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Letter From the Editor

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Letter From the Editor

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Welcome to the 1999 edition of *The Park Place Economist*! This journal is a collaborative effort by students from several disciplines; produced by the Economics Department of Illinois Wesleyan University. This edition has been affectionately dubbed “lucky number seven” by the staff.

We are very excited to publish eight scholars in this edition. Many of these papers focus on the choices confronting individuals, companies, and the government and how these choices may affect the entire population. The first paper by Melissa Arms examines whether or not investing in green funds is financially beneficial. Jaclyn Hood analyzes the individual’s decision about home ownership using the human capital theory. Sunil Jagwani discusses the different tax system proposals the U.S. government is considering while Nathan Taulbee examines different methods for funding the Social Security system. These are just a few of the papers that deal with the choices facing decision makers today. This issue also features articles on current topics: unions, immigration, the technology of money, and the use of financial derivatives.

This has been a year of continuity for *The Park Place Economist*. I have taken on the distinction of being the only Editor-in-Chief crazy enough to tackle this project two years in a row. This journal has been a pleasure, even with all the late nights. What makes this endeavor such a joy is the creative, enthusiastic staff that produced it. I thank all of them for their dedication to this project. I would especially like to thank Pat Holly, my Technical Editor, for his endless energy and inspiring optimism. He too, is labeled as crazy for continuing in his position for a second year.

Finally, I would like to thank both the Economics and the Public Relations Department for their continuous support. I would especially like to thank Robert Aaron for his advice and counsel, as well as his extra effort to promote this journal.

This journal is still very young, and I am proud to have been able to help it grow. I wish next year’s staff the best of luck. All that being said, I invite you to sit back, relax, kick your feet up, and enjoy “Lucky Number Seven.”

Jennifer Van Dyke, Editor-in-Chief

General Information:

Submissions to *The Park Place Economist* are always welcome. Students interested in assisting in future editions of the journal are also welcome. Those interested in submitting papers or becoming part of the editorial staff, and those with any comments or questions regarding *The Park Place Economist* should call (309) 556-3178 for more information. Written queries and responses can be addressed to bleekley@titan.iwu.edu through e-mail, or to:

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