

FEATURES

Preparing for the primaries

By Kevin Lage
Features Editor

The primary election for Illinois is coming on Tuesday. For those who don't know the primaries decide which lone person in the Republican and Democratic party will run for president in the general elections. The voter is not voting for the candidate, the voter is voting for the delegate who is voting for the candidate. The delegate will vote on behalf of the candidate in a convention in August. The candidate who gets the most delegates will then run for president.

Voters must register with their counties at least 30 days before the primary. The significance of being required to register beforehand is lower voter turnout compared to states with same day registration, which will consequently mean higher voter turnout. When turnout is higher it works better for the Democrats and if lower its better for the Republicans. "No Republican is going to come out and say we hope the rain is really

bad so nobody comes out to vote," political science professor David Goldberg said.

What is unique about 2008 is that the primary season is front loaded, meaning that every state wants to have their primary bunched up in front, January and February. The motive for doing so is because there will be more media attention and money rolling in.

Primaries used to start in January and go all the way to August. Now every state wants to be bunched up in the early months, January and February. States that have moved their date up for the primaries on Tuesday include Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Florida, Illinois, California and New York. There used to be 13 states that had their primary on Feb. 5, now there are 22 states. The Tuesday of the primaries for the 13 states used to be called super Tuesday, this year because 22 states have their primary on the same day its been upgraded to super duper Tuesday.

In Illinois the primary used



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Professor David Goldberg addresses the importance of voting and being part of the voting process in the coming up election during his American Politics class.

to be on the first Tuesday of March. The Illinois state senate changed the rules, the date of the primary, claiming, "the weather in March was bad so we want to move the date up to February because there was so much rain," thus depressing voter turnout. In reality they changed the date because they want to be apart of the other states on super Tues

day to raise lots of money.

Between 2012 and 2016 Goldberg predicts serious reform in the primary process. The primary system has been in play since 1972. "The primary was a good idea designed to take power away from big political guys like past mayor of Chicago Richard Daley who said, 'you've been loyal we will let

you run for this,' the primary," Goldberg said. But the problem with the primary is that traits and skills emphasized in the process are not the traits and skills suitable to govern.

"The primary is a bad way to choose a candidate," Goldberg said. The Republicans want to campaign to their

see 'Primary' page 12

Program earns grant based on performance

By Kevin Lage
Features Editor

English as a Second Language received a competitive 1.5 million dollar grant from the Illinois Community College Board due to their good performance.

"The way we get funding is based on performance we are very outcome driven," Carollane Garcia, Program manager of ESL, said. The performance level is based upon many factors. One is the amount of students ESL serves. Garcia estimates that there are 5,500 students served in one year at ESL, 800 students in Adult Basic Education and General Education Development.

Another factor in performance is the attendance hours of the students. Performance is measured by test score increase. Students take a standardized pre-test at the beginning then are tested again at the end to see how much they improved. Performance is also measured by how many students advance within the programs and how many students pass their GED test and receive their certificate. "We have a high level of accountability because we want to maintain our funding. We wouldn't want it to go down," Garcia said. "We are always looking



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Students in ESL program use the software ELLIS, which is an interactive English learning system.

for ways to improve our program so that we can claim higher performances and more dollars every year."

The amount of grant money is also based on the index of need. In DuPage County there are 90,000 adults who have lower than a high school education and 150,000 adults who need to improve English according to the census. Based upon demographic information, "our college district has the highest index of need outside of the city colleges," Garcia said.

The Illinois Community College Board is the primary source of ESL's

funding but they get additional revenue from COD education funds. The purpose of the grant is to serve students who need to develop basic reading and writing skills in English. The students don't have to pay any money for tuition if they are eligible to be in ESL programs because the grants pay for their tuition and the teachers salaries. The students that are eligible to be in ESL are those who have attended high school, either in the United States or a foreign country, but did not get their diploma.

see 'ESL' page 12

Get ready to drive in winter time

By Kevin Lage
Features Editor

Conditions for driving become more hazardous during the winter as opposed to other seasons. Michael Malczewski, a professor in the Automotive Service Technology department, gave some car maintenance tips to be safe in winter. "The horse is already out of the barn," Malczewski said because winter is half over, "but it's still important to know."

According to Malczewski, "the fluids need to be checked." Oil, antifreeze, windshield washer solvent, transmission fluid, brake fluid and radiator fluid all need to be checked. Oil should be changed about every 3,000 miles.

Antifreeze should be flushed every two years or five years depending on type of antifreeze. "Go to a service station that does oil changes, they'll look at your car and make a diagnosis on any problems," Malczewski said.

Then he gets down to tires. "As temperature decreases every 10 degrees each tire will lose one pound of pressure. That's just a law of physics," Malczewski said. Check the pressure of all of the tires, including the spare tire. The handling of a car is affected by tire pressure, low tire pressure means poor handling, and lower gas mileage. Handling is important, especially in the winter, with hazardous condition

see 'Drive' page 13

'ESL' from page 11

ABE is linked with ESL, ABE is for adults who don't have their high school diploma in this country and are functioning at a reading and writing level below ninth grade. Adults are defined as someone older than 16 and out of high school. ABE is the precursor to GED.

Students who function between a ninth and 12th grade level but don't have their high school diploma can enter the GED program to prepare them to take and pass the GED test, which is the equivalent of a high school diploma.

ESL offers citizenship classes where immigrants learn how to become a citizen, but only if the immigrant meets criteria. They must be a resident for five years, if married to a U.S. citizen then it's three years.

During those years they must be physically present in the U.S. for one and a half years of the three if married. Or two and a half years for the five year resident requirement. They are allowed to travel outside of the country for no more than six months at a time, without having to get special reentry permission. If gone for more than six months then the U.S. assumes they have abandoned their residency.

Once a person has applied for naturalization or citizenship, they must go through a



Photo by Aldo Blanco

The purpose of the grant is to serve students who need to develop basic reading and writing skills in English.

background check performed by the government.

Then they get a interview with a jurisdiction officer. The interview consists of the applicant responding to questions about their application where they have to provide all of the detail the officer needs to each question they're asked.

The applicant must have knowledge in civics and government of the U.S. They are asked 10 questions out of 96 questions the officer can choose from, and must get six of those 10 correct. "

They also take a dictation test and reading test. ESL teaches students to be confident in the interview by a comprehensive curriculum that addresses the 96 questions and provide all of the context around it.

The purpose of ESL's citizenship course is preparing

people for all aspects of the interview. The test has been redesigned and the new test will be implemented in October 2008.

People Educating People is the volunteer component of the program. PEP actively recruits members of the community who want to volunteer as a tutor.

Tutors receive training in adult learning theory, the curriculum and techniques that are used. To receive tutoring from PEP one must function below a sixth grade level.

The ideal is for the student to pass the programs and get skills needed to make a successful transition into college level classes, or to pass either vocational, certificate or technical programs for the student to get immediate skills for employment or job promotion. To give students an opportunity is their goal.

'Primary' from page 11

base and show how incredibly conservative they are. The Democrats campaign to show how liberal they are. When the general election comes they have to come back to the middle.

People in government have to compromise and make nice with the

other team. But the candidate already alienated their party and the rival party by saying negative things about them.

So the primary emphasizes negative traits politicians shouldn't

posses, instead they should be about compromise.

Goldberg suggests reforming the primaries by basing the elections on regions, not individual states. Changing the primary is a topic discussed in national media, proving that people are thinking about reform. "What's central to a democratic system is a system that makes people excited about participating, what we have currently is a system that discourages participation," Goldberg said.

The main point Goldberg

wants to convey is that, "the primary system is fractured and flawed, everybody realizes this now." When he says everybody he means the media, main stream journalist, internet bloggers, party organizations, academics and most citizens that are paying attention to politics.

"The candidate who wins on super duper Tuesday will, not with certainty, become the nominee for the presidential race," Goldberg said.

After primaries each party holds a

convention in July or August. The convention historically was important because the nominee is officially announced to the nation. In our system now we will know with certainty well before July and August who the nominee will be and so it won't be a surprise when the nominee is announced at the convention. Goldberg believes the nation will know the nominees, "perhaps as soon as Feb. 5 on super duper Tuesday, March at the latest."

"No Republican is going to come out and say we hope the rain is really bad so nobody comes out to vote."

DAVID GOLDBERG,
POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR

Join COD's Team

America Reads America Counts

Tutor Children in
area grade schools
for \$10 per hour

Federal Work Study eligibility required



Become a Tutor

Other requirements:

- 2.0 GPA
- Enrollment in 6 COD credits
- 20 hours per week maximum
- Transportation tutor's responsibility
- Federal Work Study eligibility

★ Other Work Study and Non-Work Study Positions also available

For more information stop in the Human Resource Department, SRC 2053, or call 630-942-2414.

• Flexible Schedules • Competitive Wages • Early Registration • Bookstore Discounts •



We open doors in hospitality.

Earn a Degree.
Manage your Career.



Ask us about the **COLLEGE OF DUPAGE**
transfer scholarship up to **\$6,000!**

Private, accredited college for women.
Bachelor's degrees in **Hospitality Management**.

Specializations in:

HOTEL/RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT
CULINARY ARTS
EVENT PLANNING
HEALTH CARE & WELLNESS

Convenient West Loop location – steps away from public transportation!
See how you can **jump-start your career** in the nation's fastest growing industry!

Scholarships and Financial Aid available! Weekday, evening and weekend courses available! Come and visit us today for your free gift!

Call 312-226-6294, ext. 225 or Toll Free 866-647-3093

310 S. Peoria Street • Chicago, IL 60607
degree@lexingtoncollege.edu or www.lexingtoncollege.edu

Courier Web Features
www.cod.edu/courier

'Drive' from page 11

like ice on the streets. To find what pressure your car tire requires look in the owner's manual, or in a placard inside of the door, or on the tire itself.

After that, check the battery, make sure that it's charged well. "Have a technician look at it because it requires some test equipment," Malczewski said.

The drive belts, v belts, or the serpentine belt run all of the accessories and they should be checked for flaws. Make sure that the belt is not frayed, worn, or deteriorated. If it is then it should be replaced.

Hoses are worthy of an inspection because they provide a passageway for the coolant to come out of the engine to go into the radiator. Hoses are needed to keep the engine at the right temperature.

Other car parts to inspect are the lights, wiper blades and solvent because visibil-

ity is crucial while driving in winter.

Be aware that bridges and overpasses tend to freeze first, so be careful of black ice when driving over those structures.

Malczewski recommends having an emergency kit (see list below). "It would be a good idea to have it while driving, especially if you will be a transfer student at Northern going to DeKalb everyday," Malczewski said, as being stranded out on the road with nothing around might be fatal.

Public Safety will provide services to students that have problems with their car for free.

"They can open the doors if your lock is frozen, or if you locked your keys in your car. And jumpstart your vehicle if it doesn't start," Lieutenant Ray Snisko said.

Call public safety at (630)942-2000 with car-related trouble.

For Your Information

Interested in becoming a National Park Ranger?

Come learn about what Park Rangers do: Firefighting, Search and Rescue, Emergency Medical Services, Forestry, Natural Resource Management, Habitat and Wildlife Protection, Community Outreach and Public Education.

Presented by: Rick Obernesse, Chief Ranger of Yellowstone National Park. Special Guests: Paul Zambarnardi, Executive Director, Yellowstone Park Foundation and Keith Crandell, Seasonal Backcountry Ranger of Yellowstone National Park.

The event is hosted at IC 2109 on this Friday at 3:30 p.m.

The Nineteenth National African American Read-in

Professor Cheryl Jackson of Health Information Technology at COD is inviting you to participate by reading or sharing an excerpt or telling a story from an African American Author with the attendees.

The presentations times will be 7 to 10 minutes and should include a brief biographical sketch of the author, a reading from your selection and the reason why this author/piece has meaning for you.

If you are interested in participating or have further questions, please e-mail Cheryl at Jackson@cod.edu or call 630-942-3384. Include the timeframe(s) that you are available.

For more information and some suggested books/works, visit:

www.ncte.org/prog/readin/107901.htm

Last year there were 17 readers representing COD's students, community, classified staff, faculty, and administration.

The date of read-in is Feb. 4 between 10-2 p.m. It is hosted in SRC 1450 AB.

Page Turners Book Discussion

The Page Turners will be discussing Jane Austen's book "Pride and Prejudice" on Feb. 14, Valentine's Day at 3:30 p.m. in the Folletts COD Bookstore. Lisa Higgins, professor of English, will be leading the discussion.

For more information call Lisa at 630-942-3385 or e-mail her at higgins@cod.edu.

Should marijuana be legalized?

Mason Tvert thinks that marijuana should be legalized. He helped make it legal in Denver. Now come hear his story.

On Tuesday Feb. 5 at 12:00 noon in SRC 2800.

For more information visit www.saferchoice.org. Or call student activities at 630-942-2243.

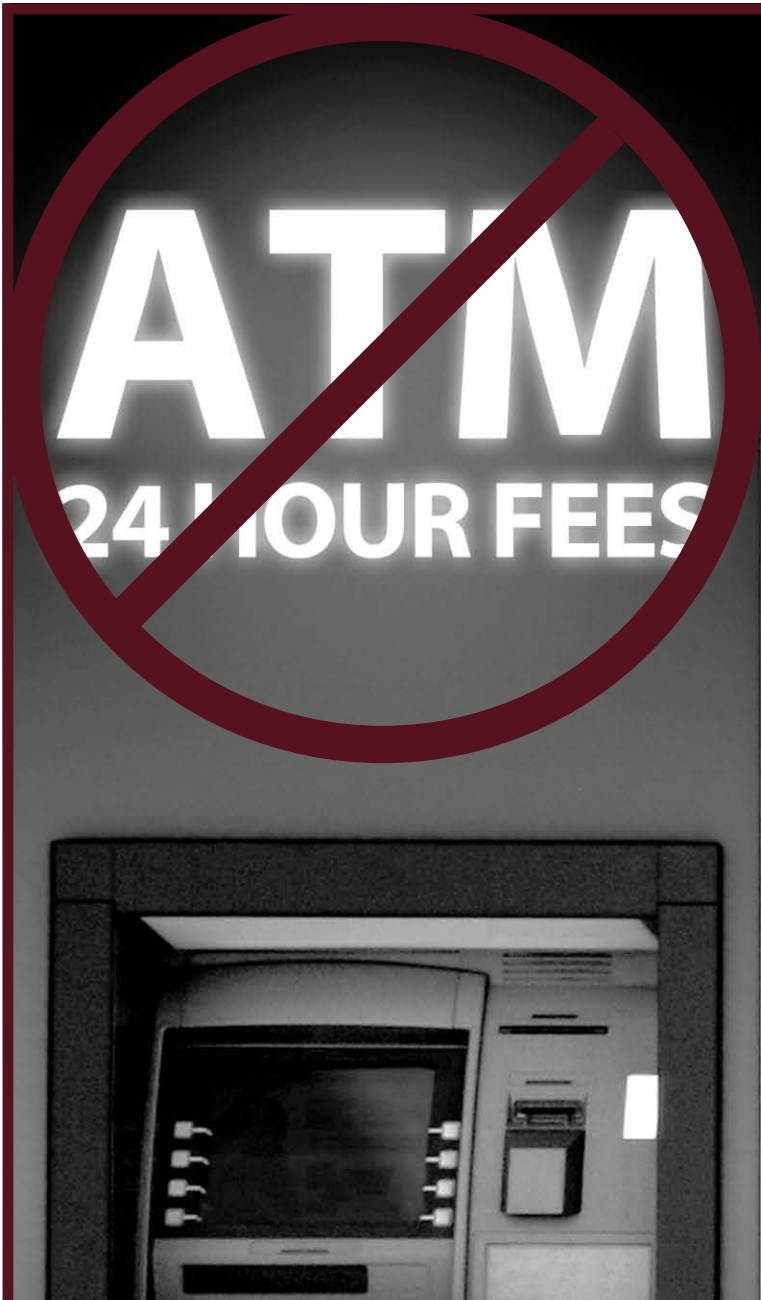
Salsa lessons

Casa de Amigos is hosting free salsa and merengue lessons from 7 to 10 p.m. Feb. 15 in SRC 1544. A professional instructor will be available from 7 to 8 p.m. Snacks will be provided. E-mail Casa de Amigos Vice President with any question at ferrier.ismael.0676@dupage.edu



Photo by Aldo Blanco

Freak Out Artist Chris Carter shocks Michelle Preciadl and Kathy Villagomez as he lights up two fluorescent bulbs by just using his hands.



CHASED AWAY BY HIGHER ATM FEES?

Use any of the three ATMs at COD, fee free, with a DuPage Credit Union VISA® Check Card. Now that's something you can bank on.

Plus, you will also have access to more than 32,000 Surcharge-Free ATMs nationwide.

Visit us at our new Banking Center on the north side of the Berg Instructional Center, or online at dupagecu.com to open your new DuPage Credit Union VISA® Check Card.

We invite you to bank with the official on-campus financial institution of College of DuPage and experience the DuPage Credit Union difference.

DuPage Credit Union Banking Center, Building CU
M/T/R/F: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, W: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Campus ATM Locations: Buildings CU, PE and SRC

