

Special guest speaker lined up for career and job fair

By Shanah Sorochynski
Herald Reporter

The Parkland Career and Job Fair (PCJF) has lined up three time Golden Glove Champion and Canadian Boxing Hall of Fame inductee, Spider Jones as its keynote speaker for its admission-free event at the DRCSS Feb 15 to 16.

At the age of 15 Jones dropped out of school and joined a Detroit street gang where over the next six years he would lose two of his cousins in gang confrontations.

Eventually he would leave gang life and struggle through a number of menial jobs before pursuing his dream of becoming a broadcaster at the age of 30.

Four years later Jones graduated from Seneca College with honours in the field of Broadcast Journalism, two literary scholarships and the Board of Governor's Award.

He is now the host of the Spider's Web on CFRB radio.

Most recently he has been voted "Boxing



Spider Jones

Commentator and Emcee of the Year" by the board of governors for the World Boxing Federation.

According to fair coordinator Jaime Balak, Jones was selected for this year's event not only for his inspiring story, but for his ability to capture the interest of students.

It is hoped that having such a popular speaker will also draw both the

general public and students alike to the more than 50 exhibits representing businesses, educational institutions, professional associations and government.

"So many people are asking me about our speaker. . . I think that having one really popular aspect of the fair compliments the other parts," said Balak.

Also in light of the

high demand for workers in the health care profession, this year's event will host a health care panel comprised of individuals representing different aspects of the field.

"We are bringing in representatives from seven different parts of the health care profession and have them give their personal accounts on why they chose their career, what they do every day, history, how they got into it, how many years it took them and what are their benefits and the salary they are making," said Balak.

While there will be a few members on the panel from Winnipeg, the vast majority will be individuals from the Parkland.

According to Balak this was important in order to show youth that there are job opportunities for them in their own community.

"There is always the opportunity to come back and be very successful in your hometown with great benefits," she said.

Balak also felt it was

important that people are exposed to as many different options as possible.

While university is a good option, it is not the only one out there, she said.

Adding that college training, trades and apprenticeships are educational opportunities that should be given great consideration.

Health Care Session

The PCJF health care session will take place in the upper gym of the DRCSS Feb 15 and 16 from 2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Professions represented include lab and medical imaging, medical doctor, nursing, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, psychiatric nursing and respiratory therapist.

Adult Evening Sessions

The Parkland Job Opportunity Centre will hold its resume consulta-

tion and career searching session in the lower gym Feb. 15 from 6 p.m to 8 p.m.

And Allard, Yakubchuk & Paull will host an information session about income tax for small business in the Business Ed Department from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

All those in attendance for the adult sessions can enter to win a digital camera.

Spider Jones

Spider Jones is slated to speak to students and members of the general public in the DRCSS multi-purpose room Feb. 15 and 16 from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Contact information

For more information about the Parkland Career and Job Fair people can either call Balak at 622-5621 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:40 p.m. or visit its Web site at www.pcyj.ca.

GRAND TOUR OF THE BRITISH ISLES
April 12 - 21 days
Group Departure
BRANSON
April 3 - 9 days
VICTORIA
April 4 - 15 days

NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR
August 10 - 8 or 12 days
ALASKA
June 7 - 21 days
MARITIMES ALL CANADIAN
September 9 - 23 days
Guaranteed departures on most Groups & Singles Welcome. Group leader incentives.

MS lives here.

LORRAY MANOR