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Prospectus News

A student produced publication since 1969

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Local Haunts



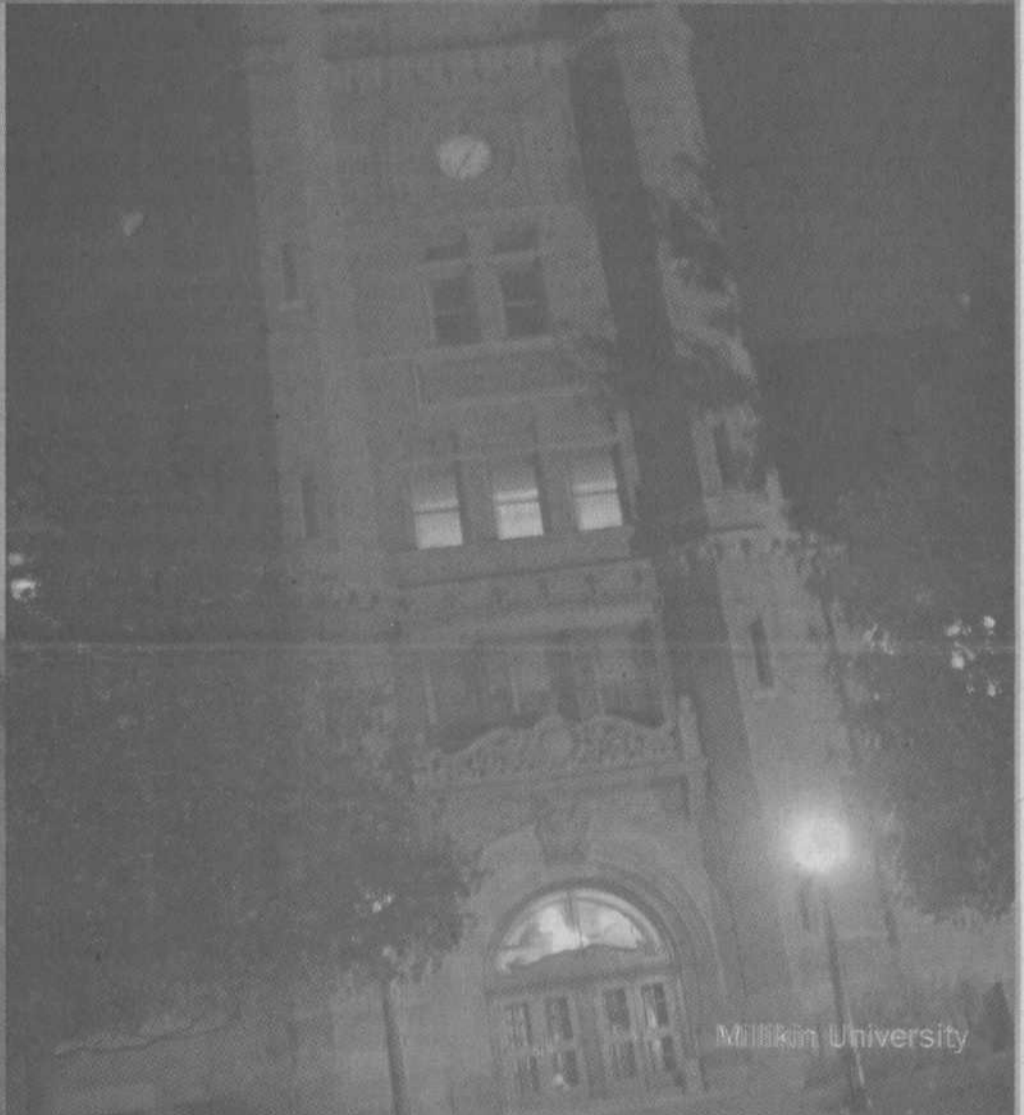
Tri-delta House



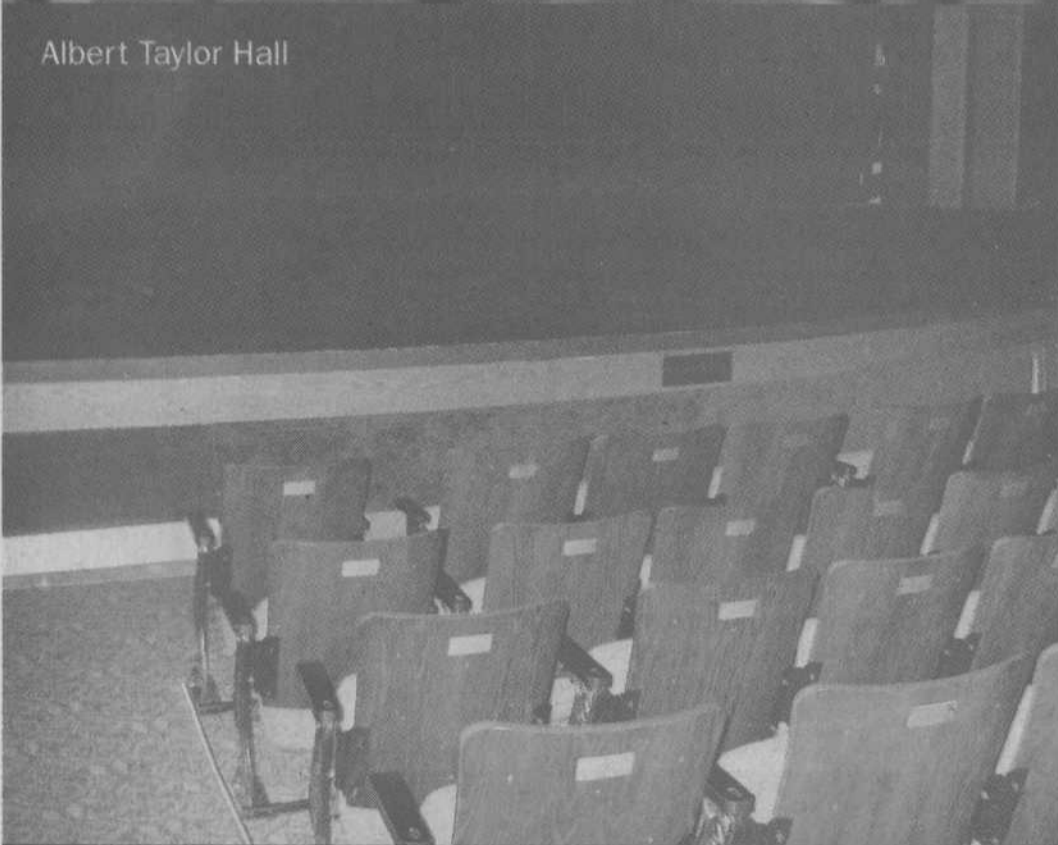
Greenwood Cemetery



Aston Hall



Millikin University



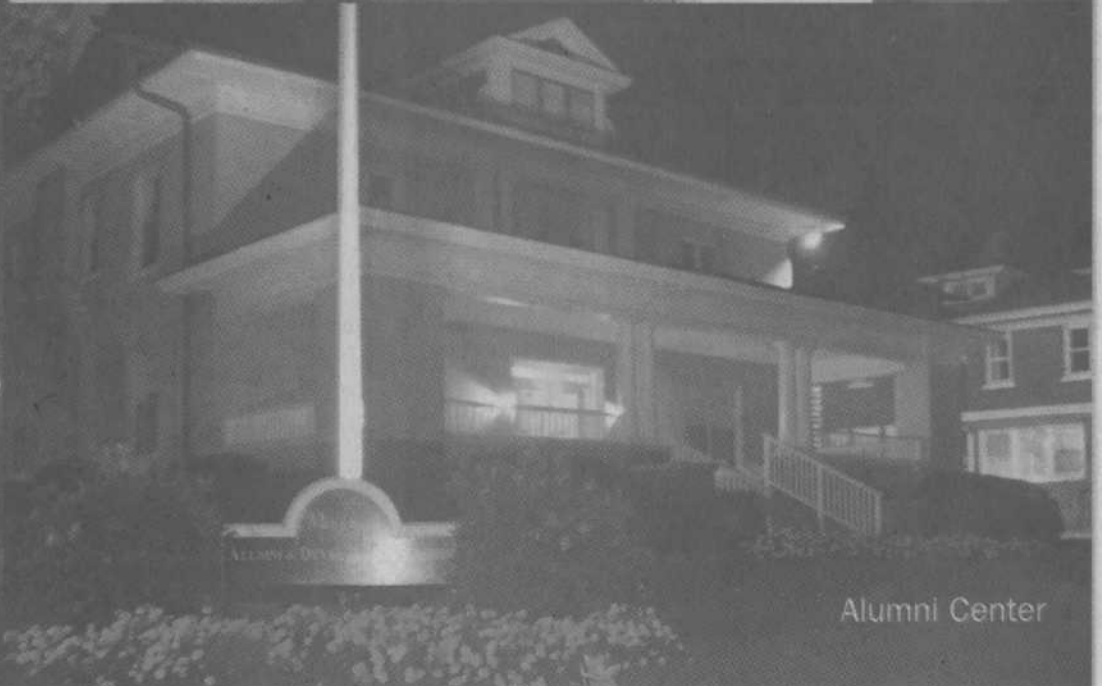
Albert Taylor Hall



Dance Studio



Delta Kappa House



Alumni Center

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.

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Media credit: front page, Patrick Wood and Sean Hermann

Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

CORRECTION: Two weeks ago, News of the Weird mentioned a story from the Ocala (Fla.) Star-Banner that accused school board candidate Bernard LeCorn of not having college degrees from the institutions he claimed. Subsequently, the Star-Banner corrected its story. LeCorn does have the degrees he claims. The error was made by school personnel who initially responded inaccurately to the Star-Banner reporter.

LEAD STORY

Developing Democracies: Candidates for local office in Brazil can either register under their own names or make them up, and in the October election this year, three candidates chose "Barack Obama" (none won), and others registered under "Bill Clinton," "Jorge Bush" and "Chico Bin Laden," but more than 200 offered themselves under the name of the country's popular president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. And in July, when the government of India tried to push its historic nuclear pact with the United States through the parliament, it found six more votes among elected members who were serving prison sentences, and ordered them released so they could vote for the bill. (Nearly one-fourth of the 540-member parliament have criminal charges pending against them.)

News That Sounds Like a Joke

(1) Britain's Bristol City Council warned residents in government housing in September to always leave their sheds unlocked. Otherwise, thieves would have to break the doors down to get inside, and taxpayers would be stuck with the repair bills. (2) Atlanta Pentecostal preacher Thomas Meeks told the Journal-Constitution in October that he was "in talks" to create a "Survivor"-type TV reality show in which the twice-divorced evangelist navigates a field of single women and selects a winner. "Holy Hook Up: Who Will Be the Next Mrs. Weeks?" will, he said, be a "very tasteful, five-star presentation."

Great Art!

•Chilean-Danish artist Marco Evaristti is working with condemned Texas inmate Gene Hathorn, 47 (convicted killer of three in 1985), on an anti-capital-punishment exhibit to be staged after Hathorn's execution. The murderer's body would be frozen, then made into flakes that museum visitors could feed to goldfish. Evaristti is most noted for his 2000 exhibit in which he placed live goldfish in several electric blenders and invited museumgoers to turn them on.

•An unfortunate burst of wind disrupted an outside art installation at the Paul Klee center in Bern, Switzerland, in August, ripping an inflatable

exhibit from its moorings and carrying it away. The exhibit, by American Paul McCarthy, was a sculpture entitled "Complex Shit," and the inflatable item was supposed to be a dog dropping the size of a house. Explained the Klee center's Web site (challengingly), the show features "interweaving, diverse, not to say conflictive emphases and a broad spectrum of items to form a dynamic exchange of parallel and self-eclipsing spatial and temporal zones." (Or, wrote London's Daily Telegraph in broken French, it is "what happens when la merde hits le ventilateur.")

•Sculptor Marc Quinn unveiled "Siren" in October at the British Museum, feting the model Kate Moss, who posed for him, though not quite in the position Quinn ultimately created. "Siren" is life-size, in 18k gold (that cost Quinn around \$2 million), and treats the gaudiness of the so-called supermodel. As such, Moss is posed seated, holding her legs behind her head. (Some, but not all, news outlets chose to show "Siren" modestly, from the side rather than the front.)

Men Whose Sex Lives Are Worse Than Yours

(1) Police in Fort Myers, Fla., said Jonathon Guabello, 29, who was angry that his girlfriend had denied him sex when they came home from a bar in October, left the room, shot himself twice in the arm, fell, and hit his head on a kitchen appliance, knocking himself out. (2) In Anderson Township, Ohio, in July, another frustrated lover, angry that his girlfriend kept falling asleep one night during sex, retaliated, according to police, by attempting to set fire to her van. (The 46-year-old man who couldn't sustain his lover's interest is Gregory Smallwood.)

Dignified Death

•From the self-composed obituary in the Casper (Wyo.) Star Tribune of James William "Jim" Adams, who died September 9th: "Jim, who had tired of reading obituaries noting other's [sic] courageous battles with this or that disease, wanted it known that he had lost his battle ... primarily as a result of ... not following doctor's orders. ... He was sadly deprived of his final wish, which was to be run over by a beer truck on the way to the liquor store to buy booze for a date."

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at <http://NewsoftheWeird.blogspot.com> or www.NewsoftheWeird.com. Send your Weird News to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com or P.O. Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679.

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Web design conference teaches life lessons



By JONAS DEES
Tech Columnist

At one time in a person's career they may get asked to attend a conference related to their chosen profession—I had the honor of making An Event Apart my first. An Event Apart is a Web design conference that brought talent — on and off the presenting stage — to Chicago for a two-day event. The presenters touched upon Web standards, typography, and project goal setting ... pretty boring stuff for the uninitiated, but how these topics were presented was what really brought the information to life. They transcended boundaries, which I why I'm sharing this with you.

One notion that was repeatedly stressed by the speakers was to never stop learning. Web design in particular is a pretty young field and some of the top people don't have a degree in Web design or even computer sciences. They had to learn everything they know outside of the classroom. This was out of necessity because there weren't any classes being taught on the subject up until the late 90s. Even with classes being offered on most college campuses relating to Web design, the concept of continuing education outside of the classroom hasn't changed. In order to be at the top in web design, or any other profession for that matter, you will need to constantly be improving your skill set and making yourself more marketable and more bankable to your current employer or to potential employers. The days of a person working for the same company for 30 years is over, and people constantly look for opportunities for advancement in their jobs. The one way to separate yourself from everyone else is to keep learning and keep improving—not only does this make you better suited for a position but it shows your potential employer that you want to improve yourself and will continue to do so if hired.

Never underestimate the wonders of communication. Whether it is Web design or management or accounting, the ability to communicate and interact with people will always remain. Jeffrey Zeldman, founder of An Event Apart, said that what a Web designer needs most is empathy. The ability to empathize will be the difference between a person who gains a client or loses a client. Professionals must be able to put themselves in the other person's shoes—to see through other's eyes in order to solve a problem.

When presented with a task always ask, "Why?" before anything starts
"Why are we making a Web site?" "Why are we filing these reports?" This type of behavior will allow someone to take a critical look at the reasoning behind most tasks. If a Web site doesn't have a purpose, should it even exist? Of course not. If a report is filed simply for the purpose of being filed, that report may be a waste of time. This type of internal communication can save your company, or yourself, time and money

ees were even lucky enough to catch the ear of a speaker for more than a brief minute. While a fifteen minute conversation isn't much it may be all a person needs to make a valuable contact for life. This is an idea that this conference indirectly preached, make use of your time and the time of others. Take all of the chances you are presented with because it may be a long time, if ever, before they come around again.

A conference such as An Event Apart was really a great experience. No revolution was necessary, just good topics that crossed all boundaries and into the personal life. Good planning and knowledgeable people should achieve as much, but what really made this event stand apart from the rest was the passion and excitement that all the participants demonstrated. This is the way a conference should be, intelligent people talking about doing the work they love in such a way that motivates the people in attendance to go home and do

the best work they can. Every single job or position I have ever held has been because I knew somebody. This conference was all about the ability to meet and interact with the people at the top of Web design professions. The speakers were not shuffled back stage only to emerge and present their topic, then disappear—never to be seen again. Most speakers were actually in attendance for most of the other seminars as a sign of respect for those speaking and for the ability to learn something new. Some attend-



Web guru Eric Meyer, framed by the Chicago skyline, takes time to talk to guests during the Web design conference "An Event Apart."

Photo by Aaron Geiger



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Haunted Decatur and Millikin University

By **PATRICK WOOD**
Prospectus Staff Writer

When this time of year rolls around, we begin to see the tall tales of Halloween in all of its forms. The outlandish decorations, the bulk candy that goes on sale everywhere, and the haunted houses. You know the ones with the rubber monster masks and the fake cobwebs, with the universal "haunted house sounds" CD playing somewhere in the background. However, here is something to take into account this year: There are real haunted places in our very own central Illinois backyard. Even more surprising than this is how near they really are.

Starting out close to home, rumors have circulated about strange, paranormal activity at the Church Street YMCA in Champaign. Odd sensations, including temperature fluctuations, and the feeling of being watched have been reported, as well as objects being moved on their own, lights turning off and on, and doors opening and closing without any natural aid.

The University of Illinois also has a ghost that is said to haunt the English building. Supposedly, the building used to be a girls' dormitory in which a young woman took her own life for unknown reasons. Some believe the girl's spirit still remains rooted to the building.

Tales of hauntings and strange, unexplainable happenings litter the map. From small towns like Tolono, Ashmore, Marshall, Sidney and Oakland, to larger communi-

ties such as Champaign-Urbana, Mattoon, Charleston and Danville—there is no lack of strange events, sightings, and experiences linked to ghosts and creepy creatures.

There are a multitude of haunts and dwellings of the supernatural within driving distance, but there is one place where there is an unusual amount of creepy activities—Millikin University.

Located in Decatur, Illinois, Millikin supposedly holds the title as the most haunted university in the state. Albert Taylor Theater, Aston and Blackburn Halls, The Alumni House, the Tri-Delta sorority, and the Kappa Sigma fraternity are all suspected to be haunted.

Jaron Lancaster and his girlfriend Kate Conboy, both juniors at Millikin University, were waiting for us when we got there. They gladly agreed to give Prospectus News a tour of their campus.

Our first stop was the theater.

The ghost that haunts Albert Taylor Theater is well known to most of the actors and stagehands. Dubbed "rail girl" because of her frequent sightings near the rail in the upper sections, she is blamed for broken props and lighting and sound equipment malfunctions. To make sure that performances go well, students leave candy for her before shows. Josh Wroblewski, a sophomore and the new Technical Director for the theater says that although he has never personally experienced anything, he has spoken to many who have felt or seen something strange.

"Some of the custodial staff

has shared with me that sometimes while on break, they will look up and see a girl in the theater and then blink and she will be gone. They have also told me that certain security guards will not go into the theater," Wroblewski said.

"I am the new Technical Director of this space, which means that I have to be in there alone at times. When it is night and I am alone, there is an eerie feeling that I have. I don't know if I believe in 'Rail Girl' or not, but I don't (want) to anger her if she does haunt the space. I always make sure there is candy out for her and sometimes I try to talk to her a little bit. Call me crazy, but I say it can't hurt," he added.

According to Josh, "Rail Girl's" favorite candy is M&Ms, which sometimes inexplicably disappears.

The next location on our list was Aston Hall. Millikin archives state that on January 31, 1927, twenty-year-old freshman Bernice Richardson committed suicide here by drinking carboic acid. Her friends said that the combination of flunking several classes, having to face her family, and not being able to go to the first rushing party of the year drove her to take her own life.

"As far as I know, the resident killed herself on the third floor years ago. Ever since then there haven't been residents on the third floor of Aston," Conboy said.

It seems that Bernice Richardson may not have left Aston Hall. For years there have been reports of third floor lights turning on and off, and items on other floors disappearing and reappearing at

random. Loud knocking noises have also been heard, and for a short time, the third floor was supposedly closed off because of the strange occurrences.

Millikin's old gym, converted to a dance studio and weight room, was also on our list. Archival records in conjunction with Millikin's newspaper, the *Decaturian*, report that on March 28, 1942, Clarence O. Foster—the gym's custodian for almost a decade—died suddenly at the age of 64. This may account for the sounds that come from the upper floor where the indoor track was once located. Now sealed off, the second floor is the epicenter of the sound of cheering and applause and the running footsteps. According to people that knew C.O. Foster, he was a "truly loyal Millikinite". There is speculation that he may be staying loyal to the school by attending sporting events long since passed in the old gymnasium.

Several Greek houses are also said to be haunted. The Alumni House, formerly the Zeta Tau Alpha fraternity has a resident ghost named Louise. Louise had been a maid at the house before it had become a university building. After her death, sounds of the front door opening and footsteps moving across the floor could be heard frequently, even though no one was there. The feeling of someone brushing by students walking up or down the stairs has also been felt. Eventually a foyer, "Louise's Lounge," was named after the ghost.

The Delta-Kappa house is haunted by a spirit of a student named Nathan, who committed suicide.

The Tri-Delta sorority is haunted by "faded girl"—a ghost that usually appears as a faded and/or transparent young woman in early settler-style clothing. Barely audible whispers and unexplained cold patches are some of the phenomena people have experienced.

Although Millikin University is a hotspot for ghosts and paranormal activity, the same can be said about the entire city of Decatur. The Avon and Lincoln theaters are places of unexplained happenings that are believed to be ghost related.

There is also Greenwood Cemetery.

Greenwood Cemetery was established in 1857, but there had been burials there since the early 1820s and possibly before that. Over the years there have been reports of ghost lights, glowing mists, civil war apparitions, and the notorious Greenwood Bride. The southern end of the cemetery is told to be the location of two unmarked mass graves. One grave belongs to a group of Native Americans that was murdered by a group of bootleggers. The other is of dead Confederate soldiers.

"Obviously the ghost gets jumbled over the years, but it was said that a train was carrying Confederate soldiers to Chicago and that the ones that were dead had been buried in the southern end of the cemetery. Some of the soldiers weren't dead though, they just looked it. They got buried alive. So that may be why people see them," said Greenwood Cemetery Super Attendant Mike Hershfeld.


There are also stories of a phantom called the Greenwood Bride, a young woman who is seen weeping in a wedding gown. In the past the cemetery had been opened to haunted Decatur tours, however this year it will not.

"We felt that that it wasn't quite right that money was being made off of the cemetery. It seemed like it (the cemetery) was being exploited. This year it will stay closed," Hershfeld said.

On a dark, drizzly night, one cannot help but to feel a touch of dread even if nothing can be physically seen. Remember that this Halloween, if you see something out of the corner of your eye, hear a faint sound, or feel an ominous presence, it may not be your imagination...

[Sean Hermann contributed to this report]





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With college grads earning less and tuition rising, it pays to weigh debt against earnings

By MEGAN TWÓHEY
(MCT)

CHICAGO—Kelly Stevens is suffering from buyer's remorse.

The 29-year-old from Fargo, N.D., took out more than \$60,000 in loans to pay for a bachelor's degree in fashion marketing from the Illinois Institute of Art. She was convinced it would allow her to open her own store or work for a major fashion company—basically, to make more money.

But nearly a year after graduating, she is waiting tables at a comedy club. Every week, she gets rejected from half a dozen marketing jobs. She can no longer make payments on some of her loans. She can barely scrape by.

"I can't open my own store in this economy," Stevens said. "Marketing jobs are among those that have been hardest hit. Sometimes it feels like I should never have gotten that degree."

Money is only one of the reasons to go to college, of course. But with college costs skyrocketing and the economy worsening, the question of whether higher education is a worthy financial investment is no longer

a no-brainer.

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elor's degree earned 90 percent more than high school gradu-

are growing. And some graduates are unable to land jobs that allow them to pay back their loans.

Most experts insist that going to college is generally worth it. College graduates still earn substantially more than high school graduates on average: \$59,365 annually compared with \$33,609.

But they caution that some college choices are no longer a wise investment. Students destined for low-paying careers, they say, simply cannot manage certain debt levels. Loans can surpass \$100,000 depending on the school and the borrower.

"If you're going to be a nursery school teacher your whole life, you should not be taking out a lot of loans," said Sandy Baum, senior policy analyst for the College Board and an economics professor at Skidmore College. "That's the problem. It's an investment people make without knowing how they will pay it off."

People in business jobs can manage \$46,000, according to calculations the Chicago Tribune made with a formula created by Baum. So for Stevens, paying back nearly \$65,000 in loans was almost certain to be a

struggle. Now that she is stuck in a low-paying service job, it's become impossible.

Meanwhile, about one-third of college students drop out—dashing any return on their investment.

Does attending an elite college make a difference? The answer is unclear. While some researchers have found that graduates of top schools earn more on average than those from less prestigious institutions, others have found no difference.

Debbie Quinn, director of guidance at West Aurora High School, said she doesn't dissuade students from going to college because of the cost. But she encourages them to think about their career path and potential earnings.

Recognizing that the cost of college could steer students away from important but low-paying professions, Congress passed legislation last year that will gradually cut interest rates on certain government loans, allow borrowers to make smaller loan payments if they are earning less, and forgive the loans of students who serve in public-service careers

See **Earnings** on page 7



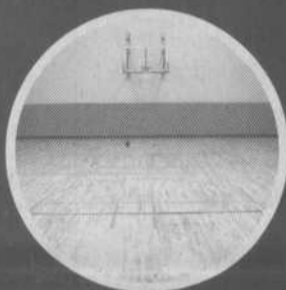
Kelly Stevens is working as a waitress in a comedy club in Chicago, Illinois, where she is shown on October 9, 2008, to make ends meet. A year after getting her bachelor's degree in fashion marketing she is finding the current economy makes it difficult to get a marketing job or open her own shop as she had dreamed.

Abel Uribe / Chicago Tribune (MCT)

gap between college graduates and high school graduates grew and grew. Get a bachelor's degree, and you were

But the gap in income has started to shrink in recent years. U.S. Census data show that in 2007 people with a bach-

ates, down from a 96 percent gap seven years earlier. Meanwhile, more students are taking on debt. The debt levels



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College hopefuls take to sabotaging fellow applicants

By JODI S. COHEN (MCT)

CHICAGO—In the competition to get into the most selective colleges, some students and their parents are resorting to a tasteless tactic: bashing other applicants.

The letters, mailed to college admissions offices, typically arrive without a signature. They say that rival applicants cheated on exams or got suspended for underage drinking. Sometimes, they include an unflattering newspaper clipping or a sly suggestion to check out pictures on a student's Facebook page.

At Northwestern University, one letter was written in crayon.

"I guess they thought we couldn't trace it if it were in crayon," said Christopher Watson, Northwestern's dean of undergraduate admission. "The grammar was too good to be a little kid. ... We see everything. Nothing shocks us anymore."

This year's high school seniors should plan for another year of fierce competition to get into the most elite colleges and universities. The number of high school graduates is expected to peak at about 3.3 million this year, with more of them choosing to attend college.

And if a recent discussion on a listserve for college admissions professionals and high school counselors is any indication, the competition could lead to some shocking behavior.

The e-mail exchange began with a simple query: "I just heard a horrific story from one of my students, and I wanted to see if there is any validity in it," Sue Moller, a high school guidance counselor on Long Island, New York, posted on a message board for the National Association for College Admission Counseling. She wrote that a student told her that parents were writing letters of other students "to help the chances of their student gaining admission."

"She asked whether any of the college officials had received such letters. She wasn't expecting much of a response, but got more than a dozen replies.

"This is a lot deeper than I thought it was when I posted this silly question. You should have seen me running around the office saying, 'You won't believe this one,'" Moller said. "I can't believe how widespread it is."

College admissions officials said they do not track how many of these letters, calls or e-mails they receive, and said they are unsure whether they're getting more of them. But with competition fiercer than ever, and technology making it easier to communicate, several experts said they wouldn't be surprised to see more of this behavior.

"If it is more competitive than before, then perhaps more of it is going on," said Bill Fitzsimmons dean. "People are willing to lie in order to do better in what they consider to be a difficult competition."

Fueling the behavior, in part, may be the perception that the competition is toughest among applicants from the same high school, perhaps leading some families to target classmates.

"People think if they disadvantage one student, it may advantage theirs," said Stacey Kostell, director of undergraduate admissions at the University of Illinois. She said the university has received anonymously sent newspaper articles about applicants' criminal activities.

Fitzsimmons and several other officials said anonymous allegations typically get thrown in the trash. If the letters include specific allegations or a newspaper article detailing criminal activity, officials might follow-up with a call to the applicant or their high schools.

Ted O'Neill, University of Chicago's dean of admissions, said the university only occasionally receives a letter intended to sandbag another applicant. One letter pointed out that a student had lied about being president of the senior class.

O'Neill said he has followed up on signed letters, but disregards the anonymous ones.

But Dan Saracino, University of Notre Dame's director of admissions, said he'll investigate allegations even if they're provided anonymously.

"If the person is saying something that might have some credence, you don't want to dismiss it," he said. "We will contact the student who is being maligned and ask them if they care to respond."

Gloria Mueller, the college counseling coordinator at Glenbrook South High School, said it's the school's policy to verify only students' academic records, not disciplinary information. She described anonymous letter-writing campaigns as "absolutely, totally sleazy."

Mabel Freeman said Ohio State University has received letters from disgruntled families after their children were denied admission but other students from their high school were admitted.

Freeman, the assistant vice president of undergraduate admissions, said it's unfortunate that the efforts are primarily orchestrated by adults.

"It is one more indication of the high anxiety that seems to be out there, the inability of some families to deal with a rejection," Freeman said.

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Pet Care and Maintenance 101: Tips for the furball's health and your sanity

By KEN SMITH Staff Writer

For many of us, life would not be the same without our four-legged friends. But despite our fondness of these furry additions to our lives, sometimes taking care of them is a challenge. Students in particular have a lot less time with their pets, and can be not as informed on animal care and health. Dr. Amy MacNeil, assistant professor of Clinical Pathology at the University of Illinois School of Veterinary Medicine, has some suggestions for you to improve and maintain the quality of life for your pet.

Your pet's diet, which is very important, is often the most overlooked requirement of your furry friend's life. Obviously a healthy diet is necessary, but you can't get the feedback from an animal that you would from a person. First off and most important is to always have clean fresh water available and check it several times a day. Use durable feeding bowls with no sharp edges, and ones that can't be tipped over. Fresh water is no good if its spilled the moment you walk out the door. As for solid food, stick with major brands. Some of the cheaper discount brands might advertise complete nutrition, but much of the food is not easily digestible and many of the nutrients never reach the blood stream. With better digestible food your pet will actually need less of it, and will save you money in the long term. Another benefit of serving digestible food is less bowel movements, which means fewer trips outside or fewer changes of the litter box, and possibly fewer messes on the floor! Extra additives like garlic or other holistic feeding approaches should be used with caution, and if you do, remember that additives better than cats.

Even though pets love raw meat, it is never a good idea. Worms and parasites in uncooked meats are always a possibility, but the real issue is the presence of bacteria, and it affects them much in the same way as it does with humans. People often ask about feeding their pet table scraps. Vegetables are okay, but bacon, even if its cooked, is bad. This is because pork in general is too rich for their digestion and usually tends to cause stomach upset. In addition, feeding your pet from the dining room table can usually develop begging habits, and possibly develop so far that your pet jumps up and eats right off the table. For cats, Catnip is not harmful and if your cat likes it without going postal, then go for it. No one is sure what it does, but some suspect that it mimics a sexual hormone—go figure. Pets are similar to people, and overeating is very common. Frequently, people leave big bowl of food so the animal eats whenever it's hungry. Generally speaking, this is not a good idea, and it will lead to overeating. It is usually better to provide multiple servings of food, usually in the morning and in

the evening. Portion size is a little more complicated, and depends on the brand of food, breed of animal, and how active the animal is. Normally the animal will need less if the food is of higher quality, but more if it is very active—but then a basset hound might need less than a greyhound. The best way is to ask your veterinarian. Tell them about your pet's activity level and its weight and the brand of food your using and they can usually tell you what a reasonable amount should be. Remember, if you leave for any period of time make arrangements for someone to feed and exercise your pet, but most importantly give them fresh water. Your dog or cat may be able to go without food for a few days but 24 hours without water could result in medical problems, so daily watering is critical.

Exercise is also a major factor in your pet's health. Animals that have to sit in cramped cages for extended periods of time are not only less happy they can develop physical deformities. If free to roam the house, cats generally

not to pull. Pinch and choke collars are effective, provided you know how to use them. Ask a trainer to show you how.

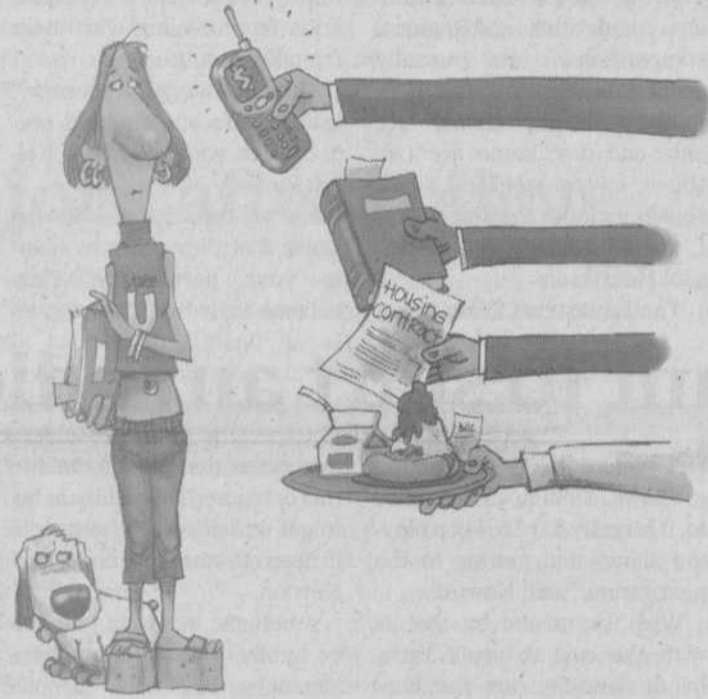
As for training your pet, most people do not train their cats, but some basic skills are possible. Some cats can be trained to fetch small objects, however, they will never be able to equal the level of training that a dog can achieve. For dogs, when it comes to obedience training, the earlier you start, the better. It's obviously too early for a newborn pup, but as soon as he's up and running around it's time to start. You can train an adult dog, but the task will be much harder, and you will need more time to break older habits. Many people take their dogs to obedience classes on the weekends only to feel that they have wasted their money after the six weeks that she are up. The reason is that the once a week class is not enough to break old habits and instill new ones. The weekend class is just to show you what to do—the real progress depends on daily practice outside of class. Usually 30 minutes to an hour a day is enough to make permanent

The squeaky toy that looks like a shoe is a bad idea and will often be substituted for the real thing! A big dog bone is still a favorite, but avoid bones from human meals especially chicken bones, which can splinter and get caught in the throat. As for making messes in the house, make sure it wasn't your fault. A puppy left indoors for 10 hours is doomed to redecorate your carpet, and usually needs to go out once for every four hours if not sooner. Adult dogs can usually handle eight hours or more, but before you complain, ask yourself, "How long could I hold it?" When a dog does go where it's not supposed to, catching them in the act is best, but regardless, it should be followed up with the 'rub their nose in it' and a firm 'NO.' Dogs obviously have a strong sense of smell, so by doing this you are using one of their best senses to get your point across.

Cat problems usually amount to scratching furniture and urinating in unacceptable areas. For scratching issues put a scratching post in front of whatever they are scratching—ideally they will transition to the post, then when they do gradually move the post to a more appropriate area. If unwanted scratching persists, a chemical known as 'bitter apple' can be sprayed on furniture, which smells and tastes awful to cats and is usually a sufficient deterrent. Usually cats are automatically potty trained, but for the cat that won't use its litter box, a change in the litter might be an option. Sometimes cats don't like the texture of the litter and prefer smaller or larger sized particles. Frequently the litter box is too dirty, so they go somewhere else. Even if their box doesn't smell to you, it might to them. Either change to a more odor masking brand or change the box more often. Other unwanted cat behaviors can be reprimanded with the water bottle but you MUST catch them in the act—a spray in the face hours or even minutes later is worthless.

One final point is the importance of a regular checkup. Just like with people, early detection is the key for healthy and lengthy living. The animal's behavior might appear normal and you may not detect any problems, but there are some things that can't be seen with casual observation. Checkups are usually scheduled once a year because of the need to renew vaccines, and for puppies and kittens this is shortened to 4-6 months. A checkup includes a physical, which checks for any surface injuries or infections of the teeth, ears, eyes, feet and skin, and the vet will listen to the heart and lungs for abnormalities. Usually they will take a stool sample, which is especially important for outside dogs, and is done to check for GI tract worms. Blood tests are also taken to check for heartworms, and a heartworm preventive, usually is prescribed, which is especially important for dogs. Cats receive similar

See **Pets** on page 6



provide their own exercise, but they still love feather toys, the stuffed toy mouse, the best toy of all ... the laser pointer. Chasing the little red dot around the floor, wall, or anywhere else will provide hours of entertainment for both you and your cat. Dogs, however, are somewhat different. They require outdoor activity three to four times a day from 15-20 minutes per outing for a total of 45 minutes to an hour. Usually people opt for a 20-minute walk in the morning and then again at night which is okay but make these outings more active to make the most of those 20 minutes. When you take your dog on that walk remember that Illinois has a leash law, and always carry plenty of plastic bags! If you have a dog that pulls ahead and doesn't heel, a leash called a "gentle leader" might be a good option—it has a strap that goes over the nose and clips under the chin where your leash attaches. This forces the dog's head down when he pulls. It doesn't hurt, but he just won't like it. Many dog owners have reported success with this type of leash, especially for bigger dogs, and eventually the animals learn

changes in behavior. As the dog advances, less time will be needed until eventually the practiced behaviors become habit. Food rewards may be used in training, and will get the process started quickly, but it should be used intermittently, and substituted often with praise and attention from the owner so the dog does not come to expect a treat every time he does something right. Eventually, to be ultimately effective, you should include training with a distraction around like another dog or children playing nearby while still expecting the correct behavior. Successfully completing this last phase will make them much more controllable in busy or crowded settings, and therefore included in more family outings.

For controlling other dog behaviors — like chewing on furniture or shoes — remember that while a dog is teething they have a terrible desire to chew on something simply because their gum line itches. They will chew on anything regardless so give them something that's okay to chew on, but make sure it doesn't resemble anything that's off limits.

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Student Life Presents: Equine Riding Team

By NADA YOUSSEF
Prospectus Staff Writer

If riding horses and performing in front of crowds is your thing, then the Parkland Equestrian Team is for you. If you like horses but are too scared or just not into riding horses, than once again, the Equestrian Team is for you.

The Equestrian Team was founded in 1975 and merged with the Riding Team to create the ultimate Equestrian Team. The Parkland College group is part of the IHSA, or the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. For more information about the IHSA, go to www.ihsainc.com.

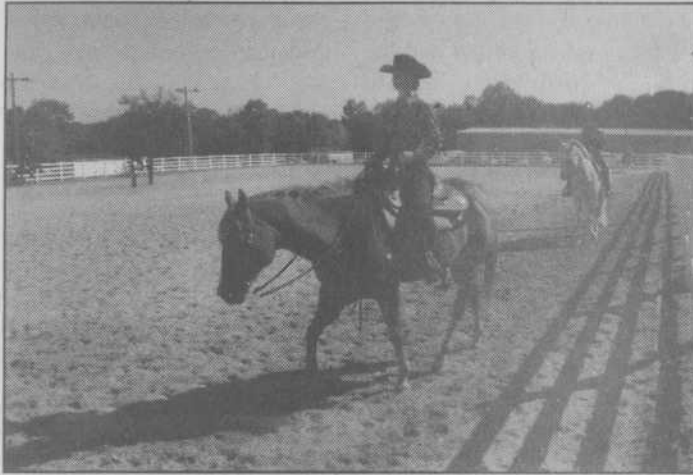
Most students who join this club are part of the two-year equine management program at Parkland College. Equine management is based on horse judging and riding competitions. Some other students who join are part of the veterinary technician program at Parkland College. But, you don't have to be part of these two programs to be a part of the Equestrian Team. You don't even have to know anything about horses to join. For example one of the Equestrian Team's prime members, Jen Beard, majors in Agriculture. She won fourth and sixth place in her first horse show last year.

"The only qualifications you have to have are to be a full-time student and pay a \$30 membership fee and costs of other services such as riding lessons," said advisor Bruce Henrikson.

There are instructors who will teach you everything you need to know about horses and horse riding. Parkland course

EGB 170 is a great class to take if you are serious in joining the Equestrian Team. This class teaches you everything about horses—from brushing to riding horses and even the safety of handling horses. You don't even have to have your own horse, they are provided for you.

"The team riders do not have to take lessons, although it is highly recommended. The western riders usually take lessons from Brenda Huston, the



coach, but the hunt seat riders usually get lessons at Topline near Homer or Commonwealth near St. Joseph," said advisor Bruce Henrikson.

The Equestrian Team consists mostly of competitions throughout the academic year. There are about 10 IHSA affiliated competitions and Regional competitions are usually around the month of March.

"Some (competitions) are only one day; some are two shows in one weekend. Our region includes Parkland, U of I, and 12 colleges in Indiana," said Henrikson.

The Equestrian Team is not

only about horses. They also find time for a bit of fun social activities. They just recently had a bonfire cookout where the girls slept over in a hay loft. They plan on joining the pumpkin-carving contest later this month.

"It's awesome, we do a lot of team bonding," said member Jen Beard.

The Equestrian Team is also a family. The members always check on each other—whether it be for academic help or fam-

ily problems that they might be having.

"Our coach is like our mama bear. She is always calling to check up on us," said Beard.

The many things you gain from joining the Equestrian Team is not only a close knit family, but also the art of relaxation from dealing with these friendly creatures.

"It is like a type of therapy," said equine student and second place winner, Caitlin Kelley-Rose.

Horses are special in the sense that they seem to adapt to your personality. They become your best friend gain-

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Horses are special in the sense that they seem to adapt to your personality. They become your best friend gain-

ing that understanding of each other very well.

"You know how they say some people look like their dogs; well our horses have the same personalities that we have. They seem to mold themselves into our persona," said Caitlin.

Both Caitlin and Jen have grown very close to their horses and claim that their horses share most of their personality traits.

"Ed or Edmoney (his nickname) is my horse. He is stubborn, lovable, and if he knows you're in control than he will drown you with hugs and kisses," said Beard.

Caitlin's horse, Harley, is very lazy and always wants attention.

"He follows you around always wanting treats. He is really lovey-dovey," said Kelley-Rose.

Caitlin recently rescued a horse, Louis, from abusive owners.

"They just left him out in there lawn and never took care of him. When I rescued him, he was really skinny from malnutrition. But now he is really fat," said Kelley-Rose.

The Equestrian Team is such a complex team with so many angles as to what it really is. It's horse riding competitions, pattern competitions, horse handling, family, therapy, and most of all the friendship and deep connection you gain with these horses.

If this sounds interesting and worth your time, join the Equestrian Team today! It is open to anyone who is interested and willing to have fun. Call Bruce Henrikson at 217-351-2435 or email him at bhenrikson@parkland.edu.

PETS

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treatments but generally do not have worms unless there is vomiting or diarrhea. As a pet owner you should check your pet at least once a month for skin abnormalities such as sores or lesions, and you should probably administer a flea and tick preventative, especially for animals that spend a majority of their time outdoors.

If you frequently travel or plan to, perhaps postponing

your family addition would be a good idea. Neglected pets are unhappy and unhealthy pets, and will cost you more in the long run, but for those who have a regular schedule and don't travel too often you might have a lot to gain. Its also good practice for otherwise would-be parents, but unlike your children your pet will always love you no matter what you look like, how much you make, how smart you are, how badly you dress, or even what poor taste in music you have!

The Eastern Illinois Food Bank was first originated in 1982 with a mission "to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois by providing a reliable source of food for the hungry through cooperation with a network of pantries and agencies."

The food bank was built on a foundation of strong moral values ranging from respect and integrity to stewardship and advocacy. Throughout the course of their history, they have gone from generating nearly 800,000 pounds of food to over one million pounds annually. These remarkable numbers are a direct result from generous individuals and companies in the community.

What exactly is a food bank, and how does it vary from a food pantry? A food bank's main purpose is to disperse food to organizations such as soup kitchens, residential treatment programs, disaster relief agencies and pantries. The Eastern Illinois Food Bank currently operates on an \$800,000 budget, but as a non-profit organization, the bank has to rely on grants and donations. There are various ways to give: annually, memorial or tribute giving, property giving and estate giving.

The Eastern Illinois Food Bank currently serves 14 counties: Champaign, Clark, Clay, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Ford, Iroquois, Jasper, Moultrie, Piatt and Vermilion. Even though money helps keep the food bank afloat,

it also needs help from volunteers to help organize and allocate the food in the warehouses. Before one can become a volunteer, he or she has to adhere to a few rules and requirements: Each volunteer has to complete a registration form, be a minimum of 14 years old, wear proper attire, and keep in mind that the facility is a non-smoking zone. Volunteer opportunities can come in the form of food rescue, food drive support, food delivery and warehouse support. If one is interested in become a food bank volunteer, all he or she has to do is email basic personal information to volunteer@eifoodbank.org, or call (217) 328-3663.

The Eastern Illinois Food bank is in affiliation with the America's Second Harvest and approximately 200 other food banks across the U.S on a quest to end hunger by distributing five million pounds of food yearly.

In addition to all the other great things the food bank has done, it will host the 22nd Annual Food for Families Drive, which began October 18th, 2008 and runs until November 1. There are drop-off locations in Urbana, Champaign and Savoy.

The Eastern Illinois Food bank is challenging the surrounding areas—for every dollar donated, the Eastern Illinois Food bank will provide \$10 worth of food to those in need. Every contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Contributed by Alawna McDaniel

So you want to start an indie band ...

By SEAN HERMANN
Music Columnist

So your favorite local indie band is playing in town tonight—they're down to earth and have really nice equipment. They pull off a great show and stay to chat with the fans afterwards then, leave to hit up the next show on their tour, and continue on with the routine for the next month, hitting up local venues and even touring nationwide. Sounds like the dream life, right? Not quite.

Starting an independent band, getting it up and running, and keeping that momentum up is not as easy as it seems. There are numerous problems that every band faces, young and old, but it's the bands that can keep up with all those problems and adapt with member changes, accidents, arguments and many other issues, all while staying close with fans, producing great albums, and still have the passion they did when just starting out that can make it for ten years—and unfortunately its just part of the game.

Will Newton, current Parkland student and lead vocalist and guitarist for Seldan has encountered some of those with his band.

"First off, between school, work, and girlfriends, it's really tough to get everyone together. We are trying to finish an album by the winter and we can barely get together to write," he said.

This is not just happening to Seldan, I had the very same experiences with my own band whose life barely lasted past our first show. Everyone in the band was involved in many different sports and activities and it was impossible to get everyone in the same room at the same time to write, let alone practice or record.

Another difficulty that Seldan and many other bands that drive to shows are the soaring costs of gas.

"With gas prices being so

ridiculous and kids not coming to shows as much as they used to, it is really hard to keep playing shows and getting to the next venue," said Newton.

What he means by that is with the cost to profit ratio, bands nowadays are just hoping to get close to breaking even by the end of the night after getting their payout (if any) and selling "merch" or receiving donations, all while paying around at least \$2,000 for all the equipment used on stage, the cost of gas as well as the cost of merch and in some cases, paying to get on a big ticket show.

I first realized how expensive keeping up a band was when I bought my first gig-worthy amp, which cost more than my guitar itself, as well as all the little things like guitar strings, picks, and drumsticks for the "ever so gentle" drummer. While cost itself is a huge issue for bands, time is considered sacred for the average band.

The choice for current young bands is to either endure the long difficult road for a band, which is college, or catch and ride the wave while it's big and devote all of your time to the band and possibly attend college after the ride is over.

"The one struggle that is almost impossible to get by is that with all the pressure to finish school, putting all your time and energy into (a band) that may not work out, is such a huge risk, and can be extremely discouraging," said Newton. Are all these struggles actually worth the risk of a downfall?

Being in an indie band can be very expensive, frustrating, time consuming and any other bothersome word you can think of, but is it worth all the downers in the end?

"The cool thing about being in an indie band is that indie is such a broad term that the genre "title" can't limit our music. Right now indie seems to be very 'in.' I think this is a result of the huge amounts of

new music that are thrown into this category. This really helps to get our music out to people in need of something new," said Newton.

I believe being in a band is totally worth the endless headaches and debt because it's about playing music you believe in and have a passion for, which is what it should all be about. PJ, the drummer of So Long Forgotten said, "Music is still an art and not a business," so if you're looking to make a huge profit by playing music, I

would rethink that for awhile and consider something else if you're in it for the money.

Being in an independent band can drag you through tough times, most of which are unavoidable, but if you and your band mates all share a love and passion for music, you will be able to get through those difficulties and develop a positive experience for yourself and your fans.

*It's never too late
to be who you
might have been.*

— George Eliot

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Marti Pearson
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Billie Mitchell, Adult Re-Entry Director and Marti Pearson

Google phone: It's nifty, but ...

By STEVE ALEXANDER
(MCT)

Google's widely anticipated entry into the smart-phone market—the T-Mobile G1, out this week—has raised consumer expectations that it could be the next must-have gadget.

But anyone expecting the G1 to be revolutionary is likely to be disappointed. The G1 borrows from the look and feel of existing smart phones; the touch screen is a little like the iPhone's, but less full-featured, while the pop-up menu with rows of icons resembles the BlackBerry.

But Google, which created the phone's software, and T-Mobile may be focused more on mass marketing the G1 than scoring points for style. New York-based ABI Research says Google's intention is to greatly expand the market for smart phones, which today account for only 14 percent of all cell phones sold worldwide.

Smart phones are in many ways handheld computers, and putting more of them in the hands of consumers could change the way people use the Internet. T-Mobile is aiming the G1 strictly at consumers. That sets it apart from the iPhone,

a consumer device that's moving into the business market, and the BlackBerry, a business phone that's moving into the consumer market.

But the G1's appeal isn't based on a bargain price. The \$179.99 G1 (not including cell plan) costs about the same as a \$199 to \$299 iPhone 3G or the current high-end \$150 BlackBerry phone (the new touch-screen BlackBerry Storm, and its price, won't be available until later this year.)

The G1 has a lot of features we've come to expect from smart phones: Internet browsing (at the fastest 3G cell phone speeds), YouTube video, e-mail, text messaging, online searching, interactive maps and playing or downloading music. It's also got extras we've come to expect, such as a camera, keyboard and a user interface. But it'll cost you: to get a G1 you need sign up for a two-year T-Mobile agreement and take one of the mandatory data packages costing \$25 or \$35 a month on top of paying for a regular T-Mobile calling plan.

But the success of any consumer gadget lies in the details. The G1's user interface, part of Google's Android operating system, isn't always as convenient as the iPhone's. Once you

call up a Web page, for example, the G1 requires that you use a pop-up menu to magnify the parts of the Web site you want to read. The iPhone allows you to expand a Web page to readable size by touching the screen with your thumb and forefinger, then spreading

But in fairness, all smart-phone keyboards are designed for only one-finger or two-thumb typing.

However, the G1's combination of a track ball, keyboard and touch screen sometimes makes browsing easier than

where the faster 3G network is available).

It's worth noting that the G1's visible screen area is larger than the size of its physical screen. You can use your finger to scroll the screen image to the left or right, revealing extra space on either side. Here you can place frequently used icons that would otherwise obscure the phone's "wallpaper" image.

Moving things around on the screen works a lot like it does on a PC. To move shortcut icons from a pop-up menu to the phone's main screen, hold your finger on an icon and drag it. To remove icons from the main screen, hold them down and drag them to the trash basket. Holding your finger down on a blank part of the screen (called a "long press") brings up a menu that lets you change the look and feel of the main screen with everything from music playlists to an alarm clock.

When you rotate the phone 90 degrees to use the keyboard, the image on the screen also rotates 90 degrees so you can view it while typing. But the G1 can't do the cool iPhone trick of automatically rotating the screen image 90 degrees whenever you rotate the phone.

The G1's three-megapixel camera can produce good photos, but it's annoyingly difficult to use because the camera has an autofocus feature that can't be turned off. It works by holding the shutter button halfway down while the subject comes into focus, then pushing the shutter button all the way down to take a photo. Because the shutter button is touchy, the photos can be alternately sharp and out of focus. Waiting for the autofocus to work can also cause you to miss the impromptu photos for which cell phones are famous.

Should you buy a G1? If you want a useful smart phone, it's worth a look. But if you want a gadget that's truly revolutionary, don't bother.

(c) 2008, Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Google unveils
Google and T-Mobile's new G1 phone will compete with Apple's popular iPhone.

Special G1 features

- Trackball for one-handed navigation
- Google Maps Street View; built in compass orients the screen as you move
- Micro SD-card slot expandable
- Sliding screen opens to full QWERTY keypad
- Features Google's Android operating system

	T-Mobile G1	Apple iPhone
Price	\$179 (1 GB)	\$199 (8 GB), \$299 (16 GB)
Screen	3.2 in. (8 cm)	3.5 in. (9 cm)
Size	4.6 x 2.2 x 0.6 in. (11.7 x 5.6 x 1.5 cm)	4.5 x 2.4 x 0.5 in. (11.5 x 6.1 x 1.1 cm)

© 2008 MCT
Source: T-Mobile, Apple, AP, MCT Photo Service
Graphic: Melina Yingling

the thumb and finger apart.

Some users may like the G1's physical QWERTY keyboard, which lies behind the slide-away screen. It's bigger than the iPhone's virtual keyboard, which exists only on the screen.

on the iPhone, where scrolling with your finger makes it easy to accidentally click the wrong link, wasting time. Like other 3G phones, the G1 allows you to be on the Internet and have a phone conversation at the same time (only in metro areas

School internships lead to real jobs after college

By PATRICIA ALEX
(MCT)

College internships can provide a critical leg up in an ever-tightening job market, experts say.

Just ask John Miseo, who interned at MTV while still a student at Fairleigh Dickinson University. He landed a full-time job with the television network in Manhattan before graduating in May.

"The internship really paid off in terms of learning and in terms of money," said Miseo, of Morris County. "It helped—especially in today's economy. Some of my friends are still looking for work."

Miseo's internship was unpaid, as are many in the media, where companies take advantage of abundant student interest, said Rosalie Sabatino, the career center director at FDU. But internships can run the gamut, she said. Some pay stipends or transportation costs, and some provide a nice weekly salary.

"We try to fight for the students to have a stipend or hourly pay rate," said Sabatino. Business internships average about \$15 per hour, she said, while liberal arts assignments can be considerably less.

But even without pay, the experience can prove invaluable, and internships are increasingly popular.

"That internship on your resume is going to count much more than the typical job you would be doing in the summer, whether bartending or babysitting," Sabatino said. "The internship shows you are willing to take the next step and get some experience in your major."

Over half of students at FDU take part in internships, and an increasing number do more than one, she said. Of late, there has been a spike in interest in internships involving graphic arts and animation, she said.

And businesses are increasingly interested in such arrangements. "Were getting more and more companies, both large and small, who are looking for interns—especially with downsizing," Sabatino said.

Some interns play a supporting role, others have more

responsibility and some job-shadow—one FDU student is accompanying a cardiologist as he goes about his work. Some interns at a program at Montclair State University even spend time in big-headed costumes—as \$8-an-hour characters at Disney World.

Sabatino advises students to be proactive if their internships turn out to be filled with grunt work. Apart from the actual work, Sabatino said, the internships can provide a window on the relationships of the working world and corporate culture.

"It's an eye-opener," she said. And sometimes internships

enough," said Limberg. The aim of the program is two-fold, to promote young leaders and help bolster the groups."

Ellen Chiu interned at the Wayne and Pequannock Boys & Girls clubs as both a camp counselor and performing development work.

"Of course it's good for college," said Chiu, "and it also increases my interest level in business."

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John Miseo of FDU landed a full-time job at MTV after an internship.

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"It's an eye-opener," she said. And sometimes internships can help steer a student away from a career path that's not for them after all.

But one thing is certain—they are a resume-builder.

"Internships are becoming more important. It's vital for students on their resumes," Sabatino said. "It's a very competitive job market, and it's something employers are looking for."

Ann Limberg, president of Bank of America New Jersey, agrees. "Internships enhance resumes incredibly," she said. "What's better than hands-on learning internships?"

Bank of America's Student Leader Program places high school interns in paying jobs with community and non-profit groups.

"You can't start early enough," said Limberg. The aim of the program is two-fold, to promote young leaders and help bolster the groups."

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Some interns play a supporting role, others have more responsibility and some job-shadow—one FDU student

EARNINGS

continued from page 4

for 10 years.

Private colleges are increasing the assistance they offer, so fewer students are required to take out loans and those who do will take on less of a burden, said Ron Ehrenberg, director of Cornell University's Higher Education Research Institute.

"The concern was that with high loan burdens, we were influencing the professional outcomes of students," Ehrenberg said.

Experts point out that the college experience is not just about financial rewards. There is also that business about learning a few things. Students are able to explore their interests. They often become inspired by subjects they never knew existed and are able to view the world through a broader lens.

"There's value added when it comes to critical thinking and moral reasoning," said Ernest Pascarella, a University of Iowa professor who has studied the effects of college.

The education also extends outside the classroom, through exposure to classmates from different backgrounds and participation in extracurricular activities.

And the rewards might just keep on coming, according to the College Board. During their working lives, college graduates are more likely to engage in organized volunteer work, vote, donate blood and live healthy lifestyles—though it's possible that people in those categories also were more likely to attend college in the first place.

Priscilla Adeniji, 22, a finance major at Chicago State University, says her choices at college appear to be paying off.

Scholarships have covered almost the entire cost of her education, making this the first year she's had to take out a loan, for \$5,000. She graduates in December, and the Big Four consulting firms already are dangling jobs with salaries starting at \$55,000.

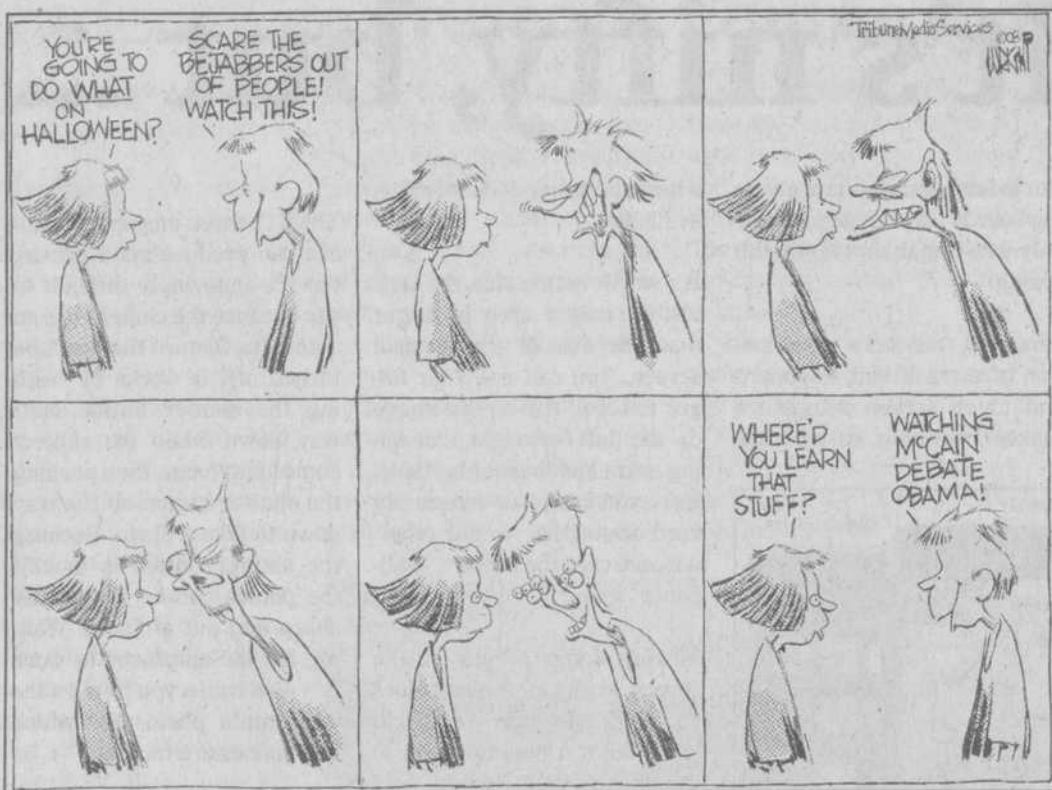
Adeniji said she also gained a lot from her classes and participation in a sorority and other activities.

"Career-wise, college has been very important for me," she said. "But it's also about knowledge. If I wasn't in school, I wouldn't be able to understand what's going on with the economy and with other things that affect my life."

(Chicago Tribune correspondent Jo Napolitano contributed to this report.)

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Food for Families annual drive

October 20 - November 5

Collection points at Parkland College

Office of Student Life
College Center
Parkland College Bookstore
Parkland Child Development Center

For more information and a list of preferred items, please contact the Activities Program Office, in the Office of Student Life

Room X-161 353-2627 jeby@parkland.edu

Weather Forecast

Thursday: A 30 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 58.
Thursday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, with a low around 44.
Friday: A 50 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, with a high near 52.
Friday Night: A 50 percent chance of showers. Cloudy, with a low around 41.
Saturday: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 55.
Saturday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 42.
Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 51.
Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 35.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 52.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 34.

CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

This week, CrimeStoppers and Champaign County Sheriff's Office investigators are seeking information regarding a burglary that occurred in the 100 block of Calvin Drive, Savoy.

The Burglary occurred between the hours of 11:36 p.m. on Wednesday, October 15th, and 4:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 16th. Unknown suspects forcibly entered the business by breaking the glass to an entrance door. Taken was an undisclosed amount of U.S. currency. 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.

Underage Drinking

Alcohol consumption by individuals under the age of 21 is a major problem in the U.S. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, alcohol is the most commonly abused drug in the United States among individuals 12 to 20. What is even more disturbing is that 90% of the alcohol consumed is in the form of binge drinking. If you drink too much alcohol too fast, it can lead to alcohol poisoning and possibly kill you!! Secondly, if you are under the age of 21, you are breaking the law by drinking. Here are some other consequences associated with underage drinking:

- Poor performance in school.
- Higher instances of arrest and other legal issues.
- Higher risk of suicide and homicide.
- Alcohol related injuries, such as: car crashes, falls, burns, and even drowning.
- High risk sexual behavior.

Please keep this message in mind and be responsible.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Sharp intake of breath
- 5 Mineral spring
- 8 Fought one-to-one, with seconds
- 14 Fairy tale opener
- 15 Existed
- 16 Make beloved
- 17 Male swine
- 18 BPOE member
- 19 Ironic turns
- 20 Naval leader
- 22 Enticements
- 23 Empty out
- 24 Flax product
- 27 Shock with wonder
- 29 Born in Paris
- 30 Take unlawfully
- 34 Victory sign
- 35 Make weary
- 36 Cab
- 37 Talia of "Rocky"
- 39 Oklahoma city
- 40 Minute quantity
- 41 Light brown
- 42 Borders
- 43 Game pieces
- 44 Chests of drawers
- 47 Early matches, briefly
- 49 Empties
- 54 Fiennes of "Quiz Show"
- 55 Bird known to sing while flying
- 56 Fit for farming
- 58 Exploit
- 59 Slender woodwind
- 60 Naysaying president
- 61 Grave letters
- 62 Baseball team
- 63 Wards off
- 64 Bottom line
- 65 Tiny insect pest

DOWN

- 1 Turn to the dark side
- 2 Battery electrode
- 3 Rascal
- 4 Danger
- 5 Workout wear
- 6 Straw bed
- 7 Make a request
- 8 Person held in custody
- 9 Relax
- 10 Prunes text
- 11 On the wane
- 12 What to do at Joe's
- 13 AMA members
- 21 Genuine
- 22 More downcast
- 25 Strange
- 26 Feats
- 28 Of sheep
- 30 Postal sticker
- 31 Spud
- 32 Free from blame
- 33 Purpose
- 35 Actor Knight
- 37 Hard problems
- 38 Coarse
- 42 Catch sight of
- 44 Lodging for troops
- 45 Melbourne mate
- 46 Like broken promises
- 48 Work hard
- 50 Over the length of
- 51 Shipboard room
- 52 Swedish cash
- 53 Form of trapshooting
- 56 Gardner of films
- 57 Auto gear: abbr.
- 58 Ashes container

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Solutions

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Making mix discs for your creeptastic party?

■ Pick from our Halloween list

By **BEN WENER**
and **KELLI FADROSKI**
(MCT)

The first thing you'll realize is that we're liars: There are way more than 50 songs contained on our three lists—one of perennial classics, one filled with rock staples and a final 20 comprised of offbeat and lesser-known gems. Plenty of other selections have been drizzled like blood from an unhealed wound into these blurbs. You could easily patch together a wide enough web of fiendish delights to last your Halloween bash all night.

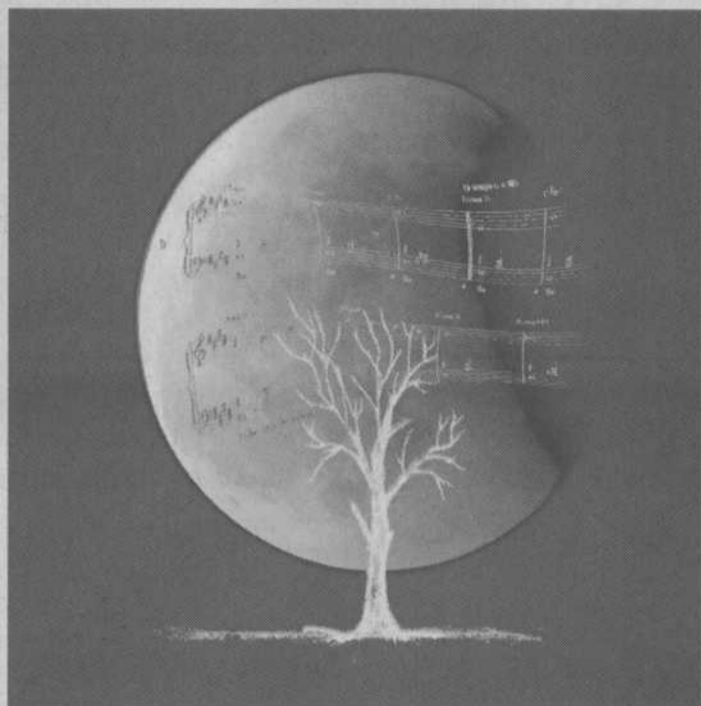
Some overplayed hits, like "Thriller" and "Dead Man's Party," we simply couldn't refuse. Others, like "Monster Mash" and "Ghostbusters," we've relegated to the kids' party to make room for the likes of Rob Zombie and Rihanna. Download 'em all (we've indicated what albums you can find them on, but iTunes has the overwhelming majority for individual sale), load up your MP3 player of choice, hit shuffle ... and let the spooking begin.

"Bela Lugosi's Dead," Bauhaus—If there's a quintessential spooky song for All Hallows' Eve, it has to be this nearly 10-minute, grimly fiendish epic about the most famous portrayer of Transylvania's blood-lusting count. The first half, all dubbed-out click-clack confusion complemented by Daniel Ash's squalls of noise, can still creep newcomers out. The second half, filled with Peter Murphy's cries of "undead, undead, undead!," is like giving yourself over to a vampire's kiss. A must, to be played VERY loudly. (From the compilation "Crackle," 1998)

"Disturbia," Rihanna—A newbie to the list, this dark 'n' bumpin' track has fast become a party essential. The music video, featuring zombie-like dancers jerking and jiv-

ing, is reminiscent of Jacko's "Thriller." Who knows if the song will spawn its own specially choreographed dance, but it's definitely a track scantily costumed ladies will groove to on Halloween night. (From "Good Girl Gone Bad," 2007)

"Dead Man's Party," Oingo Boingo—Come on, you know the lyrics: "It's a dead man's party, who could ask for more?"



Everybody's comin', leave your body at the door." Danny Elfman's middle name should be "Halloween." Up until the band retired in 1995 its annual Halloween shows were insanely popular, but the spirit of Boingo lives on year after year as radio stations and record stores across the country play the heck out of this. (From "Dead Man's Party," 1985)

"(Don't Fear) The Reaper," Blue Oyster Cult—All right, so it might have lost a little of its spookiness when Christopher Walken demanded "more cowbell" as Will Ferrell jiggled his belly fat in a "Saturday Night Live" sketch about this. But the song is still perfectly chilling. Beware, though: Horror flicks often use it to set the mood while two unsuspecting teen-

agers are getting it on. Then they get killed. (From "Agents of Fortune," 1976)

"I Put a Spell on You," Screamin' Jay Hawkins—Creedence Clearwater Revival's cover is perfectly acceptable as well, but Hawkins' signature song is best heard from the crazed, skull-cane-toting voodoo huckster himself. CCR's is for grooving;

Hawkins' version is for giving you the willies while cracking you up. (From the compilation "Cow Fingers & Mosquito Pie," 1991)

"Dragula," Rob Zombie—All hail the new king of horror cinema. Zombie's "Dragula" is a high-energy, bloodthirsty track with a hard-driving chorus: "DIG through the ditches and BURN through the witches/SLAM in the back of my ... DRAGULA!" Of course, you could do an entire disc of Zombie's solo stuff as well as White Zombie songs, from "Living Dead Girl" to "I'm Your Boogiemani"—all Halloween-appropriate. As a bonus, throw on one of his films as background ("The Devil's Rejects" is the best by far) or the soundtrack to both that flick or

"House of 1,000 Corpses." Easy choices for extra eerie sounds. (From "Hellbilly Deluxe," 1998)

"The Killing Moon," Echo and the Bunnymen—A less obvious (and arguably more sensual) choice would be "Nocturnal Me," from the same album as this track. But "Moon," which a whole new generation seemed to discover (alongside Tears for Fears' "Mad World") thanks to its use in "Donnie Darko," is a gorgeous gothic-romantic masterpiece that only sounds richer as the years go by. (From "Ocean Rain," 1984)

"People Are Strange," the Doors—Even more appropriate for Halloween '08 is the title track of the album it comes from, but how can you refuse it? You also could substitute Echo and the Bunnymen's version from "The Lost Boys," but why? Jim Morrison's vocal on the original is much richer, and Ray Manzarek's much-mimicked tacked-piano feel (Danny Elfman, say thank you) is as playfully ghostly as ever. To add sheer terror, place Morrison's howl of poetry reading "Horse Latitudes" just before it. (From "Strange Days," 1968)

"Thriller," Michael Jackson—Well, short of "Monster Mash" it is just about the most recognizable Halloween song the world over. Expertly crafted hokum it may be, but sited it on in the thick of your bash and watch—half the room if not more will spontaneously break into the video's dance sequence. If you've got serious cash, hire a local choreographer to teach it to your guests. (From "Thriller," 1982)

"Psycho Killer," Talking Heads—Qu'est-ce que c'est? David Byrne's vivid portrayal of the sort of title character that became a national phenomenon at the time the song first appeared (when the Son of Sam was terrorizing NYC) still retains stark power and

an ability to unnerve. Because of that, the original version is probably preferable—but for parties, try the slightly more beat-driven rendition on 1984's "Stop Making Sense." Also fun: "Stay Up Late." Even weirder: "Drugs (Electricity)." (From "Talking Heads 77," 1977)

"Superstition," Stevie Wonder—As funky as hell is hot. But the best part of it is how Stevie weaves in so many superstitions into such a short space of words: "Thirteen-month-old baby broke the looking glass/Seven years of bad luck/Good things in your past." Stevie Ray Vaughan's smokin' remake is also acceptable. (From "Talking Book," 1972)

"Halloween Theme," John Carpenter—Bernard Herrmann's strings-slashing theme from "Psycho" is probably more recognizable, Mike Oldfield's "Tubular Bells" (aka the theme from "The Exorcist") possibly more creepy. You should have 'em all on your mix discs, and maybe leave room for "Jaws," too. But if you can only fit one, go with Michael Myers' ominous instrumental motif. (From "Halloween: Original Soundtrack," 1978)

"The Time Warp," from "The Rocky Horror Picture Show"—You remember. It's just a jump to the left, and then a step to the ri-i-eee-i-i-ight. With your hands on your hip, you bring your knees in tight. But, you know, it's the pelvic thrust that really drives you insaa-eee-aaaa-eee-aaane. Add lyric-parodying gags as you see fit. (Best found on "The Rocky Horror Picture Show: 25 Years of Absolute Pleasure," 2000)

"Werewolves of London," Warren Zevon—In which the title characters go hunting for beef chow mein, drink pina coladas at Trader Vic's and run amok in Kent—ahhh-wooooo indeed. Picturesque nuttiness from the late, great singer-songwriter that never gets old at Halloween. (From "Excit-

able Boy," 1978)

"Welcome to My Nightmare," Alice Cooper—On second thought, "Dead Babies" or "Billion Dollar Babies" or "Is It My Body" or "Cold Ethyl" or "Sick Things" or even the positively silly "Feed My Frankenstein" would be cooler than Coop's most obvious fright-night staple, which is now a fairly moldy piece of cheese. Still, you can't avoid it. (From "Welcome to My Nightmare," 1975)

And for the kids ... No, we didn't forget some all-time faves. We just figure they can do the trick-or-treat-in-daylight thing now—the equivalent of sitting at the kids' table at Thanksgiving. For the youngsters, try the Steve Miller Band's grab-ya hit "Abracadabra," the Who's creepy-crawly "Boris the Spider," Ray Parker Jr.'s "Ghostbusters," Bow Wow Wow's version of "I Want Candy," Bobby "Boris" Pickett's classic "Monster Mash," DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince's "Nightmare on My Street," Sheb Wooley's "The Purple People Eater," Rockwell's "Somebody's Watching Me," the Classics IV's "Spooky" or David Seville's ooh-eee-ooh-ahh-ahh-ing "Witch Doctor."

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Where they stand

You've seen the campaign ads and, perhaps, even watched a debate. But what are the presidential candidates really about? Here, we look at where John McCain and Barack Obama stand on some of the major issues facing the nation.

By David Lightman, McClatchy Newspapers

	<p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">VS.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; text-align: center;">PHOTOS BY CHUCK KENNEDY/MCT</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">BARACK OBAMA</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ISSUE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">JOHN MCCAIN</p>
<p>Sees most subsidies as "safety net" against "the unpredictable dynamics of weather and markets." Somewhat more skeptical of free trade agreements, saying there must be protection for American workers. Opposed Central American and South Korean Free Trade pacts.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AGRICULTURE</p>	<p>Wants to dramatically tighten subsidy payments to wealthy farmers. Has opposed some programs to promote sale of agricultural products. Big backer of free trade pacts, saying they open more markets for American farmers.</p>
<p>Promotes a "zero to five" plan that would give grants to states to help preschoolers learn and develop. Also would double charter school funding and revamp the assessment system used to track student progress under the No Child Left Behind program.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EDUCATION</p>	<p>Would one create "Centers of Excellence" in each state to assure that pre-kindergarten children get quality care and education. Defines public education as a system "in which our public support for a child's education follows that child into the school the parent chooses."</p>
<p>Proposes a "hemispheric security initiative" aimed at combating gangs, drug trafficking and criminal activity. Would allow unlimited Cuban-American family travel and tell any post-Fidel Castro government that if it takes strong steps toward democracy — starting with freeing all political prisoners — the U.S. is ready to take steps to normalize relations.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CUBA/LATIN AMERICA</p>	<p>Will keep the Cuban embargo in place until Cuba releases all political prisoners unconditionally; legalizes all political parties, labor unions and free media; and schedules elections. Promises to strengthen ties to other countries in the region as long as countries "share our values."</p>
<p>Redeploy one to two brigades a month, so combat troops would be out by summer of 2010. Would leave behind an unspecified number of American troops to provide security for U.S. interests, and train and advise Iraqi forces.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IRAQ</p>	<p>Says it would be a "grave mistake" to leave before al-Qaida is defeated. Believes the U.S. troop surge is working and sets no firm timetables for U.S. withdrawal. Expects U.S. combat involvement to end by 2013.</p>
<p>Would engage in "direct presidential diplomacy with Iran without preconditions." If Iran abandons its nuclear program and backing of terrorism, Obama would allow membership in the World Trade Organization and economic aid. If Iran is uncooperative, "we will step up our economic pressure and political isolation."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IRAN</p>	<p>Says this is not the time for "unconditional" dialogue with Iranian leaders. Instead, the U.S. must "bolster its regional military posture to make clear to Iran our determination to protect our forces and deter Iranian intervention."</p>
<p>Says, "Our first and inconvertible commitment in the Middle East must be to the security of Israel." Strongly supports Israel's right to self-defense.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MIDDLE EAST/ ISRAEL</p>	<p>Encourages peace talks with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, but warns, "we must also ensure that Israelis can live in safety until there is a Palestinian leadership willing and able to deliver peace." Considers himself a strong supporter of Israel and its right to self-defense.</p>
<p>Backed the "path to citizenship" plan. Wants to create a system to make it easier for employers to verify whether workers are legally in this country, and has supported efforts to keep immigrant families together.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IMMIGRATION</p>	<p>Led Senate efforts to establish a "path to citizenship" for people in the country illegally. During the campaign, he has stressed the need for border security first after conservatives criticized his stance.</p>
<p>Would make it easier for modest-income veterans to get health care, and revamp the current benefits system by hiring more claims workers and training them more effectively. Would also recruit more mental health professionals and improve screening of veterans.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">VETERANS</p>	<p>Long-time supporter of more money for veterans' health programs. Wants to give more pay to veterans' physicians, make veterans eligible for many veterans' health programs even after they are eligible for Medicare and guarantee benefits to veterans exposed to radiation.</p>
<p>Would require insurers to cover pre-existing conditions "so all Americans, regardless of their health status or history, can get comprehensive benefits" at reasonable prices. Small businesses would get tax credits to help make coverage affordable to employees.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HEALTH CARE</p>	<p>Would encourage competition by providing health care tax credits of \$2,500 for individuals and \$5,000 for families to offset the cost of coverage. Would work with states to create a "Guaranteed Access Plan" for people having trouble getting insurance. Would have government promote more walk-in access to clinics in retail areas.</p>
<p>Says he is "considering plans that would ask those making over \$250,000 to pay in the range of 2 to 4 percent more." Would also close the "doughnut hole" in the Medicare prescription program and end subsidies to the Medicare Advantage program.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SOCIAL SECURITY/ MEDICARE</p>	<p>Says he "supports supplementing the current Social Security system with personal accounts — but not as a substitute for addressing benefit promises that cannot be kept." Says the program needs a bipartisan fix, but has ruled out any new taxes. Says Medicare badly needs better costs controls.</p>
<p>Would reduce carbon emissions 80 percent by 2050 with a market-based cap and trade system. Would begin by establishing annual targets, and mandate reducing emissions to 1990 levels by 2020.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENVIRONMENT</p>	<p>Backs a phased-in emissions reduction system that would bring emissions levels down to 2005 levels by 2012. By 2050, they would be 60 percent below 1990 levels. Would create a cap and trade system for major polluters, though small businesses would be exempt.</p>
<p>Would significantly increase fuel efficiency standards; allow offshore oil drilling in limited instances; provide a \$1,000 emergency energy tax rebate to families; and work toward assuring 10 percent of all electricity comes from renewable sources by 2012, growing to 25 percent by 2025.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ENERGY</p>	<p>Offers a \$300 million prize to improve battery technology that would lead to development of plug-in hybrids or fully electric cars. Would promote building 45 new nuclear power plants by 2030. Supports offshore oil drilling unless an individual state objects.</p>
<p>Allow most 2001 and 2003 income tax cuts for individuals earning more than \$200,000 and families making more than \$250,000 to expire on Jan. 1, 2011. Leave others' cuts in place, and also provide a "Making Work Pay" tax credit of \$500 per person or \$1,000 per working family.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TAXES</p>	<p>Would make most 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, due to expire Jan. 1, 2011, permanent. Also wants to cut the corporate tax rate, now 35 percent, to 25 percent.</p>
<p>Wants to take a fresh look at the North American Free Trade Agreement, saying it was "oversold" to Americans. Would put new pressure on the World Trade Organization to enforce agreements, and end tax breaks for companies that send jobs overseas.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TRADE</p>	<p>Calls himself an enthusiastic free trader, and says the U.S. "should engage in multilateral, regional and bilateral efforts to reduce barriers to trade, level the global playing field and build effective enforcement of global trading rules." Wants to overhaul unemployment insurance laws, and create a program to better retrain and relocate workers who have lost a job.</p>
<p>Would require the cost of any new program be offset by higher revenues, and vows to require more "disclosure and transparency" for earmarks. Does not specify how he would substantially reduce the federal deficit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DEFICIT</p>	<p>Says he will balance the budget by the end of his first term in 2013 with a combination of spending cuts and changes in Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, and by reducing spending as the Iraq war ends. Also vows to eliminate congressional earmarks. Experts are skeptical he can balance the budget, particularly since he wants to extend the tax cuts.</p>
<p>Would increase the size of the Army by 65,000 troops and the Marines by 27,000. Help the National Guard by giving it better equipment and more time off before being redeployed. Create a Military Families Advisory Board to "provide a conduit for military families' concerns" to be brought to top military officials.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DEFENSE</p>	<p>A longtime member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, taxpayer-watchdog groups have often praised him for criticizing waste and abuse in Pentagon spending. He would increase the size of the Army and Marine Corps, and reconfigure the services to reflect new global challenges. Generally opposes funding the military with "emergency" legislation.</p>
<p>Urged "aggressive diplomatic action" after Russia invaded Georgia. Generally, proposes a "comprehensive strategy" that includes "supporting democratic partners and upholding principles of sovereignty" throughout Europe and Asia. Wants to strengthen alliances "so that we deal with Russia with one, unified voice" and engage with Russia on "issues of mutual interest."</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RUSSIA</p>	<p>After Russia invaded Georgia, said, "We are all Georgians," and has taken a hard line against Russia. Warned, "The impact of Russian actions goes beyond their threat to Democratic Georgia," and urged multilateral pressure to get Russia to stop its aggression.</p>