



Jonas Dees:
Should I Stay or
Should I Go?
page 2



Student Life Presents:
Student Government
page 3

Keep warm with bands
page 5



Good health equals
better grades
page 3

College \$ a struggle
page 4

Web Links

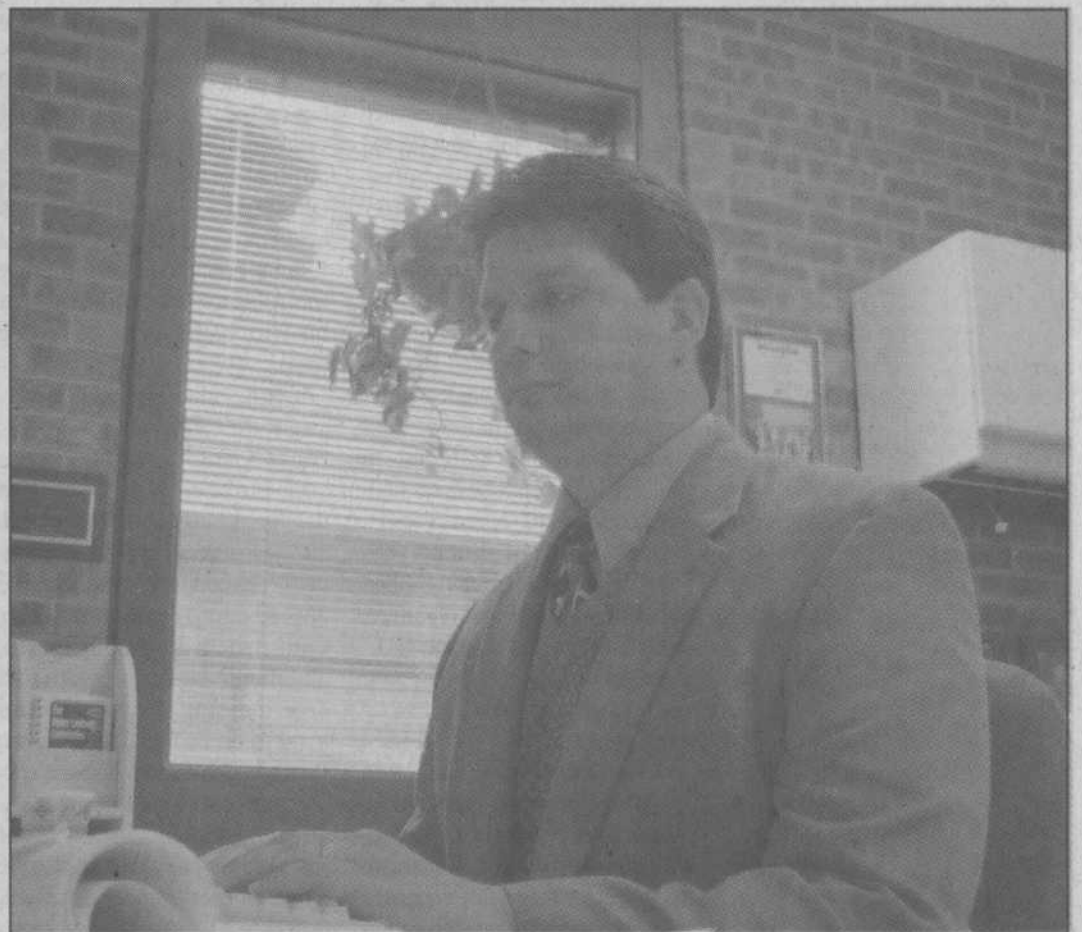
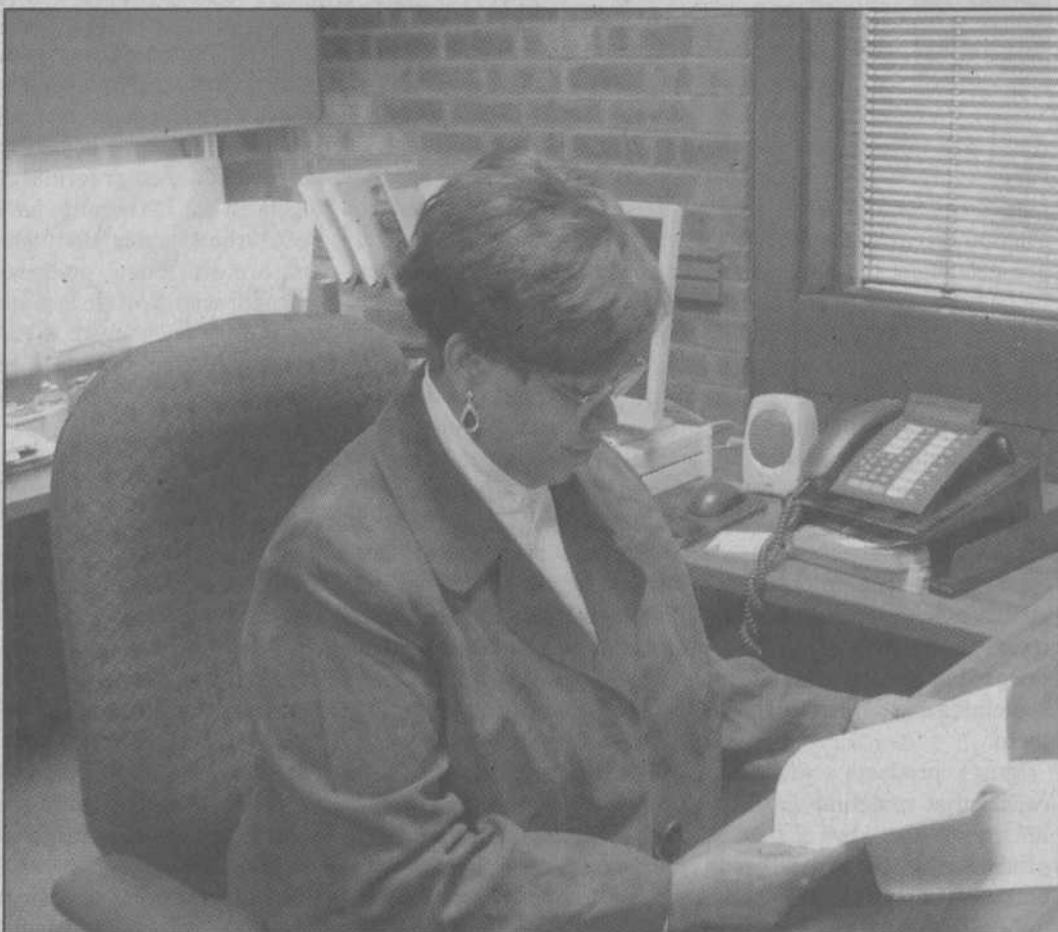
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Prospectus News

A student produced publication since 1969

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

Vol. 01 No. 10



Parkland lineup adds two deans to all-star roster

By PATRICK WOOD
Prospectus Staff Writer

In rooms A113 and A115 you will find Parkland College's newest deans: Randall Fletcher, Dean of Academic Services, and Marietta Turner, Dean of Students. Both have a long history of academic service and are looking forward to contributing to Parkland's already exceptional community college reputation.

Although Randall P. Fletcher currently resides in Royal, he grew up in Oakwood, Illinois and graduated from Oakwood High School in 1987. His ambitions after high school were to become a writer. These ambitions took him to a community on a Sioux reservation called Wolf Point. There he was an editor for the local paper for a brief time.

"I just saw an open position in an ad and I took it," he said.

After this position, Fletcher moved back to Illinois after deciding that he wanted to be more involved in education, and possibly library sciences. After several years, his academic achievements include a double major in literature and religion from Wesleyan University, a master's degree in library and information sciences from the University of Illinois, and a master's degree in communication at Illinois State University. He also plans to obtain a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Illinois.

Before taking his position at Parkland College, Fletcher worked at Danville Community College. Over the 12 years that he worked there, Fletcher assumed the roles of a rhetor-

ic composition instructor in 1996, the Dean of Accountability in 1999, and also the Dean of Library and Academic Services in 2000—a position that closely resembles his current one.

As Parkland College's Dean of Academic Services, Fletcher helps students with situations that involve course withdrawals, course problems, and policy. If a student wants to drop a class for instance, they contact him.

"I usually interact with a lot of the students at the first of the semester and towards the end of the semester," he said.

Dean Fletcher is currently working with the Assessment Department on curricular development. He is also involved with helping to oversee Parkland's honors program, as well as provide leadership as a library supervisor and is a team member that is helping transfer information from Parkland's old main-

frame to a new, Web-based one. He looks forward to his career at Parkland.

"It's a job that shapes itself. During the last ten years of my career, I want to see how far I can progress. Eventually I would like to be a community college president," said Fletcher.

Marietta Turner was born and raised in Morgan Park, a southern Chicago community. "I'm a south side girl," she said.

Turner graduated from Morgan Park High School where she was very involved with student organizations. After high school, she was granted a state scholarship for education that paid her way through the University of Illinois Chicago, where she continued to be involved in student activities. At UIC she majored in lib-

eral arts and U.S. history. After college she worked for recording artist Curtis Mayfield as a receptionist.

She then moved to Champaign for a short time before moving to Schaumburg, Illinois to work with Harper College as a grant writer. She continued through several other occupations including a salesperson position with Morton Salt and a position with Pitney Bows that required her to move to California. Again however, her occupation changed and brought her back to Chicago, where she worked with the school district on a city-wide writing project that stressed better communication and writing skills. She eventually ended up teaching a third grade class at an inner city school.

See Deans on page 4

Students drink and drive and die —in a simulator

By CASSANDRA CUNNINGHAM
Prospectus Staff Writer

[Editor's note: the first name in the article has been changed at the student's request]

Before Drake, a student at Parkland, made it home from school, he died.

The cause: drunk driving in the Gallery Lounge in the middle of campus.

But Drake wasn't really driving, he was using a simulator provided by a company called Peer that simulates drinking and driving in an attempt to show people what the experience is really like, or at least as close as possible without having a solitary drink.

Facilitators Jeff Lukaart and Zach Bagalay started their presentation by carefully driving a Chevrolet Cobalt into the middle of the Gallery Lounge. How does the simulator work? The driver wears a head-mounted display that has a computer-generated screen that displays a virtual reality highway. There are also sensors attached to the car, which

sends data to the software and emulates real road conditions. The driver's age, gender, body type and amount of drinks consumed are entered into the system and the driver then tries to make the four minute journey home while under the influence of alcohol.

Drivers who completed the course were told at the end how many traffic violations, tickets and injuries they had. Others weren't so lucky. Just as it can happen in real life, many died.

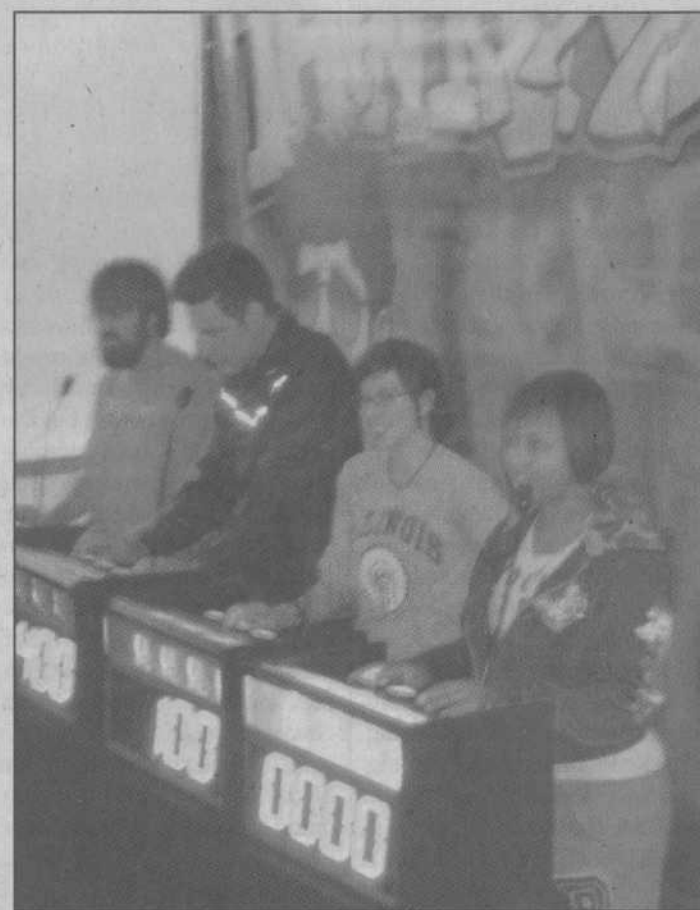
"We just want to prevent people from drinking and driving," said facilitator Jeff Lukaart.

"People need to realize it's not a matter of drink and drive. It's a lot cheaper and smarter to just call," he said.

The simulator seemed to have impact on a number of students who tried it out. Drake knew first-hand what it was like to drink and drive before he even got into the simulator.

"I have drank and driven. I think it's a dangerous activity and I should not have done it," he said.

Lukaart says that he definitely sees the impact it has on



ThinkFast, an upbeat college trivia game, made another appearance at Parkland College. It has been a huge success with its large sound system, current event topics, and collegiate theme. This year, Prospectus News technology columnist Jonas Dees (second from left) won (again). If you haven't checked out his column, you might want to start, and maybe you can win some bucks next time ThinkFast comes back!

Andrew Serino/Prospectus

the students who try it out.

"It hits kids hard. I've heard many comments about how hard it hits and how it changes their whole view on drinking and driving. It's as realistic as you can get without actually drinking and driving," said Lukaart.

On average a drunk driver kills someone every 40 minutes. According to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), an estimated 12,998 people died in 2007 in alcohol-

impaired traffic collisions involving a driver with an illegal BAC (Blood Alcohol Content). This number accounts for over 30% of all traffic fatalities recorded in 2007.

Every single injury and death related to drunk driving can be prevented. Though the number of alcohol related deaths has dropped dramatically in recent years, there are still many to account for that

See Drunk on page 3

Industrious students construct sheds, sell at cost to public

By KEN SMITH
Prospectus Staff Writer

Of the numerous activities that provide hands-on learning opportunities for students in various classes, the Parkland College construction program has been building yard sheds as part of their hands on activities that give experience in the construction fields. Since the reason for building these sheds is to give students the building experience, the sheds are for sale to the public for only the cost of materials. The sheds are currently on display at 1319 North Mattis Avenue in Champaign in the Northeast corner of the Parkland College Business Development Center parking lot.

The sheds come in two standard sizes. The smaller is 8x10 feet, and the larger is 8x12 feet. Some of the sheds have an overhead style garage door, which is ideal for storing a riding lawn mower or other piece of equipment too large for a standard size human entry door. Other sheds have the standard 36-inch human entry door if you more interested in

the workshop type enclosure. All of the sheds have electrical power run throughout providing plenty of outlets for your electrical tools and other needs, and they even include an outside porch light and electrical outlet with GFCI protection.

The sheds are built with standard 2x4 framing and are left unfinished on the inside but could easily be insulated and drywalled if one chooses to do so. The sheds are completely wind and waterproof with shingled roofs and at least one, if not two, lockable windows. These buildings are also wrapped with vinyl siding and are sure to look nice in any neighborhood, whether in the back yard or as an extension to the garage. The sheds have 4x4 runners along the bottom for a foundation, which creates a solid structure sure to withstand the test of time and capable of enduring transportation, which is provided by Tatmans or Reynolds towing service. The price is \$1,500 per unit. Interested buyers may contact Greg Walburg at 217-373-3784 for more information.

Prospectus

The Prospectus is a student publication, and is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, intermittently in summer. To contact the Parkland Prospectus: Phone: 217-351-2216, fax: 217-373-3835, e-mail: prospectus@parkland.edu, U.S. mail: Parkland College, Room X-155, 2400 W. Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL 61821. URL: <http://www.prospectus-news.com>

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The Prospectus deadline for all advertising is 5 p.m. of the Wednesday immediately before the upcoming edition.

Letters and Editorial Policy

Views expressed are opinions of staff and contributors and not necessarily that of the Prospectus or Parkland College.

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.

Media credit: front page, Patrick Wood

Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

LEAD STORY

Legendary banjo player Eddie Adcock, age 70 and suffering hand tremors that failed to respond to medication, volunteered for a revolutionary neurosurgery in August in which he finger-picked tunes while his brain was exposed, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center surgeons tried to locate the defective area. In "deep brain stimulation," doctors find a poorly responding site and use electrodes to arouse it properly. As Adcock, conscious but pain-free, picked out melodies, doctors probed until suddenly Adcock's playing became disjointed, and electrodes were assigned to that spot. By October, according to an ABC News report, Adcock, with a button-activated chest pacemaker wired to his head, was back on stage, as quick-fingered as ever.

Fat Is Good

Clair Robinson, 23, told an interviewer in September that she believes the only reason she survived the deadly flesh-eating infection recently was because she had too much weight for the bacteria to consume. "Being big saved my life," she told Australia's "Medical Emergency" TV show.

The Litigious Society

Murderers in the Money: Reggie Townsend, 29, serving 23 years in a Wisconsin prison for reckless homicide against an 11-year-old girl, won \$295,000 from a jury in September as compensation for a two-month confinement with only a "wet, moldy and foul smelling" mattress to sleep on (about \$4,900 per unpleasant night).

Brian Hopkins, 25, severely burned in 2006 after climbing onto the roof of an empty train at Boston's South Station at 2 a.m., filed a lawsuit in August against Amtrak. Though admitting that he was trespassing at the station when he was zapped by 27,500 volts of overhead wire, Hopkins said Amtrak ought to have known that people trespass and climb on top of trains, and therefore should have parked its train in a less-accessible place.

Equal Rights for All

Complaints were lodged with the Swedish government in June against the state-run retail pharmacy Apoteket, alleging illegal sex discrimination, in that its stores stock sexual aids that benefit women (e.g., vibrators) but none that particularly benefit men. Said one complainer, "(A) woman with a dildo is seen as liberated, strong and independent, whereas a man with a blow-up plastic vagina is viewed as disgusting and perverted." The government's Equal Opportunities Ombudsman rejected the complaints.

Compelling Explanations

In September, the Indiana Court of Appeals upheld the 18-year sentence of a 73-year-old South Bend man who had insisted that he was only trying to revive his 68-year-old wife after she became fatally incapacitated in June 2007. However, police noted that he had not called 911, nor checked her vital signs, nor performed CPR, but that instead, his "reviving" consisted of performing an oral sex act on her (which the judges concluded was merely the fulfillment of a desire that his wife had long since denied him).

Ironies

(1) In September, alleged flasher Patrick Dodenhoff, 39, fled after a report of indecent exposure, and police chased him from Atascadero, Calif., south to Pismo Beach, and finally caught up with and arrested him at a well-known local nude beach. (2) As urban Detroit continues its decline, with an estimated 5,000 residents fleeing annually, it is not just living people who leave. Dead bodies depart, as well, at a rate of 500 a day, according to an August Detroit News report, as relatives unwilling to travel to the crumbling city's cemeteries have their loved ones disinterred and relocated.

Least Competent People

(1) A 38-year-old woman described as "very large," using the "abductor" thigh-tightening machine at the New York Sports Club in Harlem in July, failed to dismount properly, according to a witness, and was "sling-shot" off, across the room, startling other gym users. Paramedics had to use a "Stokes basket" instead of a regular stretcher to carry her out, according to the New York Post. (2) Also in July, in Kokomo, Ind., pastor Jeff Harlow attempted to illustrate a sermon on "unity" by riding a dirt bike onto the stage in front of the congregation at Crossroads Community Church. However, he lost control, fell off the stage and broke his wrist.

Scenes of the Surreal

According to the Palais de Justice in Paris, a recent preliminary hearing marked the first time in France, and perhaps in the world, in which a dog had been called as a formal witness in a murder case. "Scooby Doo" was brought into the courtroom so that a judge could watch how he reacted when he approached the defendant, who was accused of killing Scooby's master, and according to a dispatch in London's Daily Telegraph, the dog "barked furiously," helping convince the judge to set the case for trial. (c) 2008 CHUCK SHEPHERD

Should I Stay or Should I Go?



By JONAS DEES
Tech Columnist

Does a new technology instantly make a product better? Is the iPod

really that much better than a CD or a vinyl record, or is a ten-megapixel camera better than a 35mm Leica? These thoughts are debatable, but what can't be argued is that consumer devices are constantly changing. Consumer products are being updated or replaced faster to meet the bottom line of the companies producing them, whether or not the product needs to be updated or replaced at all. The technology sector of consumer products moves quickly and decidedly, often giving little thought to the products of the past unless something can be learned from them.

Most products will be replaced at sometime in their lifespan, either by a better product or by a better marketed but inferior product. No situation embodies the victory of an inferior product more than the story of home video. Before laser read video, there were two major formats of home video—VHS and Betamax. In the 1970s and 1980s there was a very strong format war between the two video formats which ended with VHS, developed by JVC, coming out on top over Sony's Betamax for the honor to record football games and Saturday afternoon movies across America. The ability to record television and sporting events was a large reason why VHS gained traction in America. Betamax began with only having an hour of record time so a movie or televised sporting game would not fit on the tape. The strange thing about VHS emerging victorious was that many critics at the time regarded VHS to be inferior to Betamax in many ways, particularly in audio and video quality. Betamax lost because consumers got behind VHS for their own reasons. However, Sony may have learned something in the process.

More recently, Sony's Blu-ray format became the successor to DVD, beating out HD DVD because of support from major movie studios and retailers. On paper this would seem like a decision made by the larger corporations but the only reason so much emphasis is put on the corporate decision is because the demand for excellent and accessible digital media from consumers is so high. The best product may not always win but the majority of consumers, by using their wallets, make a difference when choosing a side.

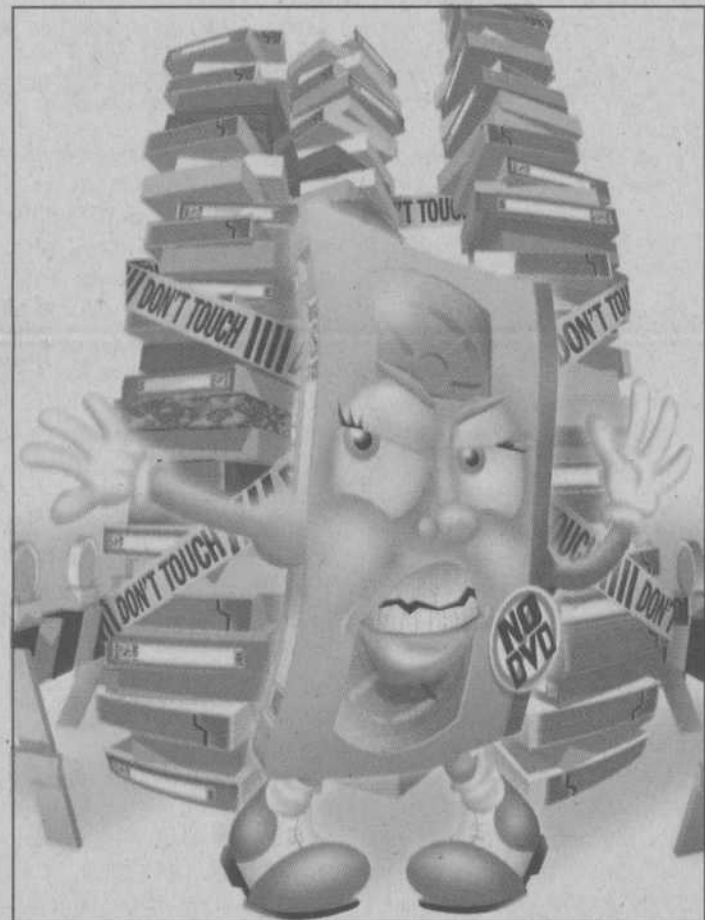
MP3 players were born out of the desire to play a developing format on a portable

device. It made sense to put these small music files on a portable player because this was the basic idea for the MP3 format, a small compressed data, taking up a very small amount of disk space. No one can deny the impact the MP3 has on society and the recording industry in general but what has the MP3 player done for people who really enjoy listening to music? MP3s are compressed and are often played through computer speakers or headphones, not exactly the most aural of experiences. During the compression of music into an MP3, there is a certain loss of sound. This loss of sound coupled with low-end speakers or headphones can present a very flat recording. Some audiophiles even prefer the sound of vinyl records to the hum of MP3s. Vinyl records have been usurped many times over in the race for audio supremacy, yet here they remain.

Why do consumers come back to this outdated version of music recording? Maybe people listen to vinyl for the nostalgia of the moment, the ability to take a few years off the life clock and soak in the feeling that you can only get when listening to an old record on nice speakers with nothing else

going on in the background. Maybe the analog sound coming from a needle running across grooves sounds more natural and real than clicking play on a button on your computer screen or MP3 player. The choice between audio formats is a personal one, a choice that may include another format all together, but LP records have been around since the 1930s and are still being produced and appreciated while remaining mostly unchanged. MP3s, in their current state, will be lucky to survive another ten years.

The choice for or against many products will always come down to personal preference but in the end, if the product in question isn't preferred by the vast majority or if the product doesn't present itself to the product niche market, the product will cease to be. This fact should cause people to care about the products that actually matter and let others know when products are good or bad. Some trends are worth keeping and some are worth bucking but when it comes to technology and consumer products, smaller and newer does not always mean bigger and better.



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Mom and dad are right: Good health equals better grades

By JOSEPHINE MARCOTTY (MCT)

MINNEAPOLIS—Quit smoking. Turn off the computer. Go to bed.

It could improve your grades. Of course, parents have always known that. Now, in the first study of its kind, researchers at the University of Minnesota have proved it. They matched grade point averages with the typical health problems such as smoking, drinking and stress reported by nearly 10,000 Minnesota college students. They found a clear connection between student health and academic success.

"Health is important," even for young adults who seem to be in the prime of their lives, said Dr. Ed Ehlinger, director of Boynton Health Services at the University of Minnesota and a lead author of the study. Both parents and college administrators "need to make sure that

3.3. "Stress is one of the biggest factors," said Marcus De La Garza, a senior from Duluth, Minn. A year ago, just before finals, he had to go home to take care of family members with serious health problems, and it showed in his grades, he said.

"I was out of the game," he said Friday. "Now I'm bouncing back." His GPA is up to 3.5.

The ability to handle stress was equally important, the survey found. Those who said they could effectively manage it performed much better than those who said they couldn't. That's an important finding, because it can persuade colleges to provide students with the resources they need to learn how to manage stress, Ehlinger said.

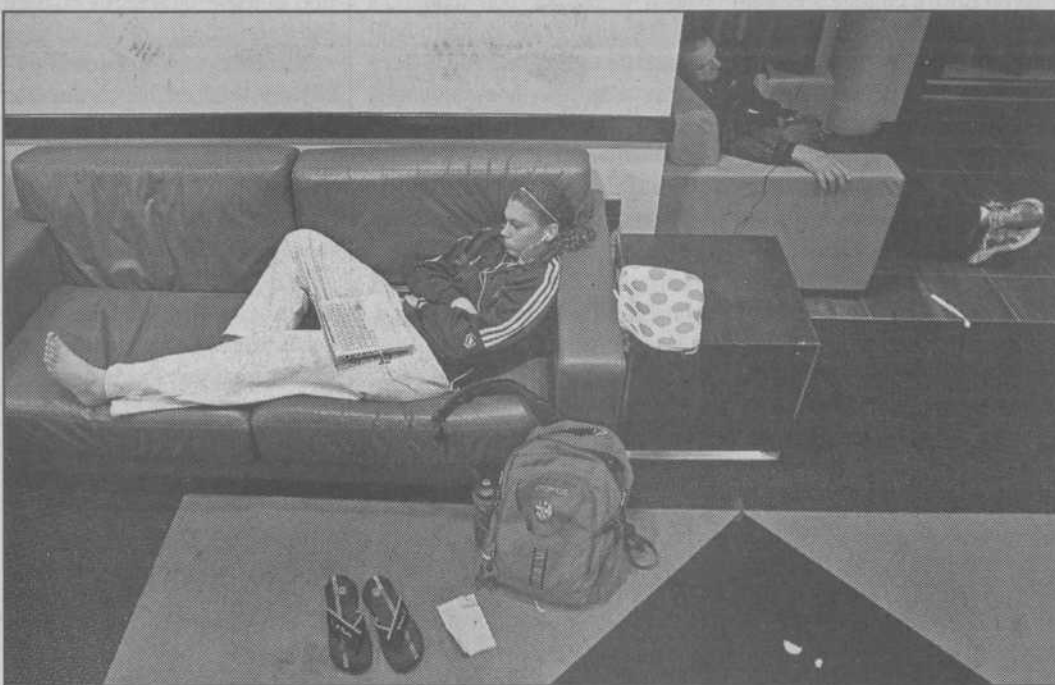
Earlier surveys showed that students who spend a lot of time on the computer, watching TV or playing video games were more likely to engage in other unhealthy habits such

sively at least once in the previous two weeks.

Ben Flatum, a university senior from Stillwater, Minn., just completed what he called "the year of being healthy." He stopped the regular partying, started eating better and began training for a race in Chicago that he ran last week.

"My time and energy has been exponentially better," he said. His weight is down 25 pounds, and his GPA is up to 3.3 from the 2.5 he had as a partying freshman.

There were some surprises, especially in how, Ehlinger said, young adults can overcome such trauma, at least as far as their grades are concerned. Those who reported being sex-



Michelle Murphy, a junior at the University of Minnesota, studies in the Union on campus in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on October 15, 2008. Murphy says her apartment room is too noisy to concentrate.

Marlin Levison / Minneapolis Star Tribune (MCT)

students have access to health care."

What affects grades the most? Stress (lots of it), excessive screen time, binge drinking and gambling.

Students who reported eight or more emotional stresses, anything from failing a class to credit card debt to a conflict with parents had an average GPA of 2.72. Those who said they had no significant stress reported an average GPA of

as eating fast food, Ehlinger said. Now it's clear that these activities cut significantly into their grades as well. Four or more hours of screen time a day resulted in an average GPA of 3.04 or less. Less than an hour a day bumped it up to 3.3 or better.

The same pattern held with binge drinking. Teetotallers reported an average GPA of 3.31, compared with 2.99 for students who drank exces-

sively assaulted or abused in the previous 12 months reported lower grades.

Working to earn money had no effect on grades, another surprise, Ehlinger said. That was true regardless of whether students spent one or 40 hours a week at work.

"There must be something else going on that is protective of folks that are working," Ehlinger said. "It might be a matter of time management."

But Mom and Dad probably knew that, too.

(c) 2008, Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

DRUNK

continued from page 1

can be stopped. Unfortunately, in spite of great progress, alcohol-impaired driving remains a serious national problem that tragically claims the lives of many victims.

There are many ways to prevent deaths and injuries from drunk driving. These steps can be taken to ensure one's own safety as well as those around:

- Stay completely sober. There is no better way to make you stay safe than this one.
- Know your limit. Stop before you reach that line.
- Eat food while you drink. The food will help absorb the alcohol in your system.
- Sip your drinks rather than "chugging" or "gulping." This will make you consume less drinks and give you the ability to savor your drink.
- Skip a drink every now and

then. Alternate between beverages with alcohol and beverages without.

—Stay active. This helps you consume less.

—Beware of unfamiliar drinks. Things like zombie drinks and jungle juice tend to have a less detectable alcohol content so you never know when to stop.

—Limit yourself. There is no shame in being able to tell yourself when enough is enough!

Student Life Presents: Student Government

By NADA YOUSSEF Features Writer

Ever wonder who makes most of the decisions that go on at Parkland College? Who got us the slushies back at the cafeteria? Who represents us as the student body? If you haven't guessed it yet, it is the Student Government, elected by you, the student body.

The Student Government manual reads: "The purposes of student Government are: to provide a means of student expression and leadership development; encourage and promote interest in college affairs and activities; ensure awareness of student needs, opinions, and attitudes; and to promote and develop activities which will enrich the social, cultural, and academic life at Parkland."

The Student Government

campus.

The secretary is in charge of taking roll of all Student Government members, and taking down the minutes of each meeting and recounting them on paper for each meeting.

The student trustee represents Parkland College attends board meetings that help make Parkland a better place.

The senators must provide input and feedback to Student Government pertaining to the student body needs. They also vote on decisions that concern Student Senate business and action.

"Learning the procedures is kind of hard and this club is very time consuming. But, it's definitely worth it," said newly elected senator Morgan Forrest.

There are some qualifications you must have to be considered into the Student Gov-

ernment.

Alisa Rantanen. It also looks great on your resume and helps you better develop your skills and understand more about what you are capable of.

"It teaches you to be a leader and how to be independent. I'm shy, but Student Government taught me how to be myself," said newly elected senator Hira Aamir.

As a member of the Student Government, you vote on new organizations and decisions that pertain to the student body.

"You get to know how different organizations work and have insight on what goes on behind the scenes," said newly elected senator Matt Apy.

The Student Government participates in many activities that go on in Parkland College. They recently participated in the Parkland clean-up and the



Andrew Serino / Prospectus

consists of a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary,

student trustee, a number of student senators. Each position has a different role in molding a better college. The president does such things as veto legislations that concern Parkland. The president must attend all Student Government meetings and go over all meeting minutes. The president also goes to important board meetings and gets to meet people of high positions that help run Parkland College.

The vice president must attend all meetings and fulfill the position of the president if the president is ever absent. The vice president must also have knowledge of the Student Association boards, committees, and policies.

"I got the slushies back and that's what I stand for," said newly elected vice president, Zach Streff.

The treasurer is in charge of the budget and assigning money to different clubs on

erment. "You must have a good GPA, be a full time student, petition, and campaign," said Morgan.

Student Government is not all hard work; it also comes with its perks. Not only do you get to have your own office desk in the student government office, with a computer and a printer, you also get to play with a cool remote control car if you ever get bored.

"The best part of Student Government is the people in Student Government. The group we have this year is fun, with interesting, new people. It's a great organization," said treasurer Simeon Pavlov.

There are multiple benefits from being in the Student Government. For starters, you get to meet great people and learn new things.

"Student Government allows you to meet awesome people, and you get to organize and plan the future of Parkland," said newly elected secretary

start! Heart Walk. Coming up on November 19, they will be in the flag lounge from 10am to 2pm providing donuts for your thoughts on things you would like to improve or what you think about different activities that are going on in Parkland in their event called "Thoughts for Donuts." On December 6 they will be participating in the Parade of Lights.

If you are interested in being a part of this highly respected organization, elections are coming up next semester. What do you have to do to get in? First you must go to the Student Life office, located in the X wing and pick up a form that has a page for signatures you must attain from your fellow student body. Next, you must write a short essay about why you belong in Student Government. Then, you must campaign until elections come along. If you get elected into office, get ready for some hard work and a lot of fun.

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Economic crisis hits those struggling to afford college

By TONY PUGH
(MCT)

BLOOMINGTON, Ind.—On a recent Thursday evening, Neal Theobald, Indiana University's vice chancellor for budget administration, received a sobering letter from Sallie Mae, the nation's leading provider of student loans.

"Because of the continuing turmoil and uncertainty in the credit markets, Sallie Mae has made the difficult decision to tighten the underwriting on all our private student loan products, which will require applicants to meet higher credit standards. We believe that this action will mean lower approval rates for these loans," Sallie Mae Executive Vice President Barry Feierstein wrote.

The lending giant also announced plans to "adjust" or raise its loan pricing.

"These decisions were not easy to make," Feierstein said in the letter, "but the current financial markets provide no other choice."

At a time when student financial-aid requests nationwide are up 16 percent from last year, Sallie Mae's decision to make fewer loans at a higher price will deepen the financial pain of millions of parents and students who already are struggling to pay for college educations.

It's the latest example of how the Wall Street crisis is digging into the pockets of Americans who are far removed from New York's financial district.

Bloomington is another stop in a journey into America to chronicle these effects on folks of all backgrounds. Journalists from McClatchy Newspapers and the American News Project, an independent video-news outlet, have reported on the wealthy in Connecticut, growing legal wars in New York City, family health and financial insecurity in Pennsylvania, job losses in Ohio and now higher-education anxiety in Indiana.

The project, "Fallout on Main Street," is available in print, on video and on the Internet.

Historically, when the economy starts to tank, students return to higher education in greater numbers.

"But with the credit crunch and money tight and the economy so bad, I think it's going to be difficult for students and families to pay that college tuition," said Roger J. Thompson, IU's vice provost for enrollment management. "I talk to parents fairly regularly, and they're struggling. Their kids are down to the last semester or two, money's tight and they're worried about their jobs, and they're just hoping

time, a bank statement that tallied all her loans, which then totaled nearly \$60,000.

"I kinda freaked out," she recalled. "I saw it, and my stomach just turned. It almost didn't seem real. Fifty or sixty thousand dollars? I'm like, 'Really? I racked up that much?' ... It's so overwhelming. It feels like I'll never be able to pay it off. How am I ever going to be able to buy a house?"

Her more immediate concern is finding a position in the ultra-tight job market. Daugherty's already applied for more than 15 without success. She wants to work for a nonprofit agency, but she fears that the troubled economy may be con-

shift on this Friday seemed to tell similar tales of financial stress aggravated by the weak economy.

Claire Miller, a freshman who buses tables at the restaurant, said that her mother, a paramedic, had taken a second job to help pay the tuition for her four children, who were all in college at the same time.

"All of us have jobs while we're in college because it helps (our parents) out tremendously. I might have to take on more shifts to help them because the economy now is just going down and everybody is feeling the effects of it," Miller said.

Antane Armstrong, a waitress, left IU last year because of money problems. She's trying to save enough to re-enroll, but with tips and business declining, her goal has become harder to reach.

Armstrong typically gets the standard 15 to 17 percent tip, with a few who always leave 10 percent. "Now the 10 percenters are tipping 5 percent, and everybody else has gone down to 10," Armstrong said.

Hostess Laura Cole, a 19-year-old sophomore, had a trust fund that was supposed to help her with college, but because it's invested in the stock market, it's been losing value.

"I'm under 21, so I can't touch my mutual fund, so I just sit back and watch it fail," Cole said. Her brother's fund dropped to \$20,000 from \$40,000 in a matter of months, she said.

Even future college students and their families are taking note of the costs.

On Oct. 18, about 20 Bloomington-area 4-H Club members met at the county fairgrounds to hear about their college financial-aid options from Roy Durnal, a senior associate director for recruitment at Indiana University. Listening intently were Sylvia Reece of Bloomington and her 18-year-old son, Mykel Faultless.

Reece stopped working sev-

eral years ago to care for her ill father and grandmother. She'll use her personal savings and help from her first husband, Faultless' father, to finance their son's freshman and sophomore years.

To save money, Faultless will have to attend a local community college for two years before transferring to IU as a junior.

"It's a little bit cheaper, and the credits will transfer," Reece explained.

Faultless also will have to contribute. He works at a car wash and local movie theater to make ends meet. He also has saved some money from livestock sales through the 4-H Club. Last year, he sold a chicken for \$300 and his 310-pound pig fetched \$2,000.

The budding business major still will need some student loans, however, and Durnal had a sobering warning for all the youngsters.

"I certainly hate it when I see students that are ready to graduate and facing what would ultimately be like a house payment just paying off their student loans. My first lesson for you guys is to be aware and don't get yourself too overburdened with that loan debt," Durnal said.

"I'm still new to all this college stuff and I don't really know what's going on, but when he said that, it worried me," said Faultless, a husky lad with an emotionless face.

To help with the costs, Reece said, she plans to go back to work when her son transfers to IU, and even though he'll continue to live on their 8-acre farm with the horses, goats, pigs and chickens, the tuition still will cost about \$10,000 a year.

"I really hate to see him have to get all the loans and everything, but the jobs just aren't there, so it's scary," Reece said. "It's downright scary."

(c) 2008, McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

DEANS

continued from page 1

"It was a very tough, very gang infested area," she said.

Turner eventually left her job to move to a position at Prairie State College in Chicago Heights, where she worked in career services for three years. She then became the Director of Admissions, and was in charge of tasks such as signing transcripts and running job fairs.

"I have a lot of student affairs experience. They used to call me the networker, because I used to bring everyone together," Turner said.

After several years at Prairie State, she saw an open position at Parkland and decided to take it.

"Everyone thought it was a positive campus and it was exciting to be on a bigger campus," she said.

Whenever a student has a conflict with another student, even if it is off of campus, Turner is the person to see. If an instructor thinks a student is not behaving to the best of their ability in class, they can be sent to her as well. She stresses that Parkland students need to understand that they are no longer in high school and they will be held accountable for their actions.

"Sometimes [students] need someone to sit them down and say, 'This is how this is different from high school,'" Turner said.

Turner loves the opportunity to help so many students in so many ways. At the moment she is working on a civility statement for the Parkland handbook, as well as working with students and staff on a mediating team to help solve conflicts.

"Interpersonal communication is a major part of college life," she said.

Turner is new to "deanship" but doesn't see much further beyond her current position at the moment. When asked if she had any advice for students in Parkland or any other college this is what she had to say:

"Enjoy your college career. Try to learn from all people and be willing to grow. I know that's what I'm doing. I'm learning to keep learning."

Class of 2006

Finding a job is only part of the battle for today's college students, they also have to pay for the education they just completed.

Average debt

■ Less than \$15,000 ■ \$15,500 to \$18,500 ■ \$18,500 to \$21,500 ■ \$21,500 and up



they can get their kids the rest of the way through."

Amanda Daugherty was just a toddler when her father died, and she was still in high school when ovarian cancer took her mother's life.

Now only two months shy of her master's degree in public health, the 24-year-old Lafayette, Ind., native owes nearly \$70,000 after financing almost all of her six-year college education with student loans.

The enormity of her debt first hit Daugherty last year after she received, for the first

spiring against her.

"I think there's going to be cutbacks in funding and I feel like people won't be as willing to hire new people into organizations," she said. "I'm getting really scared because I don't know what to do if I can't pay. I mean if I don't have a job, can I claim financial hardship? I really don't know."

After graduation, Daugherty will continue working part time in the university communications department and waiting on tables at Mother Bear's pizzeria, where the entire night



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Investigation of Illinois campaign donor turns up more questions

By **ANDREW ZAJAC,**
RAY GIBSON
and **BOB SECTER**
(MCT)

CHICAGO—Big campaign donors typically come with deep pockets and influence. But in Illinois this election cycle, no one not running for office himself has given more to the nation's federal campaigns than Shi Sheng Hao, a virtual unknown in business and political circles.

Before September 2007, Hao's name had never appeared in the 15-year-old federal database of campaign contributors. Since then, however, his donations have topped \$120,000—including \$70,100 on a single June day to Republican presidential candidate John McCain.

Over the same time frame, a network of Hao relatives has kicked in more. The take from this group over the last 13 months exceeds \$269,000, most of it to McCain and the Republican National Committee, records show.

Hao didn't register to vote at the northwest suburban address attached to his donations until October 2007, a month after he wrote his first political check, \$25,000 to the RNC.

The circumstances surrounding Hao's sudden and prolific political activism are curious and his whereabouts unclear. His name isn't listed on property records or the mailbox at the unassuming tract home listed on his donations. Hao lives "overseas," insisted a man who answered the door at the Roselle home recently. The man declined to identify himself.

The story of Hao—whose varied roster of business associates appears to include a Taiwanese government investment arm as well as the mastermind of a decade-old Democratic fundraising scandal—is an eyebrow-raiser in the current election climate.

Ethnic Chinese donors became an issue in the battle for the Democratic nomination last year because some didn't seem to live where they claimed

on contribution records. Now, Republicans are raising questions about the authenticity of many small donations Democrat Barack Obama has received from abroad.

Sheila Krumholz, executive director of the Washington-based Center for Responsive Politics, said the timing of the Hao related contributions appeared troubling, though there could be a plausible explanation. "Large contributions from people who have never given previously do generally provoke questions about who they are and what they're up to and most importantly, what they're looking for," said Krumholz, whose non-partisan group closely tracks political donations. "...The public needs to be concerned because there are fraudulent donations and persons use them to gain influence and access in Washington."

McCain spokesman Brian Rogers said Hao was not a "major donor" and "not a part of this campaign in terms of fundraising," but declined to discuss him further or address the campaign's procedures for vetting donors. RNC spokesman Danny Diaz said he would not respond to questions from the Tribune, contending the newspaper was biased against McCain.

So who is Shi Sheng Hao and what are his means and motives for becoming a megadonor? No one answers a telephone listed in his name in the 630 area code and there's no answering machine. Messages left for him by phone and e-mail with several relatives went unanswered.

But this much can be gleaned from public records:

Donation disclosures list his occupation as a businessman with entities identified only by slightly different acronyms: ADECC, AAEC, A.A.E.C.C. On some he is also listed as president of American Chinese Entertainment Ltd.

Hao and his wife, Hsin-Ning, declared bankruptcy in 1995, at the time using the Roselle, Ill., home as an address and listing as a business a firm called

Asian American Environmental Control.

Hao holds an Illinois driver's license that lists his address as the Roselle home, but property records show the four-bedroom house has been owned since 1992 by Robert and Jen Chi and their last name is on the mailbox. Contacted at the Des Plaines marketing firm where she works, Jen Chi said she didn't work, Jen Chi said, though she said she knew how to get in touch with him and would have him call the Tribune. He never did.

"I don't know anything about his business," said Chi, who herself gave \$15,000 to the RNC the week after Hao's first donation. "I don't want to be stuck in the middle." Hao's wife, Hsin-Ning, also used the Roselle address when she made a \$25,000 contribution to the RNC last year. In September, however, she listed a Taipei address on a \$2,300 contribution to the campaign fund of former Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

There is no record in business databases of American Chinese Entertainment Ltd., the firm listed in some Hao donation records. However, an Asian American Entertainment Corp., was incorporated early this year in California with a Shi Sheng Hao as president. Government records show that firm and at least two other Hao companies have connections to the family of Gene and Nora Lum, onetime prominent Democratic fundraisers in the Asian-American community who were convicted in 1997 of making political donations through illegal straw donors.

A Taiwanese firm with a nearly identical name as Hao's new California company, Asian American Entertainment Ltd., is also headed by a Shi Sheng Hao. That firm has been embroiled in a lengthy legal battle in Las Vegas over a sourced partnership in an application for a casino license in Macau, the former Portuguese colony now part of the People's Republic of China.

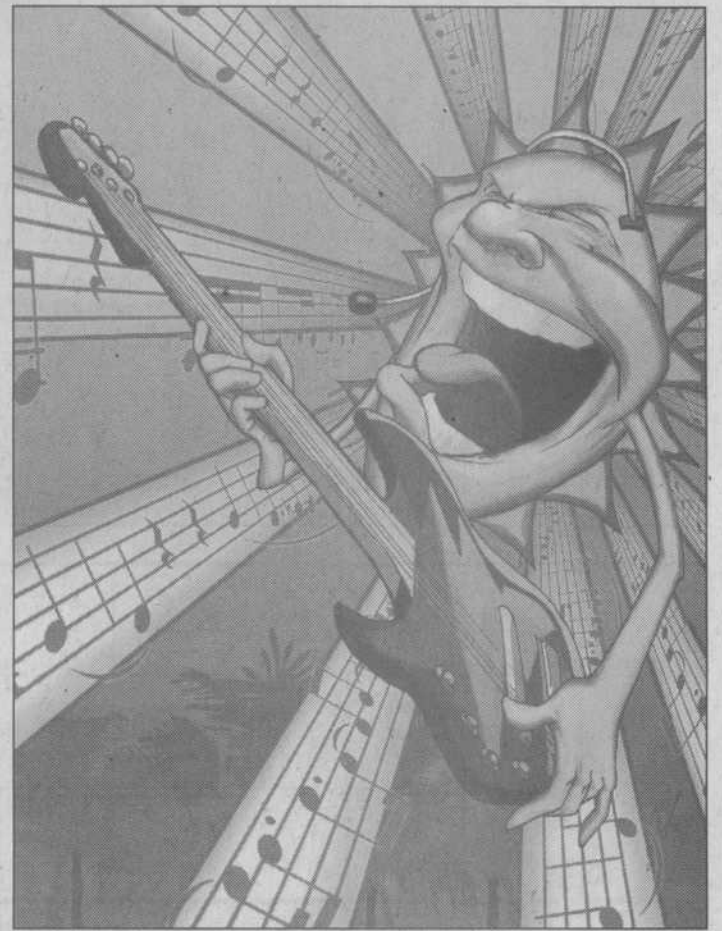
In November, it's always warm where the band plays

By **SEAN HERMANN**
Prospectus Staff Writer

November may be a rough transition for some, from perfect fall days to the freezing cold winter blizzard days, but for many November is a month to look forward to—perhaps going from eating little to suffering from a food coma during the holidays, as well as enjoying many great concerts in the area. Here is a preview of those great concerts featured in the great month of November.

Featured Show:

November 15, at the Post Office in Mahomet. So Long Forgotten (who says if they somehow always make it into one of my articles) will officially celebrate the release their highly-awaited EP, *Baptism* with their good friends Cody from *As Cities Burn*, Greenwood, *All the Day Holiday* and Todd Reese. The EP as



mentioned earlier in my interview with SLF, was recorded in January at First Street Studios and will be the bands first time playing these five new songs for fans. There has, however, been a recent setback for the band as Dustin (guitarist) had a nasty spill at work and is currently in the hospital. The good news is that he seems to be doing well and will only require surgery on his jaw and should be able to recover just fine and the show will hopefully continue so not to worry folks.

Indie shows:

—Saturday, November 1, The Canopy Club (\$7) 9:00pm – Santa, Butterfly Assassins, Pomegranates, The Names That Spell

—Monday, November 3, The Post Office in Mahomet 8pm – Todd Reese, Jared May, John Davey.

—Friday, November 7, Courtyard Café (\$3/\$5) 8:30pm – Gentleman Auction House, Headlights, World's First Flying Machine.

—Saturday, November 8, The Iron Post 7:00pm – Hathaways (CD Release show) with Big Grove Zydeco.

—Tuesday, November 11, The Canopy Club (\$20) 6:30pm – Rusted Root, Pictures and Sound.

—Sunday, November 23, The Canopy Club (\$10) 8:00pm – Colour Revolt, So Long Forgotten

Pop shows:

—Thursday, November 6, The Canopy Club (\$8) 8:00pm – The Morning Light, Brighton, Houston Calls, Si!

—Saturday, November 8, at the Cowboy Monkey (\$7) 9:30pm – Missing The Point, Swizzle Tree The Insecurities, The Run Around.

—Thursday, November 20 The Canopy Club (\$17/\$20) 8:30pm – The Plain White T's, Meg & Dia, The Cab

Rock/Punk shows:

—Thursday, November 6, The IMC (\$5) 6:00pm – Alleyway Sex, Dirty South Revolutionaries, Murder Majesty.

—Thursday, November 13 The Canopy Club (\$25) 9:00pm – Umphrey's McGee

—Friday, November 21 The Canopy Club (\$20) 9:00pm – Dropkick Murphys, The Loved Ones, The Mahones

—Saturday, November 29 The IMC (TBA) 4pm – Black Cat Rebellion, Koffin Kats, The Massacres, the Gravetones, The Lurking Corpse

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Weather Forecast

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 64.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 43. South wind around 10 mph.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 58.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 39.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 60.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 41.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 63.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47.

CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

This week, CrimeStoppers and Champaign Police Department investigators are seeking information regarding a bank robbery.

On Tuesday, October 14, Champaign police officers were dispatched to Bank Champaign, located at 5 Convenience Center Drive, for a report of a robbery.

Officers were informed that the suspect entered the business carrying a black bag and demanded money via a note presented to the bank teller. The teller believed the suspect had a weapon, although no weapon was actually displayed. The

suspect may have fled the scene in a white van or sport utility vehicle. Taken was an undisclosed amount of U.S. currency. No injuries were

reported, and no customers were in the bank during the robbery.

The suspect is described as a white male, approximately 6' tall, 300 pounds, fake long blonde hair, gray beard, and wearing a dark colored short-sleeved shirt. The suspect also had a large (possibly fake) tattoo with a tribal design on his left arm.

If you have any information at all regarding this crime, please call CrimeStoppers at (217) 373-TIPS or (217) 373-8477. Information can also be sent by anonymous web tip by going to: www.champaigncountycrimestoppers.com.

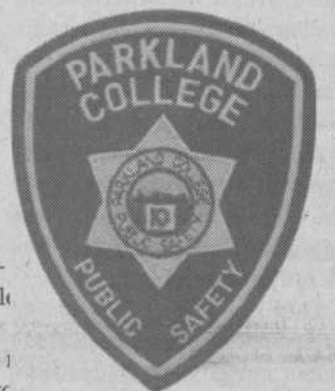
The information you provide is confidential. You do not have to appear in court. CrimeStoppers will pay a reward if the information you provide leads to an arrest for this crime. Cash rewards are also paid for information on other felony crimes or fugitives in the Champaign County area.

Felony Convictions

A felony represents the most serious crimes in our society. A felony can be defined as a crime punishable with a jail term of one year or more or death. Here are a few examples of crimes that constitute a felony conviction: murder, sexual assault, and armed robbery just to name a few. If you are convicted of a felony, there are certain jobs you will never get. For example, jobs that require you to hold a license in order to practice, including jobs such as doctor, lawyer, insurance agent, and teacher. Also, you certainly would not be able to get a job in law enforcement.

Secondly, companies now do background checks on the minor jobs. A felony conviction can follow you the rest of your life.

Imagine every time you fill out a job application you have to mark yes in the box that asks, "Have you been convicted of a felony?" You know that the chances of getting that job are slim to none. It is vital to your own future that you make good choices and THINK before you act.



Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Woody Allen movie
 - 6 Poking punches
 - 10 Medical picture
 - 14 Still in the game
 - 15 Border upon
 - 16 New Greek coin
 - 17 Twangy
 - 18 Stout's stout sleuth
 - 19 Narrow margin
 - 20 Send forth
 - 22 Countersign
 - 24 Definite article
 - 25 Long period
 - 26 Official investigation
 - 30 Sailor's org.
 - 31 Little barrel
 - 34 Grievors
 - 36 Steps over a fence
 - 38 Keen
 - 39 Has on
 - 42 Billfold bills
 - 43 On your feet!
 - 45 In a state of decline
 - 47 Ernie of golf
 - 48 Want
 - 51 Bernhard and Dee
 - 52 Blackthorn
 - 53 Refrain syllable
 - 54 Some hunting dogs
 - 57 Passenger-comfort feature
 - 62 Honolulu's island
 - 63 Out of danger
 - 65 Cuban dance
 - 66 Fiber source
 - 67 Ostrich kin
 - 68 Spanish goodbye
 - 69 Narrow cut
 - 70 Cravings
 - 71 Doles (out)

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10/29/08

Solutions

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- DOWN**
- 1 Billy of "Titanic"
 - 2 NFL kicker Jason
 - 3 "Mona"
 - 4 Nobelist Pavlov
 - 5 Jiggly dessert
 - 6 Bronte novel
 - 7 Pres. Lincoln
 - 8 Part of the FBI
 - 9 Rocks
 - 10 Noble gas
 - 11 One with regrets
 - 12 Circle segments
 - 13 Oxen connector
 - 21 Tossed
 - 23 Adams and Rickles
 - 26 Reflection
 - 27 New
 - 28 Resigns
 - 29 Pakistani tongue
 - 31 Pirate slugger Ralph
 - 32 "Maria"
 - 33 Prose romances
 - 35 Down in the mouth
 - 37 "Sweeney"
 - 40 Never still
 - 41 Frighten
 - 44 Ashen
 - 46 Word puzzle
 - 49 Band-leader Tommy
 - 50 "Street"
 - 52 Daring feat
 - 54 Cries
 - 55 British noble
 - 56 Bangkok resident
 - 58 Uncouth
 - 59 Leave out
 - 60 Clarinet relative
 - 61 Large group
 - 64 Enjoyable

Estimated offshore oil and gas deposits

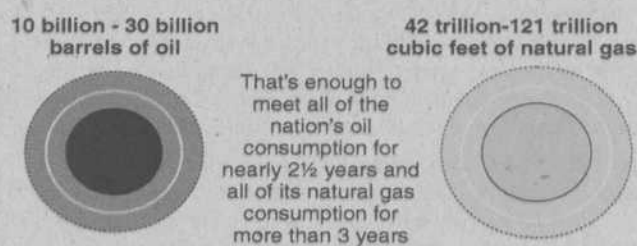
Amid rising energy prices, the U.S. Congress last month let a long-standing offshore drilling moratorium along the Atlantic and most of the Pacific coasts lapse. The issue is likely to be taken up by the next president, and both John McCain and Barack Obama have said they support new offshore drilling — although to differing degrees. Environmentalists warn that increased drilling could have disastrous effects on coastal areas; oil companies say improved technology has made such drilling safer.

● Oil in billions of barrels ○ Natural gas in trillions of cubic feet (Circle sizes represent range of estimates) ■ National marine sanctuaries • Existing leases (mostly in Gulf of Mexico)



Adding it up

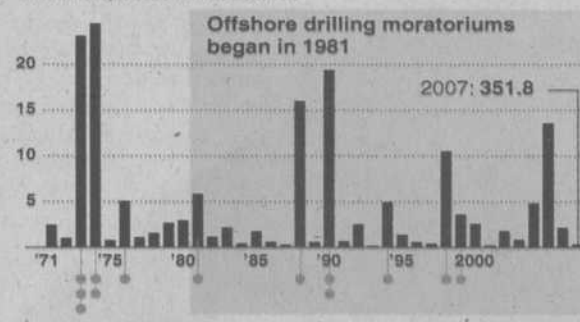
How much oil and natural gas is accessible in areas subject to the drilling ban? No one knows for sure. The latest estimates by the Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) suggest there could be ...



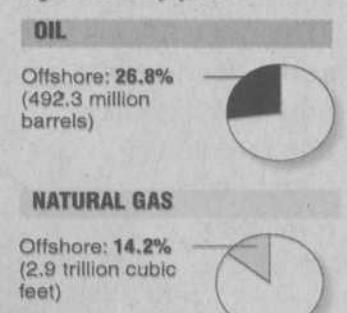
Nearly 1 percent of all natural gas produced in the U.S. comes from the Independence Hub platform in the Gulf of Mexico

Oil spilled from offshore drilling

In barrels, scale in thousands



U.S. energy production by source, 2007



Source: Minerals Management Service, Energy Information Administration, Independence Project, Anadarko Petroleum
 Graphic: Adam Zoll and Steve Layton, Chicago Tribune

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Political party

Vote for an election night get-together that transcends politics

★ BY BECKY SHER
McClatchy-Tribune

The future of the nation hangs in the balance — what better excuse for a party?

On Nov. 4, Americans will be glued to the TV, waiting to find out who will be the next leader of the free world. And whether you'll be drowning your sorrows or toasting your victory, it's always more fun to do it with friends.

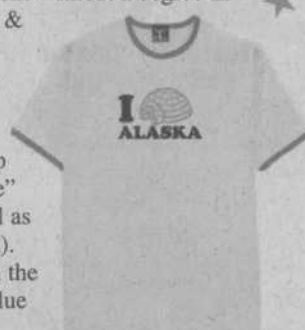
So invite your most politically inclined pals, put out some snacks and drinks, and turn on the television. That's really all it takes for a decent election night celebration. Tailor your event to the interests of your social circle — are they more "Meet the Press" or "The Daily Show"? Either way, we've got some tips to make your presidential party one that your guests will remember until 2012.

INVITATIONS AND COSTUME

Party experts always say the invitations set the mood for the party. And while that makes total sense, these days, it's all about convenience. Send an e-mail, set up an event on Facebook or use Evite. (We won't tell.) Evite has election-themed designs ready for you — just fill in the template and hit "send." (Look for "Election 2008" under the "invitations" tab on evite.com.)

Of course, this election is all about change, so if you've never sent out a real, honest-to-goodness paper invitation, maybe this is a good chance to start. Paper Source (paper-source.com) has everything you need to create invitations without a degree in graphic design. The Sans Serif Black & White A7 Flat Invitations (\$8.50 for 10) are preprinted with spots for you to fill in the what, when, where and other details. Then use markers, stickers or rubber stamps to spruce up the cards. Paper Source has two "vote" rubber stamps (\$7 and \$8.50), as well as donkey and elephant stamps (\$6 each). Pair your invites with envelopes from the site's endless color palette (red and blue might make sense, no?).

If you think your guests will go for it, ask them to come in costume. Obama and McCain masks are available on Amazon.com (about \$12 each). Or throw on a pair of rimless eyeglasses and an "I Love Alaska" T-shirt (\$15-\$17 on Amazon) and call yourself Sarah Palin.



DÉCOR AND TABLEWARE

Go patriotic with a red, white and blue theme, and throw in a few donkeys and elephants for good measure. If you're feeling minimalist, blow up a few balloons and call it a day. Or get fancier with old-fashioned bunting, crepe-paper streamers and flags in every shape and size you can find. (Note to self: In 2012, stock up on patriotic party supplies at the July 5 sales.) PlumParty.com has donkey and elephant paper plates (\$5 for 8) and cocktail napkins (\$4 for 16). And the site has lots of other accoutrements, if you're so inclined — check www.plumparty.com/election.html.



Plus, let guests throw their hat in the ring with campaign-style buttons, right, that double as name tags (\$12.99 for 72, orientaltrading.com).

FOOD AND DRINKS

Chances are you'll be at work all day Tuesday, so do yourself a favor and keep the refreshments simple. If most of your guests are stopping by later in the evening, you don't need to serve a full dinner. (Put another way: TELL your guests to stop by later in the evening so you don't need to serve a full dinner.) Or better yet, ask guests to bring something to share. Here are a few suggestions for keeping your snacks simple, but interesting:

★ **Go all-American.** And what's more American than dessert? Serve apple pie, along with toppings so guests can customize their slice. Vanilla ice cream, whipped cream, caramel sauce and walnuts are a good start. Or go for another all-American treat: ice cream sundaes. Set out several flavors of ice cream and all the toppings you can think of — sprinkles, sauces, bananas, nuts, candy. And don't forget to fill a bowl with M&Ms, a classic American candy. Go to mymms.com to order red and blue candies, or even personalize them with election-related phrases (starting at \$5.99 for 7 oz).

★ **Pile on the puns.** Serve whatever you like, but label everything with an election- or candidate-themed name. Biden Brownies, McCain Macaroni and Cheese. Or make it a contest, and ask each guest to bring a dish with a creative name. Vote (because isn't that the night's theme?) on the most original name.

★ **Get geographic.** Fill your buffet with foods inspired by the candidates' home cities or states. That's deep-dish pizza for Chicago's Barack Obama and Tex-Mex fare for Arizona's John McCain. Look for microbrewed beer from Illinois and Arizona (www.brewpubzone.com/Microbrews.html lists microbreweries and brewpubs in every state). And for dessert, serve Baked Alaska, in honor of vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin (visit epicurious.com for several versions of the ice cream dessert). Or try to think of a dish from Delaware. Where do you buy blue hen?

ACTIVITIES

Watching the returns roll in is the point, but for lulls in the action, plan a few games and activities to keep the crowd busy.

★ When guests arrive, hand out blank U.S. maps. (Print one at www.50states.com/tools/usamap.htm and make copies.) Ask them to use colored pencils or markers to designate each state as Democratic (blue) or Republican (red). The guest whose map most closely matches the final returns wins a prize. (These may need to be tallied the next day. Or in a case like the 2000 election, several weeks later.)

★ Or try this twist on a baby-shower game: Give every guest a safety pin, sticker, coin, tiny flag or other small token. Then announce a forbidden word, maybe "president" or "vote." (Or you can forbid the use of the candidates' names, and see what interesting euphemisms your guests invent.) If one guest catches another saying the word in conversation, he can confiscate the offender's token. If he accidentally says it to someone else, he gives up whatever tokens he's collected. The guest with the most tokens at the end of the night wins.

★ Pay homage to Tim Russert by displaying a large dry-erase board near the television. (The late NBC newsmen used a low-tech white board to explain the many ins and outs of the 2000 election.) Let guests write predictions, keep track of favorite inane quotes from TV talking heads or draw caricatures of the candidates.

★ Create a variation on bingo: Print blank bingo cards (www.bingocardprinter.com/bingo_blank.php) and fill in the spaces with people or events that viewers are likely to see during the evening. (A few to try: A broadcast network calling a state too early; a fistfight between guests; Tom Brokaw.) Be sure to mix up the phrases in different squares on each card. Hand out cards and markers or stickers, and let guests fill in their cards during the evening. First one to B-I-N-G-O wins.

★ And of course, what are games without prizes? Depending on your crowd, here are items to have on hand:

★ "Pardon My President: Ready-To-Mail Apologies for 8 Years of George W. Bush," by Seth Grahame-Smith (www.bn.com)

★ "Pat the Politician #2" (www.imagineeringstore.com)

★ Survival Chocolate Bar (www.plumparty.com)

★ "Off-Color Coloring Book: The Political Circus" (www.imagineeringstore.com)

★ McCain and Obama lapel pins or stickers (shop.barackobama.com, johnmccain08store.com)



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POLITICAL PLAYLIST

Tired of the TV talking heads? Mute the idiot box and pump up the volume on your iPod instead. Create your own playlist of patriotic favorites, or take a cue from the iTunes Music Store, which has already created one of its iTunes Essentials lists (search "election songs"). Here are some highlights:

- ★ "Campaigner," Neil Young
- ★ "Elected," Alice Cooper
- ★ "President," Wyclef Jean
- ★ "America," Neil Diamond
- ★ "High Hopes," Frank Sinatra
- ★ "Don't Stop," Fleetwood Mac
- ★ "Only in America," Brooks & Dunn

