournament."

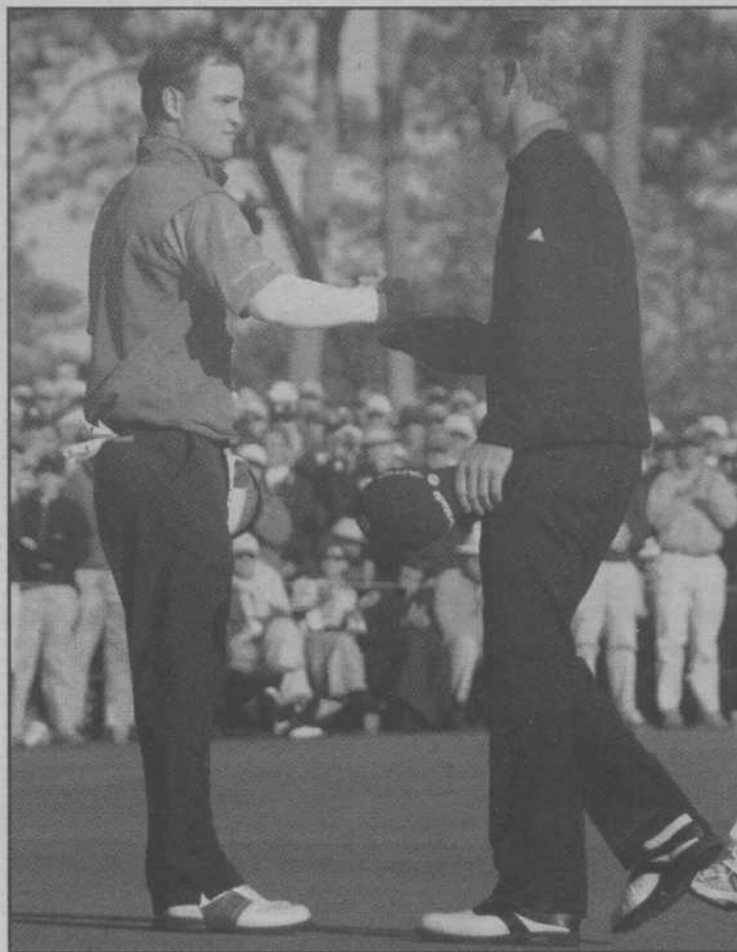
Goosen of South Africa made a charge up the leaderboard until a bogey at No. 12 knocked him down. The winner of the U.S. Open in 2001 and 2004 acknowledged Johnson's role in his surviving Friday's cut. "Zach has been a good player for a long time now, and it's probably thanks to Zach that I'm sitting here because he messed up on Friday for the last three holes (bogey-bogey-bogey) for me to make the cut. So in a way I'm happy to be here, but in a way I'm sad I didn't win it."

The leader at the start of the day, Appleby got off to a bad start with a bogey at No. 1 and another at No. 12. The Aussie finished plus 5.

"It was a tough day," Appleby said, "but I enjoyed it. I think

Zach was emotionally a lot sharper than everyone else. And

pion Phil Mickelson was never a factor Sunday, triple-bogey-



Zach Johnson, left, shakes hands with Vaughn Taylor, right, after he putts out on the 18th green during the final round of The Masters at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia, Sunday, April 8, 2007. Johnson won The Masters with a 1-over 289.

Rich Glickstein/The State(MCT)

I think there was an element of luck involved."

Defending Masters cham-

ing hole No. 1, and finishing 11 over. "Even after I made a triple over on No. 1, I felt like if I could get

back to even by the turn I had a chance. When it's playing hard and fast like this, it sets up perfectly for guys like (Johnson)."

Unlike the previous days, competitors Sunday had nice things to say about the hard and fast course conditions caused by dry, cold, windy weather.

"The pin locations were a little bit softer," Woods said. "So they gave us a break, which was nice. And gave us a chance to go out there and score."

Adam Scott (plus 12) echoed Woods on the course conditions. "The greens were much softer. The course played good today, played like it should."

Hardly a familiar household name, 31-year-old Zachary Harris Johnson was a member of the 2006 U.S. Ryder Cup team and the winner of the 2004 Bell-South Classic.

Johnson was drawn to golf at age 10 when his parents joined a country club in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"I started playing some tournaments around the area, junior tournaments and whatnot, and just really enjoyed the competitive nature of it, just the individual aspect and just accepting that the only ... competitor is the golf course," Johnson told Atlanta Business Chronicle in 2005.

For his victory, Johnson earned \$1.3 million and will have his name engraved on the permanent Masters Tournament Trophy, which remains at the club. Johnson will get a replica of the trophy along with a gold medal.

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## Minnesota players suspected in rape case released from jail

By DAVID CHANEN

Star Tribune (Minneapolis) (MCT)

MINNEAPOLIS—Three University of Minnesota football players suspected of being involved in the alleged rape of an 18-year-old woman were released from jail on Monday, pending further investigation.

The Hennepin County attorney's office had until noon Monday to either charge the players, ask the court for an extension or release them. The suspected players are Alex Daniels and Keith Massey, both 20, and E.J. Jones, 19.

They had been held at the county jail since Friday. The players were sus-

pected from the team.

Jeff DeGree, representing Jones, said of his client's release Monday, "Obviously he's very happy. I'm not surprised. This is what I expected to happen. These are not very credible allegations. They're all good kids, great students."

"All three guys are good, serious students and are dedicated to be football players. It's a terrible experience for them."

DeGree said his client will try to "live his life as normally as possible, go back to school and, I think, he'll soon be back on the football team. He's very, very upset and wants to put it behind him. He didn't do anything wrong. "Ultimately,

these are 19-, 20-year-old kids and I don't know where they go to get their reputations back.

"They're not the kind of guys a coach worries about on Friday night."

As Massey left the jail he declined to comment except to say, "I want to thank everyone who supported us."

Daniels left separately and said, "go Gophers."

"I don't know what happened. I'm just taking it one day at a time."

While waiting for a cab, he said he does not have a lawyer.

The alleged rape happened at an apartment complex near the University of Minnesota campus. According to Univer-

sity Police Chief Greg Hestness, the rape occurred late Tuesday or early Wednesday at the University Village Apartments on University Avenue, where the players live.

He said the woman isn't a resident there and that she is not a University of Minnesota student. He wouldn't discuss any details of the allegation, but the players were booked on criminal sexual conduct in the third-degree.

The woman went to a hospital for a sexual-assault examination, according to a police report. Early Friday, she reported the incident to police.

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