# Prospectus

A student produced publication since 1969

Thursday, January 24, 2008

Parkland College

# Prospectus will soon be eco-friendly "Dead Tree Media" to be phased out, digital in

By AARON GEIGER Prospectus Editor

Fact: Newsprint consumption has reached over 9 million tons per year in the United States, even though digital 'paperless' media has skyrocketed.

Fact: Newsprint consumption surpasses magazine, catalog, and book paper consumption in the United States.

Fact: The Prospectus was in excess of 50% waste last semester, adding insult to injury to the amount of print used to reach consumers at Parkland, the University of Illinois, and in various businesses in Champaign-Urbana and Savoy.

Fact: The Prospectus intends to make a difference, and we need your help doing it.

The image of the young paperboy hawking copies of newspapers in downtown 1920s Chicago is a penultimate icon of American media. Our parents and

grandparents also hold strong images as they would sit almost anywhere and read a newspaper and have a cup of strong coffee. When truly catastrophic events occurred, we could count on our local rag to print a headline that captured half of the front page; sensationalized, we were enraptured in the drama of the moment.

Increasingly, newsprint has been facing a gloomy future. Environmentalists have dubbed the newspaper as "Dead Tree Media." Several prominent newspapers have come under fire for their waste and use of newsprint; others have been guilty of negligence after promising to use partially recycled paper, as well as failing to change their offices into paperless environments.

Forests are clear-cut for timber that is used exclusively for paper fibers. As clear-cutting runs into more and more opposition in the United States, American companies have been turning to neighboring countries for resources, such as Canada. We're not fixing a problem; we're spreading it.

At the Prospectus, we have

ahead of the times, and we're

taken on the task of leaping going to reduce our newsprint

output by 90% and we'll be placing all of our information online.

We will still rely on a short, succinct paper to relay important news and information, without advertisements, cartoons, and the 'extras' that we have previously published.

All of our previous content-Off Topic, Did You Know, Judy Seyb, etc.-will be published online, as well as additional content from some of Parkland's most outstanding departments. By the middle of the spring semester we plan to offer a direct line to Public Safety, Financial Aid, The Wave, Parkland Theatre, the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PCTV, Athletics, Student Life, the Dean's List, award-winning faculty and staff, the Parkland Calendar, the Art Gallery, and many others.

With our new online capacity, students, faculty, and the community will be able to subscribe to certain features. People who



A front-end loader moves paper, plastic and glass moving toward a sorting machine at the Abitibi sorting facilty, in Fort Worth, Texas. Americans now recover for recycling an all-time high of more than 300 pounds of paper per person. That's a gain of more than 100 pounds since 1990 and amounts to about half the paper produced in the United States. (Ide) 2005

Rodger Mallison / Fort Worth Star-Telegram

See Eco on page 5

# Dr. Thomas Ramage named Parkland College president

By PARKLAND Press Release

The Parkland College Board of Trustees voted to hire Dr. Thomas Ramage as president of Parkland College, during the board's January 16 meeting.
"For the past six months, Dr.

Ramage has shown the leadership that allows Parkland College, its faculty and staff, to perform at the most effective levels," said Jim Ayers, chairman of the Parkland board.

The Board of Trustees evaluated his performance on Saturday, January 12, 2008, and based on that evaluation the recommendation tonight (January 16) was to appoint him to the position permanently," he said.

"I am honored that the board has seen fit to place its trust in me, and I intend to continue the great work of this college," Dr.

"Parkland College-among the best in the nation—is blessed with an outstanding faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Trustees, and it enjoys tremendous support from the communities it serves.'

Thomas Ramage joined Parkland College in July 1998 as chair of the Distance and Virtual Learning Department. In 2001, he was named associate

vice president for Academic Services and later associate vice president for Information Services. He was named acting vice president for Academic and Student Services in July 2003 and vice president for Academic Services in July 2004.

Dr. Ramage earned a doctorate in Education with a specialization in Instructional Technology and Distance Education from Nova Southeastern University in North Miami Beach, Florida in 2003. He earned a master's degree in Education and Human Development with a specialization in Educational Technology Leadership from The George Washington University in 1998. His doctoral research focused on cost-efficiency and return on investment of online programs.

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Next week from the Prospectus



# Spotlight

## **Prospectus**

The Prospectus is a student publication, and is published weekly during the Fall and Spring semesters, intermittently in summer. To contact the Parkland Prospectus:

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- final acceptance.

   Advertisers must verify ads for accuracy.
- The Prospectus deadline for all advertising is 5 P.M. of the Wednesday immediately before the upcoming edition.

#### **Letters and Editorial Policy**

- Views expressed are opinions of staff and contributors and not necessarily that of the *Prospectus* or Parkland College.
- The Prospectus welcomes letters to the editor. We accept submissions from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will also consider original works of fiction and short writings if space is available.
- The rules of correspondence: all submissions must be signed with a phone number and address. The *Prospectus* staff must verify the identity of letter writers. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper. The deadline for all submissions is 12 p.m. of the Thursday immediately before the upcoming issue.



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## **CHUCK SHEPHERD'S NEWS OF THE WEIRD**

By CHUCK SHEPHERD

Lead Story

A startup Massachusetts dating service has the usual questionnaires about likes and dislikes, but bases compatibility specifically on how one person smells to another (straights and gavs accommodated). Eric Holzle's ScientificMatch.com tests each person's "major histocompatibility complex" (MHC) genes, the science behind which dictates how one person will translate the scent of another (with similar-processing people less compatible). (In one famous study, women preferred the smell of T-shirts from men whose MHC was the most different from their own.) Holzle predicts a higher success rate than for ordinary dating agencies, but at a fee of \$1,995 per client.

#### **Bright Ideas**

Michael Windisch, proprietor of the Maltermeister Turm restaurant in Goslar, Lower Saxony, Germany, solved what has become a crisis for other restaurants since the state extended a smoking ban in August. Windisch opened three holes in an outer wall so that, in cold weather, a smoker need not venture outside but can stick his head and arms through the holes and puff away while remaining inside (according to a December report in Der Spiegel).

#### The Continuing Crisis

In December, the city of Bangalore, India, staged its fifth annual marathon, with an elite group of runners that officials thought would bring the city recognition in the world racing community, but problems occurred, the least of which were the city's ubiquitous potholes and pollution. At about the 20 km mark, the leaders were chased down the street by barking dogs snapping at their heels. Twice during the race, runners were forced to stop and take breaks because impatient motorists were disregarding traffic controls to reclaim their roads

Egypt's competitive spirit, combined with a recent surge in piety as some in the Middle East strengthen their commitment to Islam, have led many men to suddenly sport dark calluses on their foreheads ("rai-

sins") as a signal of perhapsoverenthusiastic daily praying. The five prayers require, in all, 34 contacts with the ground (of forehead and nose), and additional personal prayers add to the total, according to a December New York Times dispatch from Cairo. Rumors persist that some men use sandpaper to darken the calluses to appear even more pious.

Noxious Substances: (1) State and federal authorities descended on Quality Pork Processors of Austin, Minn., in December after 11 workers contracted a mysterious neurological illness, which apparently came from inhaling the mist that results from blowing hogs' brains out with compressed air. (2) New York City apartment house doorman Jonah Seeman was suspended in December after excessive complaints about his bad breath. His job, said a resident, is opening the door, "not ... his mouth." (3) Maurice Fox, 77, said in December he would comply with the wishes of the Kirkham Street Sports and Social Club of Paignton, England, to sit only by the front door so he could excuse himself when he needed to pass gas, which management said had become a problem.

A neighborhood yard sale in Cocoa, Fla., in December offering children's furniture and toys took place at a home at which two registered sex offenders reside with their mother (though it was unclear where the items came from). A probation officer checked periodically to see that the men did not venture outside, where some unsuspecting adults, and their children, browsed the inventory.

#### **Great Moments in Maturity**

Douglas Hoffman, 61, was sentenced in January to as much as five years in prison for staging a small-scale terror campaign among his neighbors in Henderson, Nev., to mask his own vandalism in destroying over 500 trees to get a better view of the Las Vegas Strip. At first, according to prosecutors, Hoffman cut down just the trees that affected his own view, but to divert attention, he cut down others in the subdivision and then sent threatening notes suggesting that an extremist militia would continue to attack their property, finally promising "chemical, biological and nuclear mass destruction."

## The District of Calamity (continued)

Washington, D.C., firefighter Gerald Burton faced suspension in December for disobeying a direct order by fighting a blaze he had come across while driving his fire truck to a training class. A supervisor had ordered him on to the class, but Burton and his partner put out the fire (limiting damage to \$150,000), along with the dispatched crew, which arrived shortly after Burton. (2) In December, as the director of the District of Columbia's Youth Rehabilitation Services spoke before the City Council on the successes of his special unit tracking down escapees, one on-the-run youth watched from the audience a few feet away, unknown to the director, according to a Washington Post report. (Another 19-year-old ran away in September and was unaccounted for because a female YRS officer, unknown to her superiors, had subsequently married him and was keeping him at their home, according to the Post.)

#### The Weirdo-American Community

Authorities in Valentine, Neb., have been on the lookout since November for the vandal who has approached several storefronts at night and, apparently with Vaseline smeared over his nude body, pressed himself against windows and doors. A radio station called the person "the buttcheek bandit" (although some speculate there may also be a copycat). Asked Valentine police chief Ben McBride, "Who in their right mind would do something like that?"

#### **Least Competent Criminals**

Clumsy: (1) A 26-year-old accused shoplifter was hospitalized in Grand Rapids, Mich., in January after he got into a scuffle with a department store security officer. He had allegedly stuffed some knives under his clothes, and when he was knocked to the ground, he accidentally fell on several of the blades. (2) Josue Herrios-Coronilla, 18, was arrested in Durham, N.C., in January and charged with DUI after he accidentally drove through a yard in a residential neighborhood.

He then abandoned his car and hitched a ride, but at a later traffic stop, police identified him by his shoes, in that when he ran out of the yard, he had stepped in several piles of the resident's dogs' droppings.

#### **Recurring Themes**

Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre makes News of the Weird periodically (the latest in May 2007) because the six Christian denominations that share its management become involved in petty but elaborate disputes. A similar problem arises at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, where Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox and Armenian clerics share space at the site thought to be the birthplace of Jesus, and in December, when some Orthodox faithful wandered into the Armenian section during Christmas season, officials of both faiths squared off and flailed at each other with brooms before being separated by Palestinian police.

## Now, Which One Is the Brake? (all-new)

Elderly drivers' recent lapses of concentration, confusing the brake pedal with the gas: A Varnell, Ga., woman, 81, drove through the front office of an insurance agency (August). A Wausau, Wis., man, 80, crashed through a wall of a Burger King (September) (and then got out and ordered breakfast). A Cedar Rapids, Iowa, woman, described as "elderly," crashed into a dentist's office (August). A woman, 76, drove through the front entrance of Massachusetts's Brockton Hospital (October) (killing the chief of radiation oncology and a receptionist). A Soldotna, Alaska, woman, 73, crashed into a hair salon, knocking a customer across the room (November). A Coral Springs, Fla., man, 71, drove through a back yard, went airborne over a swimming pool and crashed into the house (October).

(Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at http://NewsoftheWeird.blogspot.com or www.Newsofthe-Weird.com)

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# Faculty member honored for achievements ■ Omar Adawi awarded distinguished NISOD award

**By BRIANA STODDEN** 

Photography Editor and Writer

The National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) has chosen Parkland's own Professor Omar Adawi to honor at the upcoming conference in Austin, Texas on May 25-28. NISOD has been honoring the world's best in higher education since 1978.

NISOD is dedicated to the professional development of faculty, administrators, and staff; and to continued improvement of education, with an ultimate goal of student success. Adawi was previously nominated in 1999 and 2004 for this prestigious award.

"A student will want to learn more about a subject if they see how it applies to real life situations-good education should engage in professional development activities to keep current with the latest innovations in teaching and learning," said

NISOD members include more than 700 community colleges around the world. This incorporates almost every large community college district, the majority of urban and technical colleges in the United States and Canada, and more than 200 small, rural colleges around the world.

To be nominated for the NISOD award, faculty must have at least five years of experience have to submit a portfolio to the Professional Devel-

opment Committee. These portfolios include the teacher's achievements, personal values in regards to teaching and learning, and letters of recomalso at the University of Illinois, I have no doubt that I was most fortunate to be one of Omar Adawi's students," said Joshuah Leljedal, a graduate with other instructor that would go to all that effort," said an anonymous student via feedback from



Omar Adawi, winner of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development award, is pictured where you're most likely to run into him-tutoring at the Center for Academic Success. Adawi will be awarded in Austin, Texas.

degrees in construction design

management and civil engi-

Briana Stodden/Prospectus

Adawi feels Parkland is a great place to work and is honored to be chosen from Parkland's many deserving staff members. Adawi stands out from other nominees in his work with student assistance in various capacities. Adawi helps students in the tutoring program, assists tutors in their learning processes, and works with other faculty in academic assessment in using technology and through classroom instruction.

Adawi hopes this award will not only represent his work, but also that of the mathematics department faculty who help and encourage many students through the tutoring programs.

"I'm hoping as times goes on the Center for Academic Success will be more well-known," said Adawi. He hopes that students will come to the center and make use of the tutoring programs available.

Professor Adawi will be receiving in-house recognition from Parkland. His name will be engraved on a plaque, he will travel to Austin, Texas and will receive a medallion during the excellence award ceremony, and he will receive \$1,000 for professional development. To learn more about the NISOD teaching excellence award visit www.nisod.org.

# The other kind of Olympic gold

mendation from colleagues and

"When considering my time as a student [at Parkland] and

Projected domestic revenue for 2016 bid cities: Sponsorships Tickets Merchandise Other

Total Host Income Rio \$750M Doha\* \$784M

Tokyo \$1.56B \$1.61B Madrid \$2.5B Chicago

NOTE: Bid cities Baku, Azerbaijan, and Prague, Czech Republic, have not released revenue projections

Source: Bid city documents Graphic: Chicago Tribune

\*Breakdown not available

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# Local/Parkland

# In Illinois town, African-Americans finding Judaism

By TIM TOWNSEND

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (MCT)

CAIRO, Ill.—For a block or two in every direction from Arbell Matthews' home, 50 or so African-Americans could be heard belting out the Shema, an ancient Hebrew prayer, gospelstyle.

They had spent a year and a half traveling almost weekly to Rabbi Lynn Goldstein's home in Maryland Heights, Mo., a journey that would bring them back to this cramped white house in this dying city and to their new lives as Jews.

Former drug dealers, infants, factory workers, old ladies, former gang leaders, lawyers, gunshot victims, high school football players, barge workers, crack addicts, nurses and musicians—a reflection of the diverse, decaying place they call home—had packed into two vans and eight cars for each 350-mile trip.

They all were raised as Christians, most of them Baptists. One day last month, each was immersed in a ritual bath, or mikvah, in Memphis, Tenn. When the last of them emerged from the water, almost 3 percent of Cairo's black population had converted to Judaism.

Today, fewer than 3,000 people—65 percent of them African-American—call themselves residents of this spit of land at the confluence of the two largest rivers in North America. Once home to 15,000, Cairo has seen its population sink by 80 percent since its heyday in 1920.

Every block here seems to boast its own church, though many of them are as empty as the lives of some residents. Pastors at several of the 30 or so active churches in town struggle to put together a congregation of a dozen souls. Skyrocketing utility bills often force congregations to meet in their churches' basements.

The Rev. Donald Topp, pastor of First Missionary Baptist Church of 12th Street, said he exerts a lot of pastoral muscle trying to persuade people to hope again.

"They don't seem like they have anything to look forward to, especially the young people," he said. "They've seen so much gloom, doom and despair, they look around and that's what's familiar, and it becomes comfortable."

So a crowded, sweaty, joyful gathering of Cairo worshippers—even on a Saturday—is something of a novelty here. And people are beginning to take notice of the gleam of hope Cairo's new Jews are bringing to their town.

"I welcome them," said Topp.
"If they can come in and make
a difference or give somebody
hope, I welcome them."

Phillip Matthews, Arbell Matthews' 39-year-old son, is a former Cairo policeman and agent for the Southern Illinois Drug Task Force. Today, the stocky, bespectacled computer technician is the spiritual leader of Cairo's new Jewish community. Weekends when the group can't make it to Congregation Beth Jacob in Carbondale, Matthews leads a two-hour Torah study session Friday nights and a three-hour worship service Saturday afternoons.

On the first Saturday of this month, Matthews manned a keyboard that straddled his mother's kitchen and living room. His congregation squeezed snugly into every corner of the house, wherever they could fit. When the music subsided, he preached from the book of Exodus, in which God's chosen people follow Moses out of bondage in Egypt, through the parted waters of the Red Sea, to the Promised Land.

"We remember the day we came out of Egypt, and we are never going to forget," said Matthews, whose fellow converts call him Moreh, or "teacher."

"God parted the Red Sea, and it took us 18 months to get to the other side. But we converted to make a difference, and we will make a difference—not just in the lives of our families and friends, but in the life of this city as well."

Matthews sees purpose in his group's conversions. He sees a local version of the Jewish concept of tikkun olam, which is Hebrew for "repairing the world."

"When you look at our city, you see a battle raging all around us," said Matthews. "But God is incapable of failure. Remember the day you came out of Egypt so you can teach your children how to walk out, too. Perhaps you are that light that shines real bright in this dark place."

Matthews left law enforcement in the mid-1990s, around the same time he left the Baptist church. Corruption, dishonesty and hypocrisy left him disillusioned with both institutions, he said. In 1997, he began studying the Torah, the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, or Old Testament. The books of Moses.

Soon, Matthews' sister (he's

one of 18 children) began studying with him. More siblings, cousins and friends joined them through the years. For nearly a decade, they met and talked about ancient Scripture.

From time to time, someone would poke his head in Arbell Matthews' front door to see why all the cars were parked outside. Often that person would stay. By the next week, he was part of the congregation.

There is evidence of Jews living in Cairo in the 1870s, but the last synagogue anyone remembers closed years ago. Today, the little brick synagogue with stained-glass windows is part of the public health department. It has a clear view of the Bunge North America soybean processing plant that, with 83 jobs, is the city's largest employer.

The Rev. Larry Potts, pastor of Cairo Baptist Church, said he could think of only two Jews left in Cairo before the conversions.

When Phillip Matthews' group began talking about converting, Matthews decided that without any rabbis in town and close to 60 members, he needed help.

Looking for help outside of Cairo is a time-honored tradition. Escape is a natural desire in a place Charles Dickens famously described, in 1842, as "a breeding-place of fever, ague, and death."

In the spring of 2006, Matthews went in search of a rabbi. He found Goldstein, a Reform rabbi from St. Louis who is affiliated with Congregation Beth Jacob in Carbondale.

"Phillip called and asked about conversion classes," said Goldstein. "Then he asked if there was such a thing as African-American Jews."

She assured him there were. The 2001 National Jewish Population Survey found 37,000 African-American Jews age 18 or older. That's just under 1 percent of all 4 million American Jewish adults.

For the next 18 months, the group made the three-hour trek—each way—from Cairo to Goldstein's house. The rabbi taught them about Jewish history, philosophy and theology, holidays, liturgy and life-cycle events. Group members had textbooks and homework each week. Goldstein took them on field trips to a kosher butcher, to hear a cantor and to the Holocaust museum.

Along the way, Goldstein introduced the group to the congregation at Beth Jacob in Carbondale, a synagogue of about 48 families. The congregation has since welcomed the group as members and has asked Matthews to be on its board.

"We're a group of Jews with European origins, mostly college professors, so this is very different," said Jack Wides, the synagogue's president. "I think it's wonderful."

As the group members got closer to completing the course, Goldstein began to make preparations for the actual conversion. All the males in the group who had not been circumcised went through the rite. Those who had, went through a hatafat dam, or a ritual removal of a single drop of blood.

Over four months, each member of the group sat before a bet din, or rabbinic court, to answer questions about his or her new faith. A dozen Reform and Conservative rabbis from St. Louis sat on the various courts.

Goldstein ran into difficulty when trying to secure the St. Louis mikvahs for the conversion ceremonies. Rabbi Zvi Zuravin, executive director of the St. Louis Vaad Hoeir, the area Orthodox Jewish legal authority, said the group asked for a discount on the mikvah's \$165 per person conversion fee. But the committee that oversees the mikvahs was "not willing to discount groups," said Zuravin.

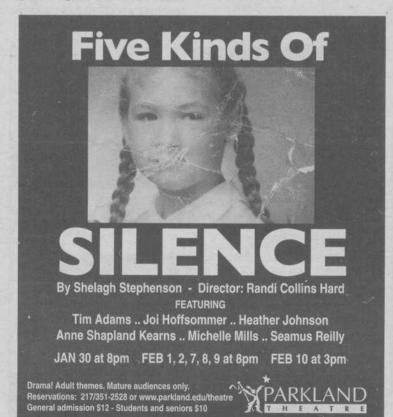
Goldstein moved the conversion ceremonies to Beth Sholom Synagogue in Memphis, whose members agreed to a much smaller fee. (The Jewish Federation of Southern Illinois, Southeastern Missouri and Western Kentucky paid the \$1,800 total.)

That ceremony, said Rabbi Aaron Rubinstein of the Conservative synagogue whose members turned out in force for the conversions, was a "once in a lifetime, amazing event."

The new Jews of Cairo had been official for less than a month when Alpha Gordon, 24, stepped out of Arbell Matthews' home Jan. 5, a bleak Saturday afternoon in the city. Gordon said he felt different than he had a month earlier.

"I do feel Jewish," he said. "And that feels good."

Rashelle Brown, 19, left Arbell Matthews' house with



# Local/Parkland

# Panda Bear's Person Pitch: ■ Beach Boys meets Pink Floyd

By JASON HARDIMON WPCD Correspondent

There seemed to be an astonishing number of big releases from high profile, big label artists, over the past year (Radio head, The White Stripes, Kanye West, Feist, etc.) Accordingly, many might find it surprising that an album like Panda Bear's "Person Pitch" has received so much acclaim from highly regarded publications. Pitchfork Media, for one, listed Person Pitch as their choice for the best album of 2007. To boot, Spin Magazine awarded Person Pitch the number 29 spot on their January issues list of the year's 40 best albums. Who is this Panda Bear person anyway?

Panda Bear is none other than the alias of the Animal collective's Noah Lennox, and to find out just who the real Noah Lenox is it seems that all one has to do is listen to his highly successful solo album (Hence the title Person Pitch).

The general sound of Person Pitch isn't very difficult for most pop music enthusiasts to express in words. I like to describe it as a Beach Boys singalong meets Pink Floyd space-out. Catchy vocal melodies pave through an interesting collage of sample-based textures. Also, the lyrical content seems very straightforward and sincere. Each track appears to be an expression of Lennox's thoughts regarding specific personnel relationships from his life. There is no doubt that many listeners will find that they can relate to him on many levels.

Again, by listening to this unexpected, yet highly acclaimed album you seem to learn about who Noah Lennox is as a person, because it is a refection of him. You come to realize that like his art Lennox is most likely a straightforward and sincere individual, which some may find to be a refreshing change from the impression that many recording artist these days seem to project.



# ECO continued from page 1

register will also be able to post immediate comments (subject to editorial review) on current articles. Feedback will be immediate.

Instead of having the oncea-week Prospectus newspaper, the online editions will be updated daily or when content is approved and edited by the Prospectus staff. You might find several changes in one day!

With this new responsibility comes a price: students must get involved, or the project will fail. We rely on your opinions and comments, your stories and news alerts, your tragedies and triumphs. With a limited staff, we will depend on you, the reader, to provide feedback and input

The future of journalism lies in the fact that every person will be a journalist, and the staff of journalism sources, such as the Prospectus, will become administrators of news feeds. Our job will be to assemble all of your quick news reactions into solid pieces of literary work that can be digested by the masses.

We will be the future of journalism. While the News-Gazette and Daily Illini continue to operate on a paper-based media, Parkland College can demonstrate its technical savvy and capabilities by engaging students online and in an immediate context. We might be a junior college, but some of the best ideas come from the newest generation to be engaged in the heart of higher education.

Please help us with our goal of becoming environmentally friendly, technically proficient, locally engaged, and still true to the community of Parkland. Check us out online in the coming weeks, and engage us. Ask us questions. Comment on our writers and columnists. Give us some of your words.

If you have an idea for our

## CAIRO

continued from page 4

her two daughters, 5 years and 15 months, in tow. Her husband, Greg, was still inside, putting the house back together after the service.

"Judaism is the oldest religion, and it's the best thing I've found for raising my kids," said Brown. "I'm so proud to be a Jew."

Matthews said that kind of interest tugs him in two directions:

Stay in Cairo and help his damaged city come back to life, offering more residents the promise of getting off drugs, avoiding violence, earning a second chance after prison.

Or leave Cairo as a group of 55 Jews, braving the wilderness for Israel, the promised land.

"Just like when Moses died, God raised up Joshua," said



In this video still, Rashelle Brown, from left, her daughter Queen Brown, 5, Maria Matthews and Ahvinel Turman pray during the close of a Jewish service in Cairo, Illinois. A group of about 50 from the town completed their conversion last month with a mikvah, or ritual bath, at a synagogue in Memphis, Tennessee.

Robert Cohen / St. Louis Post-Dispatch(MCT)

That pride has led many in the group to a desire to visit Israel. Goldstein is trying to get a grant to take them. Matthews said people come to him each week and ask to join the group. He's directed some to Goldstein for conversion classes. If there was more room at his mother's house, the group could grow to 100 by the summer.

Matthews. "There are always people waiting to succeed those who are taken to other places. But if it is God's will to keep us here a while to help this city, that's what we'll do."

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online publication, or if you are a representative of one of the many facets of Parkland, and you would like to contribute, please contact the editorial staff at 217.351.2216, or write to the editors at editor.prospectus@gmail.com or prospectus@parkland.edu. If you have any online advertising questions, email prospectusads@parkland.edu.

If you would like to work for the Prospectus, contact the editor directly at the aforementioned email account. Provide your personal information, a writing or photography sample—if you're applying to be a writer or photographer—and we'll arrange a meeting time. All students, staff, and faculty at Parkland College are welcome.

All outsiders can still submit editorials and comments.

Thank you for your patronage, and Happy New Year. Work hard and with diligence in 2008, and make a difference this year in your community.

The Prospectus Web site will be availabe shortly. We will feature forums, blogs, and news that you won't find in the newsprint edition.

We are also accepting applicants for the following positions: staff writer, photographer, Web Editor, and anyone with a great column idea.

# Colleges take hard line on psychological problems

By BONNIE MILLER RUBIN AND **MEGAN TWOHEY** 

Chicago Tribune MCT)

CHICAGO-Jill Manges was in her French history class at Eastern Illinois University, when she felt the symptomsthe waves of nausea, the tightness in the throat—that signaled an impending flashback.

Threading her way through the row of desks that September afternoon, Manges-who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder-willed herself to the door, blacking out just outside her classroom.

Twelve days later, the school gave her two options: Take a medical leave or we'll kick you

That same month, Michelle Pomerleau, a student at St. Norbert College in Wisconsin, faced a similar fate when she overdosed on prescription drugs.

"I am concerned for your well-

being, Michelle, but your behavior is impacting other students in a negative manner," wrote a school vice president in a letter delivered while Pomerleau was still in the hospital.

From large public institutions to small, private colleges, a growing number of schools are taking punitive action against students who display mental illness, ranging from bipolar disorder to eating disorders, experts say.

With better mental health services in younger grades, more youth with mental illness are arriving on college campuses than ever before. At the same time, courts have indicated that schools can be held legally responsible if students harm themselves or others.

Administrators, mindful of the safety of the larger community, say they need to be proac-

But critics call it overreac-

tive. They say schools are discriminating against those who have a medical condition, deterring students from seeking help and driving dangerous behavior underground.

"The message is that we only want people here who don't have physical or mental impairments," said Karen Bower, an attorney with the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law. "And if you have one, you'd better have it under control at all

The Washington-based organization represents students who were removed from campus. Bower used to get one call a month; now, she says, she's getting one a week.

A turning point was 2002, when a state court held that officials at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology could be sued for failing to prevent the suicide of a student. Then came the Virginia Tech shootings last April, a wake-up call that today's counseling centers are dealing with much more than angst over failing grades or bad break-ups. Administrators say it doesn't take a violent episode to disrupt a campus.

St. Norbert would not take action against students who quietly battle their own demons, said Jay Fostner, a vice president at the school. But it would move against students who repeatedly pull classmates or faculty into their suffering.

"It is not about suicide attempts or mental health issues," said Fostner, who, like all administrators in this story, cited privacy laws in declining to comment on specific cases such as Pomerleau's. "It's about behavior.'

Pomerleau said she displayed a suicidal gesture last yeartaking nearly 20 painkillers, anti-anxiety pills and muscle relaxers one night in an attempt

to self-medicate manic symptoms-before she was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and placed on medication. Months later, she took a medical leave when her best friend committed suicide.

There were times, she acknowledges, when she was crying loudly in her room and leaning on classmates for support. After swallowing dozens of pills in September, she called a friend and paramedics had to carry her out of the dorm on a stretcher.

But Pomerleau said her grades were good and she had been commended by the college for performing community service. Her suicide attempt in September followed a change in medication, which, according to her doctor, has since been corrected.

"It felt like they were dis-

See Psych on page 7

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missing me strictly for my mental health," said Pomerleau, who opted for a medical leave because it allowed her to get a tuition refund.

Manges believes she was on Eastern Illinois University's radar-even though her behavior was not life-threatening.

After her episode, which, according to the university, included screams and "sobbing uncontrollably," two classes were canceled and one was moved. She said she was told the behavior was "traumatic" to others who witnessed it. She had not kept her disorder a secret. On her residence hall application, for example, she wrote: "Diagnosed with severe PTSD and would strongly prefer a suite rather than a communal bathroom."

"It doesn't happen that often," she said of the flashbacks, "but when they do come, I just deal with it. ... It's just part of me," she explained in a restaurant off campus, because she is prohibited from being on campus.

In fighting the eviction, Manges didn't lack for alliesincluding the professor of the French history class she was in at the time. Her therapist also lobbied on her behalf, citing her "solid set of coping strategies."

But it was not enough to change the verdict of the judicial board. Sandra Cox. head of Eastern Illinois University's counseling center, emphasized there's much more to the story.

"There has to be significant concern for someone to reach out to judicial affairs," she said.

In letters from school officials both Manges and Pomerleau were told they could come back to campus in 2008, but only if they signed a contract. They also would have to produce proof that they could keep their illness under control.

Instead, both young women have opted to go elsewhere-Manges is relocating to Boston. Pomerleau, back at home, has been taking classes at a community college while applying to four-year schools in the area.

Dan Nadler, an Eastern Illinois University vice president for student affairs, said such contracts are used in a variety of situations-from aggressive students with a penchant for punching walls to those prone students on campus, not oust

"If that was our philosophy, we wouldn't bother," Nadler said. "Our first goal is to ask:



Jill Manges stands in the library at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois, November 29, 2007. She suffers from PTSD and was suspended for a year by school officials for suffering a flashback in classroom.

Zbigniew Bzdak / Chicago Tribune (MCT)

not be viewed as punitive. The pacts, he said, are a way to keep

to binge drinking-and should How can a student stay in the environment? How do we help them be successful academically and personally?"

The colleges, though, are walking a fine line.

Federal law permits a school to remove a mentally ill student for disruptive behavior, but only if the institution would act against other students for similar conduct, according to the Office of Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education.

Colleges can also move against those who pose a "direct threat" to themselves or others. But in order to do that, they must first perform a comprehensive assessment, consider making accommodations and finally, give students an opportunity to defend themselves and appeal any decision. The civil rights office has ruled against schools that have not followed these procedures.

Eastern Illinois University and St. Norbert said they follow federal law when removing students from campus. Manges and Pomerleau say they felt like they were not given a real voice in the process.

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# Obama recalls King's message

# ■ Message heralded from Ebenezer Church

By JOHN MCCORMICK

Chicago Tribune (MCT)

ATLANTA—The message Sen. Barack Obama delivered from the pulpit Sunday was at once subtle and direct.

In one of the cathedrals of black America, he melded biblical themes with a call for political action, rallying African-Americans behind his presidential bid as he campaigns in states where the most viable black candidate in history will need their overwhelming support if he is to prevail.

Ebenezer From Church, where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. preached from 1960 to 1968, Obama made a generational appeal for the validation of the cause the civil rights leader fought to transform from dream to reality.

"If Dr. King could love his jailer, if he could call on the faithful who once sat where you do to forgive those who set dogs and fire hoses upon them, then surely we can look past what divides us in our time," Obama

Too young to have partici-pated in the civil rights movement King led, Obama has delicately balanced race throughout his campaign, not wanting to be labeled as just a black candi-

But with blacks representing about half of those expected to participate in Saturday's Democratic primary in South Carolina, Obama will aggressively court the group this week. He has seen his poll numbers grow among African-Americans ever since he won the Iowa caucuses. In Saturday's Nevada caucuses, for example, he received support from four-fifths of blacks.

Also reaching out to black voters Sunday, Sen. Hillary Clinton attended a Baptist church in New York's Harlem, the day after she won more votes in Nevada than Obama. Her husband, former President Bill Clinton, is expected to speak at Ebenezer on Monday, the formal holiday celebrating King's

Besides Clinton, former North Carolina Sen. John Edwards, who was born in South Carolina,

campaign around after a weak performance in Nevada.

Outside Ebenezer, hundreds lined up outside to see Obama. Standing in below-freezing temperatures, some were turned

is expected to stump hard in the color of your skin still affects state, in hopes of turning his the content of your education," he said.

As Obama suggested that morality and care for others should transcend race, he challenged blacks to examine their record of empathy for gays,

Presidential candidate Barack Obama (left) addresses the crowd during the rally at iKing Day at the Domei in Columbia, South Carolina, Monday, January 21, 2008.

Tim Dominick / The State (MCT)

away after the building reached

"We had to fight, bleed and die just to be able to vote," Rev. Raphael Warnock said when introducing Obama. "Now we can select presidents, and now with credibility and intelligence and power, we can run for pres-

Later in the day, Obama arrived in Columbia, S.C. But even in Atlanta, he had mentioned South Carolina's "Corridor of Shame," a strip of counties with underfunded, underper-forming, mostly black schools.

"We have an empathy deficit when we're still sending our children down corridors of shame—schools in the forgotten corners of America where the Jews and immigrants, confronting positions held by some socially conservative blacks.

"If we are honest with ourselves, we must admit that none of our hands are entirely clean," he said. "If we're honest with ourselves, we'll acknowledge that our own community has not always been true to King's vision of a beloved community.'

The Obama and Clinton campaigns continued to debate the results-and process-in

Robert Bauer, a lawyer with Obama's campaign, said a "significant" number of caucus locations in the state closed their doors before all voters could be processed and enter, something he said Clinton's campaign

Saying the campaign wanted an investigation into potential irregularities, Bauer stressed Obama is not challenging the statewide outcome where he received fewer votes than Clinton, but more potential delegates. "We're not calling the results into question, at all," he

Clinton's campaign repeated a charge that a union that endorsed Obama used "intimidation and strong-arm tactics" to keep those supporting the former first lady from partici-

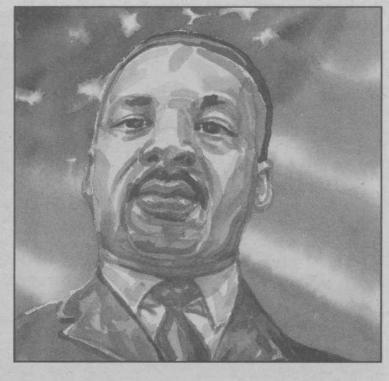
Obama, meanwhile, said Bill Clinton's campaigning for his wife has become "pretty trouas he did in March when he spoke in Selma, Ala.

"If enough Americans were awakened to the injustice: if they joined together, North and South, rich and poor, Jew and gentile, then perhaps that wall would come tumbling down," he said.

During the service, Obama frequently closed his eyes and clapped and swayed to the beat of the church's massive and thundering choir, which includes a soloist who sang at King's funeral.

Noting the many visitors, including Atlanta's mayor and two members of Congress, Warnock, the senior pastor, had

"I've never seen so many pol-



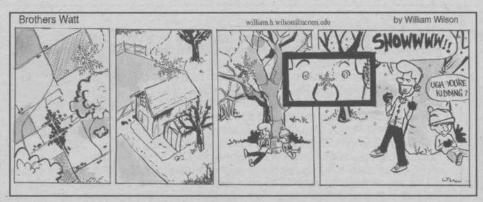
In an interview to be broadcast Monday on "Good Morning America," he said the former president "continues to make statements that are not supported by the facts ... this has become a habit, and one of the things that we're going to have to do is to directly confront Bill Clinton when he's making statements that are not factually

At Ebenezer, Obama referred to the biblical character Joshua, iticians in church in my life," he said. "God works in mysterious

Before placing a wreath on King's grave, Obama stood, arms locked at the front of the church with Warnock and others as the congregation sang "We Shall Overcome."

(c) 2008, Chicago Tribune.

# Off Topic









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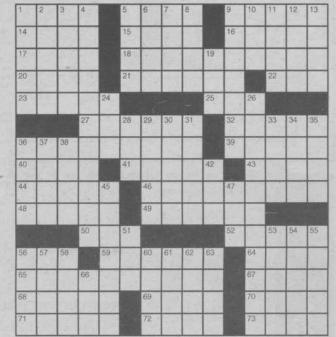
## Crossword

ACROSS

- Bus route
- 5 Sidekicks
- 9 Code name? 14 First person?
- 15 Chamber
- 16 Freeze over
- 17 Calf-length skirt 18 When or before
- due 20 Reach 212
- degrees
- 21 Doodad
- 22 John or Jane? 23 Sticks it out
- 25 Professional charge
- 27 Wired
- 32 Roper and Lincoln
- 36 "All in the Family" co-star
- 39 Actor Reeves 40 Florence's river
- 41 Nostril
- 43 Kinship group
- 44 Meager
- 46 Parrying follow-
- 48 Land of Port-au-Prince
- 49 Smaller of two
- 50 Ostrich relative 52 "Blue Voyage" writer
- 56 In place of
- 59 Balancing agent 12 Japanese
- 64 Eminence
- 65 Body of voters
- 67 Pension \$\$
- 68 Kitchen occupant of song
- 69 Asian sea 70 Send out
- 71 Quite white
- 72 Statuesque 73 Maglie and Mineo

#### DOWN

- 1 Ewe's kids
- 2 Blockhead
- 3 Gymnast Comaneci
- 4 "Wuthering Heights" author
- 5 Morally smug person
- 6 First-class



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1/24/08

- 7 Theater box
- 8 Polluted haze
- 9 Wednesday, say
- 10 Sept. follower
- 11 Tim or Beryl
- wrestling
- 13 Fencing foil
- 19 Galoot
- 24 Instigate
- litigation
- 26 Shocks
- 28 Tonic's partner 29 Tree knot
- 30 Creepy
- 31 Plumbing
- problems 33 Bamako's
- country 34 Judah's son
- 35 Warbled
- 36 Headstrong
- 37 Killer whale
- B'rith 38
- 42 Signal for help
- 45 Actor Bottoms
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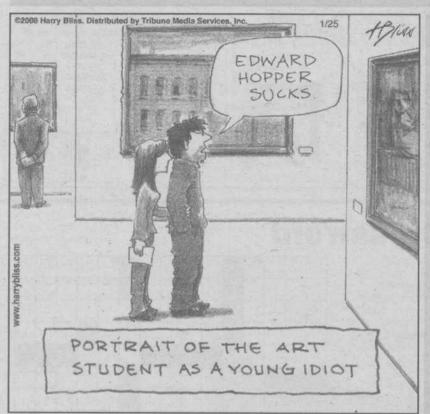
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- 54 Computer letters 61 Gilbert of
- 55 Tree houses?
- 56 Govt. agents
- 57 Ken or Lena 58 Gambling city
- 60 Campus Greek house
- "Roseanne"
  - 62 Latin & others
  - 63 Recount 66 Crow hello

# Classified

**PROSPECTUS** Thursday, January 24, 2008 -Page 10



**BASIC RATE** 

# **Ad Insertion Order**

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  2. Ads cannot be canceled after the above

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

# Just so you know, safety is everyone's business

I hope everyone had an enjoyable break. For some of you new and returning students who are not familiar with Parkland's Police Department, here is a brief overview. Our Police Department is comprised of thirteen full time police officers and one security patrol officer when we are fully staffed. Our dispatch center is staffed by four full time telecommunicators and five part time dispatchers. Parkland Police Department adheres to a community policing philosophy. So please don't hesitate to ask any of our Police Officers any questions you might have. Our Police Department is a resource for students like any other department on campus.

Our officers are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. Our Police Officers deal with crimes in progress and any other emergency that might threaten the safety and security of Parkland College. Our Police Officers are also certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's). We handle medical calls on campus as well.

We also provide vehicle assistance such as, jump starts, lockout service, and escorts to your car. Our department takes your safety and security very seriously. We look forward to a safe and productive spring semester.

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# Radio/TV/Film



# Weather Forecast

Wednesday Night: A 30 percent chance of snow before midnight. Mostly cloudy, with a low around -3.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 15.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 5.

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 26.

Friday Night: A chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 17.

Saturday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 33.

Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 23.

Sunday: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 39.

Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26.

Monday: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 36.

## CrimeStoppers seeks assistance

This week, CrimStoppers and the Mahomet Police Department are requesting your help in solving four burglaries to restaurants on East-

wood Drive...
The burglaries
occurred during
the early morning hours of Friday, January 4.
An unknown person or persons
forced entry

into the rear entrances of the Hen House, Mahomet Family Restaurant, Taco Loco, and The Wok. After entry was gained into each of the restaurants, locked offices and cash registers were forced open, and cash was taken.

If you have any information at all regarding to: www.champaigncountycrimestoppers. com.

The information you provide is confidential. You do not have to give

your name or appear in court. CrimeStoppers will pay a reward if the information you provide leads to an

arrest for these

crimes. Cash rewards are also paid for information on other felony crimes or fugitives in the Champaign County



these crimes, please call

CrimeStoppers at (217)

373-TIPS or (217) 373-

8477. Information can

also be sent by anony-

mous web tip by going

## PC PRES.

continued from page 1

Tom and his wife Michelle have been married for 16 years and have a son, Colin.

Welcome message from the president

"Parkland enjoys a 40-year reputation of excellence in Illinois as a leader in higher education, offering instruction in both campus-based and online formats. Our online home is an extension of the helpful, caring environment that surrounds you as you study here, and I invite you to explore these pages to learn more about the fine programs and services we offer our students.

"Our students have always awarded us high marks for the personal attention and quality instruction they receive here, and our 100+ transfer degree and career certificate programs have remained consistent with technology and workforce demands.

You can continue to expect these high standards, as well as look forward to some exciting new initiatives during the school year. First, we will expand the capacity in our popular Health Professions programs, housing some of these programs in a proposed Health Professions Annex located in the Illinois Employment and Training facility on Mattis Avenue. Second, we plan to update our campus space to improve student surroundings. Finally, we will start the process of migrating to a new computer

system for the college, one that will upgrade student admissions, class registration, student progress tracking towards graduation, and a host of other processes designed to improve and streamline your experience at Parkland College.

"Stop by and visit us, call us

with questions, or email ushowever you choose to contact us, just know that Parkland College is ready and able to help you reach your dreams."

> Thomas Ramage, Ed. D. President Parkland College



Dr. Thomas Ramage had been the interim president after Dr. Exley's departure. Just recently, Ramage had the title of 'interim' removed.

Aaron Geiger/Prospectus

## Welcome Back Students

Undecided about your college major?

Schedule an appointment with a career counselor in the Career Center, A175
217/351-2536

Start the New Year right by feeling good about your career decisions!

## PARKLAND OPEN AUDITIONS

#### Return to the Forbidden Planet

By Bob Carlton • Director: Dallas Street Musical Directors: Tim Schirmer, Ed. Schaller

Friday, Jan. 25 • 7-10pm <u>OR</u> Saturday, Jan. 26 • 1-4pm Callbacks (including dance) Saturday, Jan. 26 • 8pm

Casting 12 singer/actor/dancers for this high energy, rock and roll retelling of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Be prepared to sing a rock and roll song from the 50's or 60's (up-tempo or ballad, about 16 bars). Accompanist will be provided. Audition will consist of readings from the script online at www.parkland.edu/theatre. Dance will be saved for callbacks. No appointments. Actors will not be required to play instruments. Performances April 2 - 19. All members of the community, Parkland and U of I students are welcome to attend. We encourage diversity! Questions: 217/373-3874.

Parkland College Theatre • 2400 West Bradley Avenue • Champaign, IL 61821



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# **Sports Preview**

By KATHLEEN SERINO AND **ANDREW SERINO** 

Prospectus Writers

- JAN 17-What's up, sports fans? Glad to be back on campus, I'm sure. Here's the lowdown on what's happening this semester in Parkland College Athletics.

#### Men's Basketball

Head coach Chris Warren described the first semester as a struggle for the Men's Basketball team. This season the team lost two injured players, one ineligible player, and started out with 13 freshmen and only two returning sophomores.

Starters Andrew Wilkerson and Jean Selus both suffered from injuries and were forced to sit out of the game against Lincoln College last Saturday.

Now Warren is excited that everyone's back, healed and ready to go. "It feels like we're starting fresh. It's good to have the entire team healthy and eligible and ready to prepare for the post season," he said.

#### Women's Basketball

A victory of 103-85 against Lincoln Land last night proves that the Parkland Women's Basketball team is still going strong this season with a current ranking of No. 12 in the nation, according to an NJCAA Service Bureau poll issued yesterday.

This promising record might have something to do with some

From a combined effort of new head coach Karrie Redeker, new assistant coach Chuck Clutts,

The team is made up of a number of key players. From



Parkland file photo/Prospectus

and fiery players the team is performing better than it has been in decades.

Who should the fans watch this year?

"We've got several girls, it's changes to the coaching staff. hard to pick out just one," Clutts Lady Cobras this Saturday at

Wednesday's defeat, sophomore forward Ashley Lillard lead the team along with players Jessy Young, Heidi McKean, Ashley Runck and Jara Bachtold.

Don't forget to cheer on your

2pm against John Wood CC here at Parkland. Remember all students get in free with their Parkland ID. Good luck, girls!

#### Women's Softball

Practice started today for the Softball team. They're hoping for as successful a season as they have achieved in the past. According to an NJCAA Service Bureau poll taken May 2, 2007, the girls were ranked No. 11 in the nation last season. They've also held numerous accolades for six years running.

Head coach Chuck Clutts cannot say enough about the team and how well they work together. "We are a team. There are no superstars. We play together as a team," he said.

"We all support each other."

Clutts said the team hopes to bring home a national championship for Parkland College this

After a busy practice season last fall, the girls are preparing for their first game March 2 against John A. Logan College. We wish the best of luck to the

#### Men's Baseball

Daily practice starts Monday for the Men's Baseball team. With strong returning players and new freshman hopefuls, the team is looking to win more conference titles.

According to head coach Mitch Rosenthal, some players to look out for this season are centerfielder Caleb King, right fielder Nathan Weglarz, and shortstop Tom Norris. All three had great seasons last year.

Third baseman and outfielder Lance Hanmer is back from injuries last year and ready to go. Also watch catcher Elliot teams and their records.]

Pisarczyk, who played some last year, and should be seen more this season.

"We should have some really good sophomore pitching back led by Brooks Martin and we have several other sophomore pitchers that will contribute and pitch a lot along with some key new freshmen arms," Rosenthal explained.

The season starts February 29 in Oklahoma. Good luck, boys!

#### Men's Golf

With a record of 59 and 7, obtaining 2nd place in three tournaments and 3rd place in two tournaments, the Men's Golf team had a great autumn.

This spring the team will be playing teams like Western Illinois University, a Division I team, Mississippi, and hopefully they'll play a few holes at the Nationals in Phoenix, AZ.

"Matt Koster and Tim Walters both will be pretty solid for us in the spring," head coach Tim Hoss said.

However, this team of eleven has high hopes of making it to the National Tournament. Hoss explained that all of the guys have played in tournaments.

"We've got a really good chance of taking our whole team," Hoss said. Good luck, team!

For more information on the athletic teams please visit www.parkland.edu/athletics. For directions to away games please contact Mickey Cler at 351-2226. Go Cobras!

[Editor's Note: We will be following Parkland Athletics more closely on our upcoming Web site, with links to your favorite