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Prospectus News



A student produced publication since 1969

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Patrons stop to admire some featured work by Parkland's faculty, which kicked off the Art Gallery season last week. You can find a wide variety of works and true depth this year as the exhibits change. Don't forget to spend an afternoon at High Noon With the Artist during the current exhibit. Visit the gallery web site for more info!

Briana Stodden / Prospectus News

Small school atmosphere; big-time talent Parkland Art Gallery kicks off season of delights

By SEAN HERMANN Prospectus Staff Writer

because there is so much by co-curators Joan Stolz and trade. I have chosen to do my raise money for future shows to help host this event and prodiversity in the work and gives Matthew Watt, an artist's talk engravings on PVC plastic and to hold a field trip for Park-vides hands-on workshops for students insight as to what the by Michael Dinges, all accombecause it is both ubiquitous, land art students to go to Chi- our high school artists and The fall semester is now teachers dooutside of the class- panied with music by pianist such as bone was in the nine- cago to see the annual Day their instructors. Schnuck's upon us and that means a whole room," said Costello. Kristina Engberg. Refresh- teenth century, and toxic in of the Dead exhibition at the will provide refreshments for ments will be provided at the reception.

nature, a threat to one's life, such as artillery shells. PVC is reminiscent in color and texture to ivory and it can be glued together in the form of vessels that are present in trench art," said Dinges on a recent press release from the gallery. Jumping into November head-first will be "My name is Art": The life and work of Art Chantry. This special exhibition will be held on Monday, November 3 through Saturday, December 6, with a reception on Thursday, November 6, 6-8pm and a Gallery Talk at 7pm by Art Chantry himself. This exhibition will feature none other than the famous Art Chantry, a "well known graphic designer, who lives in Seattle. He produces lowtech images for musical promotions and even theatre and festival promotions," said Costello. This exhibit will also feature a luncheon fundraiser to

National Museum of Mexican Art. Tickets are \$25. Be there! (Gallery closed for Thanksgiving November 26-30, 2008)

new calendar of events at the Parkland Art Gallery! Here are the main attractions that will be catching the eves and ears of students this upcoming semester.

First off is the Annual Parkland Art & Design Faculty Exhibition. The exhibition has been on display since the first week of school and runs until September 18. This exhibition features work from much of the Fine and Applied Art faculty.

"[It is] a great way to see what the art faculty have been working on this summer," said Art Gallery Director Lisa Costello.

About twenty of the studio art and design faculty are featured in the exhibition and the work presented will include photography, sculpture, watercolor, ceramics and much more.

According to the gallery web site, "The faculty exhibition features something for everyone. Students and the community as a whole will enjoy the work, which mirrors the broad spectrum of art courses available at Parkland College,"

Jamie Kruidenier, a parttime watercolor instructor at Parkland, will give a lecture about her work on Thursday, September 18 at noon in the art Noon with the Artist series. Don't worry, there is no admission charge, but donations are welcome!

Coming up on October the gallery will feature Tabula Rasa: A Drawing Exhibition. This new contemporary drawing exhibition will run from Saturday, September 27 to Saturday, October 25 at the Parkland Art Gallery. The reception will be held on October 2, from 6-8pm with an introduction

"The exhibition includes nine established artists from around the country, including Mary Borgman, Saul Chernick, Michael Dinges, Alex Donis, Ed Fernandes, Cheryl Goldsleger, Michael Reedy, Kristin Skees, and Nancy Wolf. Works chosen for this exhibit reveal artists with varying points of view: some personal, some forgallery as a part of the High , mal, some political; yet they all retain the immediacy of the best of drawing, the tactile feel of how a mark is placed," said Costello.

> Michael Dinges of Chicago will be speaking on Thursday, October 2 at 1pm in the gallery and will provide an in-depth discussion about his work and life as an artist.

"I use the traditional practices of scrimshaw and trench art to comment on the changing nature of labor and global

Last on the roster is the featured High School Art Seminar. The seminar will be held November 16, from 9am to 1pm. Close to 200 high school students will be on hand from as many as fourteen local schools. The students will attend a hands-on workshop, exploring ceramic tiles and works on paper. They will also take a tour of the gallery, watch a short documentary on the artists, and will attend a lecture by Vince Palacios, who will be coming from Western University to discuss his ceramic pieces and what influences his work in the theater at 10:00 and 11:00 in the Parkland Theater.

The web site stated, "The Parkland Art Gallery received an Illinois Arts Council Grant and a Target Foundation Grant

the workshop."

Costello also added, "Volunteers for this event are needed and greatly appreciated!"

If you have any questions about any of these events or would like to volunteer for the HS seminar, feel free to call the gallery office, at 351-2485.

Programs and exhibitions at the Parkland Art Gallery are partially supported by Parkland College Student Activities and a grant from the Illinois Art's Council. Parkland is a section 504/ADA-compliant institution. For accommodation, call 217/351-2551.

Parkland Art Gallery is located at 2400 West Bradley Avenue, Champaign, Illinois. For more information please call the gallery office at 217/351-2485 or visit the website at www.parkland.edu/gallery. Gallery Hours are Monday-Friday, 10am to 3pm, See Art on page 3

"[The exhibition] is great

Parkland looking to pioneer biofuel classes Non-credit course to test the waters for interest

By KEN SMITH Prospectus Staff Writer

This fall, several Parkland instructors will be teaching a Live & Learn class about biofuels. This joint effort will be a collaborative work between natural sciences, agriculture, and automotive technology departments. One of the class.objectives will be to visit an ethanol plant, which could be in Gibson City, Danville, or Tuscola. The only fear is that these facilities may still be under construction and not operational in time for the class. However, there are other plants in Illinois and perhaps one of them will serve as a suitable destination.

In addition to ethanol, another biofuel that will be dis-

cussed is biodiesel, and students will receive hands-on experience with the entire process of biodiesel production. They will start with raw plant material, which in this case will be corn provided by the agriculture department. Then they will chemically extract the oils from the corn in the natural sciences labs, and finally burn the fuel in a diesel engine in the automotive technology shop. With this experience, students will witness the complete start to finish process of biodiesel production through utilization.

This class is intended to be a feeler for interest in the industrial technology department. Since Live & Learn classes at Parkland are noncredit courses, it is hoped that

this class will develop enough interest to convert this topic into a credit class meeting the full semester. Currently this class will run for about three weeks, meeting twice a week in the evenings, probably starting in October, but if interest is strong this will possibly mean a whole new field of study at Parkland College.

Originally approached by the Waste Management and Research center in Champaign to begin a program of this kind, Parkland decided to develop a tentative plan and look for funding. Currently the National Science Foundation has \$40-\$45 million available for Advanced Technological

See Bio on page 3

Money money money money How to get some to pay for school

By NADA YOUSSEF Prospectus Staff Writer

Paying for college can be difficult when you have many other financial responsibilities to take care of. Fortunately, financial aid is provided to help you continue your education without having to worry about paying it all off in time right here at Parkland College.

"Financial aid is monetary support for students who can't afford school," said Financial Aid Director Tim Wendt. The money that the Office of Financial Aid disperses is provided by three sources: the federal government, the state, and outside sources such as Parkland College. Parkland gives

roughly around \$20 million dollars a year to the 30% of students who qualify.

Everyone is eligible to apply for financial aid. Students of all incomes and financial backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Many doors open for people who apply for financial assistance.

"Even a millionaire is eligible for financial aid. I recommend everyone to apply, you never know what you can get," said Wendt.

Even part time students are eligible. According to Wendt, a student with as much as one credit hour is eligible for aid. But the more credit hours that you are enrolled in the more help you could possibly

receive.

Military veterans get even better deals as they are walked through the financial aid process, step by step, by members of SVAP, or Student Veterans at Parkland. They typically get about four years, or a bachelor's degree, of their college tuition paid for-just one of the perks for serving the USA.

"Veterans are getting more support because returning to civilian life can be difficult enough," said Wendt.

There isn't a certain requirement to receive financial aid. It all depends on how many family members there are, how many working parents, income

See Money on page 3

Prospectus

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U.S. mail: same as above. Advertising is accepted which is non-discriminatory and not in violation of any laws. The Prospectus reserves the right to refuse any advertis-ing. Publication of advertising stitutes final acceptance Advertisers must verify ads for

. 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 opin-ions of staff and contribu-tors and not necessarily that of the Prospectus or Parkland

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 avai

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 accommo date the space requirements of the paper. The deadline for all submissions is 12 p.m. of the Thursday immediately before the upcoming issue.

Photo credits: page 3, center, Briana Stodden; right, Huamin Wang



Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

LEAD STORY

Italian and U.K. legal authorities have recently discarded rule interpretations based on embarrassingly anachronistic stereotypes of women. In July. Italy's Court of Cassation reversed a 1999 ruling creating a legal presumption that a woman wearing tight jeans could not be the victim of rape because such jeans would be impossible to remove without her assistance. Coincidentally, at about the same time, the British government formally removed the special, ameliorating defense of "provocation" for husbands charged with murdering their wives, thus putting domestic homicide on the same footing as other homicides. (Some husbands had received lesser penalties by claiming that their wives' affairs had provoked them to murder.)

Compelling Explanations

•Jonathan Williams, 33, was convicted of cocaine possession in England's Guildford Crown Court in July, as jurors rejected his explanation that the pants he had on (containing the cocaine) were not his. That explanation also failed in August in Naples, Fla., for Richard Obdyke, 19, when police found a stolen debit card in his pants. (In both cases, the men said they had no idea whose pants they were wearing.) And in August in Corpus Christi, Texas, a 25-year-old man was arrested for drug possession during a traffic stop, despite his volunteering to police that "It's not my truck," and "If you find something (searching it), it's not mine," and "If there's anything in that black bag, it's not mine.'

•Gill Switalski, 51, filed a lawsuit in London, seeking the equivalent of almost \$40 million for her dismissal from the Foreign and Colonial investment firm, claiming she was fired illegally dur-

to describe those incidents because he wanted to save that information for his autobiography.

What Goes Around, **Comes Around**

•According to police in Bethlehem, Pa., four kids (ages 9 to 14) grabbed a donation box in August at RiverPlace Park (contributions to an organization that maintains the park's portable toilets) and ran for nearby woods, with several police officers in pursuit. Three boys were caught, but the other made it a little ways into the woods before falling into a manure pit built by homeless people at their encampment.

•About 10 years ago, reported LA Weekly in July, Southern California was awash with hysteria over household "toxic mold," in which lawyers convinced jurors that a wide range of illnesses was caused by fungi that previously had been minor irritants controlled by ordinary cleansers. (Centers for Disease Control maintains there is no basis for such hysteria and that the only atrisk people are a tiny number vulnerable to specific fungi.) Among the mold alarmists then was announcer Ed McMa-, hon, who famously received a multimillion-dollar settlement by claiming that mold killed his beloved dog. Recently, McMahon even more famously publicly lamented his potential bankruptcy, in large part because no one wanted to buy his house).

The Continuing Crisis

Mohammed Bello Abubakar, 84, a Muslim preacher in the western Nigerian state of Niger, told a BBC reporter in August that, although he personally has 86 wives (and 170 children), other men could not handle that many. "(M)y own power is given by Allah," he said. "That is why I have been able to control 86 of them." The usual maximum for Muslims is four, but Bello Abubakar said the Quran does not specify punishment for violation. Besides, he said, "I don't go looking for (women). They come to me" because of his reputation as a healer. (Two weeks later, Reuters reported that local clerics were pressuring Bello Abubakar to divorce 82 wives of his choice, but a spokesman for the preacher said he was resisting.)

Poke me, friend me, digg me, tweet me A deeper look into the life of social networking

By JONAS DEES Tech Columnist

Parkland students poke and friend people all the time, but

do they digg and tweet? If you haven't stumbled upon anything fun and exciting today, vou're not doing this whole Internet thing right.

Every day students waste their time on social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook, but why? Entertainment is a big reason. Interaction with friends and strangers is fun; it's what separates us from the animals-that and the opposable thumbs-which coincidentally help us type the messages we send to friends.

Boredom might be another reason, but how many times can you really look at the same people taking the same party photos every weekend? That's not a rhetorical question-seriously, how many times? The alternatives to the big two of MySpace and Facebook are everywhere, but go into any computer lab right now and see the horrible MySpace layouts with the repeating background, or the generous amounts of white space and light blue hues of Facebook. It's as if the students know of nothing else.

Facebook is huge globally, with the fifth most trafficked site in the world, while MySpace is close behind in the seventh spot. Both sites get tons of traffic, but two other social networking sites reside in the global top 20: Hi5 and Orkut. The average American student may have never heard of these two sites until now because Hi5 is popular in Latin America with some influence in Europe, Asia, and Africa, while Orkut is big in Brazil and is the most visited site in that country-even beating out Google Brazil. What does this all mean? Two things, the world is big and Americans don't control everything, especially online and just because something has the most users

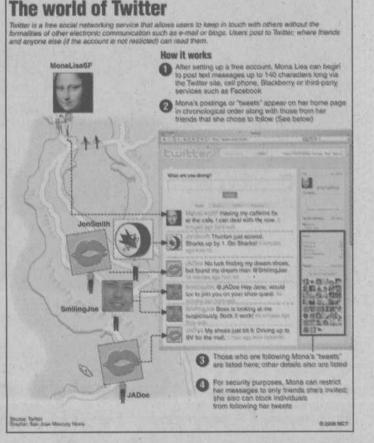
have the really even met? The future of social networking is getting out into the real world and using the service to interact with real people, because being truly social should not occur while in front of a computer screen. How many people have been to an event, talked to some random people and then received friend requests from those same random people? This seems a little backwards. While at the event, your blue-tooth enabled cell phone should have alerted you to others at the event that share similar interests, and given the option to message or identify this person, which might lead to an actual enjoyable interaction. Consider it a technological ice-breaker.

This technology exists through a German company named Aka-aki which is still testing the service of the same name but has made it available

communities. These communities will have fewer friends, but better friends.

Social networking is all about the user. The user wants to interact with others and has many options to choose from, but the user is unsure of what option is best. If the user is into photography-Flickr, Photobucket, Shutterfly, or Snapfish (sites designed for uploading and sharing photos and pictures)would be good options. If the user really enjoys blogging they might love micro-blogging from their cell-phone with Twitter, Pownce, or Jaiku.

If the user consumes online content daily and wants to share with others, then the bookmarking service Delicious, or StumbleUpon, a service that allows you to discover and rate pages, photos and videos, may be the best choice. The alternatives are out there and when it comes to social



in Germany and the United Kingdom. Social networking's future probably doesn't include more Facebooks or MySpaces same thing. Take this advice, it either. Just like America Online comes from a friend. and Geocities grew out of favor with millions of users, so will these companies, maybe not so dramatically, but the Internet is a fickle place with users constantly demanding the newest and best product. Users also demand quality and everyone knows ten great friends are better than 100 average friends, although some profiles would suggest otherwise. This demand for quality will introduce smaller and smaller niche

networking don't hang with the wrong crowd just because everyone else is doing the exact

Staff Editor: Aaron Geiger Photography Editor: Briana Stodden Photographers: Brianna Stodden Anthony Burkert, Andrew Serino Writers: Aaron Geiger, Ken Smith, Nada Youssef, Alawnna McDaniel, Sean Hermann, Cassandra Cunningham, Lindsay McGivern Columnist: Jonas Dees Cartoonist: Judy Seyb Calendar: Andrew Serino Distribution: Andrew Serino Advisor: John Eby Publication Manager: Aaron Geiger Web Design: Aaron Geiger Production Manager: Travis Shoemaker Graphic Design: Travis Shoemaker, Chris Fudala, Ahmed Abou-zahra

ing an illness. However, F and C asserted in June that it found an instance during a particularly sickly spell for Switalski when she interviewed for a job at a competitor while demonstrating enough energy and drive to have received an offer of employment. Switalski said she was merely using an "alternative personality" during that interview.

•In July, Leroy Mcafee, 55, was charged in Austin, Texas, with molesting an 11-year-old girl but confessed to police that he had molested two others, as well. However, he refused

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or is deemed "the best" by the most people doesn't mean it works for everyone.

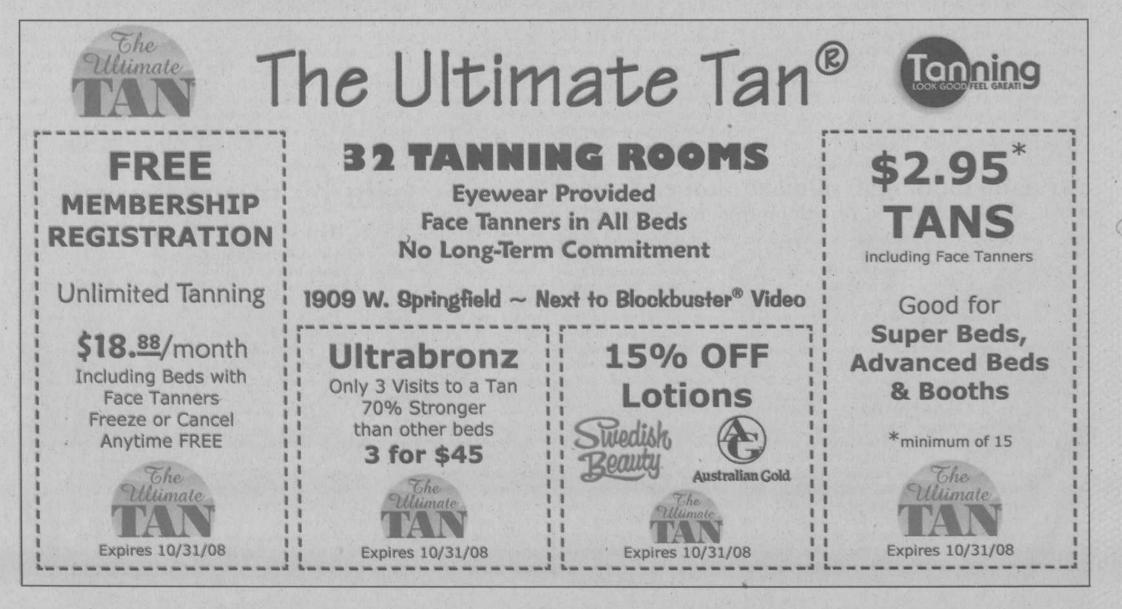
Social networking sites are for people with like-minded interests and activities who want to interact with other like-minded people. If two people like something they should interact and talk about whatever it is they like. Without social networking sites they may have never even met, but if they've never met in real life

[Ed. Note - You can visit our web site to read about other technology finds that Jonas and the editors come up with.

If you have something in the realm of technology you would like to see covered, and you think it should be in our paper, don't hesitate to let Jonas Dees know (email listed at bottom of article).

Also visit our web site throughout the week to find breaking news and info!]

Have a tech question for Jonas Dees? Email him at JonasDees@gmail.com



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Monday-Thursday, 6 to 8pm, and Saturday, 12 noon to 2pm. To find the gallery when classes are in session, we suggest using the M6 parking lot on the north corner of the campus. Enterthrough any door and follow the ramps uphill to the highest point of the first floor, where the gallery is located. The gallery windows overlook the outdoor fountain area.

Help clean up Parkland's image while having fun

By CASSANDRA CUNNINGHAM -Prospectus Staff Writer

Remember the old Barney song? Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere. With global warming and pollution sweeping the world, this song should apply now more than ever, and Parkland's College Clean Up aims to do just that.

The Office of the President, Office of



together and make sure our campus stays in beautiful shape!

Coinciding with Parkland College Clean Up Day is the presence of Elizabeth Royte, author of Garbage Land: On the Secret Trail of Trash. Miss Royte will be giving a free talk, open to the public, on October 15 at 7pm in the Champaign Public Library. And to make things even better, Miss Rovte will be spending the day at Parkland College with faculty and students on October 16. Be sure to check out her talk from 10-11am in room C118, followed by a question and answer period.



Student Life, Student Government, Parkland Reads, and Sustainable Campus Initiative are offering everyone three different days to get a chance to chip in and help with some clean up around campus. This is a time for students, faculty and members of the community to come

There will also be a luncheon with the author from 12-1pm.

Dates for the clean up are: 9/25, 3-4pm (outdoors), 10/24, 3-4 pm (outdoors), and 11/20, 3-4 pm (indoors). Gloves, bags, and treats will be provided. To sign up, email parklandreads@parkland.edu



BIO continued from page 1

Education, which is only available to community colleges, of which Parkland has applied for \$750,000-\$800,000 to fund this program. This would enable the college to offer students the ability to specialize in bio diesel production, especially in fields like agriculture, the natural sciences, or automotive technology. David Wilson of the natural sciences department said "Ultimately, Parkland could offer a national certification for biodiesel production, which would serve as a level of credibility in the job market." In this event, Parkland would be a pioneer in the education of biodiesel since nothing of this kind is locally in existence.

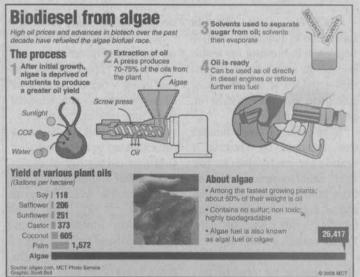
This class will have five instructors from three different departments and will be taking enrollment soon. For

Wilson, Van Grissom, or Curtis Shoaf in the Natural Sciences department; Don Burgfield in Agribusiness; or Jon Ross in the engineering sciences and technology. With the new wave of alternative energies this could be an amazing opportunity to get a jump start

those interested, contact David on one that the US government is pouring a lot of funding into. For more information see the following:

www.ethanolrfa.org/industry/locations

www.epa.state.il.us/air/permits/ethanol-plants.html



In swing-state stops, Palin throws jabs and Obama talks jobs

By WILLIAM DOUGLAS (MCT)

John McCain and Sarah Palin

tried Friday to ride whatever

momentum they generated

from this week's Republican

convention, beginning their

sprint to Election Day by cam-

paigning together in the battle-

ground states of Wisconsin and

The morning after the bal-

loons and fanfare of the St.

Paul convention, the Republi-

can presidential ticket stood

before a crowd of thousands

assembled along the main

Wis .--

CEDARBURG.

Michigan.

by Bill O'Reilly, Palin told ment news. the crowd that Obama finally admitted that the troop "surge" in Iraq is a success.

Obama did acknowledge for the first time publicly that the surge worked, but he also took care to note that the Iraqi government hasn't achieved the political reconciliation that was the ultimate goal of the surge. Obama also maintained his position that he will withdraw U.S. combat troops on an orderly timetable and end the war

Palin said: "Just last night, Senator Obama finally broke and brought himself to admit

"Today's jobs report is a reminder of what's at stake in this election," Obama said. "John McCain showed last night he is intent on continuing the economic policies that just this year have caused the American economy to lose 605,000 jobs."

Obama criticized McCain's tax cut plan-the Republican would make most of President Bush's 2001 and 2003 cuts, which expire Jan. 1, 2011, permanent. Obama said that "John McCain's answer is more of the same: \$200 billion in tax cuts to big corporations and oil com-





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levels, and many different factors. There is a website that can forecast if you will receive financial aid at www.the collegezone.com.

One type of financial aid is in the form of a scholarship. The Parkland Connection provides

scholarships that could pertain only to you, or according to gender, race, religion, etc. There are many scholarships that are just a click away.

"Through Parkland, I received a scholarship that will pay for all of my tuition and fees for this whole year. That takes a load off of my back," said student Nancy Yousef.

Applying for a scholar-

unding Education

ship starts from October 15 to November 15 for the spring semester and March 15 to April 15 for the next fall semester.

Besides financial aid, money management counseling is provided by the financial aid office. This helps students organize their spending and make up a budget for themselves to avoid financial debt.

"The financial aid office helped me to manage my money. Without them, I would probably be in deep debt," said former Student Government President Mark Shirley.

The financial aid office provides the FAFSA forms that you must complete to receive monetary benefits. The office also provides computers that are open every day, which contains all the information you need to locate resources.

There are people to help you fill out the FAFSA, which can seem daunting when you first take a look at it. Student assistants and staff are there during business hours standing by to help out.

The website to fill out a FAFSA or to get more information on financial aid is

www.fafsa.ed.gov, not to be confused with www.fafsa.com which charges you to fill out a form!

www.parkland.edu/ss/financial/index.html

Vice presidential candidate Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska accepted the endorsement from the National Fraternal Order of Police at the Marriott at the Renaissance Center in Romulus, Michigan, on Friday, September 5, 2008.

Romain Blanquart / Detroit Free Press (MCT)

street of downtown Cedarburg, a suburb of Milwaukee.

Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama, meanwhile, campaigned in the swing state of Pennsylvania, emphasizing economic issues amid Friday's news that the U.S. unemployment rate reached a five-year high of 6.1 percent in August as employers cut 84,000 jobs.

Back in Wisconsin, McCain also noted the gloomy economic reports out of Washington.

"Rough times all over America," he said.

McCain said that it is places like this staunchly Republican enclave of 11,000 that will propel him and Palin into the White House.

"This turnout in Cedarburg is what this campaign is all about," he told the enthusiastic crowd. "We're going to go across the small towns of America, and we're going to give them hope, and we're going to give them confidence, and we will bring about change in Washington, D.C. We won't (just) talk about issues, but we will do something about them."

Palin recited her biography and many of the lines she gave in her convention speech. She also continued to throw sharp rhetorical punches, with pointed digs at the Obama-Biden ticket.

She again mocked Obama's time working as a community organizer. And, noting Obama's appearance Thursday on the Fox News TV show hosted what all the rest of us have known for some time, and that's thanks to the skill and valor of our troops, the surge in Iraq has succeeded," she said. "Senator Obama said, and I quote, 'It succeeded beyond our wildest dreams."

"I think,' Senator Obama said, 'that the surge succeeded in ways that nobody anticipated.' I guess when you turn out profoundly wrong on a vital national security issue, maybe it's time to pretend that everyone else is wrong, too," Palin said.

Obama focused Friday on the economy, visiting a specialty glass factory in Duryea, Pa., and issuing a statement tying McCain to the latest unemploy-

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fedex.com/us/careers Women and minorities are encouraged to join the team.

panies, and not one dime of tax relief to more than 100 million middle-class families."

Obama would end the tax cuts for most individuals earning more than \$200,000 and couples more than \$250,000, while cutting taxes for others.

Obama also unveiled a plan to help fight cancer, pledging to double federal research funding and promote preventive health care.

"This is a plan that will help save lives," said Democratic vice presidential nominee Joe Biden's wife, Jill Biden, who helped explain it to reporters.

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 Day: 1:30 pm - 6:30 pm
 Twillight: 6:30 pm - 11:00 pm

 Midnight: 11:00 pm - 3:30 am
 Pre-Load: 2:30 am - 7:30 am
 Sunrise: 3:30 am - 8:30 am



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Community colleges finding more students hoping for midlife career change

By DOUG HOAGLAND (MCT)

Calif.—Rhonda FRESNO, Lawrence of Hanford, Calif .-who at 56 is hunting for a stable job in an unstable economy-enrolled at a community college to learn how to care for psychiatric patients.

"Who would have thought that I would be starting a brand-new profession at my age?" said Lawrence, a former flight attendant and former real estate sales manager. "Come on. This is ridiculous. Actually, I'm up against a wall."

Thousands of similar students-people battered by layoffs or fearful of losing their jobs-will flock to community colleges this fall for retraining or polishing job skills, officials say.

Community colleges, however, don't expect to get enough money from the state to cover the cost of educating the new students.

Valley community colleges anticipate that fall semester enrollments on some campuses might jump as much as 11 percent over the previous year-in part because of the economy.

"When there are jobs, people go to work," said Steve Chancellor's Office in Sacra-Renton, spokesman for College of the Sequoias in Visalia, Calif. "When there aren't jobs, people go to school to get training for work."

The economy has not been kind to Lawrence, who is single.

People were afraid to travel after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001-Lawrence said she was furloughed and eventually resigned from her airline. She switched to real estate, but was laid off because of the slowing housing market.

"I'm just praying to God that this psychiatric technician job classes or laving off instrucis the answer for me," Lawrence said.

from Fresno. He's worried about job security-even after 16 years with his companybecause of the tough economy. So, Espinosa enrolled last week at City College to become

a paralegal. "I feel like being in that line of work would give me some insurance-a backup plan to earning money," he said.

Students such as Espinosa are expected to help boost City College's enrollment to 24,725 for the fall semester, a 6 percent increase over the year before.

"It's very typical for community college enrollments to go up when the economy turns down," said Guy Lease, interim president of City College. "The irony is, that's typically when the state doesn't have the money to fully fund us."

Community colleges get about two-thirds of their money from the state budget, and the rest from property taxes and student fees. State lawmakers have vet to pass a new budget this summer, but the community college system expects to receive the 1.7 percent increase proposed by Gov. Schwarzenegger, said Chris Yatooma. Yatooma is director of fiscal planning for the California Community Colleges mento.

The 1.7 percent increaseabout \$95 million-would pay for roughly 19,000 new students statewide. However, the state's 110 community colleges are expecting about 32,000 new students during the 2008-09 school year.

State Center Community College District-which runs City College, Reedley College and smaller college centers in Madera, Oakhurst, Clovis and northeast Fresno-faces that predicament, officials say.

State Center is not cutting

5 things to consider before house-hunting for a student

By AMY HOAK (MCT)

CHICAGO-Rising college costs are causing some parents to consider an alternate housing plan for their students: They're bypassing the dorm and off-campus apartments in favor of purchasing a condominium or single-family home. In some cases, it might be not a bad idea.

Take the Oklahoma City area. Here, a single-family home will cost an average \$764 a month, including the mortgage payment and taxes, assuming a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage and a 20 percent down payment, according to data from Cyberhomes.com, a consumer home listing portal owned by Fidelity National Financial. Renting a comparable home near the University of Oklahoma, however, would cost an average \$1,088 a month, the firm said.

Lawrence, Kan., is another college town where buying may be a good option: In Lawrence, the monthly payment on a single-family home averages \$859, compared with an average \$1,162 to rent, according to Cyberhomes.

"More and more people are thinking about getting a kid into a property because tuition is so high," and room and board also continues to creep up, said Rose Price, a real estate agent who works in Champaign, Ill., where the University of Illinois is based.

Room and board averaged \$7,404 for public, four-year universities and colleges in 2007-2008, up 5.3 percent over the last school year, according to the College Board. For private schools, room and board averaged \$8,595, up 5.0 percent from the previous school year.

Purchasing a single-family home instead of a condo lets parents have a place where their child can live and other rooms can be rented out, Price said. In her market, they're buying homes that can range between \$60,000 and \$200,000. she added.

South Florida right now, buyers might not want to take the risk of buying into a market that may still experience price declines-unless they're plan-

the long term. 2. Not every kid is ready to be a homeowner.

ning to keep the property for

It takes a responsible kid to take on the duties of a homeowner, Frame said. If you decide to buy a place for your college student, make sure that he or she is up to the challenge.

Even then, the plan can backfire. Price knew of one college student living in a home who was extremely responsiblebut he got homesick after a year and left campus.

3. Being a college landlord isn't easy.

While the first use of the property will be to house your college student, it's also important to have a plan for the home after your offspring graduates. Considering renting it out to others after graduation? Make sure you have what it takes.

If you're renting to students, tenants will likely turn over every year, which involves finding new renters and making improvements on the property annually, Price said. Plus, it's good to assess upfront if there is strong housing demand year-round, and whether there are competent management companies that can manage the property down the road, Lipschultz said.

4. A place to retire. Maybe the next inhabitant of

the space isn't a renter at all. In fact, maybe it will be you. Increasingly, retirees are

seeking out college towns for their cultural amenities and access to health care, among other perks. In fact, a few of AARP's top 10 healthiest places to retire this year, including

rent near the University of Ann Arbor, Mich., and Madison, Wis., are college towns.

> "Many universities are trying to attract their alumni. Some are building complexes that are geared for alumni," said Gabrielle Redford, features editor for AARP The Magazine. Some of the same reasons college towns are great for students also attract retirees, she said.

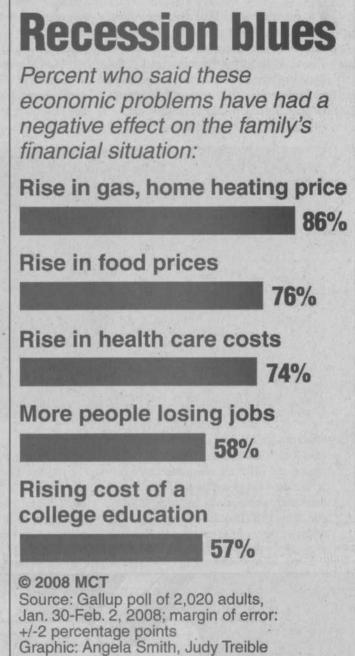
That said, your idea of a great

retirement property might not match up with your college student's idea of the perfect place to live.

5. Discuss with your college student.

Before you schedule a single showing, make sure that this is something that your child is also interested in, Lipschultz suggested. These are your col-

See Things on page 7



Lawrence started an accelerated program at West Hills College last August to become a technician-someone who gives medical and mental health care to the mentally ill in prisons and state hospitals after being licensed by the state. Technicians also work with the developmentally disabled.

Because community colleges save students time and money, they are attractive to many older students who need a career change, experts said.

At Fresno City College, for example, annual class fees are \$480, assuming a student takes 12 units of course credit each lege District, which has camsemester. Undergraduates taking the same number of units each semester at California' budget by cutting some class State University, Fresno will pay \$3,687 in 2008-09 for fees.

Spending four years at a CSU doesn't guarantee a job, said Lawrence, who feels life rushing past her: "I already have some friends who are retired, and I'm still trying to find a decent job."

Meanwhile, even people who still have jobs are looking to community colleges for career options. Mark Espinosa, for example, is a 51-year-old telecommunications salesman

tors or any employees-solutions that some community colleges use to cover budget problems.

Instead, the district might use carry-over money from its 2007-08 budget and will try to fill classes with the maximum number of students to be more cost-efficient, said State Center Chancellor Tom Crow.

The state community college system also might shuffle some of the \$95 million proposed by Schwarzenegger-sending more to growing districts such as State Center and none to districts in other parts of the state with stable enrollments. Crow said.

West Hills Community Colpuses in Coalinga and Lemoore, is trying to cope with a tight sections, which probably will increase class size, said Chancellor Frank Gornick. In addition, fewer part-time instructors might teach this year. But the college did not lay off any full-time teachers, he said.

"It does create problems in availability of some courses," Gornick said. "But we don't usually turn anyone awaythat's for sure."

> (c) 2008, The Fresno Bee (Fresno, Calif.).

 Outstanding Worthy effort So-so A bomb 	New review		Local crai	Chicago +	Dallas Mc	Minneanon News	Miami 14 Star	Newsday,	Philadan	Sacramon Inquin	Seattle Time
Death Race		R				-	0		-	4	V
Disaster Movie	P	G		2		-	-	-	+	-3	
Elegy		R		W	W	-		*			V
Hamlet 2		R		-	W				Y	W	W.
Traitor	F	G			v	W	W		V	-	V
Transsiberian		R		-				1		+	-
Tropic Thunder		R	-							-	W.
Vicky Christina	P	G 3	2.18			*		*	*	-	W

Another reason parents might be interested in these college towns is that oftentimes-unlike much of the country-they're "recession proof," said Brent Lipschultz, a personal wealth manager with New York-based Eisner LLP. A college town produces a certain amount of housing demand no matter what the economy is like, keeping the market healthy, he said.

But before spending a long weekend looking for real estate, parents should consider the following:

1. Buying is not a bargain everywhere.

Consider the market conditions, and figure in all the costs before deciding whether to buy or rent. Sometimes, college markets are affordable to buy in because there is heavy competition for rentals, which drive rents up, said Marty Frame, general manager for Cyberhomes.

But in other markets, renting is still more affordable.

For example, if your student is going to the University of Southern California, based in Los Angeles County, an average monthly payment on a single-family home will be \$3,163, compared with an average \$2,270 rent, according to Cyberhomes data. Other markets where renting is less costly than buying are Eugene, Ore., where the University of Oregon is located, and Fresno, Calif., where Fresno State is located, according to the firm.

Also, consider the overall health of the real estate market before making a purchase. While prices might indicate that it's cheaper to buy than



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Capsule reviews of feature films

By CARRIE RICKEY and STEVEN REA (MCT)

ALPS The producers of "Everest" take their cameras to Europe's largest mountain range while following one man's quest to conquer the mountain that killed his father. This Imax adventure features the music of Queen. (Not Previewed.)

AMERICAN TEEN 3 stars. The class of 2006 at Warsaw Community High School is the subject of Nanette Burstein's appealing and unexpectedly moving documentary. 1 hr. 35 PG-13 (profanity, sexual candor, underage drinking)-Carrie Rickey

BOTTLE SHOCK 2 stars. A great story-and true, more or less-about a blind taste testing that brought then-obscure California labels to the forefront of the wine world in the mid-'70s. Wants to be "Sideways," but isn't. With Bill Pullman and Alan Rickman. 1 hr. 50 PG-13 (sex, profanity, drugs, adult themes)-Steven Rea

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED Evelyn Waugh's novel, plushly and passionately adapted to the screen, is graced with excellent performances. Emma Thompson, Matthew Goode, Ben Whishaw and Hayley Atwell star in the costume drama where a romantic triangle is complicated by the religious trinity. 2 hrs. 15 PG-13 (brief nudity, sex)-Carrie Rickey

THEDARKKNIGHT3stars. This sequel to 2005's "Batman Begins" has the caped crusader (Christian Bale) teaming up with police Lt. Gordon (Gary Oldman) and a new D.A. (Aaron Eckhart) to take on the Joker (Heath Ledger in his final film). 2 hrs. 32 PG-13 (intense violence, sadism, threats to children)-Carrie Rickey

DEATH RACE 2 stars. In this nose-to-the-grindstone action

against other prisoners in heavily armed vehicles. The movie, like the convicts, has nowhere to go. 1 hr. 29 R (Strong violence and language)-David Hiltbrand

THE EDGE OF HEAVEN 3 stars. A near-perfect, heartbreaking, suspenseful story about the connections between strangers, families and cultures. German-Turkish filmmaker Fatih Akin explores big themes-and even gets in some taut political thriller elements-in this beautifully shot, beautifully acted pic, set in Bremen, Hamburg and Istanbul. No MPAA rating (sex, nudity, violence, profanity, adult themes)-Steven Rea

ELEGY 3 stars. In Isabel Coixet's adaptation of the Philip Roth novella "The Dying Animal," Ben Kingsley is superb as an intellectual in lust, likewise Penelope Cruz as his graduate student who inflames the professor's belated love. With Patricia Clarkson, Dennis Hopper and Peter Sarsgaard. 1 hr. 53 R (nudity, sex, profanity)-Carrie Rickey

FLY ME TO THE MOON 2 stars. A gimmicky, goopy tale of three flies who join the NASA astronauts on their historic summer of '69 lunar landing. Apart from the 3-D effects, this animated feature isn't much to look at, and the script is a mishmash of kid-centric antics, follow-your-dream cliches and icky humor. Strictly for undiscriminating kiddies. 1 hr. 29 G (cartoon mayhem)-Steven Rea

FROZEN RIVER 4 stars. Melissa Leo and Misty Upham co-star in this urgent and incomparably moving first feature from Courtney Hunt about the survival, fortitude and unexpected deliverance of two single mothers. 1 hr. 37 R (language)-Carrie Rickey

GRAND CANYON ADVEN-

film, Jason Statham is pitted TURE The canyon and the Colorado River within are featured in this Imax documentary that explores the necessity of balancing the water needs of people and the natural environment.

> HAMLET 2. 2 stars. A no-talentactor(Steve Coogan)turned high school drama teacher salvages his career by staging a multi-media, multi-culti, multiuntalented musical sequel to the Bard's tragedy in which everyone dies. With Catherine Keener, Elisabeth Shue and Amy Poehler. 1 hr. 34 R (profanity, brief nudity)-Carrie Rickey

HANCOCK 3 stars. Will Smith stars as a problemplagued, screw-up superhero in this dark, funny, rollicking tale of rehabilitation, redemption and really cool special effects. With Jason Bateman and an awesome Charlize Theron. 1 hr. 33 PG-13 (profanity, violence, adult themes)-Steven Rea

HENRY POOLE IS HERE 2 stars. Director Mark Pelington's pleasant, if insubstantial, parable of faith preaches to the converted. With Luke Wilson and the lovely Radha Mitchell. 1 hr. 40 PG (discreet mature themes)-Carrie Rickey

THE HOUSE BUNNY 2 stars. The "Legally Blonde" screenwriters' half-funny tale of a Playboy playmate (Anna Faris) who becomes house mother to a college sorority of misfit girls. She teaches them how to be sexy, they smarten her up. Starring the divine Anna Faris. PG-13 (sexual innuendo, profanity, coarse humor)-Carrie Rickey

I.O.U.S.A. 3 stars. A salient, scary documentary about America's current financial crisis and what it means for our future. It's not easy making economics sexy or exciting, and Patrick Creadon's doc has its pie charts and bar graphs, "Sagging"

"Sagging is a popular fad in hip hop culture today. It is all too common to see some young person's underwear because their pants are hanging below their waist. However, many communities around the country find this fad lewd, indecent and a hygiene issue. Parkland College is no exception. According to the Student Conduct Code, under Article iii, section B, number fifteen talks about lewd and indecent behavior. Effective immediately, if you are wearing your pants to the point where your underwear is showing, you will be asked to pull your pants up. If it con-



tinues to be a problem, a student conduct report will be generated and you will have to meet with the Dean of Students.

Sagging has its origins in prison culture. For those of you who like to wear your pants this way, you may want to research "sagging" and see what you are actually representing by wearing your pants like this. I would like to think that you came to college to better yourself, so why would you want to emulate a style that has it roots in prison society. Again, "sagging" is considered inappropriate behavior on Parkland College Campus. So please pull your pants up!!

but it delivers its dark, doomladen message with more than a little humor, too. 1 hr. 25 PG (adult themes)-Steven Rea

A JIHAD FOR LOVE 3 stars. The efforts of gay Muslims in various parts of the world to reconcile their sexuality with their faith is the topic of this documentary. Various languages with subtitles. 1 hr. 21 No MPAA rating (adult themes)-Wire services

JOURNEY TO THE CEN-TER OF THE EARTH 2 stars. Fanged fish, T-Rex drool and bluebirds bio-luminescent respectively nip, plop and flutter in the audience's face in this diverting 3-D update of the Jules Verne classic with Brendan Fraser and Josh Hutcherson. 1 hr. 33 PG (frightening animals)-Carrie Rickey

THE LONGSHOTS 3 stars. Keke Palmer stars in the true story of the 11-year-old who became the first female to lead her team to the Pop Warner football tournament. Ice Cube also stars. 1 hr. 34 PG (thematic elements, mild profanity, brief rude humor)-Wire services

MAMMA MIA! 2 stars. You'll smile! You'll wince! (Sometimes both at the same time.) Meryl Streep's debut as a knockabout physical comedian, Amanda Seyfried's breakout role as her daughter, who doesn't know which of Mom's three exes is Dad, and wall-towall ABBA songs. With Pierce

hr. 53 PG-13 (violence, action, adult themes)-Steven Rea

PINEAPPLE EXPRESS 2 stars. A stoner comedy with a "Superbad" template and a penchant for jokey violence by way of Tarantino, this latest low-brow, screwball, Judd Apatow-overseen romp teams an inspired James Franco with Seth Rogen-they're like Abbott and Costello soaked in THC. 1 hr. 51 R (violence, profanity, drugs, adult themes)---Steven Rea

THE ROCKER 2 stars. "The Office's" Rainn Wilson stars as a Cleveland loser who almost became a rock star 20 years ago. Now he gets a second chanceplaying drums in his nephew's group at the high school prom. A Jack Black comedy minus Jack Black, slight and silly, with a few Spinal Tap-ish moments. 1 hr. 42 PG-13 (profanity, drugs, nudity, adolescent and adult themes)-Steven Rea

THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS II 3 stars. Second time around, the jeans are an even better fit. During summer after freshman year in college, each of the the Fab Four (Alexis Bledel, America Ferrera, Blake Lively and Amber Tamblyn) wrestle with their primal fear. Director Sanaa Hamri elicits nuanced performances in this charmer. 1 hr. 57 PG-13 (discreet discussions of oregnancy and mental suasive, troubling documentary detailing rampant voter fraud and voting machine tampering in the 2000 and 2004 presidential elections, and other state and local elections nationwide. No MPAA rating (adult themes)-Steven Rea

STEP BROTHERS Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly play deadbeat grownups forced to share a house, and a bedroom, when their respective parents (Richard Jenkins, Mary Steenburgen) marry. Happily imbecilic, and pretty raunchy comedy ensues. 1 hr. 38 R (profanity, prosthetic body parts, sexual content, comic mayhem, adult themes)-Steven Rea

TRANSSIBERIAN 3 stars. Emily Mortimer and Woody Harrelson are an American couple hopping the train from Beijing to Moscow in this morally complex, if plot-wobbly thriller, featuring drug-smuggling backpackers and nightmare tales of travel abroad. With Ben Kingsley as a Russian detective. 1 hr. 51 R (violence, sex, profanity, adult themes)-Steven Rea

TROPIC THUNDER 3 stars. Ben Stiller's raunchy, raucous and riotously funny parody of outsized Hollywood war movies and outsized Hollywood egos is so acutely selfconscious that it produces the effect of a comedian delivering color commentary on his jokes. Robert Downey, Jr. is sidesplit-

ting as an actor who chemically

darkens his skin to play a black

sergeant, ditto Matthew McCo-

naughey and Tom Cruise as an

agent and a producer. 1 hr. 47 R

(violence, carnage, drugs, pro-

fanity, sexual references)-

VICKY CRISTINA BARCE-LONA 3 stars. Woody Allen's

rectangular tale of love and

longing, friendship and art,

stars Javier Bardem as a Span-

ish artist intent on seducing

Carrie Rickey

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The first and there a section of the attend to a section of the

Brosnan, Stellan Skargsard, Colin Firth, Christine Baranski and Julie Walters. 1 hr. 48 PG (risque situations)—Carrie son of the first chimp in space Rickey

THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR 2 stars. Brendan Fraser is back (but Rachel Weisz isn't) in the friends land on. Animated. 1 second sequel to the ersatz hr. 21 G-Wire services "Indiana Jones" hit. The cliche-laden hodgepodge of peri- WARS 2 stars. PG-rated animaod-piece chopsocky takes tion squarely aimed at younger place in 1947 China, where an audiences who presumably evil 2000-year-old emperor has returned to life, requiring everyone to run around, shout and fight. With Jet Li and Michelle Yeoh-and Maria Bello as Weisz replacement. 1

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illness, discreet pans across the male form)-Carrie Rickey

SPACE CHIMPS The grandis sent on a new mission, which turns tricky when he has to deal with the evil ruler of the planet that he and his chimp

STAR WARS: THE CLONE won't mind that the plot is endless light-saber duels and dogfights. 1 hr. 38 PG (cartoon violence)-Carrie Rickey

STEALING AMERICA: VOTE BY VOTE 3 stars. A per-

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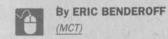
ing New Yorker in the summer between high school and college, falling in love with his pot-smoking shrink's beautiful, aloof step-daughter (Olivia Thirlby). Ben Kingsley and Famke Janssen co-star. 1 hr. 35 R (sex, nudity, profanity, drugs, adult themes)-Steven Rea

WALL-E 3 stars. An adventurous shift away from the anthropomorphic madcappery of Pixar's recent animated features, this 28th century tale about an old robot abandoned on Earth is part love story, part eco-cautionary tale, and, for its first half, pretty much entirely devoid of human dialogue. Lots of fun. 1 hr. 37 G (cartoon mayhem)-Steven Rea

RATINGS: 4 stars: Excellent; 3 stars: Good; 2 stars: Fair; 1 star: Poor

(c) 2008, The Philadelphia Inquirer. Capsule reviews of feature films

Google's Chrome browser gives users more options



CHICAGO-Most computer users don't think much about their Web browser. The lion's share just click on the small blue "e" (for Microsoft's Internet Explorer) they see on their computer screen and off they go into cyberspace.

Google's challenge in releasing a competing Web browser Tuesday is simple: to woo people away from the small "e" and use Google as the entryway to the Internet instead.

If Google's Chrome browser succeeds in wresting away users from Internet Explorer, which dominates Web surfing with about 70 percent of the market, it will represent another big salvo in the biggest running war online. It's Google vs. Microsoft in lots of ways already, including the compétition for eveballs to look at the advertising each company sells or manages.

Google now thinks it has another way, with Chrome, to battle Microsoft, and change the way people spend their time online.

By combining its strengththe Google search enginewith some new ideas on how a browser should work, Google wants to make finding what you want online as intuitive as just typing in the words.

My initial tests with Chrome on Tuesday hit a few speed bumps, but I liked what I saw.

a browser. I have no real problems with Internet Explorer, which comes as basic equipment on all PCs. I like using the Safari browsers on the new Mac computer because with a finger swipe, I can easily enlarge the type on a page. And I like another competing browser, Mozilla's Firefox, largely because of the way it helps me organize information as I go.

You have to download Chrome, unlike Internet Explorer, which comes with most PCs. The process is free, though, and should take only a few minutes.

The differences between the browsers are not the type that every consumer is likely to feel passionate about immediately.

Browsers and search engines are not as sexy as consumer goodies like a new digital camera or the iPhone, devices vou can hold in your hand while marveling at all the cool things they do. A browser is simply a gateway to information.

Google may not have made the browser sexier, but it does make some things easier.

For one, it remembers what you like to visit more efficiently than Internet Explorer or Firefox, the second most used browser.

Consider a Web search for my favorite Chicago hot dog joint. When I started typing in "Hot," the rest of the word "Hot Doug's" immediately popped resides on your computer.

Is it a game changer? No. It's up because I've visited the site recently. With a click of the mouse I was checking on the specials. There was no need to start the search with www.

> Google calls this combination of search and Web navigation the "omnibox," and it is built into the browser.

In Internet Explorer, I had to type in www.hotdougs.com, while in Firefox it was www. hotd before the rest of the term popped up.

The more I browsed, the more Chrome learned.

The second time I typed in Facebook, I just needed to hit the "f" key and the social network appeared. For a site you visit often, Chrome will start finishing your queries after just a letter or three. This is nice.

On the other hand, most users on Explorer or other browsers simply "bookmark" favorite sites, a simple step, that takes you straight there with a mouse click.

Google takes bookmarking further, allowing a user to create a "shortcut" to a site, such as Facebook or a Web-based e-mail account, by putting a direct link onto your computer's desktop display, on the quick launch tray at the bottom of your computer, or in your start menu. Other browsers can't create a desktop icon.

In essence, Chrome takes a Web-based application and treats it like a program that

"People don't see the browser as substantive, but in the background. Google is planning on making it more substantive," said Scott Kessler, an analyst at Standard & Poor's Equity Research, who follows technology companies.

Google also said it is made browsing more stable.

Chrome uses tabbed browsing, like the latest version of Internet Explorer, Firefox and Safari. It is not a new feature, but a very convenient one.

A user can open a new tab on the same browser window to go to another Web site, but you don't need to close the site you were on.

For example, on Firefox, I can have tabs open for my personal e-mail, an Internet radio station, my blog, a news site, or random sites I'm using to research a story. When I went to move from one site to another, I just click on the tab.

But if my browser crashes-it happens-all those tabs crash, too.

"Firefox has done a great job of restoring your session when you crash, but you still have that disruptive moment," said Scott Robbin, president of Songza.com, a Chicago-based search engine for music. That means restarting the browser.

Google is "making each tab its own separate process. So if one tab crashes, you don't crash your browser. That's

See Chrome on page 7

Marriage rarely a choice for pregnant teens, experts say

By BONNIE RUBIN (MCT)

CHICAGO-Of all the options facing teenagers grappling with an unplanned pregnancy, marriage is rarely a choice, say adolescent health experts.

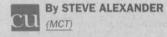
"In my 16 years, I can't recall it coming up even once," said Julie Tye, president of the Cradle, an Evanston, Ill.based adoption agency that last even when their romance fizzles, Beilfuss said.

"When that goes, and statistically it's more than likely, (the young men) will come back to the fathers' groups," she said. "We want to support his relationship with that child."

Beilfuss knows what it's like to be a teen wife and mother in the suburbs. She grew up in Glen Ellyn, and in 1978, when she was 16, she married her baby's father to spare both



Comcast's new bandwidth limit irks some users



MINNEAPOLIS-Comcast's plan to place a cap on consumer Internet use worries some customers who have come to take users aren't affected by the move. Beginning Oct. 1, Comcast will limit use of Internet bandwidth-a measure of all a person's monthly downloads and uploadsoftext, graphics, music, movies, photos and other information. The company said it reserves the right to terminate any residential customer who disregards company warnings and twice violates a limit of 250 gigabytes per month. Previously, the company didn't have a specific limit. The idea is to keep bandwidth hogs from ruining the Internet experience for other residential customers, because the cable network is a shared medium of limited bandwidth capacity, Comcast said.

feeling that I might be dead in gigabytes a month. the water in October."

Others are concerned about what this means for the Internet's future.

"It's absolutely critical that unfettered Web surfing for the Internet remain a level granted, even though most playing field, and that no one have control over what runs over it," said Steve Borsch of Eden Prairie, Minn. Borsch runs a business and blogs about technology using Comcast's Internet service. He said the bandwidth limit is a bad move because it hurts Internet video services while helping Comcast's cable TV service

of data every week. "I have a limit, he said, or about 2 to 3 future," Turner said. "The way

But Turner said the bandwidth limit is likely to affect more Comcast Internet users in the near future because of

the Olympics were viewed on the Internet signals that consumers are ready to embrace online content."

Even today, someone watch-

Comcast satisfaction low

591

553

has helped hundreds of young families the embarrassment of women in the same situation as 17-year-old Bristol Palin. It wasn't long ago, however, that shotgun marriages were considered the norm, a way for a boy to make an "honest woman" out of a girl who got caught having premarital sex. In the first half of the 1960s, almost 70 percent of white pregnant teens, ages 15-19 tied the knot-compared to 19 percent by the early 1990s. For black teens, the rate fell from 36 percent to less than 7 percent, according to the Center for Law and Social Policy in Washington, D.C. But a confluence of trends, including contraception and increased career opportunities, has turned forced matrimony into a relic of another era, like typewriter mechanics-and certainly not the route to domestic bliss. combination The of unplanned pregnancy and youth raises the risk for divorce, said Stephanie Coontz, ing eight hours a day of a stana historian at Evergreen State dard-definition video or four University. Yet Kay Chase, who works hours a day of high-definition video could run afoul of Comwith teen mothers at the cast's bandwidth cap, Turner DeKalb, Ill., County Health Department, said that even Douglas said Comcast will without a walk down the aisle, periodically review the bandthey long for stable lives with width limit as online video viewthe fathers of their children. ing increases, but he declined But it usually turns into an to say whether the company empty dream. "They think the guy will stick Comcast has said that the by them, they'll get an apartbandwidth cap is unrelated to ment and live happily ever a recent Federal Communicaafter," she said. "What usually tions Commission finding that happens is the guy takes off Comcast was improperly limshortly after finding out she's iting the ability of its custompregnant." ers to use BitTorrent, a popu-Becky Beilfuss of Teen Parlar file-sharing program. On ent Connection, a service program based in the Chicago suburb of Glen Ellyn, Ill., for young mothers and fathers, said that perhaps only 1 percent of its clients end up getting married. The organization's goal is simply to build a healthy relationship between parents that can

But that's got some Comcast customers worried.

"Your typical Comcast Internet user will not be affected, but the power users-people that watch movies or TV online, or that download a lot of video or software-will be hurt," said Ryan Coleman, a Comcast Internet customer in Minneapolis who edits photos for a college magazine and downloads 40 to 80 gigabytes Some analysts agree.

"A bandwidth limit discourages consumers from downloading or streaming Internet video, particularly of high-definition video," said S. Derek Turner, research director for Free Press, a Massachusettsbased nonprofit public policy group dealing with Internet and media issues. "That helps preserve Comcast's traditional cable TV service."

Comcast says such concerns are overblown. The company's monthly bandwidth limit is so high-the equivalent of downloading about 62,500 songsthat fewer than 1 percent of its customers are likely to be affected, said spokesman Charlie Douglas at Comcast's Philadelphia headquarters. Today, the average Comcast customer uses only a tiny fraction of the Results of a 2007 J.D. Power & Associates survey rank Comcast below average in customer satisfaction among cable and satellite TV providers. Gradings are based on a 1,000-point scale.

West Region

DirectTV

Dish Network

Cable One

Comcast

Charter

Mediacom

Time Warner

South Region

DirectTV

Cox

Insight

Comcast

Charter

would increase it.

Mediacom

Suddenlink

said.

Bright House

Dish Network

Time Warner

Ala., Ark., Fla., Ga., Kan., Ky., La., Miss., Mo., N.C., Okla., S.C., Tenn. and Texas

Avg. score: 636

Cox

Ariz., Calif., Colo., Idaho, Iowa, Minn., Mont., Neb., Nev., N.M., N.D., Ore., S.D., Utah, Wash, and Wyo.

Avg. score: 635

675

650

645

632

619

588

576

557

682

673

657

638

626

619

585

554

550

537

East Region

Conn., Del., D.C., Maine, Md., Mass., N.H., N.J., N.Y., Pa., R.I., Vt., Va. and W.Va.

	Avg. Score: 630					
DirectTV		690				
Dish Network		661				
Cox		648				
Cablevision	La state	639				
Time Warner		630				
RCN	1 IS STORE	599				

North Central Region II., Ind., Mich., Ohi

Comcast

Charter

Avg. Score: 616

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WOWI	DALIGN REAL POINT	729
DirectTV	RESERVED.	661
Dish Network	March Martin	640
Insight		616
Time Warner		606
Bright House	In Statistics	580
Comcast	MUNICIPALITY OF	572
Charter		562
© 2008 MCT Source: J.D. Power Graphic: The Philas	and Associates delphia Inquirer	

products such as Apple TV that can transfer Internet video to television sets.

"Comcast's 250-gigabyte bandwidth cap, while very high now, won't be high in the



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having an out-of-wedlock child. They stuck it out for 11 years, despite frequent difficulties.

"We lived that stress as a couple day to day, and it increased the pressure on us as parents," she said. "I don't think we were as good of parents as we could have been."

Still, the Rev. Greg Sakowicz of St. Mary of the Woods on Chicago's Northwest Side finds some instructive life lessons in the Palin dilemma, currently unfolding on the national stage.

"Yes, they're incredibly young ... But I do like that the parents are being incredibly supportive under very difficult circumstances. I've seen situations where the family disowns them," said Sakowicz, who has been a priest for 29 years.

But not everyone will get the same benefit of the doubt, said Pat Pelozzi, president of the Healthy Teen Network, a national nonprofit group.

"As forgiving as all the supporters are now, it's not the way the world works. This is still a vilified population," Paluzzi said

She cited the harsh criticism that enveloped Jamie Lynn Spears's announcement-including that she be fired from the Nickelodeon cable channel-as the more typical of the "you-made-your-bed-now-liein-it" response to teen pregnancy.

"Are we seeing more empathy because (Bristol Palin) is white? Middle class? Getting married? It would be great if we could show this same level of compassion all the time."

(c) 2008, Chicago Tribune.

Thursday, Comcast said it was appealing the FCC's ruling.

> (c) 2008, Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

PROSPECTUS - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008 - PAGE 7

HROME continued from page 6

huge. Making each tab work independently will lower the frustration levels for many people," Robbin said.

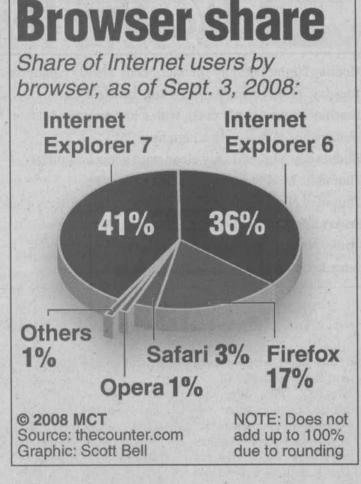
Google's strategy in creating Chrome is pretty clear: to keep people using Google products as much as possible.

Kessler noted that Google only makes one productsearch-that generates revenue, yet it continues to devote resources to creating new products without an apparent revenue model.

Muchlikeitsotherproductsspreadsheets, e-mail, word processing, maps-Google "starts with creating something people will use, building a base of users and then try to monetize it over time," he said. "Ultimately, the hope is it will help direct people to other Google products."

Brian Bolan, an independent analyst following tech companies, said Chrome, by itself, is not a threat to Microsoft because the browser, like the rest of Google's offerings, is not targeted at corporations.

"This is for the consumer," he said. But it highlights that "individuals can have an entire operating system via the Web that is developed by Google. Turn on your computer and you



have everything you need," noting all the other products that Google offers.

That is a threat to Microsoft,

because it potentially weans

users from a reliance on Micro-

To download Chrome, go to

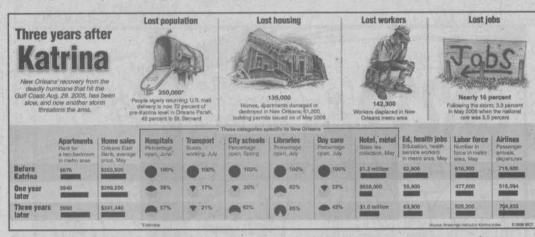
soft and its software.

www.google.com/chrome.

technology for the Chicago Tribune. Contact him at ebenderoff@tribune.com or at the Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL 60611.)

(Eric Benderoff writes about

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Can Facebook help save Kickapoo?

By AARON GEIGER Prospectus Editor

Call me a cynic, but I avoided Facebook like the plague until just a few months ago. What got me excited was that suddenly I had long-lost acquaintances that I made across the country looking me up and "friending" me. But aside from the occasional game of Scrabble, I really didn't have much of a use for it.

Until now.

Last week, Governor Rod Blagojevich made the announcement that he was closing 24 state parks and historic sites. Among them was our beloved Kickapoo State Park, located just east of here between Oakwood and Danville. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the park, it features 22 lakes, hiking, camping, mountain biking, winter sports, trout fishing, canoeing and boating, and even scuba diving. The landing lets you rent equipment, the campsites are maintained, the trails are absolutely scenic, and there are several events that draw crowds on a regular basis. In short, the park is a resource that should not be shut down.

"I just recently went there for my daughter's cross-country meet," said Director of Student Life Tom Caulfield.

A few years ago I was introduced to Kickapoo when I started working for the Boy Scouts of America out at Camp Drake in Oakwood. I returned frequently to camp with friends, or even to camp and hike alone. From my years of outdoors training and as a survivalist instructor, I've measured the beauty of a place by whether or not I would enjoy it

UBS REALLY AREN'T G ON'T THINK EITHER OF US KNO ANS. SO LET'S STICK WITH TASTY many John

in solitude.

When I heard Blagojevich's news, I was actually stunned. Breathless. I'm not an Illinois native, and I won't use this editorial to rant and rave on Rod's

financial antics, but I never have, and never will understand politicians who manage to strip the state of funding for parks, arts, rehabilitation programs, education, and the elderly; yet they always seem to find money for businesses, reelections, and self-interest.

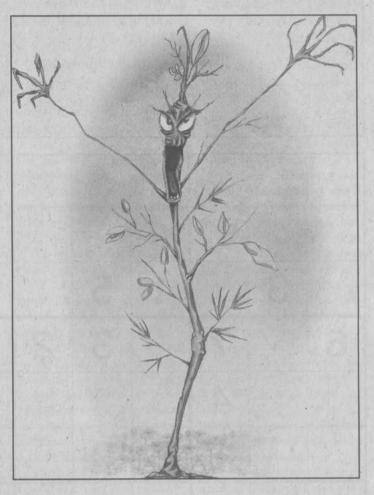
Enter Facebook: I commonly write letters to the editor at the News-Gazette, but somehow that didn't seem enough. I saw

the amount of signed petitions at the park which now numbers several thousand.

How much help has Facebook really provided?

"You know, I couldn't imagine this happening ten years ago. Could you imagine all of the footwork? You wouldn't have a fraction of the people involved, I'd guess," said Sarah Williams, an online petition coordinator. "I think Facebook and other networking sites have more power than people think; just ask the politicians running for office right now."

As I write, Vandenberg's group has around 2,000 mem-



poo on their latest weekly, but 1,000. We've spotted some of was dismayed to see a small the community's elite, as well article that was barely fea- as high school kids that are ture-length surrounded by banding together in groups pretty graphics. I commend rarely seen in high schools-or the attempt to help Kickapoo, let's be truthful-community but I felt like there was something else that could be done. So I plopped down and made a I can't sit here and claim to group-"Save Kickapoo State say I did anything more than

that the Buzz featured Kicka- bers, and my group has over colleges.

I'm all about hard work, but research, make a few phone calls, churn out a few hundred emails, and make events and groups on Facebook. I'm absolutely floored by the number of other people working so diligently to face this problem, and for a park, nonetheless, which should tell something of the allure of Kickapoo. The real question is, will Facebook help save Kickapoo? Thousands of people have virtually typed, "Yes."

Park! Three days later, there

were 650 members, and Pam Dempsey from the News-Gazette interviewed me about the group as part of a cover story after she became a group member. I started to merge ideas, petitions, and contact information with others who had similar (and in many cases, better) ideas. I teamed up with Cory Vandenberg, the son of Kickapoo Park Ranger Bob Vandenberg. Cory now lives in Austin, Texas, and he started up another Facebook group of the same name (but without the exclamation mark).

"Yeah, I didn't really think too much of Facebook until now. I noticed [last night] that Senator Frerichs was a member of my group," said Vandenberg. Cory's voice is especially important, partly because his father cannot comment on policy.

We decided to grant one another administrative permissions on the groups to share even more information. The general public has been giving us links to online petitions, localized events, and even connections to Flickr that feature lege student's first years away photos from Kickapoo.

There are thousands of people mobilizing on behalf of the park.

Hilary Valentine, Director of Marketing and Creative students to live in campus Services, has been leading the charge in Parkland to protest the closure of Kickapoo.

A little girl by the name of Ryce Tuggle, 11, started a Interested in Conserving Kickapoo. Originally her class was involved in writing letters to legislators, but Tuggle plunged on ahead with her own initiative.

Tod Satterthwaite, the Kickapoo Landing operator, is a member of the Facebook groups, and has kept us informed of

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[Go to www.new. facebook.com/group.

php?gid=34146331476 to join. There's also Vandenberg's more informed group linked to the main page. Find out how you can help. There are more rallies to come, such as a bike rally that will sweep from Danville to Springfield's capitol. Find information on the main page about your local government officials so you can give them a call, send them an email, and maybe, just maybe, befriend them on Facebook and get them to join the protest.]

> THINGS continued from page 4

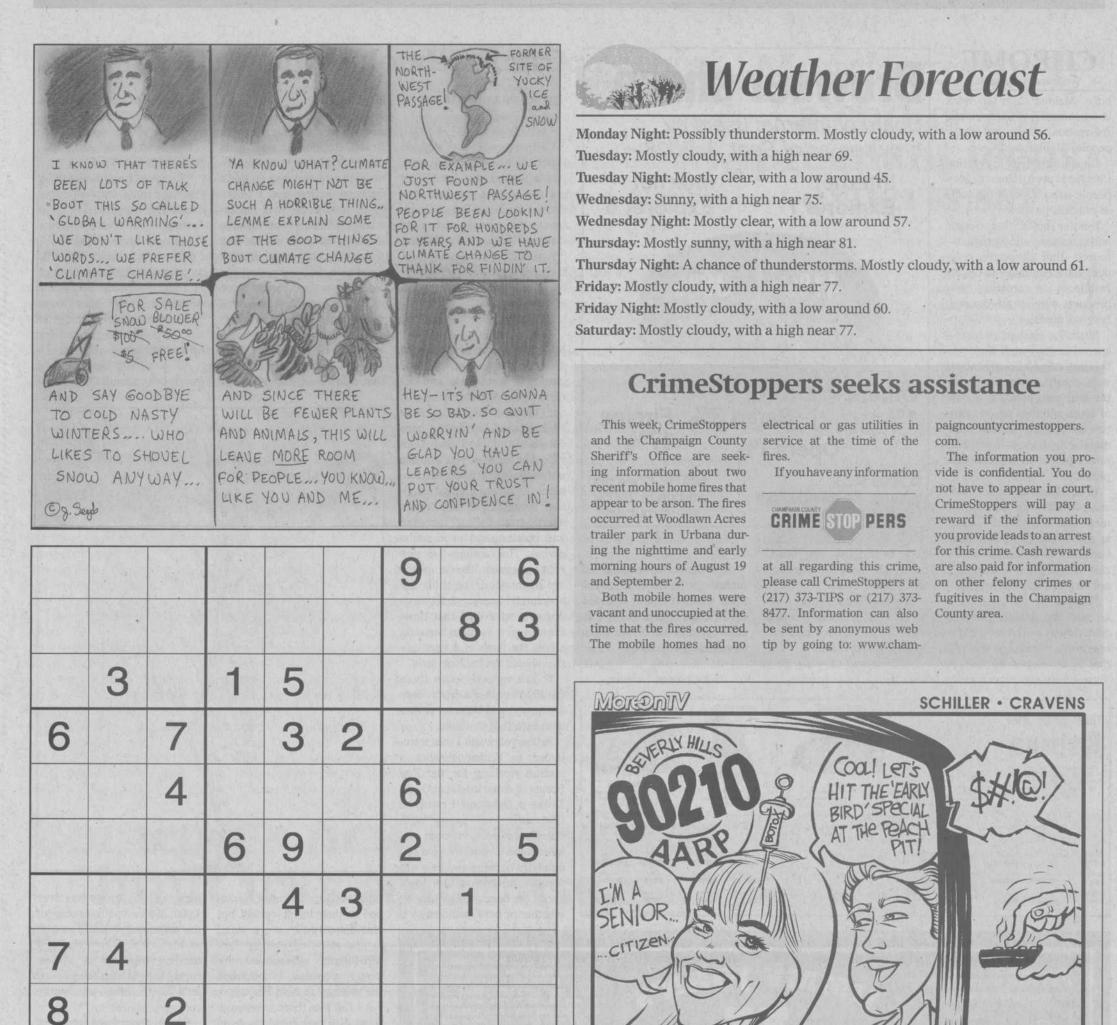
from home, and they might not want this type of parental involvement.

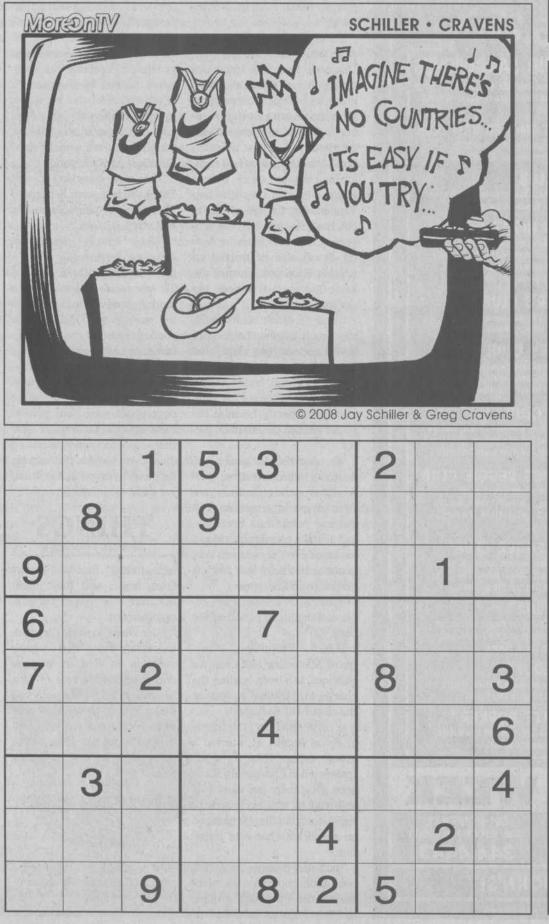
Also check to see if there are university rules that require dorms their first year or two, he said. It might not be a bad idea anyway to spend a year in the dorm and for your student to figure out what part of group called K.I.C.K., Kids town would be best to live in, he said.

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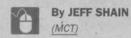
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ACC takes a hit on opening week, and other college football notes



MIAMI-This week finds Jim Grobe in something of an uncomfortable role as standardbearer.

Not that it's his fault. With 20 victories during the past two seasons, the Wake Forest coach has produced more than any previous three-year stretch in Winston-Salem. The Demon Deacons are 20th in the latest rankings.

It's just that Grobe didn't expect to be alone.

Wake Forest is the only ACC squad left in the AP's Top 25, after an ugly week that sent both Clemson and Virginia Tech tumbling out.

Feeling a little on an island? "I don't think so," Grobe said. "The reality is we've played one football game. Some of the teams that lost one football game know they've got the whole season left to make up for it."

Last week, though, wasn't the kind of statement the ACC needed amid rising questions about the league's worthiness.

Clemson, the runaway pick to win the ACC, got manhandled by an Alabama team largely considered fourth-best in the Southeastern Conference. Virginia Tech, even in a rebuilding year, was expected to beat East Carolina.

And those were only the redflag losses. Virginia got hammered by USC. N.C. State was blanked by South Carolina. Maryland and North Carolina at least won-but by slim margins over Division I-FCS teams.

All told, the ACC went 7-4 during the opening week. Toss out the FCS opponents, though, and the record drops to 3-4.

"A lot of unusual things happen in Week 1," Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer said. "We don't have what the pros have-exhibition games. We don't even get what the high

a week."

Fair enough, but the ACC's reputation has been on a slide for a few years now.

ACC members went 35-21 outside the league last season, a decent number until you see 22 of those wins were against foes from outside the "Big Six" BCS leagues. Bowl games produced a 2-6 record-11-14 in the three years since the league

media dialing in to get com- spokesman Mark Brand told ments from Knights coach George O'Leary instead heard a sultry female voice.

"Hi sexy, you've reached the one-on-one fantasy line ..." the recorded opening began.

Geez, even O'Leary wouldn't put that on his resume. Turns out the toll-free number provided by UCF got one digit wrong. Officials resched-

Phoenix media. "I think they'll be OK."

STAT OF THE WEEK

40: Percentage of the season's first two weeks that find teams facing a Division I-FCS opponent. Last week, 32 teams opened their season with the glorified exhibitions-includ-



Virginia Tech quarterback Sean Glennon (7) is sacked in the first half by East Carolina. The Pirates defeated the Hokies 27-22, at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, North Carolina, on Saturday, August 30, 2008.

Yalonda M. James / Charlotte Observer (MCT)

expanded to 12.

Set aside Florida State's 1999 national title, in fact, and the ACC is still waiting for another BCS bowl win.

That's why last weekend sounded such an alarm. Though the ACC has been among the nation's best in sending talent to the NFL (thanks, UM and FSU), it hasn't made the same impact on collegiate fields. And in what's considered a down year for the ACC, last week only created more fodder.

"Until you beat some folks, whatever they say is true," Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson said. "As a league we had some guys that got hit in the mouth, and we didn't hit back. That's the bottom line."

FANTASY FOOTBALL

Wednesday, but not without a homa and UM. FSU joins the fair amount of blushing.

DEFLATING LOSS

Arizona State's new \$8.4 million practice bubble lasted not even a full month-shredded when a violent windstorm ripped through campus late last week.

Large pieces of the fabric roof and insulation were found more than a quarter-mile away, carried by winds that measured as much as 75 mph at nearby Sky Harbor International Airport.

The 103,500 square-foot "Dennis Dome"-so dubbed for coach Dennis Ericksonopened just in time for pre- Four of those wins have come season camp. Needless to say, in SEC stadiums, whereas the the Sun Devils won't be using SEC is just 2-6 on the West it again this season. "We've practiced outside

uled the teleconference for ing Georgia, Ohio State, Oklalist this week.

Virginia's Yannick Reyering saw his very first football action-ever-in the Wahoos' loss to USC. A three-time All-ACC soccer star, Reyering kicked an extra point, missed a 46-yard field goal and handled two kickoffs. The Germany native was a secondround draft pick by MLS club FC Dallas.

Here's a pin to jab into the SEC's bubble: With UCLA's comeback over Tennessee, the Pac-10 now stands 10-6 against SEC opponents this decade.

Northwestern avoids upset bid but not questions

By SHANNON RYAN (MCT)

DURHAM, N.C.-Tropical Storm Hanna was far milder than many expected when it hit North Carolina late Friday.

Northwestern's revenge trip to Duke had a similarly surprising lack of punch through much of the football game between the two schools Saturday night.

The Wildcats left Wallace Wade Stadium with the satisfaction of avoiding a shocker with a 24-20 victory, but a torrent of questions will follow them home.

"We hadn't put our focus on last year (for this game)," Northwestern coach Pat Fitzgerald. "We've moved on. We learned a lot from that, but our focus was on improvement. I think in some areas we did, but in others we have a lot of work to do."

A season ago, the Wildcats were unable to score on four attempts at the end zone in the fourth quarter of a 20-14 loss to become Duke's lone victim of 2007.

This year the Wildcats survived because Omar Conteh ran in from 2 yards out with 9 minutes 4 seconds to play and the defense held the Blue Devils at bay in the final minutes.

While Duke's offense was on the field longer than the grounds crew trying to repair it from the heavy rain that passed through, Northwestern's defense figured out a way to hang on at the end.

Duke quarterback Thaddeus Lewis appeared to have thrown a go-ahead touchdown to Clifford Harris with 1:20 to go, but the play was called back on a holding penalty.

"I was worried about the touchdown," Fitzgerald conceded, "but I did see the hold. We made a nice pass rush on that play."

The Blue Devils' last attempt on fourth-and-15 fell incomplete.

The Wildcats took over and

"Defense gave us a chance to stay in the game," Fitzgerald said. "Some great pass rushing. To our conditioning level, we were out there for 91 plays. I saw the way our defensive players kept fighting."

The Wildcats return home with revenge, but also with questions.

Northwestern will need to address a defense that allowed Duke to rack up 472 yards, including 294 yards in the air and 178 yards on 44 rushes. The Blue Devils controlled the clock for nearly 40 minutes and converted 5 of 16 third downs.

"Obviously, Duke had some answers to what we were trying to do," Fitzgerald said.

While Fitzgerald was pleased to give up only 20 points despite Duke controlling the clock, Duke was 4 of 5 on red-zone chances.

"Get off on third down," Fitzgerald said of a lesson his defense needs to learn.

Northwestern cornerback Jordan Mabin came up with a critical play in the third period, causing and recovering a fumble at the Duke 31. Four plays later Kyle Daley's pass to Josh Rooks on a fake field goal was broken up by Adam Banks.

On Duke's ensuing possession, Lewis rushed for a 16-yard touchdown for a 20-17 Duke lead.

The Wildcats responded with a 72-yard drive sparked by a 45-yard pass from C.J. Bacher to Eric Peterman. An untouched Conteh rushed into the end zone from 2 yards out for the go-ahead score.

"(Duke) played very well on defense," Fitzgerald said. "We had to make some plays down the stretch."

Despite the loss, Duke appears to be shedding its reputation as a football cupcake.

Northwestern might be frustrated that it did not tear through Durham, but it still can be satisfied it avoided an upset.

HURRY-UP DRILL

schools have in scrimmaging against other people.

The final meeting of the brief "You judge people over a USF-UCF rivalry got off to an period of time, not a season or auspicious start Monday when for 86 years before this," ASU

Coast.

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ran out the clock, leaving the field without a wild celebration but at least with a sense of sat-

(c) 2008, Chicago Tribune.

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BY RANDY COVITZ McClatchy Newspapers



he NFL is a quarterback's game, but the New York Giants and San Diego Chargers

showed in the playoffs last season that there's one surefire way to beat a great passer, and that is to put pressure on him.

The Giants sacked New England's Tom Brady five times, forced a fumble and hit or hurried him another dozen times in New York's shocking Super Bowl win over the then-undefeated Patriots. A week earlier, San Diego also pressured Brady into a season-most three interceptions but lost, 21-12, in the AFC championship game.

Little wonder teams emphasized rushing - and protecting - the quarterback during the offseason. Minnesota made the blockbuster deal, sending the Kansas City Chiefs three draft picks for defensive end Jared Allen and making the NFL sack leader the highest-paid defensive player in the league.

San Francisco signed former Cincinnati defensive end Justin Smith as an unrestricted free agent, and the Bengals replaced Smith by signing Antwan Odom, who had eight sacks for Tennessee last season.

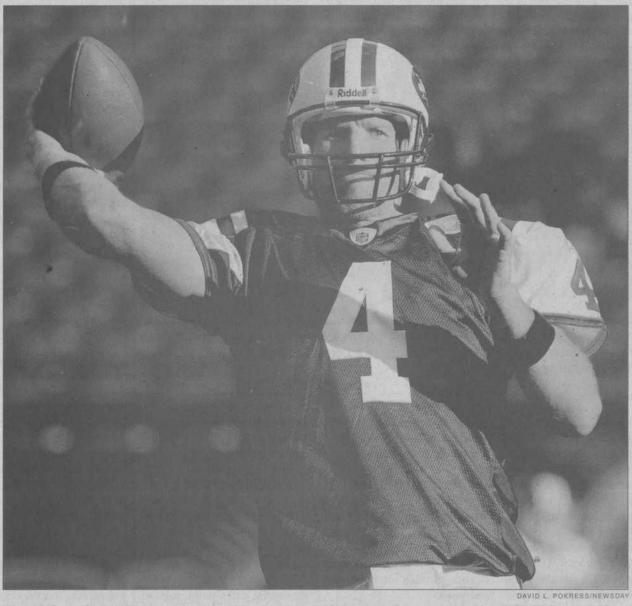
And to help head off the pursuit of the quarterbacks, NFL teams selected eight offensive tackles in the first round of the NFL draft.

FIVE DEFENSIVE ENDS TO WATCH

Jared Allen, Minnesota Vikings: The Vikings are investing a six-year contract worth up to \$74 million (\$31 million guaranteed) that Allen will meet, if not exceed, the 15.5 sacks he rang up for the Chiefs in just 14 games last season, and that he will stay trouble-free off the field. Allen, 26, will benefit from playing in a marvelous defensive front that includes outstanding tackles in Pat Williams and Kevin Williams.

🖩 Tamba Hali, Kansas City Chiefs: Hali has the unenviable task of moving from left end into the right end spot vacated by Allen. Hali, the initial first-round draft pick of the Herm Edwards era in Kansas City in 2006, has shown glimpses of potential with eight sacks as a rookie and 7.5 last season, despite playing through some nag-

Five areas to watch as the NFL kicks off the 2008 football season



Veteran Brett Favre will quarterback the New York Jets this season. Favre, a three-time NFL MVP, played for the Green Bay Packers for 16 seasons.

Mario Williams, Houston Texans: Remember the snickering when the Texans surprised everyone by taking Williams with the first overall pick of the 2006 draft instead of Reggie Bush or Vince Young? The Texans might get the last laugh. After a disappointing rookie season, Williams blossomed in 2007 with 14 sacks and two

FIVE NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES

■ QB Brett Favre, New York Jets: Packed with more drama than a day-

time soap opera, Favre's contractual divorce from the Green Bay Packers was the story of the summer. Despite the challenge of having to quickly adapt to a new offensive system, the veteran three-time NFL MVP is a sure upgrade for the Jets, who finished 4-12 last season. Whether or not Favre's addition is enough for the Jets to make the playoffs remains to be seen.

ECB Asante Samuel, Philadelphia Eagles: Samuel was the most-coveted unrestricted free agent on the market, and the Eagles lured him from New England with a \$57 million package, including \$20 million guaranteed. Samuel had 16 interceptions during the last two years. He will give the Eagles, who had just 11 picks as a team has blazing speed, tons of talent and can be a nightmare to coach. In other words, he should fit in perfectly with the Raiders, who sent a second-round pick in the 2008 draft and fifth-round pick in 2009 to Atlanta for Hall, a former first-round pick who had 17 interceptions - including five last year - , and scored four TDs in four seasons with the Falcons.

FIVE ROOKIES TO WATCH

III DT Glenn Dorsey, Kansas City Chiefs: Dorsey might be the most ready-to-play rookie, and the Chiefs desperately need him to succeed where so many - Ryan Sims, Junior Siavii, Eddie Freeman, Eric Downing failed. Dorsey can give the Chiefs an inside presence that helps Tamba Hali get sacks and frees linebackers to make tackles.

I DE Chris Long, St. Louis Rams: The Rams were torn between Long and Dorsey and selected Howie Long's son with the idea he would be the heir apparent to Leonard Little, 33: Rams defensive linemen produced just 11 sacks last season.

RB Darren McFadden, Oakland Raiders: The Raiders, with glaring needs on both lines and at other positions, and without draft picks in rounds two and three, couldn't resist taking McFadden, a fast and multitalented player, in the first round.

B QB Matt Ryan, Atlanta Falcons: Talk about pressure. All Ryan, the third pick of the draft, has to do is be the new face of the Falcons, live up to a megacontract (six-year, \$72 million with \$34.75 million guaranteed) and play the toughest position in sports for a rookie.

III LB Jerod Mayo, New England Patriots: Coach Bill Belichick prefers bringing in veteran linebackers but believes Mayo can master the Patriots' complicated scheme. Mayo had the fastest 40 time for linebackers at the combine.

COACHES ON THE HOT SEAT

Herman Edwards, Kansas City Chiefs: Edwards and his boss, Carl

Peterson, both have two years remaining on their contracts, and if the Chiefs post another 4-12 season (or worse), Clark Hunt will have to think twice about extending their contracts



ging injuries. Now, as the marquee right end, Hali needs to emerge as a dominant player.

III Justin Smith, San Francisco 49ers: Smith never really lived up to the hype of being the fourth overall pick of the draft by Cincinnati in 2001. He had a career-best 8.5 sacks in his rookie season and a career-low two in-16 games last year. Smith, who turns 29 in September, probably needed a change of scenery from the toxic Bengals locker-room environment.

Mathias Kiwanuka, New York Giants: The Giants selected Kiwanuka in the first round of the 2006 draft with an eye toward replacing Michael Strahan, the club's all-time sack leader. That day has come. Strahan has retired, and Kiwanuka, who had 4.5 sacks last season as a situation pass rusher before suffering a broken fibula in the 10th game of the season, will line up opposite team sack leader Osi Umenyiora on passing downs.

forced fumbles. In a division featuring three playoff teams last year, he can be a difference maker.

last season, a much-needed shutdown corner when going against division rivals Cowboys and Giants.

LB Jonathan Vilma, New

Orleans Saints: Vilma, a first-round pick in 2004, was a tackling machine for the Jets before suffering a knee injury midway through last year. He averaged 130 tackles a season in his first three seasons but didn't feel comfortable in coach Eric Mangini's 3-4 defense. The Saints, in dire need of a fast, ball-hawking, middle linebacker for their 4-3 scheme, were only too happy to send a pick for Vilma.

> RB Michael Turner, Atlanta Falcons: Turner, nicknamed "The Burner," will finally escape the shadow of LaDainian Tomlinson, whom he

understudied for four years at San Diego. Whenever given the opportunity, Turner played well, averaging 5.5 yards per carry and ripping off runs of 83, 74 and 73 yards. Turner, who replaces veteran Warrick Dunn, can take some heat off rookie QB Matt Ryan.

CB DeAngelo Hall, Oakland Raiders: Hall, a two-time Pro Bowler, Edwards

because it will be tough to sell tickets for a lame-duck year in 2009. A youth movement and inexperienced quarterback will buy Edwards some time if the Chiefs show improvement and stay close to .500.

Jeff Linehan, St. Louis Rams: Linehan is also in the third year of a four-year contract, but unlike Edwards, he doesn't have any playoff games on his resume, just an 11-21 mark with the Rams. Linehan's leadership and playcalling were called into question by the likes of quarterback Marc Bulger and wide receiver Torry Holt last season, and ownership has to be concerned that the Rams are becoming an afterthought in baseball-crazy St. Louis.

Lane Kiffin, Oakland Raiders: Who's in charge here? Kiffin refused to resign last winter after the Raiders went 4-12 in his first season, and he seems to be surrounded by assistant coaches he didn't want but owner Al Davis forced on him. If QB JaMarcus Russell, who has appeared in just four NFL games, is not ready and the Raiders are 0-4 at the bye, it will be bye-bye for Kiffin.

Five must-see, can't-miss games

PATRIOTS

AT COLTS

a 2007 preseason game. Kiwanuka

suffering a broken fibula in the 10th

had 4.5 sacks last season before

New York Giants

defensive end Mathias

Kiwanuka, left, tackles

game of the season.

Baltimore Ravens running

back Willis McGhee during



COWBOYS AT BROWNS

WEEK ONE: Let's see right away what the Browns are all about. Cleveland, coming off a 10-6 season in which it missed the playoffs, has been awarded five prime-time dates, including this 4:15 ET start against America's

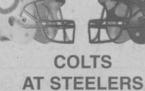


PATRIOTS AT CHARGERS

WEEK SIX: This rematch of the AFC championship game is becoming one of the league's best rivalries. The last time these AFC powers met in San Diego, the Patriots beat the Chargers in the playoffs, the last game Marty Schottenheimer coached.



WEEK NINE: This is now the best rivalry in the AFC, if not the NFL. Last year's regular-season meeting was so big, it was dubbed Super Bowl XLI1/2. It's possible these teams will be undefeated when they meet in the Colts' new



WEEK 10: There's no letup for the Colts, who visit the Steelers for a late-afternoon game. The last time these teams met, the Steelers upset Indianapolis in a 2005 playoff game on the way to winning the Super Bowl over the Seahawks.

GIANTS AT COWBOYS

WEEK 15: The defending Super Bowl champions also face the Cowboys in week nine, but that will be the undercard to New England-Indianapolis. But the NFC East, or certainly a wild-card berth, may be on the line in this