

The Shield

The University of Southern Indiana Student Newspaper

January 28, 1999

Vol. 28, Issue 15

Soul Food author Brookshire to lecture and sign books here

Shield staff report



LaJoyce Brookshire

LaJoyce Brookshire, the author of *Soul Food*, will be featured at a public lecture at 7 p.m. on Feb. 2 in Carter Hall. There is no charge for admission.

Brookshire, whose visit is sponsored by USI's Multicultural Center, will sign copies of her book immediately following the lecture.

Her visit is one in a series of events celebrating Black History Month.

Brookshire is the first black woman to write a novel based on a major motion picture. *Soul Food* has out-sold every novelization ever written, totaling more than 105,000 copies.

Soul Food is the story of a

Midwestern black family whose relationships are held together by the Sunday dinners served by the family's matriarch.

In her lecture, Brookshire will discuss how to take a book from concept to computer and then to contract. Brookshire is also an experienced publicist. She has worked with Aretha Franklin, Sean "Puffy" Combs, Whitney Houston and Kenny G.

Additionally, Brookshire has been commissioned to write the official biography of Jimi Hendrix and the account of his estate's litigation.

Also, Brookshire has written with her husband Gus the story of their teenage relationship entitled *You, Me, & Thee - A Christian Book for Adults and Adolescents*.

The book is scheduled for a 1999 release date.

Construction of Liberal Arts Building continues



Shield photo by Ryan Kern

The Liberal Arts Building is expected to be ready for use in the fall of '99.

Capital fund drive brings in \$24 million for USI

Shield staff report

When USI began a capital fund drive in July 1996, it was hoping for donations of \$10.5 million.

What the university ended up with blew that number out of the water.

The school announced last Friday that it had received more than \$18 million in the actual campaign and another \$6 million was pledged in deferred giving.

The USI capital fund drive exceeded its fundraising targets in its four primary areas:

-\$2.5 million was raised for faculty enhancements, \$300,000 more than the original goal.

-\$1 million for the enrichment of stu-

USI's original goal was to raise \$10.5 million. Since July 1996, the university has more than doubled that amount.

dent life, also \$300,000 more than the original goal.

-\$2.7 million for Presidential Scholarships for Indiana high-school valedictorians and salutatorians, \$1.2 million more than the goal.

-\$1.7 million for equipment and technology, \$200,000 over the goal.

One of the largest donations was made by the Robert H. and Elaine H. Pott foundation, which donated \$2 million. In recognition of the gift, USI will name its School of Science and Engineering

Technology after the two donors.

Robert Pott was a plant superintendent at Vulcan Plow Works in Evansville. Pott was also a horticulturist who developed an automatic climate control system that commercial greenhouses later adapted.

One of Pott's other inventions was the impact wrench, later known as the Ingersol-Rand Impact Wrench.

In the 1940s, Pott developed an air-conditioning system for his home that used well-water that went through a coil and

recycled the water for use in watering his lawn.

The Pott Foundation has long been a part of USI academics, providing scholarships to the university's students for about 12 years.

There were also a pair of \$1 million donations in the campaign.

Dallas Bower Suhreinrich donated that much to the USI School of Education, which has since been named for her.

Jennings D. "Nick" Carter also donated \$1 million for the completion of expansion to the University Center and to establish more USI scholarships for prospective students.

Carter Hall, located in the University Center, is named in his honor.

Getting in Touch

Editor's Line: 465-1645

News Line: 465-1632

Advertising Line: 464-1870

On the Inside

USI point guard Junior Bond is in the Eagle spotlight, p.7

Also...

'Varsity Blues' star should stick to doing 'Dawson's Creek', p.6

Index

3- Campus
4- Viewpoint
5- News
6- Diversions
8- Sports

Shield 4-Day 4-Cast

THU



showers

hi 52°
lo 47°

SAT



partly
cloudy

hi 46°
lo 24°

FRI



partly
cloudy

hi 42°
lo 34°

SUN



sunny

hi 52°
lo 25°

Coming Attractions

Today, Jan. 28

-Men's and women's basketball vs. University of Wisconsin-Parkside, 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the PAC.

Friday, Jan. 29

-APB Comedian "Godfrey," 8 p.m., Carter Hall.
-African American trivia game: A challenge of cultural knowledge. Deadline for team sign-up, Multicultural Center, UC 125.

Saturday, Jan. 30

-Southern Hospitality Day, 9 a.m., Mitchell Auditorium.
-Women's and men's basketball vs. Lewis University, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. at the PAC.

Sunday, Jan. 31

-Fast pitch hitting clinic, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., for more information, call Beth Watson, ext. 1664.
-Super Bowl XXXIII: Atlanta Falcons vs. Denver Broncos, 5 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 1

-A tribute to African American employees photo exhibit, University Center Gallery.
-Beginning of Black History Month, cake served 11 a.m. in the University Center.

Tuesday, Feb. 2

-LaJoyce Brookshire, author of *Soul Food*, 7 p.m., Carter Hall, book signing, 9 p.m., Multicultural Center.
-Excel Mentoring Program, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Multicultural Center.

Wednesday, Feb. 3

-Presentation on Africa, Sondra Matthews, noon, Carter Hall.

Thursday, Feb. 4

-Women's and men's basketball at Indiana-Purdue-Ft. Wayne, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
-Intramural foosball and billiards tourney deadline, PAC.

Friday, Feb. 5

-Intramural deadline to sign up for euchre, PAC.

-African American trivia game: A Challenge of Cultrual Knowledge, mandatory meeting for teams, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., UC 125.

Saturday, Feb. 6

-Spring Executive Board Retreat, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Carter Hall.
-Women's and men's basketball at St. Joseph's College, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 7

-Fast pitch hitting clinic, 9 a.m. (See Jan. 31).

Monday, Feb. 8

-Inetrnational Club, Taiko and Tea, 10 a.m., Carter Hall.
-APB presentation: John Reno, 9 p.m., Mitchell Auditorium.

Getting in the calendar

If you have an event or activity that you would like to have placed in the upcoming calendar, please submit the information via e-mail Shield.ucs@smt.uci.edu or bring the information to our office in UC 003.

A P B

This Friday: Comedian "Godfrey"
You'll laugh your socks off!
8 p.m. Carter Hall

February 4: Movie "School Daze"
9 p.m. FA1

February 8-14: Homecoming Week
Show your school spirit and don't forget to
vote!

Campus

USI political science junior serves as house intern

Special to The Shield

The 1999 legislative session may have been delayed because of dangerous icy conditions, but 16 interns still managed to make it to their first day of work at the Indiana Statehouse.

Courtney Fleck, a junior at the University of Southern Indiana, was one

of those 16 interns.

Fleck was one of 51 applicants. She was chosen to serve as an intern for the communications division in the House of Representatives during the 111th Indiana General Assembly.

"I hope to find business connections for a future career," Fleck said. "The internship will also teach me about gov-

ernment in a different manner than in a classroom setting."

Fleck graduated from Reitz High School and is majoring in political science.

Her responsibilities as an intern for the communications division include writing and sending press releases to the media, writing weekly news columns for

representatives and designing publications, among other tasks.

"It is always encouraging to see young people take the opportunity to experience the process of state government," Rep. Vaneta Becker, R-Evansville, said.

Fleck is the daughter of Emil and Nancy Fleck of Evansville.

Student Government needs representatives

by ESTHER DUNLAP
Shield campus editor

While students may see articles in The Shield about the Student Government Association and see signs for events organized by it, the reach of influence is not often clear.

Positions remain open for representatives from various areas, and students interested in helping serve are encouraged to apply.

The SGA is made up of students from organizations on campus. Students who

are not currently in a club can still run for positions based on where they live and their major.

The SGA is run by students for students. Members can see their concerns and the concerns of their peers taken care of.

Campus residents who voiced concerns about areas not well lit may be able to rest a little easier.

Campus security officers did a "walk around" on campus with members of SGA to find out which lights were out on campus.

New delegates of SGA not only participated in this walk, but also they had a chance to vote and experience the parliamentary procedure that guides the organization.

The applications for the attorney general, representative for the school of science and engineering technology and others were voted on by members and delegates.

Applications are available in the University Center basement.

Rock enthusiasts enjoying Chthonic Society

by ESTHER DUNLAP
Shield campus editor

If rocks are your interest, USI has a club for you: the Chthonic (pronounced thonic) Society.

The organization usually meets once a month, although more meetings are held in preparation for field trips and other business.

Anyone interested in the organization can join for a \$10 fee which covers club activities and field trips.

The organization plans as

many field trips as time and money allow to sites of geologic interest.

Students interested in the Chthonic Society can contact Joe DiPietro or Jim Durbin in the geology and physics department.

The internet can also give students an insight to this club with the website reached through deepsnet.usi.edu/geology or by going to the geology site on USI's home page.

Durbin said the Chthonic Society usually meets in SC 254.

Have a "hot" news tip? Call The Shield office at x1645

International Week

Monday, February 8

2:00-3:30 p.m.

University Conference Center

Tuesday, February 9

6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Carter Hall, UC

Wednesday, February 10

8:00 p.m.

Carter Hall, UC

Thursday, February 11

11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

University Conference Center

Friday, February 12

11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

First floor lobby, UC



February 8-12, 1999

Traditional Tea Ceremony

Japanese Tea Ceremony performed by USI students. Refreshments will be served.

International Coffee House

Featuring coffee and desserts, and entertainment from various regions of the world. \$1.00 admission.

International Trivia Contest

All organizations and classes are invited to participate on a team or in the audience. Sign up your team by calling International Student Services at 465-1248. Prizes will be awarded.

International Food Expo

\$4.00 in advance, \$4.50 at the door. Tickets are available from International Club members or the Office International Student Services at 465-1248.

Study Abroad Fiesta

Information on study abroad opportunities available through USI.



Viewpoint

Oppression results from status, not skin color

by ANDREW PIERCE
Shield columnist

N-----r.

What a taboo word. It's the queen mother of all no-no's (if you're white, anyway). What makes this string of vowels and consonants so forbidden? After all, it's just a word, right? Say it with me:

"N-----r."

My whole point of this is not provocation or racism. In fact, I really don't believe in racism, as in, I don't think racism is as big of a problem as people would have you believe. No, the problem isn't so much the hatred of someone for the color of his or her skin. The problem is the oppression of a people (any people) with little or no wealth or status. Or, to put it in Spike Lee's terms: It's an economic thang.

N-----s generically come in all colors: black, yellow, red...even white. Yes, I said white n-----s, also known as hicks, hillbillies, trailer trash and freckle-bellies. You know, white trash...rednecks.

Everyday, Americans are invited to

openly oppress the last acceptable n-----r of our culture—the redneck. It's become commonplace, almost heroic, to cut down white trash...and usually it's whitey doing the cutting (having grown up in Kentucky, I see this first-hand). And for what reason?

You see, somewhere along the way, between airings of "Green Acres" and "Jerry Springer," poor whites became associated with, among others, stupidity, incest and violence. After all, everyone knows that if you live in a trailer park, you're obviously a wife-beatin', cross-burnin', pot-bellied, toothless mutant from Hell. Squeeeeee!

As if that's not enough, many hold the opinion that being born white means being born with an automatic ticket to 90210. Further, if you are white, are dirt poor, and live outside the city, you have no one to blame but yourself, Bubba.

Please allow me to dispel these ridiculous misconceptions.

Let me make this clear: WHITES HAVEN'T ALWAYS HAD IT SO GOOD, EITHER. That's right, African-Americans

weren't the only group forced here against their will. In fact, most historians agree that the majority of whites who arrived in early America arrived as slaves.

Though they were called "indentured servants," it was still slavery. These whites (women and children included) were beaten over the head by "crimps" in England, shipped against their will across the Atlantic, and beaten again as white slaves. As with blacks, these cursed people weren't forced from their home out of hatred. Simply put, it was good business.

Here's where you'll really be shocked. Black slaves were often coddled in comparison to white slaves for one reason—white slaves were usually temporary "help." Think about it, which are you going to treat better as an owner, your personal car that you've spent time and money improving to ensure a long, healthy life, or the rental car you won't have for long? My point is this: Blacks weren't the only ones forced into labor, beaten, raped or even killed.

Now let's consider today. Someone

please explain to me why people can publicly label poor whites as trailer trash, yet if I refer to someone as ghetto scum, I risk the loss of a vital organ? We tolerate the ways of a bass-bumpin', crack-dealin' ghetto thug as "culture" or an "economic necessity," yet we dismiss the ways of a banjo-pluckin', moonshine-runnin' hillbilly as stupidity and inbreeding.

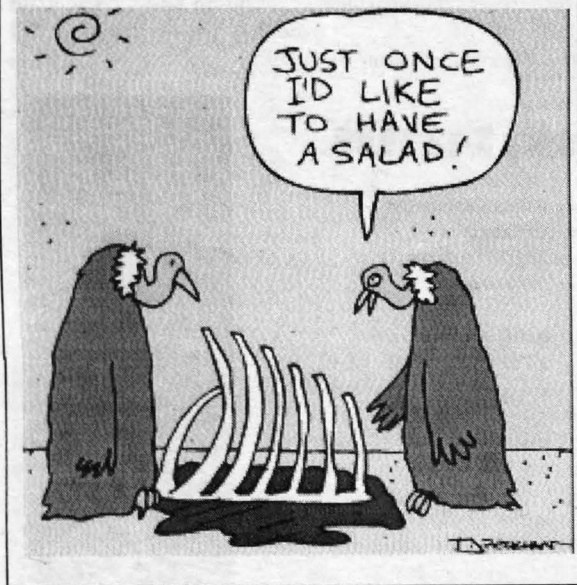
For the love of God, am I the only one that sees this atrociously unfair double standard?

So, either we all start giggling when someone cracks a watermelon or incest joke, or nobody pokes fun at anybody. Either we have fun with "Blazing Saddles," or we ban it. I'm more than willing to play it either way.

Regardless, please do not mislabel the problem. For the most part, people don't hate your skin—they hate your status.

By the way, what do you call a Kentuckian with two sheep under his arms? A pimp.

Cartoons.com



Old underdogs still a friend's favorite

by RYAN REYNOLDS
Shield editor

I have a friend who, come Monday, will be knocking on my door and asking me for money. This much I know.

My friend will be broke because he's betting his heart over his head. My friend is, was and always has been, a Denver Broncos fan.

Here's the problem: Old heartbreakers never die, they just go on losing the big games.

The Broncos, for instance. Last year's Super Bowl win over the Green Bay Packers was a fluke.

My friend is also prone to following his heart when his mind could have saved his wallet some agony.

Some of his other favorites:

- Indiana in the NCAA basketball tournament.
- The Atlanta Braves in the playoffs.
- Wile E. Coyote over the Road Runner.
- Chad Fetscher trying to hit a curve ball.

Sure, sometimes they come out winners, but more often than not these days, Indiana watches the Sweet 16 from home and Fetch walks back to the bench with the bases still loaded.

This Sunday, the Broncos enter the game a touchdown favorite to beat the Atlanta Falcons. My friend, in his orange-and-blue craze, forgets one thing: last year was the first time in four tries that Denver managed to beat a Super Bowl opponent.

They won, most likely, because they were due.

To bet twice that Cinderella can pull off the miracle is one's own risk. Sure, Denver is loaded with an all-around better team and should beat Atlanta by at least 20 points, but are you *that* sure?

I'm not. I still have rent to pay. My friend, though, is a sucker for what he calls his "teams of destiny." He will continue putting his money on the Slippery Rocks, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Minnesota Twins of the world.

I'll just keep watching him go on more disappointed each time. And I'll be listening for his knock.

The Shield

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The Shield is the official student newspaper of the University of Southern Indiana. Views expressed on the editorial pages do not necessarily reflect the views of the entire *Shield* staff, the USI faculty, administration or student body.

The Shield is published weekly and distributed on campus each Thursday morning during the fall and spring semesters.

Letters to the editor may be submitted in person or sent via e-mail to the shield.ucs@smt.usi.edu. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification.

News

USI to hold presidential impeachent panel

Despite publicity, alcohol consumption and related deaths down

by COURTNY STREEPY
Shield Managing Editor

by MARTA BRILL
Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

The impeachment trial of President William Clinton is the topic of conversations all across the United States. Today, at 6 p.m. in Carter Hall, the impeachment trial will be the topic of yet another conversation.

According to the latest CNN/USA Today poll, two thirds of the American people want the senators to vote against impeachment. This should come as no surprise considering that the majority of the American people never wanted the trial to begin in the first place. However, the trial did begin and the outcome is yet to be decided.

nity will debate impeachment of President Clinton in a public debate this evening.

Tonight, in Carter Hall, panelists Dr. David Drebushenko, associate professor of philosophy; Dr. Stephen J. Sullivan, assistant professor of philosophy; and Dr. Betty L. Hart, professor of English will argue against impeachment and removal of President Clinton.

Arguing for impeachment and removal of President Clinton will be local attorneys Leslie C. Shively and Christopher D. Lee. They will be joined by James Doyle, a USI student of sociology and criminal justice.

Serving as moderator will be Dr. J. Wayne Rinks, associate professor of communications.

The debate will be followed by interaction with the audience.

In the wake of several highly publicized; alcohol-related deaths, many students may be surprised to learn that alcohol consumption among college students has remained relatively stable on campuses throughout the country.

"We know that drinking has not increased over the past two decades," John Schulenberg, senior associate research scientist at the Institute for Social Research, said yesterday. Schulenberg added that although alcohol-related deaths and accidents have not necessarily increased, the media's coverage of them has.

Schulenberg, a psychology professor, said teenage alcohol consumption 10 or 15 years ago was greeted with a wink and labeled a rite of passage. Now the dangerous effects of underage drinking are becoming more well-known and are more prevalent in the media.

The same phenomenon appears in the public perception of the crime rate, said Universtiy of Michigan communications

studies professor Nicholas Valentino.

"Crime statistics are decreasing, but public opinion states that crime is increasing," Valentino said. He attributes this to an increase in media attention to crime-related news.

Valentino said media plays a direct role in the way people view the amount of alcohol abuse, but he said he does not see a correlation between publicity and behavior.

"There is not a direct causal relationship. There are so many more factors. Peer pressure has a larger affect than media coverage," Valentino said. Students aren't likely to adjust their social behaviors only because they read about an alcohol-related death, he said.

Some students said they altered their behavior after hearing about alcohol-related deaths.

"I think it affects me because it's closer to home. I think that it could have been me," University of Michigan freshman Lisa Ruff said.

Still other students said they were not affected by these not-so-positive alcohol related accounts of their peers.

Electrical fire kills Murray State U. student

by GREG STARK
Murray State News (Murray State U.)

The cause of the Friday morning fire that took the life of a Murray State graduate student and injured a university employee has been ruled electrical, Murray Fire Chief Pat Scott said.

Scott said the fire, which killed Ricardo J. Garcia-Vidal, 23, of Villareal, Spain, and injured Randy L. Oeding, 47, of Ferdinand, Ind., was ruled to have been caused by plugs running off an extension cord in the living room by state deputy fire marshals Eddie Clark and Jack Flowers late Friday afternoon.

Scott said the investigation is for all intents and purposes over.

"The fire marshals are still putting together interviews from the firefighters," he said. "As far as the investigation goes, it is over."

The Murray Fire Department received notification of the fire at 2:59 a.m. Friday morning, and the first unit was dispersed to the scene at that time. Oeding probably escaped the house through a side window, Scott said. Scott also said it would have been impossible for Oeding to have gotten out through the living room because of the location of the fire.

"The living room area was heavily involved (in the fire)," Scott said. "There was no way he could have gotten through the living room. The way the heat was in the middle of the house, I don't see how he (Oeding) could have gotten out."

Garcia-Vidal and Oeding were transported to Murray-Calloway County Hospital at 3:48 a.m.

Garcia-Vidal was pronounced dead at 3:56 a.m. by the hospital's Director of

Emergency Jerry Edwards. Oeding was treated and released for cuts and bruises to his hands and smoke inhalation.

Oeding was able to retrieve two items from the heavily-charred house, his checkbook and a pair of jeans. The jeans were heavily covered in soot.

Oeding said he awoke to the fire. "I was awake on and off," he said. "I came around the front and tried to break a window out."

Garcia-Vidal was a graduate student at MSU. He completed his undergraduate degree in environmental engineering in spring 1998. Oeding is employed in the stockroom of Winslow Cafeteria.

The house is located adjacent to the intramural fields behind Winslow Cafeteria and tennis courts. The house is also located a short distance from Hester College, the site of another fatal fire in September.

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Diversions

'Varsity Blues' star should stick to his day job

by JOANNA SCHWARTZ
The Villanovan (Villanova U.)

Here's hoping you read this before spending \$7 on this unoriginal, lackluster film. "Varsity Blues," although advertised as a movie with some entertainment value, falls short on the silver screen.

Women, take some good advice: James Van Der Beek may be a piece of eye candy but assuming that he possesses any theatrical ability, this movie does not do him justice.

Men, if you are looking for a feel-good coming-of-age movie, keep on looking. This movie has about as much entertainment value as a frat party minus the drinks.

The plot pleads for some help in the originality department. "Dawson's Creek's" James Van Der Beek portrays a football player who is suddenly thrust into the limelight when the starting quarterback hurts his knee and is unable to play.

What he finds on the other side is a world of popularity, high school parties

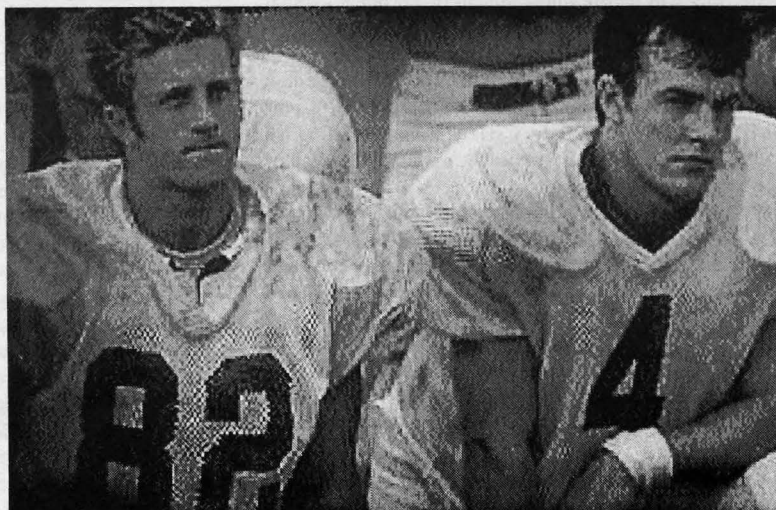


Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures
James Van Der Beek (right) listens to a pep talk with a teammate during 'Varsity Blues.'

and mindless cheerleaders eager to be his girlfriend.

Although he enjoys his newfound popularity for a while, he begins to take

notice that his coach is a heartless drill sergeant with eyes only for West Canaan's 34th football championship. His girlfriend, tired of his growing ego, encourages him to be a hero and stand up to coach Kilmer.

This movie touches on themes, which, if pursued, would provide the movie with much needed substance. For example, Moxon's (Van Der Beek) father is a former football player who invests all his own dreams in his son.

This theme is touching

and provocative, yet the movie leaves it alone. Another aspect of the movie left undeveloped is that of Moxon's character.

The screenwriter does not give the audience enough about his main character to allow the audience to form an attachment to him. Women do not fall in love with this character and men do not wish they could be like him.

He is not an extraordinary character, and it's hard to say if the fault lies with the writer or with a less-than-stellar performance by Van Der Beek.

Perhaps the movie's biggest shortcoming is this failure to develop its themes and characters. This movie does manage to provide a brief glimpse at those parts of high school we all wish we could forget.

The audience gets a glimpse again of high school parties, of jocks and their cheerleader girlfriends and even of sex education class.

"Blues" does allow one to recapture the sense of a high school football game, if the audience remembers what they are like. The classroom scene provides a colorful list of slang terms for the male erection, and proves to be somewhat amusing, but another element the movie usually manages to omit is humor.

Laughs are not in abundance unless you find binge-drinking and naked women a knee-slapper. Don't expect to go home with your laugh muscles hurting.

This movie fails in the essential ways. It fails to make a connection between the movie and its audience—the more absent-minded will forget the movie before throwing out their popcorn.

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Diversions

'Knockout Kings' delivers an uppercut full of fun

by RYAN REYNOLDS
Shield editor

My roommate was a little bit upset with me.

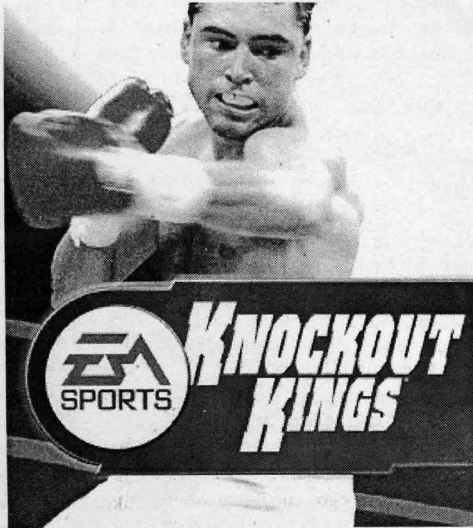
I couldn't blame him. Had he punched *me* in the groin, I'd be irritated, too.

No, this isn't a shocking tale of ruckus in a three-bedroom townhouse. It's the sordid story of what happens when the gloves come off, the satellite is shut down and the new "Knockout Kings" game for the Sony Playstation is started.

"Knockout Kings" (\$39.99 retail price) is a blast from the opening bell. There are several game formats, the two best being the "career mode" and the "slugfest mode."

The career mode gives the player an opportunity to create a boxer, custom tailored just as he or she wants him to be, down to the haircut, skin color and trunk styles. My roommate Mike, a big fan of the "Rocky" movies from the 1980s, chose a left-handed, dark-haired punk with American-flag style shorts.

He even named him "Lucky Lefty."



The player can also choose which division he wants to fight in, from lightweight, middleweight and heavyweight. The boxer must continually train and beat other challengers as he ascends the rankings to the top spot, which is always inhabited by a legend. The game includes the likes of Muhammed Ali, Oscar De La Hoya, Rocky Marciano and even "Butterbean" of Ultimate Fighting Championship fame.

My roommate, Mike, played the game off and on for about three weeks before making it to a title bout against "Smokin' Joe Frazier. Mike beat Frazier by unanimous decision, but was then forced to give Smokin' Joe a rematch.

Five minutes later, "Lucky Lefty" was lying face down on the mat, a victim of what fight fans call "Jerry Quarry Disease." It turns out the computer makes adjustments for how you fight, and it realized ol' Lucky couldn't take a lot of shots to the chin. A glass jaw cost him his title.

The "slugfest" mode is where two play-

ers can pick famous fighters from any weight class in a no-rules match. That's where my man, Muhammed Ali, and his freight-train intensity groin shots come in.

"Knockout Kings" is a great stress-relieving game, especially if you have a lot of smack-talking friends who like video games. It usually only takes a couple of head-butts to make them realize they're in for a "Knockout Kings"-sized whoopin'.

Have an opinion you want people to hear?

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Sports

Eagle Athlete SPOTLIGHT

The first spotlight shines on point guard Junior Bond, a 5-foot-8 senior on the basketball team, who averages 12.2 points and 4.5 assists per game for the fourth-ranked Eagles.

What are your goals as a Screaming Eagle?

"First things first, we need to win the conference championship. But more importantly, I want to win the national championship. USI won it all in 1995, and we definitely have the team to do it again this season."

I've heard that players on a hot streak go through some pretty strange pre-game rituals. Do you have any?

"I have to admit it...after shooting so well last week (he was nine of 11 from 3-point range), I plan to wear the same socks until my hot-shooting streak is over. But every game I play in, I have to feel perfect.



Junior Bond

My shoes have to be on tight enough, my socks have to be on perfect, I've got to feel absolutely comfortable before I'm ready to go."

What are your future plans?

"If my playing days are over after this season, I'll finish my degree at SIU-Carbondale, since it's closer to home. After getting it, I'd like to move back out to California and settle down."

What is the last good movie you've seen?

"Enemy of the State"
If a movie were made about you, who would play you on the big screen, and why?

"Joe Pesci. He's a naturally funny guy in the movies, but he also takes care of business when it's time to take care of business, like in 'Casino'."

Compiled by USI assistant sports information director Nathan Fry.

USI enters homestretch of basketball season

Shield staff report

The men's and women's basketball regular seasons are in their final month, and both teams are in the hunt for the Great Lakes Valley Conference title.

The Lady Eagles split a pair of road games last week, winning at Indianapolis and losing to first-place Northern Kentucky on the road.

Despite the .500 weekend, the Lady Eagles are still just two games behind the Norse with nine games left in the regular season. If the Lady Eagles (11-9, 9-4) finish strong, they will make the GLVC Tournament, which will be played at Roberts Stadium Feb. 24-27.

The tournament champion receives an automatic berth into the NCAA Division II

Tournament, which begins March 7 at a host school determined later.

The Screaming Eagles (14-3, 10-3) trail first-place and top-ranked Kentucky Wesleyan by two games. The men also have nine games left, three of which will pit the Eagles against schools in the top half of the GLVC standings.

The Eagles are also expecting the return of leading scorer Leighton Nash this week. Nash, a 6-foot-8 senior, reinjured his foot in December and required surgery.

Both teams play at home this weekend, against Wisconsin-Parkside tonight at 5:30 and 7:30 and Saturday against Lewis at 1 and 3 p.m.

USI students with validated ID cards are admitted free of charge to home games.

GLVC Standings

Men's basketball

Team	GLVC	Ov.
Ky. Wesleyan	12-1	19-1
USI	10-3	14-3
No. Kentucky	9-4	12-5
Lewis	8-4	11-5
Indianapolis	8-4	10-6
Quincy	6-6	7-8
SIUE	6-7	7-9
St. Joe's	5-7	6-10
Bellarmine	5-8	8-11
IP-Ft. Wayne	4-9	7-10
UMSL	3-10	5-12
UW-Parkside	0-13	1-16

Women's basketball

No. Kentucky	11-2	15-2
SIUE	10-3	12-4
Bellarmine	10-3	12-5
USI	9-4	11-9
UMSL	8-5	9-8
St. Joe's	7-5	10-6
Lewis	7-5	10-6
Ky. Wesleyan	7-6	11-6
Indianapolis	2-10	6-11
Quincy	2-10	3-13
UW-Parkside	2-11	3-14
IP-Ft. Wayne	1-12	1-16

Deadline for stories for The Shield is Monday noon. Send information by email or drop it off in UC003.

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