

The Jury finds that Parkland students are full of talent

■ New course showcases in exhibit

By **KATHLEEN SERINO**
Prospectus Staff Writer

It was a friends and family affair at the Parkland College Art and Design Student Juried Exhibition Awards Ceremony on the beautiful evening of April 17. Students of all ages and their loved ones and instructors gathered at the reception to hear live music, nosh on refreshments and most of all, take in the cream of the college's student artist crop.

It was also a bittersweet occasion for watercolor instructor Don Lake, as it is his last year as a professor at Parkland.

"It's a big celebration for our students so it's pretty festive," Art Gallery Director Lisa Costello said. It's really nice to see everyone's family and friends."

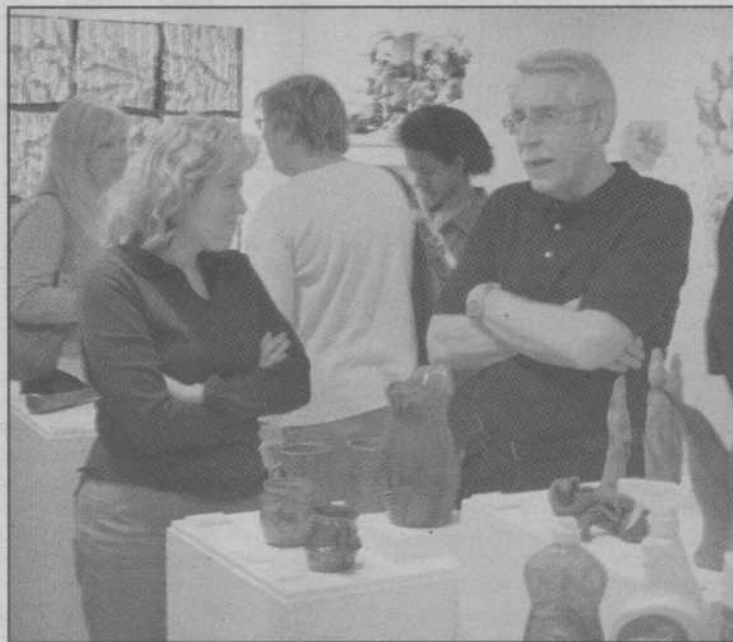
Also, this year's exhibition is slightly different than in the past because of the introduction of a digital imaging course—from which several of the pieces from that class were selected to be in the show. Students of the digital course offered pieces like 20-year-old Benji Frazzetto's award winning "Untitled" digital image of dead flower bulbs in a landscape setting.

Another popular genre among the audience included the ceramic pieces. Student sculptor Colleen Sola loves the unique and detailed variety of ceramics that appeared in the exhibit. "The visual aspect is very satisfying," she said.

Brian Cook, spectator and stepfather of one of the artists, is an experienced artist himself. He said he doesn't really have a favorite genre because

he enjoys many of them. Gazing around the gallery he said, "Every aspect of [the show] is very impressive. It's very, very cool."

the new digital imaging course. Confused about the difference between digital photography and digital imaging? According to Frazzetto, digital imaging is



Andrew Serino/Prospectus

Here are some of the artists featured in the Student Juried Exhibition.

The Independent

Benji Frazzetto has enjoyed "messaging around" on Photoshop. He said he took one art class in high school and a couple of private art classes afterward, but he's essentially a self-taught artist.

He studied in his first digital photography class last semester and is currently enrolled in

not only requires a digital camera, but also more than one computer imaging programs to render pieces.

Even though he's earned credit as a digital image photographer, Frazzetto claims to love painting. "I love texture. And that's splitting hairs between painting and photography," he said. He enjoys them both. Frazzetto plans on taking painting classes in the future.

See **Art** on page 3

Students, steroids, and stars of the game

By **GAVIN DOW**
Prospectus Staff Writer

We all know the stories of Marion Jones, Floyd Landis, Jose Canseco, and Barry Bonds. What often goes unreported in these sport scandals are the thousands upon thousands of young athletes who also use anabolic steroids. According to a 2006 report by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, over 1 in 25 twelfth grade students have used anabolic steroids, which stimulate muscle and bone growth.

Unfortunately, steroids do much more than that. Steroids, which are derived from the hormone testosterone (either naturally or artificially), may build muscle, but they also suppress the natural development of testosterone, increase the amount of "bad" cholesterol in the body, and can cause serious health problems in the liver and the heart.

On Friday, April 18, Parkland Natural Sciences Department Chair Ed O'Sullivan lectured an audience at the Staerkel Planetarium on the history and science of steroids, and how they relate to performance enhancement. Painting a broad canvass, O'Sullivan discussed athletes such as Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens, and several former East German Olympic stars, as well as the physiology of steroids, and their chemical makeup.

With his visual aids projected onto the planetarium's large ceiling, O'Sullivan began his presentation by speculating about the effects that anabolic steroids may have had on star pitcher Roger Clemens, who was named in a report last December as having taken ste-

roids. He compared Clemens's performances before and after each instance in which he was alleged to take steroids. According to O'Sullivan, there were occasions where he performed significantly better after having supposedly using steroids, although there were also occasions where that was not the case. O'Sullivan noted that either way, the evidence wasn't conclusive.

O'Sullivan then related a brief history of the study of steroids. He described an experiment performed in 1771 where a rooster's testes were transplanted into the body of a hen. The hormones in the testes stimulated the development of combs and wattles, characteristic of a rooster. He also talked about an experiment where a physician, Serge Voronoff, injected himself with an extract derived from animal testes.

In later experiments, he related, Nazi scientists gave testosterone to SS troops to increase their aggression. These experiments soon crossed over into the sports world, where Russian weightlifters in the 1950s were on steroids at the world championships. Steroid use in athletics became widespread in the following years. According to O'Sullivan, the first Olympic tests for steroids were given during the 1976 games.

The segment that made the largest impact, though, was about former East German Olympic athletes. After relating the history of performance enhancement in East Germany, O'Sullivan detailed the chilling aftermath for the unfortunate athletes: heart problems, abnor-

See **Cheaters** on page 8

Coming up next week: learn how to cope with finals, eat right, and learn some (Bush) jokes



Prospectus

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Phone: 217-351-2216, fax: 217-373-3835, e-mail: prospectus@parkland.edu, U.S. mail: Parkland College, Room X-155, 2400 W. Bradley Ave., Champaign, IL 61821.
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Photography Editor: Briana Stodden

Photographers: Andrew Serino

Gavin J. Dow

Writers: Kathleen Serino

Beth Voigt

Gavin J. Dow

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CHUCK SHEPHERD'S NEWS OF THE WEIRD

By **CHUCK SHEPHERD**

Lead Story

Update: Experimental "natural orifice" surgery might be health care's next big thing following its U.S. introduction last year at Columbia University (as reported also in "News of the Weird"), where doctors removed a woman's diseased gall bladder not by an abdominal incision but through her vagina. In March, doctors at UC-San Diego Medical Center removed a woman's appendix through her vagina, and a man's through his mouth. (A microscopic camera must be inserted through the abdomen, however, to guide the surgeons.) Pain and healing time are usually less than half that of ordinary surgery, but the risk of internal infection is greater. The next step, doctors say, will be removing kidneys through the anus.

Government in Action!

•A Maryland governmental fund created to assist "innocent" victims of violent crime has paid out nearly \$1.8 million since 2003 to injured (or deceased) "drug dealers, violent offenders and other criminals," according to an investigation by the Baltimore Sun published in March. Burial expenses were awarded for a carjacker, a victim of an inter-gang killing and a sex offender who was fatally beaten in prison. The Maryland courts have ruled that as long as the applicant was not engaged in a crime at the time he was injured, he must be considered for an award.

•The Associated Press reported in March that "dozens" of locked-up sexual predators are receiving federal aid to take mail-order college courses through Pell grants, even though prison inmates normally are ineligible. Sex offenders who have completed their sentences, but are held for "treatment," are not technically "prisoners," and may have spent their stipends on "living expenses" such as DVD players, in that they have no "room and board" expenses.

Great Art!

•Graduate art student Matthew Keeney's latest piece of performance art, in February, called "The Waiting Project," had him standing on streets in Syracuse, N.Y., waiting for

someone to ask him what "The Waiting Project" is. In previous pieces, Keeney had held a "Super Bowl party for one" on a park bench, had earnestly watched ice sculptures melt, and had walked from the Capitol steps in Washington, D.C., to the Lincoln Memorial but stopping each time he heard a car horn and then starting again when he heard another.

•Two aggressive art pieces sexualizing Jesus' Last Supper were displayed earlier this year: Among the 74 plaster models shown in Gateshead, England, in January by British artist Terence Koh was one of Jesus and several disciples sporting generous erections. And in March, a retrospective of Austrian Alfred Hrdlicka went on display in the Cathedral Museum in Vienna, with the blessing of the archbishop of Vienna, even though it included a painting of the Last Supper as a "homosexual orgy," in Hrdlicka's description (because, he said, there were no women in the original Da Vinci painting that inspired it). (That piece was removed during the first week, after complaints.)

•Last year, Montreal, Quebec, artist Michel de Broin created, as art, the hollowed-out shell of an old Buick powered only by a four-seater bicycle (with hand brakes, or, failing them, Fred Flintstone-type brakes). Nonetheless, when a group took the car out for a spin last October, an overzealous officer ticketed them for "driving" an unsafe "car," but in April, after a day-long court hearing, the charges were dropped.

•No Man's Land: "The Bride of Palestine" (a 26-year-old drag queen) is the best-known of a group of sexually uncertain Israeli Arabs who gather in underground venues in Tel Aviv and "struggle to define themselves," according to a March dispatch from McClatchy Newspapers. Though they are proud Palestinians at odds with the "occupying" Jewish society, some feel even more rejection by their own conservative communities and seem grateful that the "oppressors" permit the spaces that one woman called her "only refuge."

Police Blotter

Latest Police Chases: (1) In Ocala, Fla., in March, Bret Wass, 28, scrambling from police investigating a sexual battery,

commandeered a tow truck and drove away, even though the truck had a car hooked onto it; during the chase, he hit the patrol car and was captured on foot nearby. (2) Police in Osaka, Japan, mobilized in January to apprehend fugitive Hirofumi Fukuda, 27, who was wanted for assaulting an officer (which tends to get the attention of fellow officers). By the end of the two-hour episode, a helicopter and 460 patrol cars, involving 2,240 law-enforcement officers, were on the case.

What Goes Around, Comes Around

Thirty years ago, before Wal-Mart became an international giant, a small video company made a "handshake" deal to shoot promotional footage of the firm's executives and was given free rein within the company. It made 15,000 tapes, including many, inevitably, showing Wal-Mart leaders in awkward situations. In 2006, an incoming Wal-Mart executive decided to end the relationship, devastating Flagler Productions' bottom line, and to compensate, the company began offering to research its library for historians and, more notably, litigants suing Wal-Mart on product safety, employment and union-busting issues. According to an April Wall Street Journal report, a treasure trove of embarrassing moments is available.

People Different From Us

Even though 20 states outlaw keeping monkeys as pets, the Humane Society of the U.S. estimates that there are 15,000 privately owned primates, with at least 200 Floridians licensed for pet capuchins, according to an April Orlando Sentinel report. Since experts warn that the animals are biters and scratchers and are very aggressive when agitated, the Sentinel asked what accounts for their popularity. Said the editor of Monkey Matters Magazine, it's their humanlike features and owners' desires to dress them up. "Believe me," said the editor, "if people could get their cats (into) outfits, a lot of those cats would be wearing outfits."

Least Competent Criminals

In three incidents in March and April, robbers were

arrested in the act after police were tipped off in advance. The source of the tip each time was a store employee who had been brazenly notified by the perp to expect a robbery soon. Daniel Glen, 40, was arrested in Windsor, Ontario, having called ahead to make sure there was enough money in the convenience store's cash register. An 18-year-old man was arrested in Chicago, having given his phone number to a Mufflers For Less employee and instructing him to call when the manager, with access to the safe, arrived at work. And two men were arrested near Traverse City, Mich., having described to a gas station employee two hours earlier exactly how they would soon rob him.

Recurring Themes

Earnest residents continue to accidentally destroy their homes: (1) A house in Galveston, Texas, had the roof blown off on Jan. 21 when the resident set out six bug foggers but neglected to turn off the gas stove's pilot light; (2) A Jacksonville, Fla., woman who smelled something unusual in her home on Nov. 15 decided to light the fireplace to clear the air, and a gas leak created a fire that destroyed the home; (3) An apartment building in Sioux Falls, S.D., was wiped out on Feb. 21 when a resident tried to thaw frozen pipes with a blow torch.

News That Sounds Like a Joke

Bernard Fincher Jr., 25, was arrested in Buffalo, N.Y., in March for possession of cocaine when police found a stash of the drug that Fincher had allegedly tried to hide in a doughnut box. (2) Cody Young, 13, complained in January that when he parked his expensive BMX bicycle inside the front door of a Goodwill Industries store in Salem, Ore., so he could browse, an employee mistakenly sold the bike to a customer for \$6.99.

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

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ART

continued from page 1

The Multimedia Artist

Sarah Holt, 22, has three contributing pieces in the gallery—each unique to each other. One is a pen and ink stippling she created in her 2-D Design class titled “Inspiration.” Another is an independently developed sawdust fired earthenware vessel called “Chestnut Tea Jar.” Her favorite one, however, is her “Rhynchophorous Weevil Pin” (jewelry) made of sterling silver, ammolite, and white sapphire.

She likes her beetle the best because her father is an entomologist and she gets a lot of inspiration from insects and nature because of him (there are even notes of this found in her stippling piece, as well).

Holt, a Mahomet native, loves art because she loves working

with her hands. She was also exposed to art at a very young age; her mother was a trained medical illustrator. “I like the manual connoissance of it,” she said at the show.

The Traditional Photographer

Nathan Landolt is a 22-year-old Parkland student who dreamed of being a photographer only a few years ago. Two of his pieces were selected for the show, one of which, a portrait titled “Sewn in Place,” was selected for a purchase award.

He is currently taking Advanced Photography and he says this class is his favorite because he has so much creative independence in the classroom. “I have the ability to express myself rather than being taught fundamentally,” he said.

Good Night & Good Morning were also in attendance to complement the reception with their mellow, indie tunes. The

band members include Pat Elifritz (keys), Ryan Brewer (guitar) and Roisin Maguire (harp). Elifritz, who is employed by the Gallery, has two watercolor pieces featured in the exhibit.

Costello said in an email last week that out of 372 submissions, 189 were selected for the show. She also explained that the faculty evaluated each submission based upon the various classes the pieces were created in. “They look at content, craftsmanship, what the assignment was, what they’re trying to learn and how successful that was,” she said.

Art and photography instructor Craig McMonigal (who was not on the jury), had a few things to say about the artists. “Generally all of our students amaze me every year with their talent. This show really showcases their talent and I hope to see them continue on in art.”

And many will. Merit Award winner Cole Rabenort, 20, plans to attend art school Columbia College (Chicago) in the fall.

Art History professor Denise Seif announced the winners, “We are very proud of our students...It is an honor to have them in our gallery space.”

Merit Awards

Bailey, Maria “Celestial Globes”

Coles, Michael “Thinking of Don”

Shahadat, Tanjina “Class Study”

Visser, Kenton “C.S.J. Mfg. Co.”

Voigt, Beth “Untitled”

Jamieson, Debra “Bridge Path”

Park, Youngmi “Look Better”

DeCardy, Margaret “Three Views”

Rabenort, Cole “(Tip Toe)”

Joung, Young, “Portrait”

Szacilowski, Hubert “Cleat”

Hadden, Trevor “Untitled Flatware”

Abalos, Anisa “Flash”

Purchase Awards

Ruziakova, Zuzana “Mata Hari”

Martin, Reese “Tristitia”

Salzman, Travis “The Eye of My Apple”

Lindsay, Dan “Working Girl”

Landolt, Nathan “Sewn in Place”

Library Purchase Awards

Burkhardt, Richard “The Wind and the Bean Field”

Lim, Eun Hee “The Green

Box”

Shaw Creative Award

Bonilla, Jennifer “Untitled #851”

Faculty Purchase Awards

Franczak, Kathleen “Octopus Candelabra”

Yakimkova, Alena “Fish Bone”

Art Coop Purchase Award

Park, Young Sun “Still Life”

FAA Chair Purchase Award

Schneider, Adrielle “Heart Vessel”

Parkland President

Purchase Award

Frazzetto, Benji “Untitled”

Dr. David M. and Shirley Jones

Purchase Award

Huang, Sen-Yi “Wood Spoon”

Underwood-Alger

Scholarship

Visser, Kenton “Animal Crackers are an Excellent Source of Nostalgia”

Arrowmont Purchase

Award

Fish, Robert “Klee’s Playground”



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Quake highlights Midwest's underground hot zone

By JEREMY MANIER AND
JEFFREY MEITRODT
Chicago Tribune (MCT)

CHICAGO—A massive rock formation 7 miles below West Salem, Ill., moved just an inch or so at 4:36 a.m. Friday, but that was enough to cause the 5.2 magnitude earthquake that broke windows and cracked walls near the epicenter, shook Chicagoans in their beds and sent shock waves that people felt as far away as Kansas and West Virginia.

Neither the main quake nor the half-dozen aftershocks caused any major injuries or property damage. But the rattling was the worst to hit Illinois since 1968, when a 5.3 quake caused more damage to buildings but no injuries.

The quake is a sharp reminder of the hidden hot zone beneath Illinois, which in some ways rivals the New Madrid fault zone that caused massive quakes in Missouri early in the 19th century.

It's still modest compared with quake-riddled California, but the Midwestern event stood out in how far away its rumbling was felt. Experts said the deep rocks in this part of the country are unusually solid and cool, allowing them to conduct shock waves up to 10 times farther away than is possible with the jumbled, warm rocks out west.

"You don't feel a magnitude 5 quake in California in nearly as big a region as you do in Illinois," said Stuart Sipkin, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Comparable quakes hit the

fault system in the Wabash Valley seismic zone about once every 15 or 20 years, experts believe. Compared with California, where most faults are close to the surface and bear clear marks of past activity, the fault systems in this region are difficult to study, making predictions much fuzzier.

This is an older hunk of geology than the Western U.S., and the faults here are probably the remnants of scars in the Earth that may have come from the ancient splitting of continental plates or mountain-building processes. Just as the scar on a broken bone is more vulnerable to breaking later on, the faults in this region bear the brunt of the ordinary stress caused by the movement of continental plates on the earth's surface.

"As the whole plate moves, there are random, slow motions within it which are tiny compared to the movement of the plate as a whole," said Seth Stein, a professor of geologic sciences at Northwestern University. "We have not been able to figure out any obvious pattern that would tell us what controls those tiny movements."

The biggest aftershock on Friday measured 4.6, most likely caused by excess strain that the original, bigger quake did not relieve, Stein said.

Some geologists describe the Wabash Valley zone in southern Illinois and Indiana as separate from the New Madrid formation, while others say it's part of the same system. What's clear is that the Illinois and Indiana faults can pack as much energy as the better-known

New Madrid, which is centered in Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas, Kentucky and the southern tip of Illinois.

The worst quakes ever to hit the Wabash Valley region may have matched the huge New Madrid events of 1811 and 1812, which had an estimated magnitude of up to 8 on the Richter scale. Those quakes made church bells ring in Boston and caused damage as far away as South Carolina and Washington, D.C., historians believe.

A similarly violent quake hit the Wabash River area thousands of years ago. Steven Obermeier of the USGS reached that conclusion by studying a feature along the east bank of the Wabash river near Vincennes, Ind., where shaking from an old quake had liquefied sand and brought it to the surface, covering part of a tree that carbon dating showed to be 6,100 years old.

That quake would have registered as at least a magnitude 7, experts believe—slightly stronger than the Northridge, Calif., quake of 1994 that killed 57 people.

"You could probably expect a magnitude 7 quake in this region every 1,500 years or so," said Stein, of Northwestern.

Quakes from the New Madrid system are more frequent than in the Wabash Valley, but even New Madrid quakes have rarely reached a magnitude of 5 in recent history. (On the Richter scale, a magnitude 5 quake is 32 times more intense than a magnitude 4.) The last major New Madrid event occurred in 1895.

Friday's quake was a novelty

in Chicago as it swayed buildings, startled pets and bemused insomniacs and light sleepers. Thoughts then quickly turned to possible damages in a city designed for tornadoes rather than temblors.

But the quake seemed to have left no mark on the skyline. Heavier, lower brick buildings with un-reinforced skeletons might have been vulnerable, but would have shown signs of damage quickly through cracks and crumbling walls. No such damage was immediately discovered, city inspectors said.

And Chicago's skyscrapers, because they are designed to shed heavy wind loads, easily shrugged off Friday's comparatively gentle downstate earthquake, said structural engineer R. Shankar Nair, a senior vice president and principal at Teng, a Chicago-based architecture, engineering and development firm.

"Even though they don't particularly design for earthquake in Chicago, well-designed tall buildings should be pretty much unscathed," Nair said.

The quake began a busy morning in Chicago of phone calls and emergency inspections around the city, said Chicago Buildings Department spokesman

Bill McCaffrey. The search for problems was just beginning, he said, and involved city building inspectors, contractors and building owners. Inspectors fanned through the city and climbed the 45 building cranes and 36 skip hoists known to be operating, McCaffrey said.

It's a good bet that the Wabash Valley will see another category 5 earthquake within the next 20 years, but forecasting when the next really big one could hit is far trickier, experts said.

In California, big earthquakes are so common that the USGS estimates the state has a 99.7 percent chance of seeing a Northridge-sized quake in the next 30 years. It could be 1,000 years before Illinois sees a quake of similar strength—or a lot sooner.

"You could have that 1,000-year earthquake tomorrow," said Jim Devine, a geophysicist with the USGS.

(Chicago Tribune reporters James Janega, Monique Garcia and Ray Long contributed to this report.)

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Putting themselves in other people's chairs

■ Wheel-A-Thon brings donations, awareness

By **BETH VOIGT**

Prospectus Features Writer

Traffic issues are nothing new at Parkland, but last Saturday there was a new kind of traffic on campus. Sponsored by Club ACCESS, the "first annual" Wheel-A-Thon had students, faculty, and participants from all over Champaign-Urbana bringing their transportation indoors and maneuvering their borrowed wheels through the congestion of the D wing halls.

Rolling around one of two half-kilometer courses in wheelchairs borrowed from various local businesses, participants in the Wheel-A-Thon were both raising money and raising awareness about the day-to-day experiences of people with disabilities.

"Because a wheelchair is such a visible indication of a disability, many people make assumptions [about people in wheelchairs] without even realizing it," said Evelyn Brown, advisor for Parkland's Club ACCESS.

Club ACCESS (Awareness, College, Campus, Encourages, Student, Success) is a student organization for students with disabilities and allies who are devoted to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to achieve his or her full edu-

cational potential. Half of the proceeds from the Wheel-A-Thon will be used for the Club ACCESS scholarship fund.

Participants were raising money for both Club ACCESS and PACE. After signing up individually or as a part of a team, wheelers were encouraged to ask friends, family and co-workers to pledge donations of any amount and collect the donations to bring to the 9:30am event.

Todd Horton and members of Parkland's surveying club laid out an all-indoor as well as an indoor/outdoor course over the D wing and the C parking lots. After registration, wheelers experimented with brakes, adjusted arm and footrests, and tried not to run into light posts, trashcans, or each other.

Less of a race and more of a fundraising competition, trophies were awarded to the individual and team that raised the most money. Wheelers without their own chair borrowed one of the number provided by local businesses, and everyone got to try their hand at hand power.

Directing people through the course as they maneuvered through doors and pushed their way up hills, Club ACCESS

courses to see what it's like."

A new experience for all involved, the club hopes to make the fundraiser an annual event.

"Our goal for this year is to get this event off the ground, see what works and what doesn't, and hopefully raise a little money in the process," said Brown.

In addition to funding a Club ACCESS scholarship, part of the proceeds from the Wheel-A-Thon will be contributed to The PACE Center for Independent Living for their programs to assist persons with disabilities in the community.

Providing disability-specific services and referrals to a five-county area, PACE also works with individuals and groups as an advocate to establish or change systems to allow for the needs of people with disabilities.

After the Wheel-A-Thon, all of the wheelers, sponsors and organizers came together to enjoy a pizza picnic outside the D wing. With over 50 participants, the Wheel-A-Thon raised an estimated \$3,000 for PACE programs and a Club ACCESS scholarship.

Parkland graduate and founder of Club ACCESS Paula Vanier was the top individual fundraiser, and the Heels and Wheels team was awarded the team trophy.

Many thanks are also due to the event's sponsors. Silver Wheel sponsors included Carle Hospital and Knights of Columbus, and the Bronze wheel sponsors were Tatman's, Project Te, and Rogards Office Plus.

Sponsor pledges are still coming in, and tax-deductible donations are still being accepted. To make a contribution, contact Evelyn Brown in the Center for Academic Success at 217/351-2587, or visit the PACE website at http://www.pacecil.org/Wheel_A_thon_20082.html.



Briana Stodden/Prospectus

The group has been planning and preparing for the Wheel-A-Thon since January. Proposing a partnership with the PACE Center for Independent Living in Urbana, Club ACCESS based the Wheel-A-Thon on a similar event held in Rockford.

Students composed and sent letters to local businesses solic-

presentation to the Knights of Columbus, securing their sponsorship, and he was also on tele-



Participants raised money for Club ACCESS and PACE by using wheelchairs to negotiate 'obstacle' courses. "It's not as easy as it looks," said Evelyn Brown.

Briana Stodden/Prospectus

vision the week before the event for publicity.

"Many students have certainly grown, increased their organizational skills, and increased their opportunities with this project. I'm very proud," said Brown.

At the Wheel-A-Thon, partic-

member Mary Ridinger said, "I really think they're getting to know what people with disabilities really go through."

"A wheelchair is not as easy as it looks," said Brown. "Like driving, you have to learn how. Hopefully people will try both

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Day: 1:30 pm - 6:30 pm Twilight: 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

P/T Package Handlers

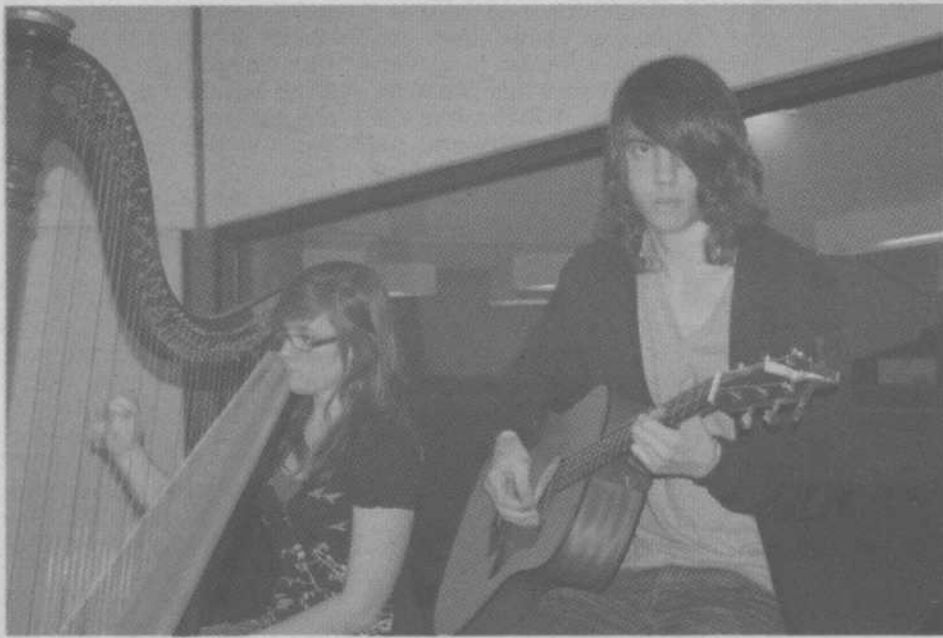
QUALIFICATIONS

- 18 years or older/not attending high school
- Ability to load, unload, sort packages
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Photography by
Andrew Serino



Ben Stein Reaches Across Party Lines To Channel The Spirit Of William Jennings Bryan

By SHANE SWEARINGEN
Prospectus Columnist

Among atheists, I don't think I'm alone in wavering back and forth between bemused tolerance and venomous contempt for organized religion and its generally well-meaning retardation of society. On the one hand, religion provides people with a sense of community and purpose, it eases their burdens, and it usually (at least theoretically) promotes things like compassion and tolerance, which are very good things indeed. On the other hand, it's responsible for "creation science"—which two-thirds of the American population would like to see taught in our public schools as an alternative to evolution.

Contrary to a popular and monstrously misguided theory expressed in Ben Stein's new propagandist documentary, *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed*, the reason creationism isn't and shouldn't be taught in secular schools has nothing to do with a widespread atheistic-academic conspiracy to eliminate faith in America, and everything to do with the fact that creationism ISN'T SCIENCE. Period. By definition, science is the study of natural, physical phenomena: you can't apply the scientific method to the study of hypothetical supernatural beings because such beings could not be physically examined even if they existed; if they could, they would be natural rather than supernatural beings, which means they could not be creator-gods. In a more sane world, that would be the end of this ridiculous argument, but it's not.

As the film demonstrates, creationists perceive the academic denunciation of their attempt to pass their faith off as a credible science as an attack on their faith itself, and in their complete misunderstanding of the situation, feel that they are victimized. Why? Surely they bring their own children to church every week and force them to study whatever ancient text convinced them of god's existence and greatness: how much more brain-washing do their kids need? Or do they need to

secure the souls of the other children, with the free-thinking parents? In either case, listening to the constituents of an overwhelming majority bitch about their difficulty in violating our constitution to oppress a comparatively small minority with no political influence is pretty annoying.

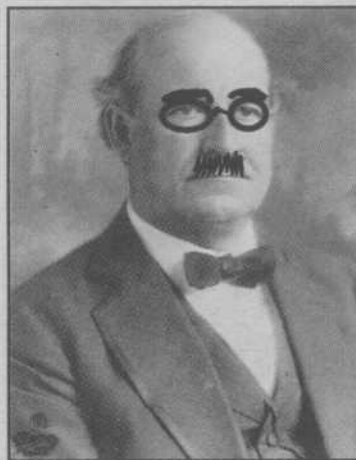
Elsewhere *Expelled* seeks viewer sympathy in the sob stories of incompetent scientists who lost their jobs for promoting religious superstitions as legitimate scientific material. Of course, the spin here is that ANY scientist who dares question evolution is exiled from the scientific kingdom...which is complete bullshit. As science historian and *Expelled* interviewee Michael Shermer explains, "It is perfectly okay to question Darwinism (or any other ism in science), as long as there is a way to test your challenge. Intelligent Design creationists, by contrast, have no interest in doing science at all."

This is actually even more disingenuous than it seems when you consider that at least one person said to have lost his job never even HAD the job in first place...But then what use is credibility (or most things) when all of life's complexities can be reduced to a remote personal deity of limitless knowledge, power and righteousness?

In addition to science and ethics, *Expelled* also exhibits a profound misunderstanding of history in its most shamelessly sensationalistic scenes. The Holocaust, Stalin's Purges, and pretty much all of the worst atrocities of the twentieth century are laid squarely at the feet of Charles Darwin's Theory of Natural Selection on the grounds that several brutal dictators vaguely subscribed to social Darwinism. You know, since the Nazis incorporated a bastardized version of Darwinian theory into their brutal political philosophy, the movie's logic goes, that means Charles Darwin was at the root of the Holocaust and not Hitler's psychotic anti-Semitism, or Kaiser's Wilhelm's inept leadership before and during World War I which drove the country into the

ground and facilitated Hitler's improbable rise to power. This also explains why there were no murders or wars or even petty crimes until the twentieth century: despite their differences, everyone could agree that there was a god who created them all for the express purpose of believing in him and there was no chance they were ever monkeys, and everything was super-great 24/7. Right? Right?

In short, don't contribute to *Expelled's* box office gross.



Illinois native William Bryan liked Prohibition, hated Darwinism, and might've liked the Marx brothers.

Photo vandalized by the editor

CHEATERS

continued from page 1

mally high cancer rates, depression, infertility, and a miscarriage rate for women that is 32 times greater than the average for other East Germans. Their children also appear to be paying the price for the steroids; there are high rates of birth defects and mental deficiencies amongst the offspring of former East German athletes.

O'Sullivan spoke sympathetically of one athlete in particular, Heidi Krieger. Krieger, who became the European shot putting champion in 1986, attended an elite state-run school for athletes in Berlin, where she was routinely given anabolic steroids that she thought were merely vitamins. She built muscle at an alarming rate, and began developing male features. Heidi now lives as Andreas, a man, and is married to a former East German swimmer. While Andreas believes that he already had confusion about a sexual identity, he believes that steroids pushed him over the edge.

O'Sullivan wrapped up the presentation by discussing the cases of Barry Bonds, who, like Clemens, stands accused of using performance-enhancing drugs, and Mark McGwire, whose renowned 70 home run season in 1998 allegedly spurred Bonds to being using performance enhancing drugs. He showed the audience a stunning before-and-after picture, demonstrating the remarkable muscular growth in Bonds's body between 1998 and 2001,

the year he set a single-season major league baseball record for home runs.

He also raised the issue of how athletes who use steroids spur on children to make the same decision, quoting from the Mitchell Report. "McGwire may not have wanted to be a role model, but he was. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, by 2001, 8% of male high school seniors had used Andro within the prior year."

Answering questions after the lecture, O'Sullivan explained that steroids seem to have a greater effect on the so-called "fast twitch" muscles than any muscles that help in endurance. In effect, this would mean that steroids are more useful as a performance enhancer for a sprinter instead of a distance runner. He also warned that while any gains made from the use of steroids disappear within six months of discontinuing their use, the negative effects can continue for the rest of a user's life.

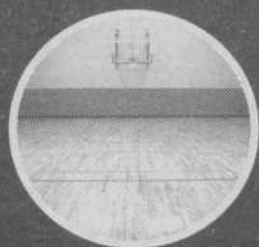
The good news is that steroid use among youth appears to be trending down. Even so, the decision to take steroids is still being made by many student athletes, a decision that could have disastrous consequences down the road. There are legitimate uses for anabolic steroids, particularly in the areas of rehabilitation and AIDS treatment, but doctors carefully monitor these uses. While the Mitchell Report in baseball has certainly opened the eyes of the country, the fact is that athletes still use them to gain an edge, at the cost of their long-term health.



CAP AND GOWN PICK-UP

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FROM 8:30 A.M. — 7:00 P.M.
IN X-150

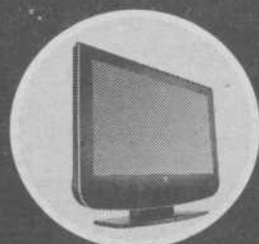
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Student Life Presents: Parkland Christian Fellowship

By **BETH VOIGT**
Prospectus Features Writer

The Parkland Christian Fellowship is a religious group on campus that seeks to provide connections for Christians in a secular environment. It is "an organization for Christian students, faculty, and staff who are interested in learning about and knowing Jesus Christ," according to the group's brochure.

"The Parkland Christian Fellowship Society endeavors to lead students to the commitment of Jesus Christ and to nurture members of the society in their personal Christian life and faith. The members also strive to aid Christian growth and encourage Christian outreach."

Josh Schmidgall, a mass communications student here at Parkland, views his participation in Parkland Christian Fellowship as "a way of getting away from the hustle and bustle of the day."

For anyone interested in learning more about Christianity in the lives of real people, the Parkland Christian Fellowship is open to all. It is interdenominational, meaning that the group does not have an association with any specific denomination of Christianity (such as Protestant or Roman Catholic).

The group meets twice every week. Members get together for a "regular" discussion meeting on Thursdays from noon to 1pm in M-235, and on Wednesdays from 10-12 for Port of Reverence, a more meditative setting in P-106. Members may come and go as they please. There may be singing, someone play-

ing guitar, quiet discussion, or simply relaxed contemplation.

"Part of the mission is to be able to have time to get together to study the Bible," said Shirley Kolb, advisor to the group. "It's open to everyone, from people who are already Christians to non-Christians interested in finding out what it's all about."

The group seeks to bring people to Christ in a loving manner, without the misrepresentations we see so often in the media. Members emphasize that the hate so frequently portrayed is most definitely not what the religion is about.

Kolb said that the group "gives students the opportunity to learn more about the Bible and meet with other people that share their interests."

"It's a place where a group of just Christians can meet," said member Alaric Schaufele, a music education student.

"We can speak freely without imposing our beliefs on other people as 'the only way,' because that wouldn't be right," said Schmidgall.

Currently, there are usually about a half-dozen people at an average PCF meeting, but membership fluctuates from year to year. In previous years the group has had over 50 members.

At their meetings, PCF members meet for an interactive bible study to talk about how it can be applied to everyday life. Recent discussions have revolved around Bible passages related to making decisions; each year, the group chooses a different theme to study.

From left: Alaric Schaufele, advisor Shirley Kolb, and Josh Schmidgall of the Parkland Christian Fellowship Society. Their mission is to nurture members in their personal Christian life and faith, as well as to aid Christian growth and outreach.

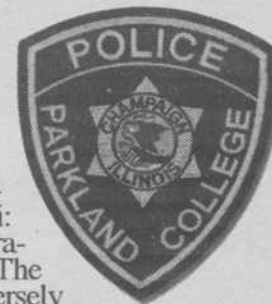
Beth Voigt/Prospectus



Just so you know, safety is everyone's business

Off Campus Behavior

Lately, there have been several off campus issues that have involved Parkland Students. Let me be the first to remind you that poor off campus behavior can directly affect your status as a student at Parkland College. According to the student conduct code located in the Student Polices and Procedures Manual, Article iii: under proscribed conduct. Note the second paragraph under jurisdiction of Parkland College. The paragraph reads as follows: Conduct that adversely affects the Parkland College Community and or the pursuit of its objectives may be included and adjudicated, however, regardless of location of said conduct. It is the sole discretion of the dean of students to decide on a case by case basis whether the Student Conduct Code shall be applied to conduct occurring off campus. Please use good judgment and be responsible when you are both on and off campus.



Last year, the group held discussions based around "The Truth Project." This DVD series, produced by Focus on the Family, looks at life from a biblical perspective and encourages discussion in a group setting.

"We're in this group because our faith in the Lord has really changed our lives and that's something we'd really like to share," said Kolb.

The group also gets together for fun outside of regular meetings. Each spring, they get away for a week-long retreat at the Pine Ridge Christian center, a lodge

in the woods in Norway, IL.

They also hold a Christmas party every year, and get together for a bonfire at the Kolbs' home each October. Even though last year's bonfire was rained out, the group still retreated indoors to make s'mores in the microwave.

"I've read that it's healthy to take an hour each day just to relax, and this group gives me the perfect time to do that," said Schmidgall.

"Anybody and everybody is invited," said Schaufele. "Of course, we'd need a bigger room then!"

Calling all Catholic students, faculty and staff!

Come find out about a new group to nurture the spirit and increase our love of scriptures and tradition.

An informational meeting will be held on Monday, April 28th from 12-12:50 in X-225. All are warmly invited to stop by and find out more.

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Penne, 353-2028 or apenne@parkland.edu.



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Weather Forecast

- Thursday:** Early morning showers likely, high near 73.
- Thursday Night:** Early morning showers likely, low around 55.
- Friday:** Showers and thunderstorms likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 71.
- Friday Night:** A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.
- Saturday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 68.
- Saturday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.
- Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 68.
- Sunday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 46.
- Monday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.

CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

This week, CrimeStoppers and the Urbana Police Department are seeking your assistance in solving two separate gas station robberies in which bank deposits were taken.

The first robbery occurred on Monday, March 17, at approximately 11am at the Circle K gas station, located near the intersection of Lincoln and Bradley. The suspect attacked an employee in the parking lot as the employee was getting into a vehicle to make a bank deposit. The suspect was last seen running north from the gas station. The suspect was described as a black male between

25 and 30 years of age. He was wearing a white hooded sweatshirt with a multi-colored pattern.

The second robbery occurred on Saturday, April 5, at approximately 10am at the Mobil gas station, located near the intersection of Lincoln and Green. Two suspects attacked an employee behind the store as the employee was getting into a vehicle to make a bank deposit. Both suspects were described as black males in their 20s, wearing dark colored coats. One suspect had a small goatee.

Urbana Police Investigators are requesting any information you may have about these

robberies.

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

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

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McClain leads Parkland men ■ Illini star draws needed attention

By **ERIK PHEIFER**
Contributing Writer

Sergio McClain, a former standout for the University of Illinois Fighting Illini men's basketball team, is returning to the local basketball scene after accepting the men's coaching job at Parkland College earlier this month.

Parkland Athletic Director Rod Lovett said that he found out about McClain's interest in the job through mutual contacts and that the hiring will add instant credibility to the program since he is a well-known figure in the area.

"We are excited to get some of Sergio's reputation and character to coach at Parkland," said Lovett.

Lovett added that McClain impressed him during an interview with his knowledge of a game and his eagerness and ability to work with young people.

The hard work and discipline McClain showed during his playing days are something that Lovett appreciates and hopes McClain can bring to Cobra basketball.

Lovett said that McClain's popularity was not a big factor in hiring him but that it may be advantageous and open the door to recruits that would not have otherwise been attainable.

Although McClain is relatively new to coaching, he certainly has plenty of basketball experience which should be more than enough to help him be successful.

Last year he served as a player-coach for the Peoria Kings of the American Basketball Association

(ABA), and prior to that served as an assistant at Champaign Central High School.

Before his coaching days, McClain was part of successful teams not only for the University

of Illinois but also in high school at Peoria Manual where he won four consecutive states titles under his father, Wayne, who is now an assistant for the Illini.

McClain will inherit what appears to be an experienced team with a majority of the roster, including three starters, being freshman this season.

He will try to return success



Sergio McClain of Illini fame has assumed the role of the men's basketball coach for the Parkland Cobras. McClain should draw a new interest to Parkland's program.

Jim Prisching/Chicago Tribune

to a program that reached the national tournament five times in nine years in the late '80s and early '90s but has not been there since back-to-back appearances in 1993 and 1994.

McClain takes over a Parkland team that finished 12-20 last season under Chris Warren who resigned last month after seven years at the helm of the Cobras.

According to Lovett, Warren resigned because he felt it was time for a change and wanted to spend more time with his family.

5th ANNUAL DAVID JONES SPEECH CONTEST

The David Jones Speech Contest wants you....to speak for a worthwhile cause

This is an annual student scholarship contest held to honor the memory of David Jones, Chair of Fine and Applied Arts from 1988 until his death in April, 2002.

This year promises to be exciting! Speak on behalf

of your favorite charitable organization by presenting a 5-8 minute persuasive speech. The top prize is \$500 for you with a matching \$500 to your charity. There are several other cash prizes as well.

Contest rules and application form are available on the speech contest Web site.

<http://www.parkland.edu/speechcontest>

Deadline for submitting an application is Monday, April 28

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