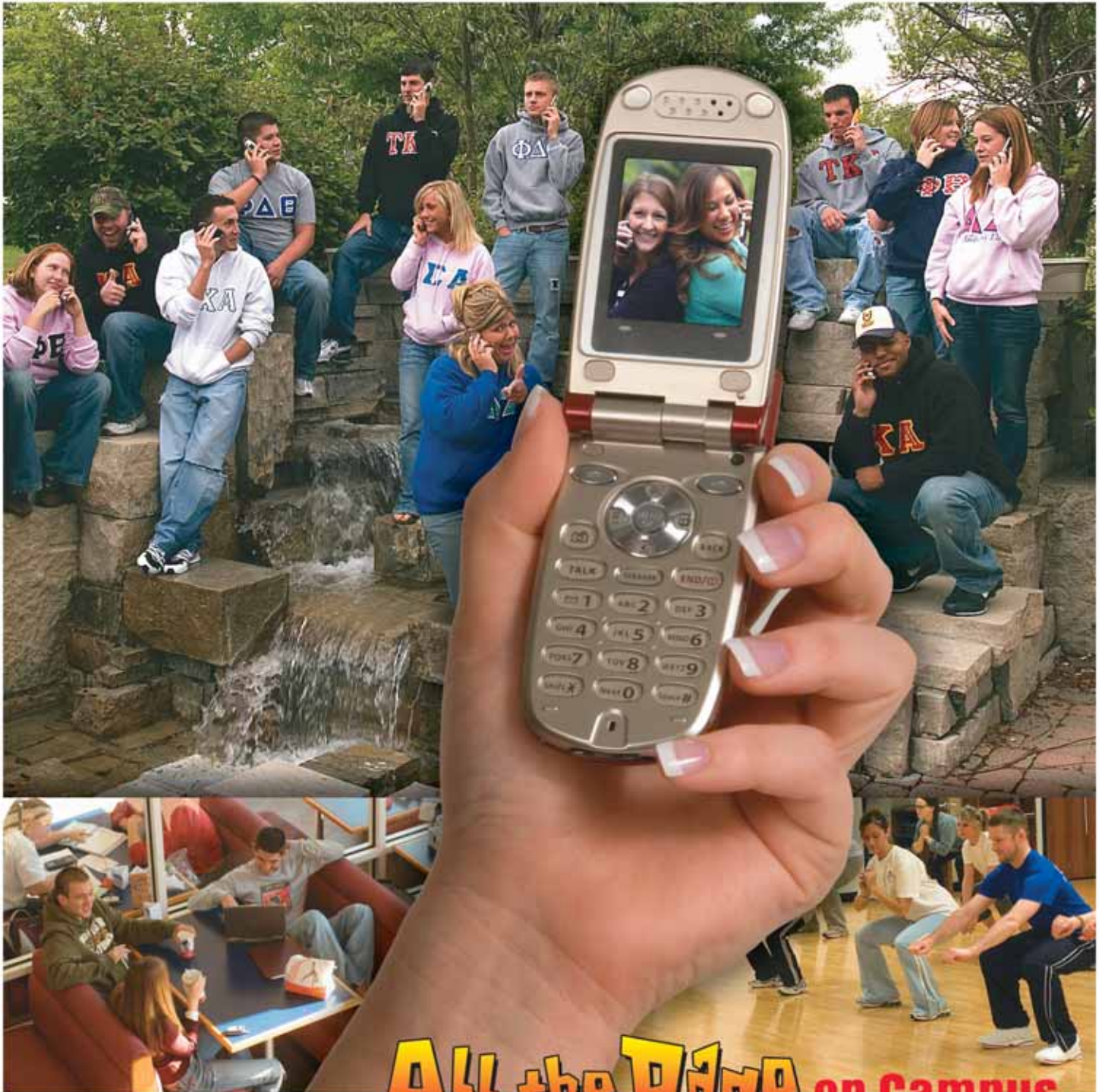


USI *Magazine*

University of Southern Indiana

Spring 2006



All the Rage on Campus

From the editor

A new look

USI Magazine has a bit of a new look inside and out with this issue.

The fresh appearance starts on the front cover where the USI logo takes center stage. The word “magazine” is still there in small type to let you know which University of Southern Indiana publication you are receiving.

On this page, we provide a more readable display of contact information.

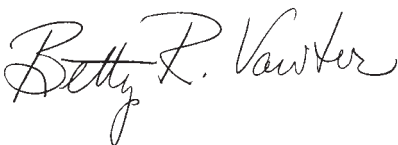
The redesigned contents page organizes magazine material into two sections: features and departments.

Following that, we offer quick reads by moving Campus News and Foundation News to the front. Feature stories now occupy the middle pages of the magazine, where we plan to take advantage of the center spread for more dynamic graphic display. Athletic news and Alumni Today remain in their usual spots. The list of Alumni Council members and University staff in Alumni and Volunteer Services now appears on the opening page of Alumni Today.

Redesigned graphic elements identify the Campus News, Foundation News, Sports, and Alumni News sections of the magazine.

These updates are the first significant design changes since we became *USI Magazine* (formerly *8600 University Boulevard*) in 2000 and began using color throughout.

Thank you for taking a look at this issue. We hope you enjoy reading it.



Betty R. Vawter



USI Magazine is published three times annually by the University of Southern Indiana for its alumni and friends.

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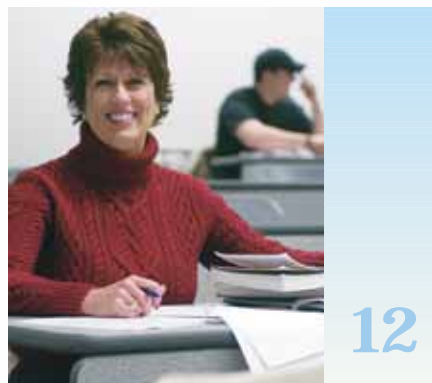
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ON THE COVER

Find out what rates with students on the USI campus. See page 16.

Two deans named

Scott Gordon, Pott College of Science and Engineering



Gordon

Dr. Scott A. Gordon has been appointed dean of the Pott College of Science and Engineering.

A professor of biology, Gordon was associate dean of the college for four years and acting dean from March 2005 until his appointment as dean in January. He joined USI in 1994 as assistant professor of biology.

Gordon said, "With strong academic programs and support for student-faculty research, USI and the Pott College of Science and Engineering are poised to become the college of choice for top student scholars within the state."

The establishment of closer relationships with local business and industry plus development of an academic program across other academic disciplines on campus are projects on his agenda. He also plans to establish closer ties with high school math, science, and technology teachers in the region.

Gordon's recent research is related to higher education issues. He has surveyed academic deans in other institutions to better understand the policies, procedures, and practices used by colleges and universities in institutionalizing a broader view of faculty work through the four domains of scholarship (discovery, integration, application, and teaching) advanced by former Carnegie Foundation president Ernest Boyer.

Gordon is the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) faculty athletic representative for USI. In 2005 he was selected as an NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative Fellow.

Mohammed Khayum, College of Business



Khayum

Dr. Mohammed Khayum, a professor of economics and a leading researcher on Evansville-area economic issues, has been named to lead the College of Business as dean. The appointment was effective in January.

As a USI faculty member since 1991, Khayum is familiar with the aspirations of USI students majoring in business and the kinds of programs and activities to which they respond. He also has a strong relationship with the community. He has conducted a number of economic impact studies in the Evansville area. In 2004, he was co-collaborator of a study for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana.

Khayum's plans for the college include the exploration of distinct niche opportunities in teaching and service. In addition, he wants the college to develop an entrepreneurial perspective, to continue to be active in community development, to assist in the transfer of technology to new applications, to develop innovative practices, and to develop multidisciplinary synergies across campus. Among his immediate plans is continued progress on the Joe Coslett Family Sales Management Development Laboratory.

Khayum is a former chair of the college's Department of Economics and Finance. He was named associate dean and director of the MBA program in 2004.



USI President Ray Hoops congratulates Pam Hopson.

Pam Hopson awarded diversity honor

Pamela Hopson, director of USI's Multicultural Center, was awarded the Effie Thomas Development Award at the 2005 Mayor's Celebration of Diversity Awards in Evansville. Sponsored by the city's Human Relations Commission, the award was presented in September.

Hopson is the founding director of the USI Multicultural Center and has shaped a wide range of programs and support services aimed at appreciation of diversity among students, employees, and the wider community.

Theatre Festival recognizes Wasserman



Wasserman

Elliot Wasserman, associate professor of theatre and director of USI Theatre, received the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival's Gold Medallion

Award for Excellence in Theater Education at the KCACT Region III Festival in January. The five-day festival was held at Illinois State University.

The award is presented to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the teaching and producing of theatre and to the development and quality of the KCACT Festival. Wasserman and USI hosted the Region III festival when it was held in Evansville in 2002 and 2003. He was Region III playwriting chair in 2000-01.

Evansville Library Foundation, CYPRESS commission sculptures by USI professors

Leonard E. Dowhie went back in his mind to his childhood to develop the idea for a sculpture recently installed in the children's area at Central Library in downtown Evansville.

"I tried to put myself back there and think what kids do with books. They read them, but they also play with them," he said.

USI professor of art, Dowhie imagined a stack of books that has tipped over. The piece appears to crash into the window and then continues to cascade



Lenny Dowhie's cascade of books is in the children's area of Evansville's Central Library.

into the courtyard outside. The ceramic sculpture is about four feet high and more than nine feet long.

Lezlie Simmons, associate director of development for the Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library (EVPL), said the piece by Dowhie was commissioned by the EVPL Foundation. Based on work samples and presentations, artists were chosen by the library's Art Selection Committee, composed of volunteer community representatives.

The EVPL Foundation also commissioned a piece by John McNaughton, USI professor emeritus of art. His "Tree of Knowledge," which hangs impressively from the ceiling of the main lobby, was installed in time for the library's opening in September 2004.

McNaughton has a second sculpture at Central Library. His piece titled "Remembrance" is part of the Shoah Visual History Collection in the Indiana Room. That collection is sponsored by CYPRESS, the Committee to Promote Respect in Schools, which worked to establish Evansville as a regional depository for the Shoah Foundation, organized by Steven Spielberg to preserve the testimonies of Holocaust survivors and witnesses.

McNaughton made and donated the sculpture for the Shoah collection. It includes a wooden table which serves as a base for an open book, stack of books, fountain pen, timepiece, and pair of candlesticks. McNaughton invited CYPRESS members to suggest items to display on the table and then help arrange the items after they were made.

"Many artists would want total



John McNaughton's sculpture "Remembrance" can be seen in the Indiana Room.

control," McNaughton said, "but I felt this was a unique opportunity to get the committee members involved."

The table is made of locally grown walnut. In honor of the name of the committee, cypress wood is used for part of the sculpture.

Carol Abrams, CYPRESS chair, said, "We all love this sculpture. If you've ever seen any Holocaust memorials, you know that most of them are painful or gut-wrenching. What is wonderful about this one is that it's about the survivors and that we will have their stories long after they are gone."

The Shoah collection at Central Library includes survivor stories from all of Indiana and Kentucky and from southern Illinois.

Berger Service Award to art educator



Uduehi

Dr. Joseph Uduehi, associate professor of art education, is the recipient of the 2006 Sydney L. and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award. Uduehi brings art and art lessons to children in the community through art workshops, classes, and projects. He teaches children's art classes at Hands on Discovery Children's Museum, Patchwork Central, and at elementary and middle schools. While endorsing him for the award, one nominator wrote, 'At a time when budget cuts have caused art programs to be decreased or cut, Dr. Uduehi brings art and culture to our young students - and an exposure to the arts that they might not receive otherwise.'

The Berger Faculty Community Service Award recognizes a faculty member for distinguished community service to groups, agencies, and institutions. It was established in 1996 by Charles L. and Leslie Berger in honor of his parents, Sydney and Sadelle Berger.

Institutional Research and Assessment director named



Draughon

Dr. Katherine Draughon, a research consultant and president of Evansville-based Draughon Research, LLC, has been named director of Institutional Research and Assessment for the University.

She will work closely with academic units to collect and analyze student learning outcomes data and will design, measure, and collect data to assess University-wide goals and objectives. She will design, implement, and manage a University-wide decision support data warehouse.

Draughon has held previous posts in research at the University of South Carolina and the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is the associate chair of membership and a member of the Long-Term Planning Committee for the Executive Council of the American Association for Public Opinion Research. Last year she was named a Mid-America Regional Public Health Leadership Institute Fellow.

Ellspermann directs new research and development center



Ellspermann

Dr. Susan J. Ellspermann has been named founding director of University of Southern Indiana's Center for Applied Research and Economic Development.

USI President H. Ray Hoops said the center is an important regional economic development assistance program, providing a mechanism through which the University can use its expertise to help bring practical solutions to problems that inhibit economic development in the region.

Ellspermann has owned and operated Basadur Applied Creativity, an independent consulting firm licensed in the training and facilitation of Dr. Min Basadur's Simplex Creative Problem Solving, since 1986. She was formerly a production supervisor and plant industrial engineer at Frito-Lay's Irving Plant in Dallas, Texas.

The Center for Applied Research and Economic Development is a program of USI's Office of Extended Services.

USI senior Lora Defries is Rotary Ambassador



Defries

Lora Defries of New Harmony, Indiana, has received a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. Defries will graduate with two bachelor's degrees, in economics and international studies, in May.

As a Rotary Ambassador, she will represent one of three Indiana districts and attend classes at the University of Guadalajara, Mexico, during the 2006-07 academic year. The scholarship covers housing, tuition, and travel. Defries will study Spanish culture and language and plans to complete a third undergraduate degree in Spanish.

While abroad, scholars serve as ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country and give presentations about their homelands to Rotary Clubs and other groups.

Defries is a member of the USI Model United Nations and the International Club. She received a travel award from USI to study abroad in Malta in spring 2005.

David Glassman makes 'Skeleton Stories'; Michael Aakhus to appear on PBS

The dean and associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts will be featured separately in coming months on national television programs.

New York City-based Atlas Media Productions came to USI to film three episodes of a new series called "Skeleton Stories" for the Discovery Health Channel. The segments, "Homeless," "A Minor Mistake," and "Lady Killer," chronicle the forensic work of Dr. David Glassman, dean of Liberal Arts, on three homicide cases.

Michael Aakhus, associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts, will appear in September in a documentary about naturalist John James Audubon for the PBS American Masters Series. A crew



David Glassman reenacts work on three homicide cases.

from Florentine Films/Hott Productions filmed Aakhus as he pulled an impression from one of Audubon's engraved copper plates.



Michael Aakhus, right, prepares to pull an impression of Audubon's "Tell-Tale Godwit."



Do you know the way to USI?

If you haven't driven to the USI campus lately, watch for the new University Parkway exit signs on Indiana 62. Gone are the Eickhoff Road signs that formerly signaled the way to campus. Opened in January, the first stretch of the new north-south University Parkway begins at USI and ends at Upper Mount Vernon Road. According to Vanderburgh County officials, additional phases of construction will take the parkway north to Diamond Avenue over the next six years.

New Rice Library to open



The task of moving library collections will begin in June in preparation for ribbon cutting and open house at the new Rice Library July 23. Providing state-of-the-art technology and a variety of spaces for study and gathering, the new library will be the tallest building on campus. It features a rotunda facing the Liberal Arts Center at its front entrance and a curved rear facade along University Boulevard.

USI students to assist with Evansville Murals Project

Dr. Hilary Braysmith, associate professor of art history, is director of the Evansville Murals Project, a public art program in downtown Evansville which will involve USI students and area youths working with nationally and regionally known artists.

Braysmith is modeling the project after the mural youth intervention program created in Los Angeles by artist Judy Baca. That program produced more than 250 murals and hired more than 2,000 participants in its 10 years of operation. Baca, who will create the first mural in the Evansville project, will visit the city in August to set up the program. The Evansville murals will reflect the community and its history.

USI students will enroll in a public art seminar taught by Braysmith. For each

mural, USI students will apprentice to a master artist and mentor area youths as they collaboratively research area history and determine the content of the mural. The master artist will complete the final design and execution of the piece.

Following the selection guidelines established by Baca and Vanderburgh County Juvenile Court Judge Brett J. Niemeier, Patchwork Central and the Evansville African American Museum will each select two youths for the program.

The city will contribute \$100,000 from the Capital Development Fund in the form of a one-to-three challenge grant to assist private fund-raising efforts over the next two years. Another \$300,000 in private monies will be raised for the project.

Honorary degrees to be awarded

A retired bank executive and two retired Evansville educators will be recognized May 6 during the 2006 Commencement ceremony at Roberts Stadium. The USI Board of Trustees approved honorary degrees for Wayne F. Henning, Mattie S. Miller, and William E. Miller.

Board members also approved degrees for 1,675 degree candidates, making the Class of 2006 the largest class to graduate from USI.

Henning, an advocate for expansion of public higher education, retired this spring after 42 years with Old National Bank in Evansville. William and Mattie Miller, leaders in education and Evansville civic affairs, have earned state and national recognition for their work in education.

Scholarships for nontraditional students provide encouragement, financial assistance

Students of nontraditional age—age 25 and above—need a variety of support services in order to attend college, a distinct difference from a student right out of high school. Among their needs are assistance with paperwork hurdles, such as retrieving high school and college transcripts and transferring credits; day-care services; academic tutoring services; transportation; scheduling problems; and usually financial assistance, most of all.

Among USI's 10,000 students are approximately 2,300 nontraditional students, 66 percent of them women, many single mothers. It is these students who have the most difficulty finding the time and resources to complete their degrees. Among the USI Foundation's more than 750 private scholarships providing annual support of \$760,000, only three scholarships are restricted to students of nontraditional age, and their total value is \$1,900.

The stories of two young women tell how financial assistance and words of encouragement helped sustain the difficult years of managing family, working, and attending classes. Here are their success stories.

Mayola Rowser '95, a recipient of the Herschel Moore Scholarship for African American women and the Mitchell Nursing Scholarship, recalls, "I got help along the way and encouragement from my dean, and I just kept going...sometimes my classes were in the daytime, so I worked the evening shift, and other times I had night classes

and worked the day shift. There were times when my kids sat outside the classroom waiting for me."

Today, Dr. Rowser—she's earned the title as the recipient of the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in May 2005



Rowser

— is assistant professor of nursing at USI's College of Nursing and Health Professions. She was widowed in 1993 when her husband DeJuan "Spider" Rowser, a former USI basketball star, died of cancer, leaving her with two sons, ages 4 and 13. She was working as an associate degree nurse (nurse's aide) at Welborn Baptist Hospital. Today, she holds bachelor's, master's (from USI), and doctorate degrees, and is taking classes online from University of Tennessee Health Science Center to complete the research doctorate (Ph.D.) in nursing. She has received fellowships and awards along the way which continue to inspire her. She hopes to help others once her sons—now ages 16 and 25—are out on their own.

Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, said, "Dr. Rowser is an exemplary faculty member who excels in her faculty teaching, research, and service roles. Her leadership, hard work, and dedication mark her as an individual who will make significant contribution to both our University and the nursing profession. It is a privilege to work with her and support her continuing professional development."

Patricia Avery '04, who received the Gia Nicholson Stanonis Scholarship for nontra-

ditional students in addition to a Pell grant, returned to college in 2000 after years of marriage, four children, and missionary work in Scotland, Amsterdam, and Brazil. With two of her four children in college, she was anxious to complete her own degree. By 2002, finding herself in the role of a single mother with two children still at home, she realized she "was going to need a really good job to support my kids." The New Albany native had been her high school's valedictorian and a National Merit Scholar, and she enjoyed learning.

Today, Avery is director of employee communications at Old National Bank in Evansville, a job which requires a college degree. She majored in communications—radio/TV—with a journalism emphasis. She became



Avery

active in USI's Nontraditional Student Organization, primarily to seek increased scholarship support for other nontraditional students along with Dennis Avery, coordinator of adult marketing and recruiting in the USI Admission Office, and Patty's husband since summer 2004. She graduated from USI with a 4.0 GPA and received the Communications academic achievement award her senior year.

One of her primary motivations is to help prove that nontraditional-age students are worth the investment, and because many are part-time students, they are not eligible for most of the Foundation's private scholarships.

For additional information on how to establish a scholarship for nontraditional students, contact Ginny Bryant, manager/Foundation Scholarships, at 812/465-1658 or glbryant@usi.edu.

2005-06 USI Annual Fund

Gifts, Pledges at 82 percent of Goal
As of March 15

| | Alumni | Corporate | Friends | Total |
|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Goal | \$130,000 | \$75,000 | \$200,000 | \$405,000 |
| Actual | \$106,695 | \$54,978 | \$170,398 | \$332,071 |

Remembering USI Foundation life director Henry Ruston

From anonymous friend to USI's most generous donor

By Susie Nicholson,
President/USI Foundation

Remember the phone call well. An Evansville attorney called to request information about the Foundation's legal name to complete a client's will. The client was anonymous, he said, but was completing a new will to leave the University of Southern Indiana a \$1 million bequest.

The love affair between Henry Ruston and USI began in the early 1990s, and today Henry is the most generous friend the University has ever had. After Henry met with President Hoops and me, we welcomed and encouraged him, along with his wife Helen, to get more involved at USI. Henry didn't miss much after that. And, he became one of our most loyal "friend" raisers, always wearing his USI lapel pin and telling listeners what a significant impact the University was having on this region.

Henry began attending the Eagles men's basketball games, bidding successfully on the pig roast dinner at the Varsity Club's annual steak fry and auction, and then inviting friends and benefactors to come to the University Home and enjoy the festivities. Even when Henry could not attend the club's fund-raising event, he sent someone to do his successful bidding. He encouraged his friends to gather and have fun. Henry was always gregarious. Having a good time was an important part of his life.

Henry and Helen Ruston were a team, owning and managing Waldemar Niednagel Flowers of Distinction on Green River Road, the business founded by her grandparents. When Henry got involved at USI, Helen did too, even though she was a cancer patient by the mid-90s. Together they endowed a Presidential Scholarship and enjoyed getting to know the students who received their award. Not too long after



Participating in the dedication festivities of Ruston Hall, Henry Ruston, center, enjoys visiting with USI Foundation director emerita Trudy Mitchell and USI President H. Ray Hoops. The student residence was named in honor of Ruston and his wife Betty Jane.

Helen died of cancer in 1997, Henry stopped by my office on his way to a Foundation board meeting and dropped his car keys on my desk. He said he didn't need two cars anymore and suggested we sell it and keep the money. The proceeds of the car sale provided the funding to furnish the terrace at the Liberal Arts Center which overlooks Reflection Lake, and to purchase pots of blooming plants, and we named it for Helen Ruston.

When Henry married retired teacher Betty Jane Hopkins in 2000, he quickly involved her in all that he did at the University. Together they continued the generous support Henry had begun a decade earlier. In 2003 the University dedicated its newest student residence building, naming it in their honor. She had died the previous year.

Henry enjoyed telling University development officers that he had a lot more money than we knew. He began transferring investments and accounts to the USI Foundation in the form of charitable gift annuities, announcing with a smile that nowhere else could he get a nine percent return on his investments. Henry's gift annuities

were valued at \$2 million at the time of his death in December at age 84, leaving a legacy as USI's most generous friend. The balance of his estate—another \$2.5 million—also comes to the USI Foundation. After funding chair-back and flooring improvements in the basketball arena, the remainder of Henry's annuity proceeds and bequest will be placed in an unrestricted endowment to help meet USI's

most important needs—and serving as a perpetual reminder of our dear friend Henry Ruston.

Charitable Gift Annuities Pay Now, Give Later

A charitable gift annuity is a way to make a charitable gift to the USI Foundation while securing lifetime income and minimizing taxes. Here's how it works. The donor makes a charitable gift of cash or other property, receiving fixed payments, guaranteed for life at a rate of interest that is determined by your age and set by the American Council on Gift Annuities. The donor is entitled to an income tax deduction in the year of the gift.

Sample

Benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity of \$10,000

| Donor's Age | Payout Percentage | Donor's Annual Payment |
|-------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 60 | 5.7% | \$570 |
| 65 | 6.0% | \$600 |
| 70 | 6.5% | \$650 |
| 75 | 7.1% | \$710 |
| 80 | 8.0% | \$800 |
| 85 | 9.5% | \$950 |
| 90 | 11.3% | \$1,130 |

Susie Nicholson — 20 years of caring leadership

USI Foundation president to retire

When Suzanne A. Nicholson retires from the University in the coming months, she will leave a record-setting run of two decades as USI director of development and president of the USI Foundation.

Nicholson joined the University in August 1986. In June 1985, USI Foundation assets were \$609,594. Today assets are \$51.9 million. During that same time period, scholarship assets have grown from less than a quarter million dollars to \$25.6 million. Private gifts make a difference at USI by supporting educational enhancements beyond what tuition and state funds can provide.

Ted Ziemer, USI Foundation board member and past chair, said Nicholson is as effective in what she does as anyone he could name.

“She is thorough in her review of the facts in any situation. She does her homework,” he said.

Ronald D. Romain '73, chair of the USI Foundation for 2005-06, said Nicholson has helped the University stay out in front of its needs, continuously stepping up to increasing leadership demands as more dollars, a broader base of constituents, and matching gifts from the Lilly Endowment made management of the USI Foundation more complex.

Ann McCutchan of Seattle, Washington, recalled her parents' reaction when Nicholson joined USI. McCutchan is the daughter of John and Bettye McCutchan. Her father was the Evansville trustee of Indiana State University when USI was a regional campus (ISUE). Her mother was the longtime secretary of the ISUE/USI Foundation Board of Directors.

“My mom was thrilled when Susie accepted the job,” McCutchan said. “She knew Susie was highly organized and a trained, accomplished fundraiser. Susie really knows what is important for a community and knows how to make big things happen.”

Marjorie Labhart, USI instructor in mathematics, has known Nicholson



Nicholson

since they were young adults involved in community service. She praised Nicholson's vision and capacity for long-range planning.

“I remember way back in Junior League days (I was treasurer when she was president). Susie had this great ability to look beyond the year she was going to be president,” Labhart said.

Under Nicholson's watch, the USI Foundation, at the encouragement of faculty, began the prestigious Presidential Scholarship program and organized the Reflections planned giving society. And under her leadership, pacesetting gifts continued to raise the bar with the first \$100,000 gift in 1989; the first \$1 million gift in 1994, and the first \$2 million gift in 1998.

Nicholson also has helped establish a personal connection between donors and the University.

“Her depth of knowledge and willingness to communicate to donors where the money is going are extraordinary,” said Romain. “In some cases, you give money to an institution and that's the end of it. In her case, it's the beginning.”

Another accomplishment during Nicholson's leadership was the success of the University's first capital campaign. *Campaign USI* exceeded its \$10.5 million target, concluding in December 1998 with current gifts and pledges of more than \$18 million and an additional \$6 million in deferred gifts.

Nicholson and her husband Horace S. “Nick” Nicholson, who died in 2004, have two sons. Older son Eric said his mother's love for her native Evansville has been a driving force. She wanted to help the University grow. Chris said his mother believes in the city and the University and is able to communicate that.

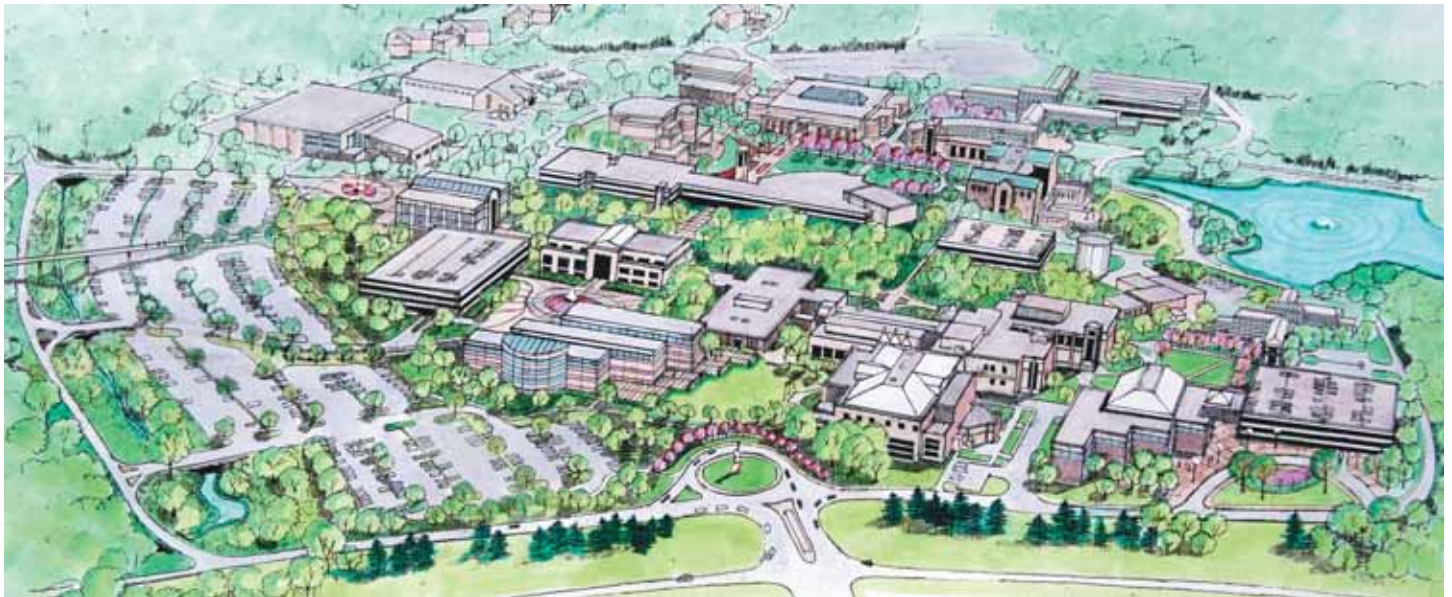
Susie Nicholson graduated from Bosse High School and earned a bachelor's degree in economics at Smith College. She served on the Evansville City Council from 1979-88 and is a past president of the city's Board of Park Commissioners. She serves on the Knight Township Board and the Burdette Park Advisory Board and is a former member of the Evansville Water and Sewer Utility Board. She was a founder and the first president of Leadership Evansville. Prior to joining USI, she was associated with the St. Mary's Medical Center Foundation.

Over the years her involvement has extended to many organizations, including United Way of Southwestern Indiana, Welborn Baptist Hospital Foundation, First Presbyterian Church, Evansville Philharmonic Guild, and Evansville Museum of Arts, History and Science. She is president of the Martha and Merritt deJong Foundation.

Both sons expect their mother will spend more time with her five granddaughters and enjoy travel upon retirement. Eric and his wife Pamela '89 and their three daughters, Ashley, 17; Katlin, 13; and Emily, 12, live in Medina, Ohio. Chris and his wife Deann and their twin daughters Ann and Kate, 9, live in Richmond, Virginia. ■

The USI campus of the future

Master plan gives direction to campus development



In the center foreground, this artist's rendering shows how the entrance from Indiana 62 to campus will be redeveloped with a roundabout and a roadway looping the campus.

The University of Southern Indiana campus is a work in progress. The 2006 master plan update shows how the University could accommodate growth in enrollment with construction and campus development resulting in an efficient use of land and a people-friendly environment.

Members of the USI Board of Trustees got a look at the update in November. USI President H. Ray Hoops told the trustees that the plan is a flexible vision that will change as necessary as the University continues to grow and evolve. Enrollment in fall 2005 was 10,004 students. The campus master plan considers campus needs if enrollment were to double.

Major improvements to realign the campus roadway system are an immediate priority. Over the next two years, most of University Boulevard through the center of campus will be removed. A new perimeter roadway will be developed to improve traffic flow and safety.

Continued development of classroom buildings will create an academic core in the center of campus. The University Center, Liberal Arts Center, the new Rice Library to be completed this summer, and the proposed new classroom building for the College of Business and the engineering program will form the University's first formal quadrangle. Landscaping and attractive pedestrian corridors will enhance the beauty and function of the area.

Other near-term development includes an addition to the Recreation and Fitness Center, a gallery addition to the Liberal Arts Center, expansion of the physical plant, and a parking structure with 400 spaces.

Mid-term development (2007-09) could see the University completing more space for classrooms and campus housing as well an addition to the Physical Activities Center.

In the long term (2009-2015), the master plan foresees development of

more classrooms; a center for art, theatre, and music; additional space for the Recreation and Fitness Center; and additional campus housing and dining facilities.

Expansion of parking is planned for both mid-term and long-term development. Recreation and athletic facilities will be concentrated in the southern quadrant of the campus while the residential areas will expand to the northeast. Future plans also call for development of a second campus entrance from Schutte Road.

The campus master plan takes into account the evolution of USI from a commuter to a residential campus. Developers of the plan want to keep the campus compact and walkable, deeming a 10-minute walk between campus neighborhoods as an acceptable goal.

Mark Rozewski

Treasurer and Vice President for Business Affairs

Minding the University's business

Cities and universities have a lot in common. Each has its own infrastructure, security, fees, administration, and organizations and activities that enable it to do business on a day-to-day basis.

When Mark Rozewski joined USI in March 2005 as treasurer and vice president for Business Affairs, the University tapped a veteran with advanced education in urban planning and more than 25 years' experience in campus planning.

"It's not such a leap from cities to universities," Rozewski said. "With 10,000 students and more than 1,000 faculty, administrators, and support staff, USI is larger than many communities."

Rozewski's interest in urban planning grew out of an experience in his youth. He was a youngster in the summer of 1967 when riots upset Newark, New Jersey, a short walk from his childhood home in the adjoining town of Belleville. Today, the history books say those riots were due to a number of factors: police brutality, political exclusion of blacks from city government, urban renewal, housing issues, unemployment, poverty, and rapid change in the racial composition of neighborhoods.

Rozewski took notice of these issues. "I was young and impressionable," he said. "The experience morphed into a caring for cities and wanting to know how cities work."

Prior to joining USI, Rozewski had been associated since 1978 with his alma mater Rutgers University in various planning posts. Most recently, he was

associate provost for finance and administration at the Rutgers campus in Camden, New Jersey.

At USI, he is responsible for the areas of budget, business office, computer services, internal audit, physical plant, and safety and security.

A year into the job, Rozewski likes what he is doing.

"USI knows what it wants to be and does it well," he said.

In November, USI President H. Ray Hoops, Rozewski, and committee members presented to the USI Board of Trustees a proposal for a campus master plan. The plan models what the campus would look like if University enrollment grew to 20,000 students. USI enrollment in fall 2005 was 10,004.

"This does not mean necessarily that we are going to grow to 20,000, but it demonstrates that we could accommodate 20,000 students without sprawling across our land and wasting it," he said. "We still would be a relatively compact and walkable campus."

Rozewski's years at Rutgers gave him experience with all kinds of campuses, from the inner-city Camden location within a short walk of Philadelphia to that of Cook College, the state's agriculture school. The Camden campus has roughly the same square footage of buildings on 45 acres that USI has on 300 acres. Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc., owns another 1,100 acres for future USI campus development.

Rozewski believes that one of the most important things in the develop-



Mark Rozewski

ment of a campus master plan is not the buildings themselves, but the spaces between the buildings and how they relate to each other.

"Beautiful and important outdoor spaces come into being," he said. "Places to see and be seen are important to campus life."

Such a concept is coming closer to reality for USI. When the proposed building for the College of Business is

complete, it will form a quadrangle with the Liberal Arts Center, University Center, and new Rice Library that opens this summer. Attention already is being given to a landscape design that will make this quadrangle a functional and beautiful space for the University community.

"We are well maintained, clean, and new. We don't want to lose that," he said. "Our challenge is that of building a community that continues to grow while maintaining a beautiful and natural setting. Our plan is to keep the campus focused in a compact growth zone.

"As we plan for the future, it is also important to remain affordable. It's important to who we are, and it's important to the community."

Nevertheless, he said the University has some catching up to do when it comes to building.

"We operate with far fewer building square feet per student than any other public university in Indiana," he said.

The realization of short-term and long-term plans for construction will help rectify that.

When the new library opens, the current library building, already connected to the University Center, will be renovated to provide more space for student activities. Soon the University will undertake a project to double the size of the Recreation and Fitness center. A new building to house the College of Business and provide more space for the study of engineering also is in the design stage.

Rozewski also is involved with the

University's outreach in New Harmony, Indiana. Through his education in city planning, he was already familiar with the community as the home of two 19th century utopian experiments.

"I was overjoyed to know that USI was a steward of New Harmony," he said.

He is pursuing initiatives to strengthen USI's management of Historic New Harmony and help the business community in the town become more robust.

"The state appropriation for the maintenance of the 37 buildings we own has been flat for the past few years while maintenance costs continue to go up," he said.

In the bundle of buildings owned by the University are a number of downtown commercial buildings that are not among the core historic holdings. The University is seeking buyers for these commercial properties.

"There's been a lot of interest," Rozewski said. "We are hopeful that the private sector will bring new investment and new ideas. This should leave New Harmony better off. We see strong signals that this will happen."

Aside from campus planning, Rozewski sees the level of staffing as a major challenge for the University.

"We're efficient and effective," he said. "We're also very lean. We can get the job done by careful prioritization, but we must continue to be carefully prioritized to do so."

As a freshly minted Midwesterner, Rozewski finds the Evansville area different from the urban northeast in many ways, not the least of which are Indiana's

wide-open green spaces and the lower cost of living. He also finds Evansville family friendly. His wife Janet, an architect, is associated with the Evansville firm of Veazey Parrott Durkin and Shoulders. They have two sons. Ryan, 13, attends Oak Hill Middle School, and Tommy, 11, is a student at Scott School.

Rozewski earned an undergraduate degree in urban studies and planning from Rutgers University and a master's in city and regional planning, also from Rutgers. In addition, he has completed management development and leadership programs in the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

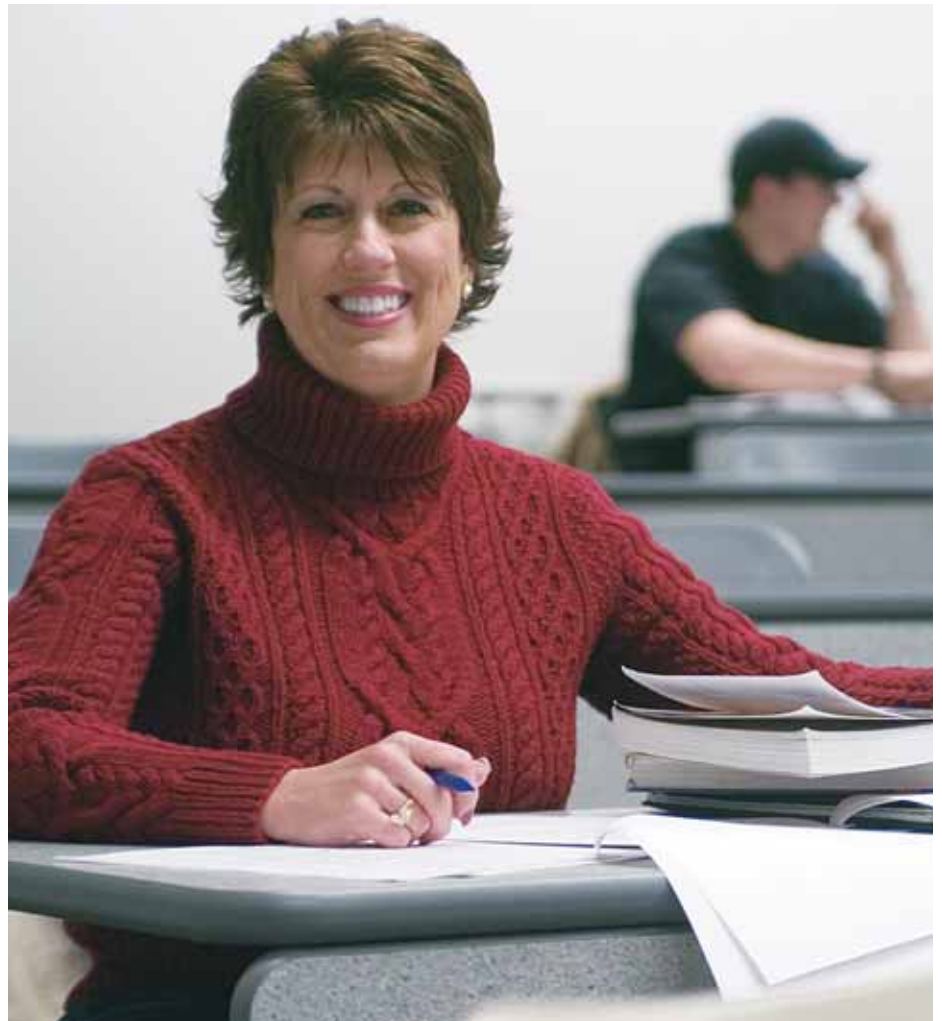
He was formerly a member of the Board of Education in Tinton Falls, New Jersey, and former board president of a nonprofit housing development company affiliated with the Mental Health Association of Monmouth County, New Jersey. He looks forward to sharing his expertise through involvement in the Evansville community.

Rozewski likes the growth curve he sees at USI. Planning for continued growth will keep him facing fresh challenges for a long time to come.

"As we build, we are building community," he said. "We want to build a place where students enjoy being—a place where they will want to linger for many hours after class. We want to make it a place they remember for the rest of their lives and a place where they will want to bring their children. We're chipping away at it now."

Back to School

Age 25 and older, nontraditional students hit their books with determination to complete a degree or fulfill a dream. USI recognizes their needs are different from the typical 18-year-old enrolling in college.



Janet Cazel, 45, completed her first college course in December.

Every Thursday night of fall semester Janet Cazel, freshman, was in Room 1016 of the Liberal Arts Center learning about U.S. history since 1865. Cazel is 45 years old. The history class was the first college course she had ever taken.

Single again and interested in a new career path, Cazel is a nontraditional student at USI, one of 2,262 nontraditional students among the 10,004 students enrolled in fall semester.

Nontraditional students are defined as being age 25 or older. They juggle some combination of work, family, and academic responsibilities in pursuit of higher education.

Cazel is pursuing a degree in business administration to enhance her

career opportunities, perhaps in a team environment with a corporation. Though she has a long and successful career in sales under her belt, she has found some career doors closed.

She said, "A lot of employers won't even talk to me because I don't have a degree."

For many years Cazel was owner and manager of Janco Sales in Olney, Illinois, a company that provided replacement parts for construction and mining equipment. In 2004, she moved to Evansville and now is employed in sales as a leasing agent for Marengo Warehouse and Distribution Center in Marengo, Indiana.

A member of Evansville Rotary Club, Cazel believes that certain people are born with ability in sales. It has been part of her life since she sold handmade

potholders "two for a quarter" door-to-door as a child growing up in McLeansboro, Illinois.

"I believe that sales is a win-win relationship," she said. "You're helping the customer. Face it. Salespersons are necessary. I'm in it in for the long haul to build relationships."

When Cazel enrolled at the University of Southern Indiana, her experience and love of the business environment made the choice of a major easy. However, she began, as all freshmen do, with a course in the University Core Curriculum.

She said, "I decided to take it slow. I've enjoyed it, and I've enjoyed the other students. I didn't find anything hard about it, but I was scared at first about whether I'd be able to keep up. It had been a lot of years since I had

taken a test or sat down to write a paper.”

Cazel discovered that her fear was mostly a fear of the unknown. She did well in her first class. That has built her confidence.

As a leasing agent, Cazel works from home. For the time being, she will focus on enrolling in classes that meet at night as she continues her education at USI.

“Though I have flexibility, I have responsibility,” she said.

Cazel has a daughter (Jennifer Darnell Estes) enrolled in USI’s radiologic and imaging sciences program and two other grown children. Having put them first during their growing-up years, she now has an opportunity to concentrate on her own education.

For most nontraditional students, a return to the classroom can trigger a tug of war with priorities. Nontraditional students may need to help school-age children with homework before beginning their own. Or, they may spend a full day on the job and then go home to write a paper instead of taking care of chores around the house.



Close interaction with faculty benefits nontraditional students.

Why they come

Nontraditional students represent 22.6 percent of USI’s total enrollment. The reasons they enroll are many. Some are looking for personal fulfillment—getting the degree they did not finish or did not start when they were younger. Some are formalizing education in their already chosen career field. Others want to advance up the career ladder or change careers. Still others may not be pursuing a degree but are taking courses that interest them—creative writing or art.

Glenn David, president of the USI Nontraditional Student Organization, put it plainly. “Nontraditional students are enrolled in college because they want to be there, not because mom or dad suggested it was a good thing to do.”

David, 46, insists that nontraditional students are serious about their studies. “If they miss class, it is for an important reason,” he said. “Maybe their spouse is out of town and can’t watch the kids.”

In spring 2005, USI’s nontraditional students ranged in age from 25 to 76. The 76-year-old was a retired physician taking courses in trigonometry and calculus. He tutored USI students in math and wanted to improve his ability to tutor.

Dr. Wayne Rinks, associate professor of radio and television, said his



Nursing student Glenn David lit a candle and led the recitation of the nursing pledge at a recognition ceremony for the first graduates of the accelerated nursing program. David is president of the USI Association of Nursing Students and the Nontraditional Student Organization.

and all the other things that go with adulthood.” he said.

“If I have a nontraditional student or two in a class I know I had better be prepared because they often ask the hard questions...the “why” questions. The majority of nontraditional students I have taught have served as the sparks

“I am quite amazed how few nontraditional students ever ask for extensions on deadlines even with the fact that many have children, full-time jobs, and all the other things that go with adulthood.”

*— Dr. Wayne Rinks
Associate Professor of Radio and Television*

experience with nontraditional students is positive.

“Nontraditional students most often take their work very seriously. They do the assigned readings, are well prepared for their exams, and take great pride in the papers and other assignments they turn in. I am quite amazed how few nontraditional students ever ask for extensions on deadlines even with the fact that many have children, full-time jobs,

to get class discussions going or to help keep the class on topic.”

Some nontraditional students transfer credits from other universities. Some start from scratch. For most, the traditional four-year path to a bachelor’s degree is not the goal. They take courses for a while, drop out if other commitments intervene, and then resume their studies.

David, who had previous college credits from three universities in North

continued on next page

Carolina, is pleased with his experience as a nontraditional student at USI. "It is a wonderful state education for the least amount of money," he said, "and USI offers a wide range of degrees."

USI is one of the most affordable baccalaureate university in the state. USI offers more than 70 undergraduate majors and nine programs at the master's level.

A wide variety of online classes also puts USI in tune with the needs of non-

his recovery period. David completed requirements for the bachelor's degree in health services in December 2004 and expects to complete requirements for becoming a registered nurse in May.

The USI summer class schedule offers 87 different distance education courses. In the fall, 111 different courses will be available through distance education.

Like most nontraditional students, David balances his course load with his

great demand. I knew if I got a nursing degree, that I wouldn't have any problems moving anywhere and getting a job."

Coordinator of adult marketing and recruiting

For prospective nontraditional students, Dennis Avery is often the first contact for information about admission. He joined the University in 1999 as coordinator of adult marketing and recruiting.



Dennis Avery

While other Department of Admission staff fan out to recruit in high schools, Avery represents USI at college fairs held at area workplaces, such as American General in Evansville, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana, Total Interior Systems–America (TISA), in Princeton, Indiana, and Dana Corporation in Henderson, Kentucky.

// When I was looking to change careers, I wanted to get into something where there would be a great demand."

— Glenn David
USI nursing student

traditional students. David enrolled in USI in spring 1998 to pursue degrees in nursing and health services. In spring 1999, an accident resulting in multiple leg fractures prevented him from attending class on campus, but he took courses through distance education during

work commitment. He is an adjunct faculty member at Indiana Business College. He previously worked in the field of long-term care insurance.

He said, "When I was looking to change careers, I wanted to get into something where there would be a

Nontraditional students offer strategies for success

These suggestions for success as an adult student were compiled by Lee Ann Shafer, academic programs coordinator/advisor in USI Extended Services, with assistance from nontraditional students Angela Wargel, Harold Esty IV, and Kathy Carmichael.

What do you wish you had known at the outset about surviving and thriving as an adult student?

- Remember that many students have not yet shared in paying bills, being married, or having children. I found myself spending more time talking with faculty (who were very understanding) but eventually found common ground with students.
- Use all the services that USI has to offer. These include free tutoring in many subjects from the Office of Academic Skills, the Rice Library, computer labs, the Recreation and Fitness Center, and many free or inexpensive cultural and athletic activities where families are welcome.
- Seek out your advisor. He or she is there to help.

What advice do you have about practical matters?

- Locate your classroom before classes begin. Then you can pick the best parking spot for your building and not feel rushed on the first day of class.
- Use #2 pencils for tests. I didn't bring a pencil for my first algebra test. That was really ugly.
- Take some vacation time from work during times of heavy assignments so you don't stress yourself, your family, and your coworkers.

What advice would you give an adult who is thinking about returning to college?

- Make sure your family understands that this is important to you and that they may have to make some sacrifices. Their support is vital.
- Reduce the number of commitments you have to outside organizations.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions. Students and teachers are helpful.

He also has recruited nontraditional students at area hospitals. Some employers offer tuition reimbursement to employees who pursue higher education.

Avery said that USI's teaching focus is important to nontraditional students.

"Many nontraditional students who have been out of the classroom for a number of years feel the need for hands-on instruction. USI's average class size is 25 students," Avery said.

USI's strong schedule of evening classes is another attraction to nontraditional students, many of whom have work and family responsibilities that prevent them from being on campus during usual class hours.

USI Nearby and special programs

Off-campus classes also make higher education more accessible. A program called USI Nearby brings USI classes close to the neighborhoods where people live and work. This spring USI offers classes at Castle High School in Newburgh, Indiana, and at the Indiana National Guard Armory in Evansville.

Lee Ann Shafer, academic programs coordinator/advisor in USI's Extended Services, said USI Nearby instructors are the same faculty who teach on campus. The University has installed new teaching technology at the armory so little is missing from the campus experience.

Child care and transportation are other concerns for some nontraditional students. USI offers on-campus child care at the Children's Center, accredited by



the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The Metropolitan Evansville Transportation Service serves the USI campus.

Nontraditional students are enrolled in all colleges of the University. A special opportunity available only to nontradi-



Christina Branson is one of the first eight students to complete an accelerated nursing program for students who already have an undergraduate degree in another field.

tional students is the Bachelor of General Studies program, allowing them to blend disciplines into a customized degree program. Shafer directs the BGS program.

Two USI programs for career changers attract nontraditional students. The Bower-Suhrheinreich College of Education and Human Services offers a Transition to Teaching program for individuals with a degree

in a field other than teaching. The College of Nursing and Health Professions offers an accelerated nursing program for individuals who already have a

bachelor's degree in another field. The first eight students in this program graduated in December with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. All have successfully completed the RN licensure exam. Nine students started in fall 2005 in the second class of accelerated BSN students.

USI has a chapter of Pinnacle, a national honor society which recognizes nontraditional students for academic achievement and service to community or campus. New members are honored at a reception in the spring.

For more information

Nontraditional students

www.usi.edu/admissn/nontrad/index.asp

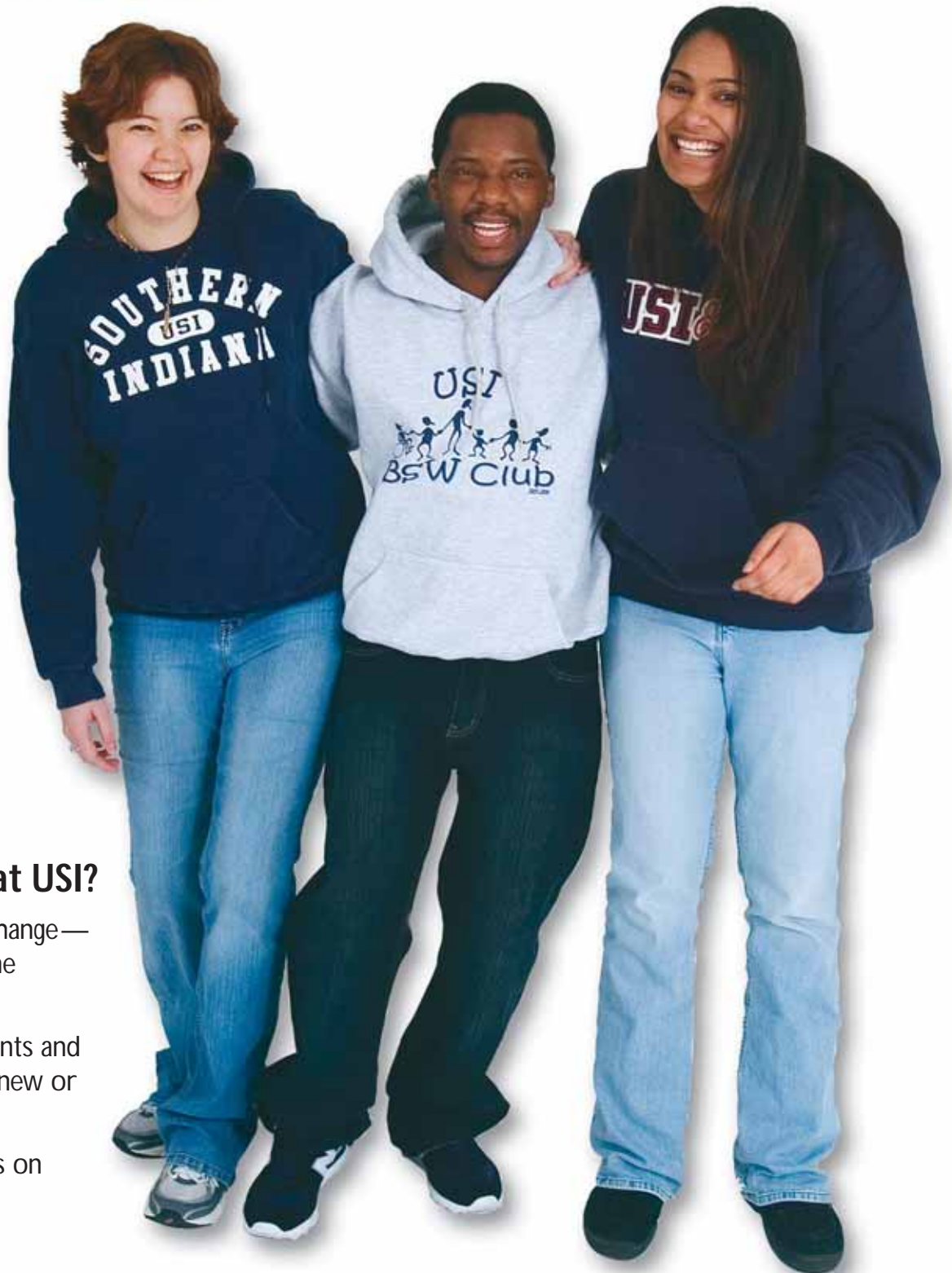
Bachelor of General Studies

www.usi.edu/extserv/bgs/index.asp

Distance education

www.usi.edu/distance/index.asp

All the Rage on campus



What's **Hot** at USI?

Some things never change—like hanging out at the University Center.

But then again, students and faculty embrace the new or reinvent the old.

Take a look at trends on today's campus.

Fashion: Comfort rules

Fashion trends come and go, but college students like comfort. Though a recent trend of going to class in pajama bottoms has passed, students stay comfy in jeans or sweatpants worn with hooded sweatshirts, or “hoodies.”

“The majority of people wear jeans—probably with a few holes; they buy them that way—and hooded sweatshirts,” said Kevi Baumgartner, a junior who plans to major in nursing. “You see the occasional guy wearing a nice button-up shirt or a polo, and a few girls dressed up—usually wearing several colorful layers, like lacy camisoles and tank tops.”

Junior marketing major Jennifer Heidler said, “A lot of girls wear classic jeans with a cute top and high heels.”

The cell phone—the student’s constant companion

Almost no student these days wants to be without a cell phone.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than 40 percent of persons in the United States ages 15-24 have both a land line and a cell phone available to them. Another 18 percent of persons in that age group have scrapped the land line in favor of a cell phone only.

Sara Cotton, a senior marketing major, said, “I do have a land line, but only because I live at home. I know that if I were to live on my own, to save money, I would have only a cell phone. As it is, I am never home. It would not be practical to have a land line.”

Cotton said many students consider their cell phones a lifeline. She uses hers to make appointments and to catalog names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.

“It can be my datebook and alarm clock!” she said.

“I definitely use my cell phone to socialize. It makes life easier to talk to friends and family on a phone that goes everywhere.”

What would life be like without the cell phone?

“If my cell phone were taken away, I would have to adjust the way I go about everything. However, in some ways it would be a big relief. Everyone needs a break from their cell phone,” Cotton said, “When I work out, I do not take it along with me.”

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A faculty member’s Guide to cell-phone etiquette

The technological privilege of a cell phone carries responsibility along with it. Dr. Jane Johansen, associate professor of business education, offers these guidelines for cell-phone etiquette on campus—or anywhere.

A lot of cell phone etiquette for students means simply conforming to the “reasonable adult” test. Far too many adults, of course, don’t conform to the “reasonable adult” test, and they confuse public and private communication more than students.

In classroom settings, a student must keep the cell phone in the “vibrate” or “off” position, and so must the professor. The vibrate mode means being sure the cell phone is lying against a soft surface. A cell phone on a desk or chair in the vibrate mode creates as much racket as a ringing cell phone. The ringing of a cell phone or the sudden loud intrusion of a custom ring tone such as Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony interrupts everyone’s concentration. The reasonable adult doesn’t create interruptions in the classroom.

Flip and flee

A trick I teach in business communication is “flip and flee.” If a student must receive a call because of, for example, an impending family emergency, he or she must notify the professor. Then, when the phone vibrates, the student can stand up, flip the phone open or press the “talk” button, and walk out of the classroom. The person on the other end of the call will hear the call is being answered although it will involve a delay.

To say “hello” in the classroom is bad etiquette. Reasonable adults can wait—on both ends of the line.

Cell-phone warning

Outside the classroom, another trick is the “cell-phone warning.” This means simply stating “I have a call coming that I must answer” to the people in the group. Those people, the “community,” will determine how that call will be received. If a group of friends is accustomed to continuing a conversation over a member’s cell phone call, then answering and talking is acceptable. If the community makes remarks such as, “If that is your friend S., hang up,” that’s a not-too-subtle hint that the group prefers not to hear cell-phone conversations. A friend will move away from the community to take a call.

A lesson in economics

By the way, all those cell phones in use by students are also one more way to learn economics—sometimes the hard way. Students ask to borrow my land phone because their cell phone minutes are up. Worse, students ask if they can turn in an assignment late because they are out of money for duplicating or paper: they had to pay a cell-phone bill that was too high. ■



Accounting major Layla Hummel had 112 phone numbers stored in her cell phone but recently unloaded a lot. She is down to 52.

Hummel uses her cell phone for everything and feels safer having it.

"My phone has saved me many times," she said. "It has come in handy when I have gotten lost, needed directions, had to call the police, had to report an emergency, got stranded, and when my car had a flat tire. I would feel vulnerable without my phone. When I have to walk anywhere at night and am alone, I always have my phone out and in my hand."

MP3 players: They're everywhere

MP3 players are ubiquitous on campus. Students are as likely to sprout "buds" from their ears as they are to have cell phones plastered to them.

Randy Woodruff said his is always by his side. "I use it not only

for music, but also for storing text files," he said.

Senior business administration major Kate

Liddle joins legions of others who carry with them

a constant soundtrack for their lives.

She said, "The radio attachment for my iPod is really useful because I think it's so much easier to play a play list from my iPod in my car than to switch back and forth between a dozen CDs. I listen to it while I'm working, walking to class, exercising, or even just to kill time."

Beyond the love of language

A shrinking world creates greater opportunity for individuals with bilingual skills. Overall enrollment in foreign languages classes at USI is up more than

25 percent since fall 2001. The biggest jump is in the demand for Spanish classes, where enrollment has increased 37 percent since fall 2001.

Dr. Leslie J. Roberts, acting chair of the Department of Foreign Language, said the interest in Spanish mirrors the country's influx of Spanish-speaking immigrants and an increasingly global economy. Courts need interpreters, government agencies seek employees with skills in Spanish, and many companies have connections with Mexico and other parts of Latin America. Students savvy to future job opportunities are signing up for Spanish.

But other languages remain popular at USI. A strong European Union makes knowledge of French and German desirable. Demand for foreign language classes also goes up as more USI students express interest in study abroad programs.

Students who want to teach foreign language at the high-school level sometimes study two languages, automatically upping respect for their resume when it hits the principal's inbox.

Undergraduates abroad

More USI students are experiencing the world as they study abroad. This semester students have branched out to Sweden, the Netherlands, Spain, Australia, the United Kingdom, and France. In addition, one student is sailing around the world through the Semester at Sea program which the University recently joined. Jessica Graves boarded the ship in the Bahamas along with students from many other universities. The boat is their campus as they complete courses giving them insights into various cultures and societies. The students will have stays at 14 ports, including South Africa, India, Burma, and Hong Kong before docking on the West Coast at semester-end.

In 2004-05, the number of USI students inquiring about study abroad increased 50 percent over the previous year. Many students choose locations available

through the International Student Exchange Program, which offers programs at 225 institutions worldwide. Through ISEP, students pay USI prices for tuition, fees, and room and board. Last summer several students chose locations in South and Central America, no surprise since enrollment in Spanish classes continues to go up.

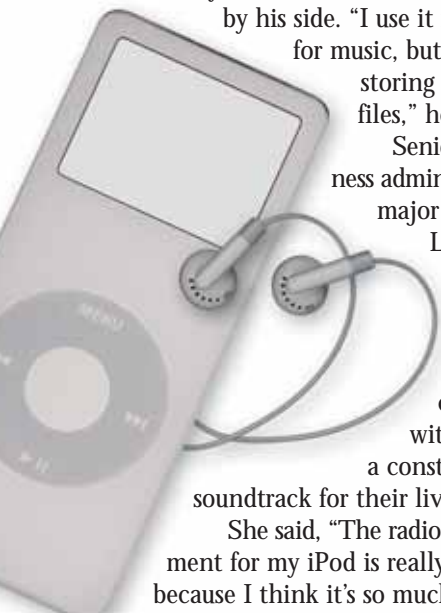
The 'blogosphere'

Both students and faculty take advantage of Web logs, or blogs, a communication tool of the 21st century. While many students post blogs through social networking Web sites, they also blog for their courses—and even to promote the University. John Campbell, assistant director of Admission, said student blogs are becoming a popular recruitment tool for the University admission office.

"Prospective students can get a student-to-student perspective because our students write about their actual experiences here," Campbell said.

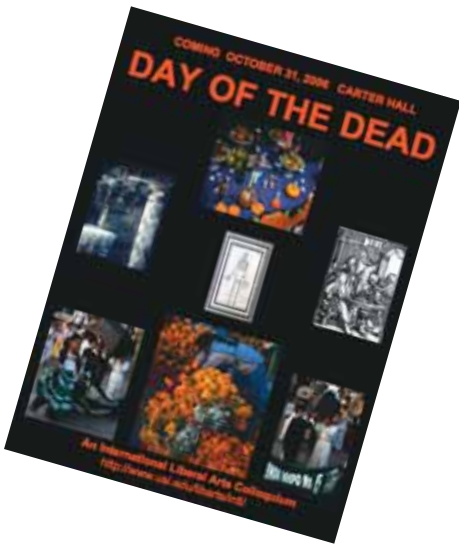
Lisa Nicholas, instructor in English, maintains a blog, "Alive at the Core," designed to engage her student's thinking about the Humanities. Students react to Nicholas's postings through the comment feature on her blog.

Three students attending USI this semester through the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) are keeping a photo blog of their experience. Stephane Gestel of Martinique, Jari Makipaa of Finland, and Anne-Laure Carron of Reunion Island have posted images at <http://evansvilletrip.blogspot.com/>.



Connecting the disciplines

Faculty member Patricia Aakhus organized the first annual international interdisciplinary colloquium after attending such an event at Oxford University. Her plan to expose the USI community to the international culture attracted more than 2,500 students, faculty, and staff in fall 2004 and again in 2005. The first two colloquia featured



lectures and exhibits on Greek and Middle Eastern cultures. This year art history, psychology, sociology, foreign languages, literature, politics, and gender studies will come together for another colloquium when 13 faculty members make presentations on October 31, the first day of a festival celebrated worldwide but with elaborate festivities in Mexico. Titled "Day of the Dead: Ceremonies of Passage," the colloquium will focus on *Dios de los Muertos*, a Mexican celebration of the memory of deceased ancestors.

Hang outs

Many students agree that the University Center is the favorite hang-out—the smell of fresh bread wafting from the Sub Connection on the main level, plenty of lounge chairs for taking a break, and a stream of people passing by. Others choose the second floor of the Education Center and Torrington Wing of the Science Center as a place to meet people and get stuff done. Another stopping point is The Link

between the Science Center and the Health Professions Center where Café à la Cart offers sandwiches, fruit, and Starbucks.

Residence life

With occupancy in campus apartments and residence halls at 92 percent in fall semester, residence life is vibrant at USI. Almost 3,000 students live on campus, and a survey made in spring 2005 indicates that more than 60 percent of them stay on campus close to three weekends a month. A decade ago, fewer than 1,400 students lived on campus.

Demand for more private space has led to a new apartment choice offered for fall. "Super single" apartments will feature a double bed, a comfortable club chair, and a low-profile entertainment center. All students in residence halls (freshmen only) participate in meal plans, and many are electing to keep the meal plan after they move into campus apartments. More students living on campus increases the demand for programming. The McDonald West Recreation Room and adjacent playing courts in the housing area are slated for expansion and renovation.

Not your grandmother's Blackboard

It used to be that speaking up in class meant raising your hand and voicing your comment. Now class discussion and communication take place 24/7. Students in many courses ask questions and make observations online.

"Course accessibility is ongoing," said Dr. Kevin Valadares, director of the health services program and the master's program in health administration. "Another faculty member said to me, 'the discussion keeps going even when I'm not there,' and that's really true."

Blackboard is a software program for online instruction and communication. Students can access course materials their professors make available and may participate in online discussions with their professor and fellow students. Blackboard is available for USI credit courses—not just those taught by distance education. Based on responses to a survey, Dr. Karen Bonnell, director of Instructional Technology Services, estimates that 80 percent of faculty and 95 percent of students use at least some Blackboard functions.

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One student said he enjoyed learning from what classmates posted on the discussion boards. Another likes the freedom from carrying around a folder full of handouts. "I know I can access them at any time and refer to them if necessary."

Wireless connectivity

What's pervasive on campus but invisible? The answer is wireless Internet capability. Wireless service is available in all main buildings and the surrounding courtyards. It also extends throughout the housing areas.

"I really like that I can have Blackboard open during class and have all the notes that the professor posts available to me."

—Jennifer Woolley
USI student

USI student Jennifer Woolley uses a wireless connection on her laptop during class. "I really like that I can have Blackboard open during class and have all the notes that the professor posts available to me. It makes taking notes a lot easier," she said.

Wireless connectivity allows students to be more at ease when doing their homework. "If you're studying with a group of people, it's nice to be able to simply hand over the laptop and show them what you're seeing," said Stephanie Wilson.

Fit and fun

Two of the most popular group exercise programs at the Recreation and Fitness Center are Butts-N-Gutts and Six Pack. The first attracts mostly female students. "It works those problem areas," said instructor Sandi Migonis. Six Pack is a 15-minute workout that builds the abs and lower back.

For former high-school football players or fans, flag football is the next best thing. In 2001, the intramural program fielded 38 men's flag football

teams and nine for women. In fall 2005, 61 men's teams and 21 women's teams competed.

Also rating high on the activity scale are sand volleyball and outdoor basketball tournaments. Katie Parker, a senior elementary education major, competes regularly in intramurals with a team called the Bayside Tigers. They love scoring points, but mostly they love playing together.

TV favorites

Among the tops in must-see television shows for female students are "The OC," "Gilmore Girls," "Laguna Beach," and "Desperate Housewives."

"'Laguna' is everyone's secret passion," said Stephanie Wilson, a chemistry major. "Even if you say you hate it, you've seen at least one episode and can kind of follow a conversation about it."

For those who don't know, "Laguna Beach" is an MTV reality show that follows the lives of eight affluent teenagers in, of course, Laguna Beach, California. Other shows that turn up in casual campus conversation are ABC's "Lost" and "The Real World," another in the MTV line-up.



Club sports

Sophomore Jeff Ausenbaugh of Newburgh, Indiana, started learning wrestling moves in kindergarten and competed throughout his high-school years. Not ready to walk away from the sport, he helped organize the USI Wrestling Club last fall. The 21 members list hometowns of Bloomington, Elkhart, Evansville, Newburgh,



Mt. Vernon, Poseyville, and South Bend, Indiana; Fairfield, Illinois; and Cincinnati, Ohio.

The club competes in the National Collegiate Wrestling Association. Members wrestled in three tournaments before sending 18 individuals to the regional qualifier in Toledo, Ohio, in February.

"It's hard to explain, but wrestling becomes a part of you," Aussenbaugh said.

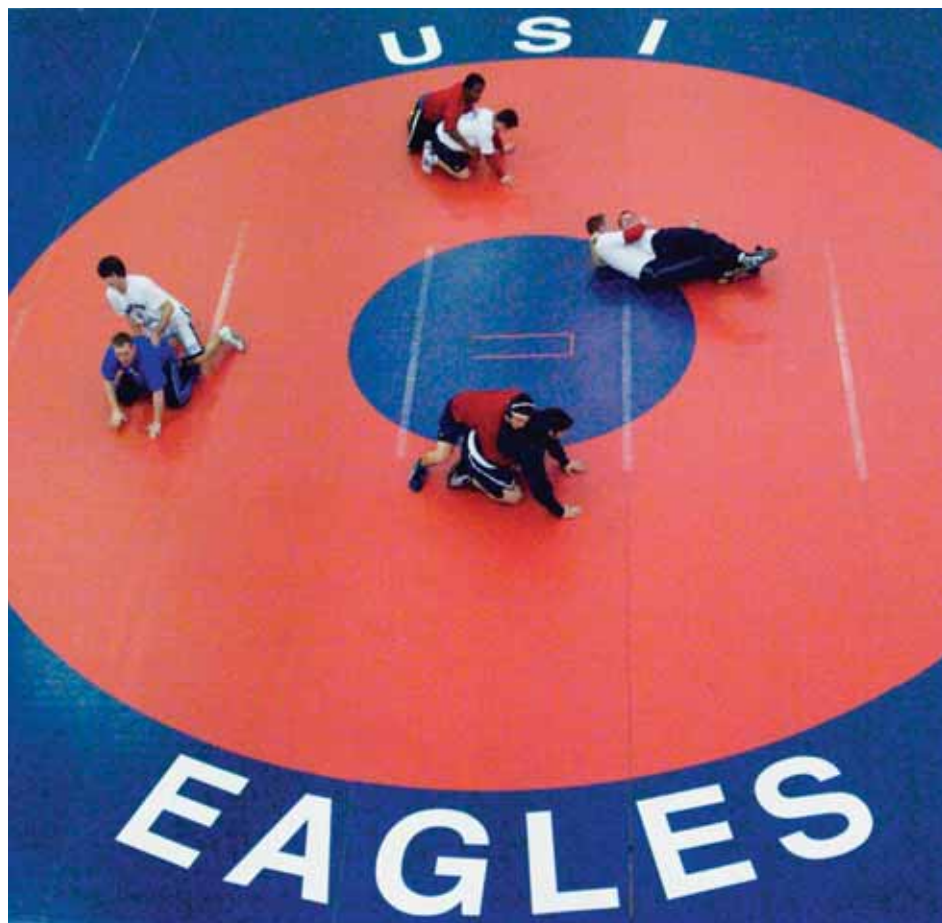
Club sports are organized and run by their student members under the supervision of the Department of Recreation, Fitness, and Wellness and are registered with the Office of Student Development Programs. The Ice Eagles hockey club organized in 2001 is another popular club sport at USI.

Funny is a plus

Females on campus said they like fellows who speak up in class and engage the professor with challenging questions. Guys who are funny get a plus and girls show a thumbs up for guys they see in the library. The females like a man to be smart and have the courage to let it show. Looking confident is in. Being cocky is not appealing, they add.

The right ride

Students drive subcompact cars and compact cars for gas economy. A student from Northern Indiana observed more trucks on campus than in her hometown. Another student said he would be excited if he had a car that moved. PT Cruisers, Ford Mustangs, Volkswagens, and British Minis are parked along with SUVs with all the extras. It seems trucks edge out cars in Southern Indiana.



USI grapplers practice moves on a wrestling mat.

USI students Lana Abel, Kevi Baumgartner, Joy Haas, Jennifer Heidler, Luke Lutz, Stephanie Wilson, Randy Woodruff, and Jennifer Woolley contributed to this article. They are members of the USI News and Information Services Student Advisory Board.

Majors, double majors, and graduate degrees

Top five majors for undergraduate students (Fall 2005)

- Business administration
- Pre-elementary education
- Biology
- Pre-nursing
- Psychology

Number of full-time undergraduate students with a double major

- Fall 1995 56
- Fall 2005 122

Graduate degrees awarded

- 1994-95 49
(in four programs: business administration, education, industrial management, and liberal studies)
- 2004-05 235
(in 10 programs: above four plus nursing, social work, health administration, accounting, public administration, and occupational therapy)

Information compiled by USI Office of Institutional Research and Assessment

Chris Thompson tapped for Division II All-Star Game

USI senior forward Chris Thompson was selected to play in the inaugural National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II/National Association of Basketball Coaches (NCAA-NABC) Men's All-Star Game held in late March at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts.

The 20 participants were chosen from a pool of 265 teams in Division II. They were introduced during halftime of the NCAA Division II championship game.

In addition, Thompson was named the Daktronics Great Lakes Region Player of the Year and first team All-Region in the vote by the region's sports information directors. He is the first USI player to earn these two honors. USI has had six prior players earn second team honors.

The All-Star and region honors capped a season full of awards for

Thompson. He was named co-Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Year during the conference basketball tournament at Evansville's Roberts Stadium in March. He shared the award with Saint Joseph's College senior forward Sullivan Sykes. Thompson also was named first team All-GLVC.

Thompson is the Eagles' top and the GLVC's second leading scorer with 18.8 points per game and is the league's top rebounder with 9.7 rebounds per game. He has had a team-high 15 double-doubles this season, just three short of former USI All-American and GLVC Player of the Year Chris Bowles' 18 in 1991-92. The Starke, Florida, native posted a career-high 35 points in the season opener against Caldwell College and has tied a career high by grabbing 15 rebounds in a game twice this season.

Senior guard Danny Gibson of Madison, Indiana, and junior guard Melvin Hall of Evansville were named



Thompson

honorable mention All-GLVC.

Women's basketball sophomore forward Jasmine Baines of Jeffersonville, Indiana earned honorable mention All-GLVC honors in a vote by the leagues' coaches.

NCAA's Division II top 20 includes Freeland

LeAnn Freeland '97 can say she was one of the top 20 women's basketball players ever to play in Division II of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Freeland was one of 20 nominees for the NCAA Division II 25th anniversary team that was voted upon this winter. The team was announced by the NCAA as part of a year-long celebration of the silver anniversary of NCAA-sponsored women's sports.

While Freeland was not named to the final five-player squad, she was proud to be among those considered.

"I was extremely honored to be one of the players nominated for the anniversary team," said Freeland. "To know that



Freeland

I was representing our 1996-97 team made it even more special."

The 1996-97 USI women's team was one of the best in the history of the program. The Screaming Eagles

had a 30-2 overall record, won 29 straight games, and were a perfect 20-0 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. That season was the only women's basketball perfect season in the GLVC.

In the NCAA II Tournament, the Eagles made it all the way to the national championship game for the

first time. The game was nationally televised live on ESPN2.

"The anniversary team made me reflect on my overall experience as a student athlete at USI," Freeland said. "The memories I recall the most are not the wins or losses, but the hard work and the dedication in practice that took our team to the national championship game.

"I was fortunate to play with great teammates who pushed each other every day and for a great coaching staff who would not settle for anything less than 100 percent from each of us."

As a member of the USI team from 1993 to 1997, Freeland was a three-time Women's Basketball Coaches Associa-

tion/Kodak All-American and was named the College Sports National Player of the Year as a sophomore in 1995. She also was named GLVC Player of the Year in 1995 and 1997 and first team All-GLVC in 1995, 1996, and 1997.

Freeland also left her mark on the USI record book and continues to hold 10 career records, five season records, and three single-game records. She also ranks 14th all-time in the NCAA in scoring and 15th all-time in field-goal percentage.

The native of Sims, Illinois, also did the job in the classroom, becoming the first USI student athlete to be named Academic All-American twice by the College Sports Information Directors of America.

"LeAnn meant the world to our program," said Chancellor Dugan, former USI head coach for women's basketball and current Florida Atlantic University

head coach. "When your best player wins every sprint and is the first one there and the last to leave, it sends a message to the rest of the team.

"LeAnn put USI on the map nationally, but I know she would say that she couldn't have done it without her teammates. It was an honor for her to be nominated, but I would not take any of the players that made the anniversary team over LeAnn! She is the best that I have ever coached."

Following her collegiate playing career, Freeland joined the USI women's basketball staff under Head Coach Rick Stein. She was a member of the coaching staff for four years before going south to join the staff at Florida Gulf Coast University.

"LeAnn carried her hard work and commitment as a player over to her coaching duties at USI," Stein said. "She is an extremely driven person who

leads by example on and off the court.

"All of the players nominated for the anniversary team are deserving, but none of them could have meant more to the success of their teams than LeAnn did for USI."

During her four years as a player and a coach, Freeland was a part of 169 women's basketball wins (average of 21 wins per year), a .722 winning percentage, five NCAA II Tournament berths, and two Elite Eight appearances.

"I'm sure my current players were surprised by the nomination," Freeland said. "They see me as their coach and not as a player.

"We have one player from Minnesota on the team now who was present at the 1997 championship game and did remember me and some of my teammates when I started recruiting her last year."

PAC renovation

An ongoing project

After 25 years, the Physical Activities Center is getting a facelift that includes a new wood floor in the arena.

The first stage of renovation, which began last summer, gave the PAC a brighter shine. Arena walls have a new coat of paint—bright white at the top with blue on the lower portion.

Overhead, lights with nearly triple the candle power of the old buzzing lights provide better visibility. Championship banners, which were quickly filling the expansive walls, now hang from the rafters.

"Student athletes feel better about the place they call home, and visitors to the PAC are more comfortable at events," said Jon Mark Hall, USI director of athletics.

The halls of the PAC also are undergoing change. The 1995 National Championship photo of the men's



After renovation fans will find the Physical Activities Center more comfortable and attractive.

basketball team has been moved to the entrance of the main arena, making way for a display that will list all conference championship teams and the student athletes who were named All-American.

The major project—replacing the arena surface—begins this spring. A new wood floor will stretch over all three playing surfaces.

Hall said, "The new surface will provide a tremendous upgrade for all programs, especially volleyball and men's and women's basketball."

The final stage of renovation will improve PAC seating. The goal is to provide chairback seating, except for the end-zone bleachers, to all spectators in the PAC.

The improvements in the PAC will be funded by a portion of an estate gift from Henry W. Ruston, who died last year. He was one of the University's closest friends and a fan of USI basketball.

USI President Ray Hoops said, "Henry Ruston had as great a love of basketball as any Hoosier alive. He also was avid about all other intercollegiate sports. It was an expressed wish of Henry's that a portion of his estate, in addition to those funds used for the primary purpose of academic advancements, go to the promotion of intercollegiate athletics. While USI plays its games in a very good facility, these changes will make it an excellent one."

Alumni Council 2005-06

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TEL. 812/464-1924
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Alumni Calendar 2006 of Events



- | | |
|--------------|--|
| April 22 | USI Day at the Zoo, Mesker Park Zoo |
| April 27 | Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter Meeting, 7 p.m., Cheeseburger in Paradise, Southport Road & I-165, Indianapolis |
| May 5 | Alumni Association Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., USI's Carter Hall Class of 2006 Graduation Celebration follows. |
| May 6 | USI Commencement, 3 p.m., Roberts Stadium |
| May 20 | Louisville Chapter Gathering, 6:30 p.m., Wick's Pizza, 975 Baxter Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky |
| June 4 | Alumni Family Picnic, 4-6 p.m., USI University Center Mall |
| June 6 | Alumni Council Meeting and Orientation, 5:45 p.m., USI Foundation |
| June 22 | Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter Meeting, 7 p.m., Rick's Café Boatyard, Indianapolis |
| July 22 | USI Night with the Evansville Otters, Picnic & Game, Bosse Field |
| August 18 | Greater Indianapolis USI Scholarship Golf Scramble, 12:30 p.m., The Links Golf Course, New Palestine, Indiana |
| August 19 | Greater Indianapolis Chapter Alumni & Entering Student Picnic, Indianapolis Indians Baseball Game 5:30 p.m., Victory Field |
| September 15 | Alumni Fun Golf Scramble, 11:30 a.m., Helfrich Hills Golf Course, Evansville |

All alumni are invited to attend these events.

1970s

Ruth Zimmerman Baize '74, elementary education/mathematics, was a semifinalist in the 2005 Leader of the Year Program featured in the December 2005 awards issue of *Technology & Learning* magazine. She also completed a book, *Chalk Dust Memories: Bokelman #3 School*. The Bokelman School building was moved to the USI campus in 1993.

Mark E. Neidig '76, accounting, has been promoted to senior vice president, chief technology officer of network services at Old National Bank in Evansville.

Phyllis A. Ripplemeier '76, social science, has joined the Vanderburgh Humane Society as shelter operations manager in Evansville.

Michelle Swearingen Thompson '77, elementary education, received the Disney Teacherific Award. She teaches at Kissimmee Middle School in Kissimmee, Florida.

Karen Ziliak Mutschler '79, sociology, has been promoted to assistant registrar at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville.

Karen Kuester Stormont '79, elementary education, was named media services director for South Gibson School Corporation in Fort Branch, Indiana. She was the recipient of the 2005 Lilly Teacher Creativity Fellowship.

1980s

John W. Key '82, finance, is the south central region president for the Indiana and Illinois area at Old National Bank in Jasper, Indiana.

Kent A. Johnson '83, civil engineering technology, has been promoted to commercial director for the Rigid Packaging Division at Alcoa Warrick Operations in Yankeetown, Indiana.

Stephanie Benjamin Noriega '83, communications, with spouse Terry, owns and operates Drainage Solutions, Inc., in Greenwood, Indiana.

Barbara Lichlyter Hopf '84, business, is a human resource consultant for Old National Bank in Jasper, Indiana.

Melinda Wilson Spangler '84, accounting, is a sales associate at FC Tucker Emge Realtors in Evansville.

Lisa Schaefer named assistant director for USI Alumni and Volunteer Services

Lisa J. Schaefer '98 has been named assistant director of USI Alumni and Volunteer Services. She was formerly director of marketing and development for the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and director of marketing for the Evansville Chamber of Commerce. She is a USI graduate with a degree in communications and art.



Schaefer

John P. Devine '85, biology, is director of business development at BASi Evansville, Inc., in Mount Vernon, Indiana. He recently became a diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology.

Steven M. Nordhoff '86, communications, is a sales representative for TV-WJTS in Jasper, Indiana.

Kristine Karges Atkinson '87, accounting, was recently promoted to vice president of finance and operations at Connersville Country Club in Connersville, Indiana.

Hussein M. Khurma '87, business administration, is the managing partner for Arika Woodworks Ltd in Amman, Jordan.

Darryl J. Gamblin '88, computer information systems, has taken the position of Web developer and systems administrator for the University of Evansville.

Kurt A. Harris '88, accounting, has been appointed financial adviser at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville.

1990s

Dawn Theising Seiler '90, business administration/accounting, has been promoted to senior accountant at Keller Crescent Company in Evansville.

continued on next page

Johnny Reising directs DOE environmental cleanup project

Johnny Reising '72 has been named site director for the cleanup of a former uranium processing facility 18 miles northwest of Cincinnati, Ohio. The Fernald Closure Project has an annual budget of \$324 million. By late 2006 when cleanup is expected to be complete, the project will have spent \$3.5 billion.

Uranium metal production was shut down at the site in 1989 after 37 years of operation to support the U.S. weapons program. Fernald has managed the cleanup of the 1,050-acre site for the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management since 1992.

Reising joined Fernald in 1990. He was a biology major at USI.



Johnny Reising, left, briefs James Rispoli, assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy for Environmental Management, on the status of cleanup and remediation at the Fernald site.

Dean A. Happe '91, accounting, was promoted to executive vice president of operations at Card Management Company in Evansville.

Thomas A. Tate '91, business administration, is senior technical instructor at NetSupport, Inc., in Alpharetta, Georgia.

Michael J. Wiederkehr '91, accounting, has been promoted to an assistant vice president, trust officer at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Geoff A. Gentil '92, business education, has been promoted to vice president, relationship manager commercial lending with Integra Bank in Evansville.

Kris Igleheart Mindrup '92, business, was promoted to operations officer at Integra Bank in Evansville.

Richard E. Reed '92, sociology, has written a book entitled *Blood Trail*, a true crime novel. Reed is an internal affairs unit commander with the Evansville Police Department.

Terry A. Wheeler '92, elementary education, has been appointed an assistant cashier, investment consultant with Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Britt Tapp Dorsey '94, communications, is a licensed massage therapist at Identity Spa in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Matthew A. Marshall '94, social science, works for the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Diplomatic Security. He is currently assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq.

Matthew W. Montgomery '94, mechanical engineering technology, has obtained the position of facilities engineer at GE Aircraft Engines in Madisonville, Kentucky.

Jalayne Smithhart Smith '94, elementary education, is an elementary teacher at Spottsville Elementary in Spottsville, Kentucky.

Jon D. Carl '95, social science teaching, was awarded teacher of the year honors from the Indiana Council on History Education. He is a history teacher at Reitz High School in Evansville.

Harry W. Clark '95, business administration, '99, Master of Business Administration, is an IRA coordinator/banking specialist for First Internet Bank of Indiana in Indianapolis, Indiana.



Distinguished nursing alumna combines nursing education with business know-how

A nursing graduate who is a vice president with St. Mary's Health System in Evansville is the 2005 recipient of the Distinguished Nursing Alumna Award. The award was presented to Elizabeth "Betty" J. Brown by the USI Nursing Alumni Society at its annual meeting in October.

Brown is vice president of strategic physician integration at St. Mary's. She was a member of USI's first nursing class, earning an Associate of Science in 1990 and a baccalaureate degree in 1992. She completed a master's degree in nursing at University of Evansville. In 2004, Brown graduated again from USI, this time with a Master of Business Administration.

Brent L. King '95, psychology, was promoted to vice president and manager of a newly created division within Wachovia Securities in Richmond, Virginia.

Nick V. Whelan '95, accounting, was named partner with Kemper CPA Group in Evansville.

Terri Blume Bell '96, elementary education, is a fifth-grade teacher at Ferdinand Elementary School in Ferdinand, Indiana.

Isabella A. McCool '96, business, has been named manager of the heart unit at Deaconess Gateway Hospital in Evansville.

John B. Phipps '96, business administration, has joined Farmers State Bank as senior vice president of consumer banking services in Evansville.

Kevin L. Coon '97, business administration, has been promoted to assistant cashier at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Jason W. Hopf '97, business administration, is a treasury analyst at Simon Property Group in Indianapolis.

Darcie Gilbert Igleheart '97, elementary education, is a title one consultant for Greater Clark Schools in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

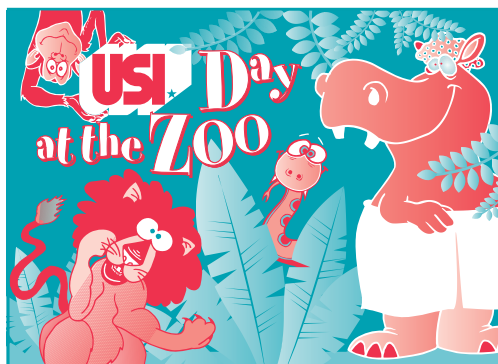
Angela M. Sanders '97, elementary education, completed a master's degree in special education at Indiana University. She teaches third grade at North Lawrence Community School in Bedford, Indiana.

Mark G. Shell '97, business administration, accepted a position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as chief of technology for the Agriculture Market Services division in Washington, D.C.

Kerri Guinn Boyd '98, elementary education, is a fourth grade teacher at Barr-Reeve Intermediate School in Montgomery, Indiana.

Anita K. Hagan '98, Master of Science in Nursing, has been named director of Deaconess Riley Children's Services in Evansville.

Todd E. Mathes '98, Master of Business Administration, was named general manager of closures and containers at Rexam in Evansville.



Saturday, April 22

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Evansville's Mesker Park Zoo

**Alumni Tent, Craft Booths,
Animal Encounters, and Refreshments**

**Bring your families...
enjoy a day at the zoo!**

**USI Student Education Association
members will do crafts with children.**

James K. Reese '98, elementary education, is the general manager at the Great American Cookie Company in Evansville.

Mark A. Barker '99, accounting/business administration, is a manager with Kemper CPA Group in Evansville.

Cynthia Speicher Brogan '99, elementary education, recently accepted a third grade teaching position at Brumfield Elementary in Princeton, Indiana.

Charlene A. Drake '99, English, '03, Master of Social Work, is a China program coordinator with Families Thru International Adoption in Evansville.

Tess Libbert Fleming '99, business administration, is an account manager with The ARS Group-rsc in Evansville.

Rebecca Emerine Geurin '99, dental assisting, is a dental assistant for Dr. Michael Bobo in Murray, Kentucky.

Jerome G. Hawkins '99, sociology, is an auditor with the Indiana State Department of Agriculture in Indianapolis.

Mark A. Hollis '99, business administration, recently joined the Private Client Group of National City Bank as vice president in Indianapolis.

Shannon French Holt '99, business administration, is the association services director for Southwestern Indiana Builders Association in Evansville.

April L. Moore '99, early childhood education, was named assistant manager at La Petite Academy in Evansville.

Jonathan D. Skidmore '99, business administration, is a project manager for Summit Information Systems in Titusville, Florida.

Kawn W. Watters '99, business administration, was promoted to director of client services at Card Management Company in Evansville.

2000s

Summer Marrett Aulich '00, health services, is an assistant professor in the medical assistant program at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville.

Christopher J. Dunning '00, business administration, was promoted to vice president, retail banking center manager at Old National Bank in Evansville.

Kristi Eidson-Spahn '00, accounting, has been promoted to assistant director of financial aid at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville.

Jill Welden Koester '00, accounting, '04, Master of Science in Accountancy, is a manager with Kemper CPA Group in Evansville.

Nathan R. Lengacher '00, business administration, was promoted to director of operations for EvanTell in Dallas, Texas.

Brandon M. Vignolo '00, marketing, was promoted to level two specialty sales with Bayer Healthcare in Evansville.

Kara D. Baskett '01, business administration, is a staffing consultant with Microsoft in Redmond, Washington.

Elizabeth Fuhrman Bragg '01, art, is a curator in charge of archival materials as well as in-house graphics designer at the International Bluegrass Music Museum in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Shane E. Brogan '01, science teaching, has accepted a science teaching position at Corpus Christi School in Evansville.

Lindsay N. Crist '01, psychology, graduated with a Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from the University of Indianapolis in May 2005. She is employed at Community Health Network as a mental health therapist in Indianapolis.

Brandy Neal Goggins '01, public relations and advertising, was hired as a media coordinator at Keller Crescent Company in Evansville.

Franklin S. Jones '01, computer information systems, is an electroplating engineer for Samtec in New Albany, Indiana.

Melissa A. Lindley '01, economics/political science, is an attorney with Cremer Burroughs & Cremer in Indianapolis.

Twelve inducted into The President's Circle

Four graduates from the '70s are the first alumni to be inducted into The President's Circle, an honor recognizing extraordinary service to the University. The alumni inductees are Robert C. Roeder '71, Connie Romain '74, Ron Romain '73, and Harolyn Torain '71.

Eight other new members also were welcomed when awards were presented at the President's Associates dinner in October. Each new member received an engraved Waterford apple.



New members of the President's Circle are, front row from left, Byron Wright, Jim Sanders, Bob Griffin, Connie Romain '74, and Ron Romain '73; back row from left, David Rice, Betty Rice, Harolyn Torain '71, Ted Ziemer Jr., and Carol Baker. Two new members, John Dunn and Bob Roeder '71, are not pictured.

Matthew J. Schwartz '01, sociology, was promoted to director of the military education program at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana.

Amy Frey Smith '01, psychology, is a client account executive with Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

Benjamin L. Franz '02, art, has joined Wachovia Securities Financial Network as an associate financial advisor in Evansville.

Alisha Goedde Lannert '02, business administration, is a portfolio analyst with Old National Bank in Evansville.

Lisa Carlile Lannert '02, psychology, was promoted to assistant cashier at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

Devon Monroe LeDune '02, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist at Advanced Dental in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Shannon Reffett Arnold '03, nursing, is a clinical coordinator at Covance GFI Research in Evansville.

Jennifer L. Bender '03, management, is the production supervisor for Red Spot Paint & Varnish in Evansville.

Jonathan P. Bothel '03, mathematics, is a hall advisor at the University of Alabama College of Arts and Science in Mobile, Alabama.

Mark J. Brendel '03, graphic design, is an instructor at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville.

Erika Weaver Buse '03, accounting, is a financial analyst with Integra Bank in Evansville.

Dave Young — soldier, pilot, business owner, skydiver, world traveler

A former Green Beret who earned a silver star, two bronze stars, and three purple hearts during his service in Southeast Asia told University of Southern Indiana students that he is concerned about the “cult of militarism” that has developed in the United States in the last 25 years.

Dave Young spoke to students in history course The United States Since 1865, instructed by Dr. Donald Pitzer, professor of history. Young took the same course from Pitzer when he was a USI student in the early '70s after completing seven years of active duty with the U.S. Army. Pitzer said that Young has maintained contact with military and government officials at high levels.

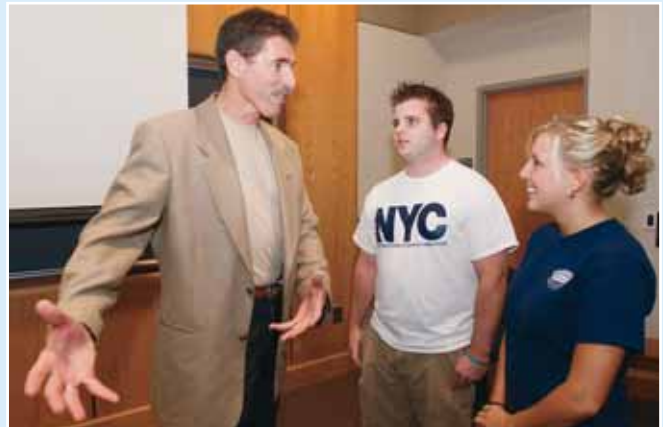
Young noted that after the Vietnam Conflict, the United States discontinued the draft in favor of an all-volunteer army. When the army was composed of citizen soldiers, the force was raised in time of crisis. After the crisis, soldiers went back to their civilian lives.

“As you do away with the citizen soldier,” he said, “you make it easier to use your army.”

Young said that in recent years the country's first response to a crisis often has been a military one. He reminded students that cultural diplomacy also should have a place in the nation's strategy.

Young graduated from Evansville's Central High School in 1962 and enrolled at Indiana University when the Cuban Missile Crisis in October of that year spurred his interest in joining the army. He served with a U.S. Army Special Forces unit based in Okinawa, Japan, seeing duty in Vietnam and Laos.

Upon his return from military service, he enrolled at USI, focusing primarily on history and political science. He worked in Chicago before going into business with an army buddy. In 1989, when they sold their successful Tucson-based real estate and construction business, Young headed for the Flathead Valley in the northwest corner of Montana.



Dave Young, left, gets acquainted with USI freshmen Greg Andres and Lora Traylor.

He lives now in Scottsdale, Arizona, and in Montana.

Pitzer drew looks of astonishment from the students when he told them that Young, a pilot, once took him up in a bi-plane and did barrel rolls over Evansville. In early October, a few days after speaking at USI, Young was taking his aerobatic plane to an air show in Casa Grande, Arizona.

He has returned to Southeast Asia once since his tour of duty ended, a visit that he called “emotionally overwhelming” for two of the three army pals who went with him. Young was organizing another trip to that area at the time of his visit to USI and also was planning trips to London, the Philippines, and Jamaica.

A skydiver, Young has completed 1,800 jumps, including 50 in one day in June 1994 to celebrate his 50th birthday as well as the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

What is it about parachuting that appeals to him? “It's hard to describe,” he said. “It's the sense of freedom and falling. And it's the speed.”

Laura Fallen Faulkner '03, social work, '04, Master of Social Work, is an outpatient therapist for Southwestern Indiana Mental Health Center, Inc., in Evansville.

Julie M. Fischer '03, business administration, is the office manager for the Indianapolis Indians in Indianapolis.

Jennifer H. Gudorf '03, accounting, is an accountant at Umbach & Associates LLP in Evansville. She recently received her CPA licensure.

Christina Paul Montgomery '03, English, has taken the position of content webmaster for Deaconess Health Systems in Evansville.

Jennifer D. Rice '03, Master of Business Administration, was promoted to vice president, assistant treasurer at Old National Bank in Evansville.

Daniel Tomashek '03, management, is the branch manager at Wells Fargo Financial in Indianapolis.

Nichol D. Vittitow '03, elementary education, is a manager at Applebee's Restaurant in Evansville.

Shaun J. Angel '04, business administration, is a manufacturer's representative for Pinneck Sales Associates in Kirtland Hills, Ohio.

Katherine E. DeFries '04, nursing, has recently taken the position of nurse in the intensive care unit at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee. She recently returned from a mission trip in Kenya.

Lisa M. Doddridge '04, marketing, has been promoted to media buyer at Keller Crescent Company in Evansville.

Dana Turner Duke '04, sociology, is a zookeeper/animal trainer at Mesker Park Zoo and Botanic Garden in Evansville.

Kaitlin P. Farley '04, respiratory therapy, is a certified respiratory therapist at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

April L. Hecker '04, exercise science, is in a doctoral program in physical therapy at the University of Indianapolis.

Dianna S. Holtsclaw '04, Master of Science in Nursing, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2005 from Ivy Tech Community College in Bloomington, Indiana.

Alumni trips to benefit scholarships

Individuals who participate in alumni travel programs to Italy or the Alaskan coast in coming months will raise money to fund scholarships for USI students. Both trips are sponsored by the USI Alumni Association.

The trip to Italy is scheduled for September 22-30. Travelers will visit the spa town of Chianciano and discover the history and beauty of Florence, Assisi, and Siena before continuing to Fuggi, their departure point for visits to Rome and Pompeii.

A seven-night cruise of the Alaskan coast with an optional land tour is planned for mid-July 2007.

Income from alumni travel programs, USI auto license plates, and additional affinity programs builds scholarship endowment assets. The USI Alumni Scholarship Endowment was established in 1987 with a generous gift from the late Arthur Karch in memory of his wife Thelma. The endowment funds 21 annual awards, valued at \$15,500, known as the USI Alumni Association Leadership Award, USI Alumni Association Grants and Scholarships, and internships.

Visit www.usi.edu/alumni/ travel to learn more, or contact the Office of Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/464-1924 to request a registration brochure.

Bradley A. Maglinger '04, public relations and advertising, received the silver award from Night Design and Standards, a German-based Web standards company. Web sites from around the world covering a wide array of design types were judged. Maglinger resides in Newburgh, Indiana.

Zach Schucker-Smith '04, marketing, has joined Western-Southern Life as a sales representative in Evansville.

Tracy Peerman Silva '04, Master of Business Administration, has been promoted to manager of accounting, physician services at Deaconess Health System in Evansville.

Jeremy D. Stone '04, accounting/finance, is an internal auditor with Vectren Corporation in Evansville.

Lindsey L. Twitty '04, social work, '05, Master of Social Work, joined Lampion Center as a social services worker in Evansville.

Tyler J. Bunch '05, mechanical engineering technology, is a product development engineer at Cook Urological in Spencer, Indiana.

Stephanie E. Douglas '05, art, has joined Lea Matthews Furniture as a design consultant in Evansville.

Dawn Gramelspacher '05, marketing, is a teller at Old National Bank in Ferdinand, Indiana.

J. Eric Mushrush '05, computer information systems, has taken the position of programmer analyst with Fluor Daniels Construction Company in Evansville.

Eric J. Sharp '05, public relations and advertising, has recently joined Personnel Management, Inc., as a client service manager in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Brandi M. Stuart '05, English, is a writing teacher at Noblesville Middle School in Noblesville, Indiana.

Brittney M. Warnken '05, health services, is clinic business manager for Physiotherapy Associates in Indianapolis.

Kristy L. Willcutt '05, dental assisting, is a dental and lab assistant at the Smile Center in Huntingburg, Indiana.

Marriages

Karra Striby Henn '99, health services, and Luke Henn, May 28, 2005

Leanne Beasley '00, elementary education, and **Andrew E. Emmons '05**, elementary education, July 23, 2005

Jean M. Cunningham '01, political science/public relations and advertising, and **Jared C. Blanton '05**, marketing, July 16, 2005

James A. Doyle '01, sociology/political science, and Mistie Diefenbaugh, May 7, 2005

Elisha M. Smith '01, finance, and Jonathan Noland, May 21, 2005

Julie H. Stewart '01, elementary education, and Matt Lovell, November 20, 2004

Natalie S. Dietrich '02, sociology, and Douglas Lovett, September 5, 2005

Rachael C. Harris '02, business administration, and Neil Gaffin, October 23, 2005

Amanda M. Lopp '02, health services, and **Eric S. Jost '03**, accounting, '04, Master of Science in Accountancy, September 17, 2005

Kate A. Epley '03, sociology, and Derek Moore, April 9, 2005

Erin E. Oxendine '03, occupational therapy, and **Jarod R. Morrison '03**, finance, October 15, 2005

Angela G. Kennebeck '04, marketing/management, and Jason Schaffstein, May 28, 2005

Lesley A. Raibley '04, health services, and Justin Smith, August 6, 2005

Carol A. Russell '04, health services, and Eric Squire, October 28, 2005

Hillierie A. Welch '04, public relations and advertising, and John Kandul, September 10, 2005

Emily A. Brandenburg '05, nursing, and **Brian M. Key '05**, marketing, September 24, 2005

Elizabeth A. Christian '05, radio and television, and Eric Burgdorf, December 3, 2005

Paula J. Moesner '05, dental hygiene, and Matt McEvelly, October 15, 2005

Births

Julie Chipps Morrow '90, marketing, and Mike, son, Carson, August 3, 2005

Erin Donovan Helfrich '91, secretarial administration, and Brian, son, Adam, August 21, 2005

Julie Schank Kunkler '91, business education, and **William L. Kunkler '93**, mechanical engineering technology, son, Caleb, July 28, 2005

Stephen Simpson '92, biology, and Lori, son, Logan, July 6, 2005

Anna Schlemmer Stogsdill '92, political science, and Michael, daughter, Jessica, July 19, 2005

Shanon Creek DeLong '93, accounting, and Scotty, twins, Shaylie and Sean, November 3, 2005

Jennifer Gogel McGehee '93, accounting, and Todd, son, Nathan, October 14, 2005

Mark R. Palmer '93, business administration, and Denise, son, Dashall, August 16, 2005

Christina Ulrich Jones '95, communications/English, and Todd, son, Rowan, September 13, 2005

Sherri Arhelger Rapp '95, elementary education, and Kyle, son, Andrew, August 1, 2005

Vince Russo presents Bible-based action for wrestling fans, writes book *Forgiven*

Vince Russo '83, the former scriptwriter for World Wrestling Federation, takes sports entertainment in an unexpected direction with his new Ring of Glory productions featuring biblical story lines.

In addition, he has written a book, *Forgiven*, that explains the inner workings of sports entertainment and the pressures the business levied on him professionally and personally.

Russo's Ring of Glory Ministries is based in Marietta, Georgia. Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, and John the Baptist are among the characters who enter the wrestling ring in Russo's shows. Featuring 25 to 30 wrestlers, story presentations range from the creation to the resurrection. The first production was in February 2005.

A native New Yorker, Russo left WWF after helping it attract increasing numbers of viewers in the '90s for a stint



Vince Russo was at Borders bookstore in Evansville in February to sign his book *Forgiven*.

with its competitor, World Championship Wrestling, in Atlanta.

In *Forgiven*, Russo refers to his experience at USI, calling it "the best days of my life." A communications major, he was editor of *The Shield* student newspaper, public relations director of the Student Union Board, and vice president of the fraternity Sigma Tau Gamma.

"I learned a work ethic in college, something I would later base my entire life on," he said in the book.

Russo is at work on a second book, *Searching for Avalon*. Published in December, *Forgiven* chronicles his life experience through his relationship with the WWF. The follow-up book will pick up with his jump to WCW and bring the reader up to the present.

Russo and his wife Amy Gartner Russo '83, whom he met at USI, have three children: Will, 18; V.J., 15; and Annie, 10.

Jackie Sullivan Waskom '95, sociology, and Cary, son, Casey, December 13, 2005

Robyn Martin Page '96, elementary education, and Brad, daughter, Lauren, December 11, 2005

Kelley Gubbins Biggs '97, psychology, '00, Master of Social Work, and Jason, daughter, Campbell, September 7, 2005

Michelle Snyder Cave '97, accounting, and **Dustin T. Cave '97**, accounting, son, Andrew, July 6, 2005

Shannon Martin Hile '97, elementary education, and Jeremy, daughter, Alayna, June 3, 2005

Todd W. Mazzier '97, communications, and Rachel, daughter, Reece, August 21, 2005

Tara Matthes Buerster '98, health services, and Jayare, daughter, Jaycey, August 15, 2005

Amy Hinkle Cline '98, elementary education, and Brent, daughter, Mya, May 2, 2005

Stephanie Stewart Polen '98, business administration/French, and **Derek L. Polen '05**, Master of Business Administration, daughter, Madeleine, August 29, 2005

Melissa Spahn VanBibber '98, mathematics, and Kiley, daughter, Emma, June 30, 2005

Anetta Osborn Dill '99, accounting, and Stephen, son, Joshua, August 3, 2005

Jessica Michl Fehrenbacher '99, communication, and Tony, daughter, Katelyn, September 6, 2005

Tracy Meyer Gutsell '99, mathematics, and Mark, son, Mason, May 5, 2005

Mandy Weis Marx '99, accounting, and **Steven J. Marx '97**, accounting, daughter, Brianna, March 12, 2005

Kari Rainey Mayer '99, elementary education, and Jacob, son, Luke, July 7, 2005

Jennifer Waninger Outlaw '99, sociology, and Allan, son, Camden, July 29, 2005

Christianna Scott Smith '99, psychology, and Gregory, son, Alexander, November 18, 2005

Golf outings fund scholarships

Proceeds of two alumni golf events support student scholarships. The Alumni Association and Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter express thanks to the following 2005 corporate hole sponsors.

Alumni Fun Golf Scramble

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Getting ready for play in Indianapolis are, from left, Mark Altstadt, Brenda Altstadt '82, Sarah Herdes, and Rick Herdes, USI men's varsity basketball coach.

Sarah Smith Ashburn '00, dental hygiene, and **Kirk D. Ashburn '00**, nursing, '03, Master of Science in Nursing, son, Evan, January 18, 2005

Melissa Park Collins '00, art, and **Shawn A. Collins '04**, art, son, Bailey, August 8, 2005

Krista Douglas Webb '00, elementary education, and **Chris M. Webb '00**, mathematics, daughter, Haley, June 24, 2005

Lorrie Head Weiss '00, public relations, and Greg, son, Gavin, February 12, 2005

Melody Puller Freeman '01, public relations, and Mike, daughter, Anabelle, June 6, 2005

Christina Klueh Lange '01, elementary education, and Jonathan, daughter, Isabella, August 7, 2005

Rachel Hayden Leslie '01, elementary education, and Matthew, son, Brenden, June 15, 2005

Anitra Acree Murphy '01, sociology, and Micah, son, Kendrick, October 10, 2005

Betsy Stanley Myers '01, psychology, and **Bryan M. Myers '98**, business administration, daughter, Ruby, May 4, 2005

Ronda Norman Watson '01, psychology, and Jacob, twin daughters, Ella and Dara, June 2, 2005

Taylor works in Defense Threat Reduction Agency

Chosen in 2005 as a Defense Policy Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Travis Taylor '94 works for the U.S. Department of Defense in the Defense Threat Reduction Agency on issues related to biodefense.

He is associated with a group that establishes independent research programs within the former Soviet Union for scientists who worked with dangerous pathogens during the Soviet era. The Biological Weapons Proliferation Prevention Program provides support for laboratory renovations including biosafety and biosecurity upgrades, salaries for scientists, and equipment.

"It is quite interesting to interact with these scientists," Taylor said. "They are appreciative of the technical and financial aid."

Taylor is based at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He earned a Ph.D. at Harvard University in 2002.



Travis Taylor visited Red Square when he was in Moscow to track the progress of research by scientists in the former Soviet Union.

Jason R. Gillihan '02, biology, and Cheryl, son, Andrew, September 10, 2005

Shelly Strueh Patton '02, elementary education, and Jacob, daughter, Lucy, November 22, 2005

Jennifer Schmitz Pierle '02, public relations and advertising, and Eric, son, Mason, August 17, 2005

Benjamin Rasche '02, business administration, and Alicia, daughter, Alexandria, August 30, 2005

Kelly Boyer Campbell '03, health services, and Jeremy, daughter, Rebecca, August 5, 2005

Katie S. Johnson '04, sociology, and Mark, daughter, Payge, January 29, 2006

In Memoriam

Joyce Sharp Hagan '72, elementary education, of Henderson, Kentucky, died November 6, 2005. She was a teacher and a Mary Kay Cosmetics consultant.

James A. Scheller '72, elementary education, of Evansville, died January 6, 2006. He was awarded a baseball scholarship to Florida State University, where his team played in the championship game of the College World Series. He later graduated from USI and taught and coached elementary school students in Tell City, Indiana.

Dennis L. Beck '75, accounting, of Oakland City, Indiana, died October 18, 2005. He worked at Old Ben Coal Mine 11 and was a Vietnam war veteran.

Jane Roberts Hoffman '75, administrative systems/management, of Henderson, Kentucky, died January 26, 2006. She had worked at Ashland Oil Company.

Maie Lin Carrell '78, art, of Evansville, died September 13, 2005. She most recently taught as a substitute teacher for the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation.

Larry A. Springer '79, economics/management, formerly of Evansville, died December 30, 2005. He worked as a computer analyst for Nukote International. He also taught computer classes at USI in the late 1980s.

Phyllis Lauer Traylor '80, psychology, of Newburgh, Indiana, died December 8, 2005. She modeled for Fort Wayne department stores in the early to mid-1940s. In 1947, she became a stewardess for Chicago & Southern Airlines. She received her bachelor's degree from USI at the age of 50.

Rebecca Polen Firestine '97, nursing, of Huntingburg, Indiana, died January 29, 2006. She was a registered nurse for 25 years.

Aloma J. Tripp '97, Master of Liberal Studies, of Evansville, died August 29, 2005. She had been a substitute teacher for Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation.

Cheryl Hay Warren '97, dental assisting, of Degonia Springs, Indiana, died in the November 6, 2005, tornado that struck Southwestern Indiana. Her husband, son, and unborn baby also were killed. She worked for Drs. Jeffrey and Philip Kolb as a dental assistant. The Cheryl Hay Warren Family Memorial Scholarship to benefit a USI dental assisting student has been established in the USI Foundation.

Faculty

Dr. George S. Abshier, professor emeritus of business, died October 18, 2005, in Springfield, Missouri. He was a member of the faculty from 1975 until his retirement in 1986.

Dr. Carl Chester Lyles, 93, died December 12, 2005, in Evansville. He was a longtime Evansville educator and administrator and a former USI education professor. He received an honorary degree from the University in 1981. Lyles wrote the book *Lyles Station: Yesterday and Today*, published in 1984. It chronicles the history of a black settlement founded in Gibson County, Indiana, by his great-grandfather, former slave Joshua Lyles.

We want to hear from you!

Do you have professional news about yourself to share with fellow graduates? Have you moved? Do you have a suggestion for a story? Let us know! We value your comments via mail (Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712), phone (812/464-1924), FAX (812/464-1956), or e-mail (alumni@usi.edu).

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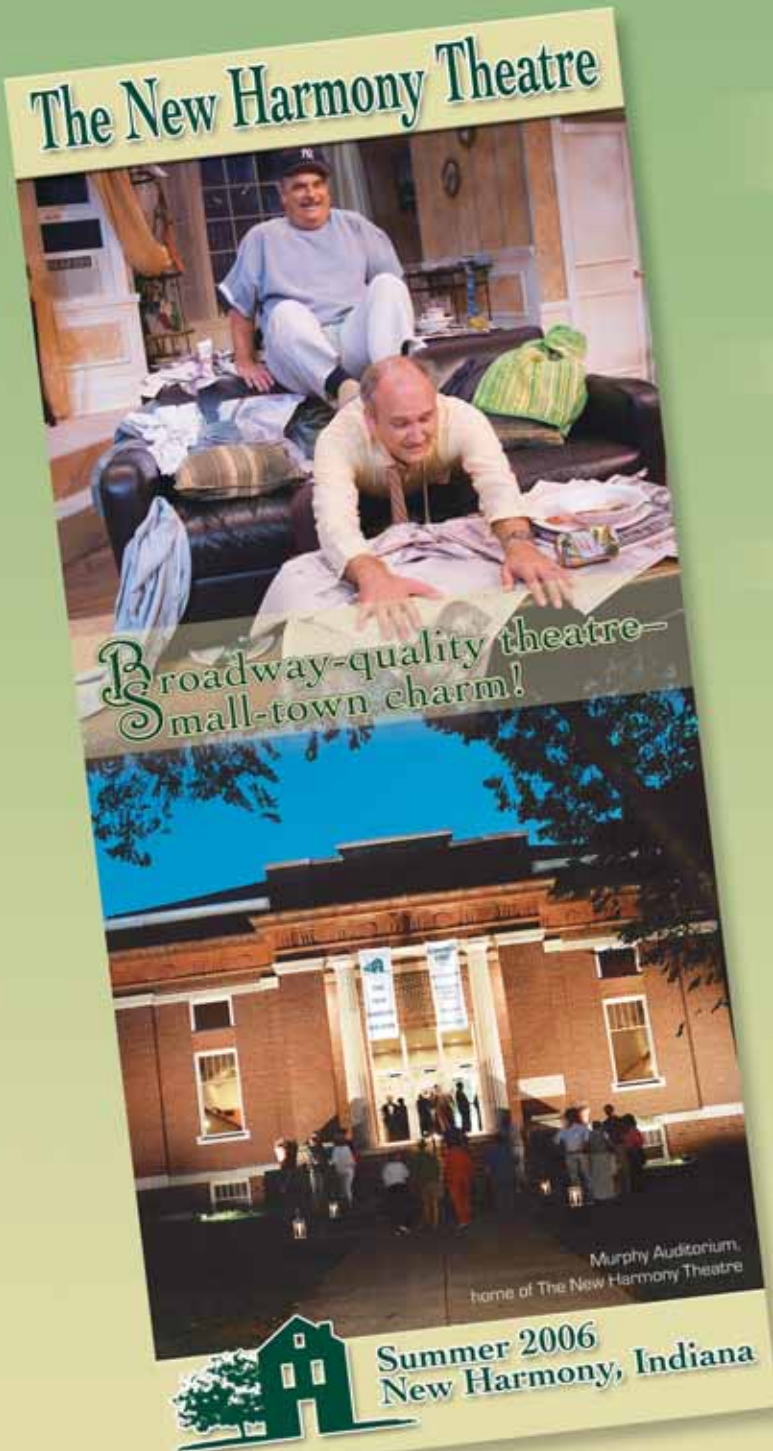


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