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The SHIELD

University of Southern Indiana's Student Newspaper

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The Shield is a designated public forum.

Partisan rally encourages early voting

By SETH GRUNDHOEFER
Special to the Shield

With talk of Indiana being a pivotal swing state in the presidential race, local democratic candidates looked to University of Southern Indiana students on Tuesday to help secure a vote for Sen. Barack Obama on Nov. 4.

"It's nothing new for college students to be excited and emotional about things," Eighth District Indiana Rep. Brad Ellsworth said.

President of College Democrats Janis Du Bois said the Ellsworth campaign contacted the organization and coordinated the rally for Obama.

With help from College Democrats, Du Bois said the purpose of the rally was to encourage registered voters to get to the polls before Election Day.

"Specifically, we just want to get people excited about voting," Du Bois said. "We want people to know that they can vote early, too."

Along with Ellsworth, the rally also featured 74th District Indiana State Rep. Russ Stilwell.

The two democratic candidates stressed the importance of the 18-25 demographic vote.

"This is a time to prove that the 18-25 vote can make a difference," Ellsworth said. "We can hold all the rallies we want... but if we don't vote, it's all for nothing."

"Today the young people of



Congressman Brad Ellsworth

America are on the verge of bringing new leadership into the nation," Stilwell said. "And we are doing this as a state that hasn't voted democratically for four decades."

As part of USI Votes Early, a program established by Chair of Sociology Ronda Priest, students were escorted throughout the day to early voting polling locations in order to avoid the clutter of Election Day.

Democratic supporters also set up tables with signs and campaign slogans, registered students to vote in future elections and registered students to volunteer for the democratic campaign.

Vice President of Governmental and University Relations Cindy Brinker said the campaign tables were monitored throughout the event, and said the event's partisan nature did not exclude it from the universities rules on soliciting political material.

"During the confines of the event, people cannot handout campaign literature," Brinker said. "The student's must approach the table."

Brinker said the College Democrats, who are a recognized student organization, coordinated the event through the Special Events office, and did not receive special treatment because of their partisan views.

"If the College Republicans wanted to have Greg Goode on campus, they would follow the same process," Brinker said.

College Republicans Executive Chairman Brandon Greene offered a different sentiment.

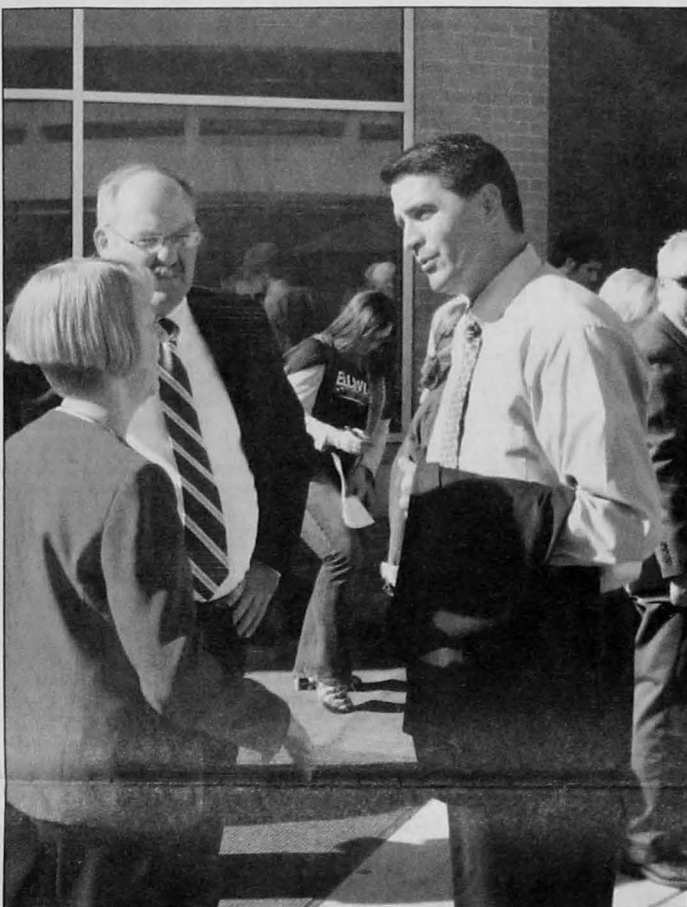
He said many of the supporters were handing out information to people, and the event did not offer a question and answer session, even though it was promoted beforehand.

"If it's something for students to be educated on, they need to open it up for questions and answers," Greene said.

Although College Republicans have not sponsored rallies on campus, Greene said the organization has worked with the Greg Goode campaign by mailing out absentee ballots throughout Indiana.

"Indiana is definitely a swing state, which is good," Greene said. "It brings excitement to Indiana."

Brinker said the Obama rally was the largest presidential rally on campus since George H. W. Bush visited the Physical Activities Center in the late 80s.



Photos by Andrew Foster, Jon Webb and Zach Adkins.

Banners, property stolen from University Center

By DANI PALMER
News editor

It seems as though the University Center is a hot spot for theft lately.

On Wednesday, Oct. 15, three of the banners hanging from the UC bridge were reported missing.

Brandon Garrison of the Special Events staff reported the missing banners that included SGA's Midnight Madness, the Activity Programming Board's (APB) Alcohol Awareness Week and The Shield's banner.

The reasoning behind the swiping of the banners is unknown.

"Maybe they hung them (the banners) in their dorm room," Garrison said.

The banners that advertise groups or events must be approved before they are hung from the UC bridge.

"They have to be appropriate. No profanity or offensive language," Garrison said.

It's up to the organizations to replace any stolen or destroyed banners.

The day after, on Oct. 16, a student's laptop was stolen from the APB office right before their sponsored Thursday night movie, *Wanted*.

When Josh Bobb, special events chair of APB, and other members of the programming board left to set up for the movie Thursday night, all of the doors were locked.

An hour later when Bobb returned, the back door was open and his laptop, along with

his iPod charger cord, were gone.

"It's a good thing I took my iPod with me," Bobb said.

Kathy Jones, program advisor for student activities, said it was the first reported incident in the year since she's been here, and feels as though someone may be targeting the UC.

Bobb just wants his computer back, but highly doubts it will ever show up. He believes the thief scaled the walls and got in through the small opening between the ceiling and top of the office wall, but said it's very possible the thief just managed to open the back door somehow.

Either way, Bobb never imagined his computer would be stolen.

"You'd think it'd be safe

down here [in the office] with all of the doors locked," he said.

To alert students to the possibility of stolen items, Student Development has now posted signs in the student offices warning students to not leave any personal items in the space. Jones hopes these signs will soon do some good.

For the time being, however, it seems the thief will remain unknown.

According to Jones, any items discovered should be taken to lost and found at the security office. Students that bring in missing items are not always considered suspects.

"Only if they are acting suspicious," Jones said.

USI Security was not available for comment.

PERSPECTIVE

The ease, tension of early voting

By JON WEBB
Editor in chief

"This is so exciting," Paula von Loewenfeldt, assistant professor of English, said as the silver minivan used to carry students to early voting sites pulled-out from parking lot D on Oct. 21, headed for Red Bank Library.

My excitement — although present — failed to charge completely.

Earlier in the month, I filled out a change of address slip in order to vote in the Vanderburgh County elections, as opposed to driving two hours to vote in my former county.

I didn't know if the change of address actually worked, and my driver's story of another student having trouble at the polls under similar circumstances didn't ease my tension.

Another problem was voting early itself, which is technically a form of absentee.

Dan Rather reporting "thousands of absentee ballots tossed out of consideration in Florida tonight," still rang in my head from 2000.

(The woman watching the polls — the "Poll Watcher" — later assured both me and my driver that early votes were counted in the same manner as votes cast on Nov. 4. That is, they are locked up and only released once the polls shut

down on Nov. 4.)

The van was empty except for von Loewenfeldt and myself, and to make up for the emptiness (and tension) I turned on the radio, only to find the silence filled with a very cocksure static.

"... and I don't know who these liberals think they are, registering voters who don't even ..."

It was Rush Limbaugh, and he was angry.

"No political discussion allowed in the van," von Loewenfeldt said.

I laughed.

"Seriously, that's a form of political discussion," she said.

Her caution stemmed from the rules laid down for USI Votes Early, a program conceived by Chair of Sociology Ronda Priest.

The rules, although myriad in number and complex in their own niche-y sort of way, all boil down to one simple commandment: no partisanship — of the right or left variety — is allowed on the van.

"We turned a student away (for partisanship)," Priest said at 10 a.m. Oct. 21, sitting in front of the Liberal Arts Center's New Harmony/commune inspired labyrinth.

Priest and other faculty drivers — von Loewenfeldt among them — provide four rides per week: two on Tuesday (one at

EARLY continued on Page 3

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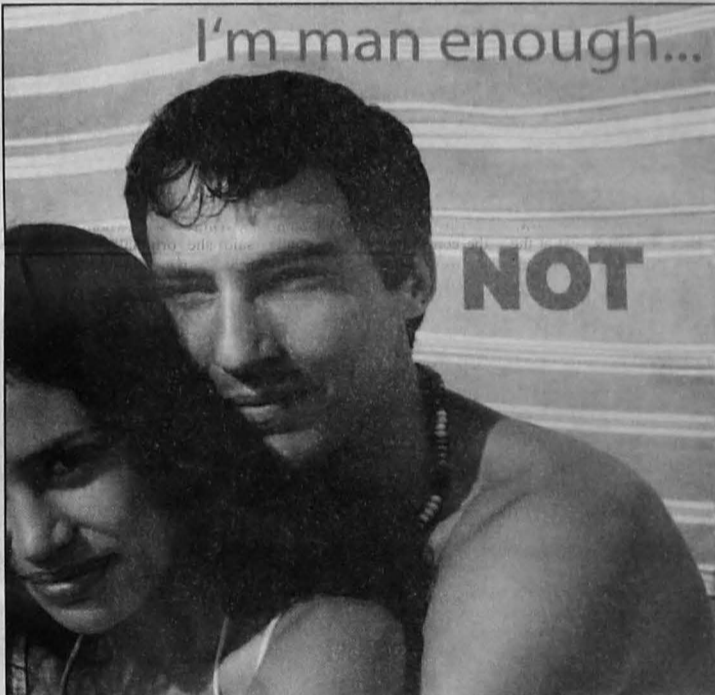
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I'm man enough...

NOT

to make assumptions.

RESPECT



This program is funded by the CARE: Communities Against Rape Initiative through the Indiana State Department of Health, CDC, Rape Prevention Education Grant.

Just thought
you'd want to know...



92% of Americans bite their fingernails at least occasionally (25% bite their toenails).

- Health Magazine, January/February 1995

98% of USI students prefer to be with someone who doesn't drink or stays under control out on a date.

- USI Assessment Day Results Fall 2006



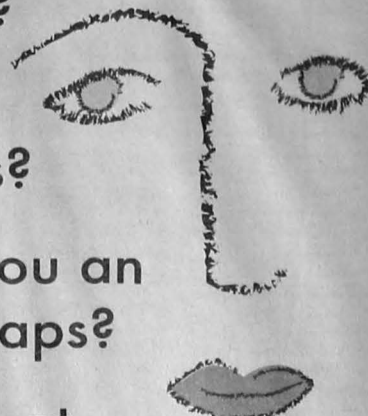
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artist perhaps?

Contact us at
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Give us info about the what you do, why you do it and your contact information to participate in our Student Life study and get your name out there!



SGA series starts with Hoops

By ANDREW FOSTER
Special to The Shield

When USI President H. Ray Hoops spoke to the Student Government Association (SGA) on Oct. 23, it wasn't because the SGA initially invited him.

"He actually approached me and asked me if I would be interested in having him speak," SGA President Amy Beard said. "We were very flattered."

Hoops, who is retiring at the end of this year, spoke to the SGA about the history of USI over the course of his administration.

"A lot of times students get here and don't know how this all came about," Hoops said. "I have some historical perspective."

Beard believes that this is an important thing for students to understand.

"We're new; we see USI as it is. I bet a lot of people think, 'Oh, that's just how it was,'" Beard said. "It is kind

of amazing to think that our campus grew from one building."

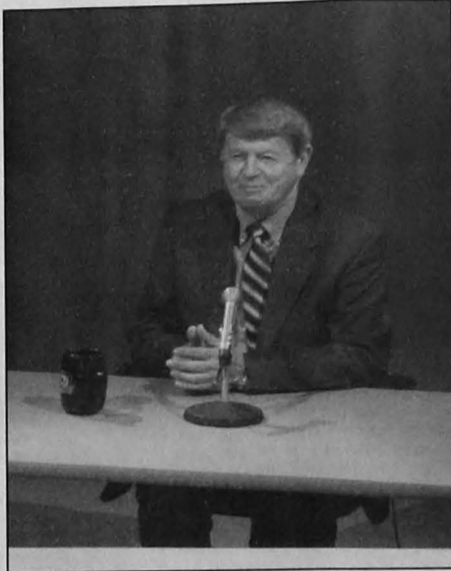
Adam Trinkle, attorney general of the SGA, said that he believes Hoops' speech will help keep Hoops connected with students.

"I just think he wants to stay in touch with the students," Trinkle said. "I think he's always done that well."

Hoops was the first administrator in a series of speeches given to the SGA.

Vice President of Student Affairs Robert W. Parrent will speak on Oct. 30, followed by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Linda Bennett on Nov. 6 and Honors Program director Antonina Bambina on Nov. 13.

"I think it's good for the administration to come and talk to us," Beard said. "It means a lot to [the General Assembly] for [the speakers] to come and connect with them."



President H. Ray Hoops

Photo courtesy of Erin Gibson.

Plasma can help pay the bills

By TRAVIS SNYDER
Special to The Shield

Some students looking for extra cash have turned to bodily fluids.

Donating plasma, better known in the medical industry as plasmapheresis, is a procedure that has given some students extra income.

"I donated because I needed money to pay off certain bills," Ouida Butler, a junior psychology major, said.

ZLB Plasma is an organization that directs the plasmapheresis process. They have three locations in Indiana, including a donation center in Evansville.

According to the ZLB Plasma Web site, blood consists of two portions, liquid and cellular. The process of plasmapheresis removes the liquid part of the blood and re-infuses the cellular portion back into the body.

The liquid portion, or plasma, is then used for various medical purposes such as treating wounds, shocks and burns.

Corporate Communications Manager for ZLB Plasma Christine Kuhinka said plasma is important to the medical field.

"Plasma is used to manufacture life-saving biotherapies used in the treatment of rare and serious diseases such as coagulation disorders and immune deficiencies."

Students can help others while making money, Kuhinka said.

"Students should donate plasma because donating plasma helps save lives," she said. "Not only can students do something good for society ... but they can also earn extra cash since plasma donors are compensated for their time."

The amount of money one can earn through plasmapheresis varies according to the weight of the donor and how often they donate.

"People can donate plasma up to twice a week without adverse health effects," Kuhinka said.

Butler said she was earning \$40 per donation, or \$80 a week, when she first started donating but the number decreased when she began to lose weight.

"It paid for my spring break," Butler added.

According to Kuhinka, donors can earn up to \$300 a month and \$3,600 a year.

A sign in ZLB Plasma donation

center's waiting room in Evansville states people donating for the first or second time must pay a fee of \$25 or \$40 depending on their weight.

Although a potential donor must complete a physical prior to donating and must meet certain requirements to promote their safety, the plasmapheresis process can sometimes lead to negative side effects for the donor.

Butler, who said she no longer donates, said plasmapheresis might be responsible for her more than just the needle scar on her left arm.

After she first donated in June of 2007, Butler said she struggled to keep food down. She went to the doctor and found out the problem was much worse - her gallbladder was destroyed.

"Donating plasma possibly ruined my gallbladder or brought to attention that my gallbladder was acting up," she said.

Butler said she was notified of the possible effects donating could have on her body before she consented.

In a document titled "Guidance for Industry" released in June of 2007, the Food and Drug Administration outlined recommendations for the consent of plasma donors.

The document stated, "Before the donor consents, a qualified licensed physician must explain to the prospective donor the hazards of the procedure."

"Guidance for Industry" lists some of these hazards as hematoma, blood-loss, nausea, vomiting, seizures and "any other adverse reaction."

Ann White, Assistant Dean for Nursing, said there is little probability a healthy donor will suffer these side effects.

"If you are a typical healthy individual, the odds of having a negative consequence from donating blood or plasma are relatively low," White said.

Kuhinka added that each of the ZLB Plasma donation centers has a medical director and medical staff on hand.

"Plasma donation began in the 1950's," she said. "Therefore, we have a long period of time during which millions of individuals have donated plasma in the United States without evidence of an adverse impact on their health."

English professor inspired to write screenplay

By TRAVIS SNYDER
Shield staff

Professor Betty Hart's inspiration to write a screenplay about Zora Neale Hurston came from someone who has inspired people before: Oprah Winfrey.

Hart, a professor of English, said she was watching The Oscars a few years ago when Winfrey was interviewing people backstage. During the interviews, Winfrey mentioned that "she was born to act," Hart said.

At the same time, Winfrey was promoting a Hurston work titled "Their Eyes Were Watching God" on her show. Hart also noted that at the Oscars that year, autobiographers were winning "everything." Thus, she got the idea to write a script based off Hurston's autobiography "Dust Tracks on a Road."

Hurston, an African American woman, was an anthropologist and an author of plays, poetry and novels during the Harlem Renaissance in the early to

mid 20th century. She was "very famous," Hart added.

It was Hurston's life experiences that turned Hart on to writing a script about her life.

"She is an intriguing personality whose life is a metaphor for a determined, ambitious, and resourceful spirit," Hart said. "Her life is full of interaction with talented, stimulating people, exotic adventures and human drama."

She also took an interest in Hurston because, like Hart, she was born in an all-black town. Hurston hailed from Eatonville, Fla., Hart from Institute, W.Va.

This setting gave Hurston the confidence to be herself, but some might have misconstrued her self-assurance as arrogance, Hart said.

"[Hurston] felt like she didn't need to apologize for her race," she said.

The 141-page script took Hart two years to complete; the final ten weeks were spent writing the 16-page ending.

According to Hart, Hurston was at one time

accused of molesting young boys and her friends did not show any support for her. Hart decided to end the writing with how she dealt with that situation and how she moved forward from it.

Hart will attempt to turn her script into a movie, but said she is happy with her work whether a movie is made or not.

Her next step will be to have her script professionally reviewed. Then, she will consult a script "coach" and attempt to "obtain copyright permissions" to Hurston's works, before pitching her idea to the film industry.

Winfrey was whom Hart said she originally had in mind to play Hurston in the film version, but during the writing process she had a change of heart.

"As I wrote it, I realized Oprah Winfrey is not Zora Neale Hurston," she said.

Today, she considers Queen Latifah a better fit to play Hurston.

"Zora had a tremendous sense of humor and a kind of

a 'razzy' personality," she said. "Both seem to have a commanding presence in a crowd - kind of the 'life of the party' in social situations."

Hart said she plans to use "Zora" in her classes to introduce and explain the literary genre of script writing to her students.

She has written two other screenplays. Her first work, titled "The Season," chronicled her two sons' baseball careers in high school.

Her second script focused on "confronting racism and hatred in the south pre-civil rights."

The original title of this work was "Me and Denzel" because she pictured Denzel Washington as the main character, but it was later changed to "Legacy" because her students laughed at her, she said with a smile.

Hart's next screenplay will be titled "American Fable." It will discuss the "American dream" and the "efficacy in contemporary American culture."

Advanced health technology leads to partnership

By DREW ANDERSON
Special to the Shield

On Oct. 13, the College of Nursing and Health Professions announced a partnership with the local non-profit organization Hadi Shriners, and held a demonstration showcasing state of the art technology that will be used here at USI.

Called Telemedicine, the technology uses a combination of video cameras, computers and video-conferencing technology, and allows a patient to be fully examined by doctors without the hassle of having to travel.

But what really makes the technology useful is the procedure is performed in real-time, meaning there is no delay in communication from the doctor to the patient, thus ensuring immediate care.

Patients currently being treated at the Shriners Hospital for Children in Cincinnati are going to be the first patients to use the Telemedicine technology.

Before this technology became available at USI, the local Hadi Shriners had to transport the patient and a family member to Cincinnati in order to receive follow up care. Now with the help of this new technology, patients that live outside of the Cincinnati area will have a much easier time arranging and getting to their scheduled check-ups.

"The technology is a way for patients to save time and transportation costs but still provide follow-up expert care by the team in Cincinnati and in other Shriners Hospitals for Children," said Frank Nolte, a volunteer with the Hadi

Hospital staff.

During the demonstration at USI, a medical team from the children's hospital in Cincinnati used the video conferencing equipment to connect with USI nursing faculty and local patients that were here in Evansville. The team used different camera angles in order to assist their ability to examine the patients visually.

Junior Alicia Ricklefs majors in nursing, and was excited about the prospect of using this type of technology.

"It's crazy what they can do with technology these days," Ricklefs said. "It would be cool to be apart of that one day."

With Shriners providing the technology, and USI providing the facility, the partnership seems to be a good opportunity for both parties.

"This telehealth partnership is a wonderful opportunity for our college to support the care provided by the expert clinicians at Shriners Hospitals," Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, said.

"It also provides our nursing and health professions students the opportunity to learn and participate in telehealth; a rapidly expanding health care delivery system."

According to their website, Shriners Hospitals for Children is an international health care system that consists of 22 hospitals, with each dedicated to providing specialty pediatric care, innovative research and outstanding teaching programs.

The Shriners Hospital for Children-Cincinnati provides acute and rehabilitative care for pediatric burns.

EARLY continued from Page 1

10 a.m. and another at 1 p.m.) and two on Thursday (see previous par-enthetical).

Priest said the rides average around 2 to 3 students per, which math-s out to only 20 to 24 students taking advantage of the opportunity to cast their ballots before early voting ends on Oct. 30.

"I hope the students are out there voting somewhere," Priest said.

When we arrived at Red Bank Library, 25 people - including my driver and I - either waited or were actively engaged in voting.

The demographics varied, slightly, but for the most part wildly overshoot the 18-25 demographic and landed firmly somewhere in 50-75 land.

USI student John Parker, a sophomore, stood in front of us, as did USI language lecturer Mustapha Nouri.

Nouri brought his son to witness the excitement of civic duty, but the son appeared more interested in a library computer than the Most Important Election of Our Lifetime.

While I asked the Red Bank reference clerk if she knew how many had taken advantage of early voting in the library ("the polling people told me, as of this morning, that 900 have voted in this location alone," she said), Parker brushed up on some anticipatory political reading: *Politics for Dummies*.

"I thought I'd do some last-minute reading," Parker said, joking.

Ironically, the bookshelf that book-shelved the line of voters contained the library's political science collection; grim titles like *The Late, Great U.S.A.* and - even more ironically, considering the national economic crisis - Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*.

My favorite passage, which helped pass the time and ease even more tension caused by the serpentine line of the elderly who may - if annoyed by the slow-moving line, erupt in a hickory-fit of cane-wielding rage -, was p. 205 of Sean Hannity's *Deliver us from Evil*, in which the conservative FoxNews pundit connected Hillary Clinton to the "terrorist" Palestinian Liberation Organization.

But all ideas of vicarious terrorism disappeared when I walked to the voting table an hour after my arrival ("imagine the lines on the actual day," von Loewenfeldt said), signed my name and address to line 969 and was actually cleared to vote.

Honestly, I felt like a felon who bucked the system.

The electoral process - already tucked in a coffin by many television pundits - still seemed to breathe in slow, regular, chest-heaves.

I walked up the voting booth, grabbed a gray stylus vaguely resembling the pumping-thing from a blood pressure machine, read the directions on how to use a touch-screen, and voted for _____

The SHIELD
University of Southern Indiana's Student Newspaper

We need a cartoonist!

If you can draw, and have experience, let us know! Stop by our office in room 003A of the UC basement. Or, come by every Thursday at 4:30 for our weekly staff meeting!



When your right isn't right

By **MAX DAHLQUIST**
The Shield Staff

I entered last summer an uncommitted voter.

It's an alienating state of being, to be sure.

I stood faced with the daunting decision whether to be a futile drop of blue in the inevitable sea of red Indiana regularly becomes on election day or a triumphant red drop in the aforementioned ocean.

I carefully weighed the merits of the Obama and McCain campaigns, but was unable to choose which to support.

The more I learned, the more I realized I didn't want to support either candidacy.

The choice between McCain and Obama seems to be a choice between four more years with a slightly more articulate Bush or four years with a socialist.

Do I want America to get punched in the nose or kicked in the groin?

What's a conscientious citizen to do?

Common sense would dictate that I determine the lesser of two evils and cast my vote as damage control.

This is reasonable in a way, but at the same time, it leaves a bad taste in my mouth. Why should I give credence to a system that gives a choice every election cycle between two equally unpalatable alternatives?

I can't, in good conscience, help to put either of those men into the White House.

So I'm not going to vote for either of them.

I'm going to throw in my lot with a third party. You should too.

If you can't find one to your

liking, you should do the unthinkable. Don't vote.

In the time leading up to every election we're constantly bombarded with the message that the right to vote is not merely a right but a patriotic duty, that by abstaining from voting we silence ourselves.

Our political voice as individual American citizens has been reduced to casting one vote out of a hundred million, a vote for a soulless candidate that represents hard-line Democratic views or one for a soulless candidate that represents hard-line Republican views.

If you are a moderate, you get nothing. If you are a libertarian, you get nothing. If your beliefs do not fall under the standard definitions of liberal or conservative then you get nothing.

The major party candidates are homogenized for mass consumption, products that the parties attempt to sell to the largest segment of the American populace.

As a comparison, the movie that was watched by the largest segment of the American populace last week was "Beverly Hills Chihuahua."

That same populace has rocketed Britney Spears' "Womanizer" to the top of its music charts.

The point I am trying to make is that things that are homogenized for mass appeal are, by-and-large, trite, shallow, and possess very little spark of creativity or originality.

I can think of at least two presidential candidates who fit that description.

Realistically, one of those two is going to become the leader of the free world. I'm not about to help.

I can't be the only one who sees things this way. The way we can make a legitimate statement about the pathetic candidates that are shoved down our throats at every turn is to shun them.

Declining voter turnout can't always be blamed on apathy. It can also be blamed on jaded citizens who would rather remain silent than speak through someone else's voice.

Every moderately successful third party effort stems from the people's dissatisfaction at the same old crap from the two major parties.

If you truly believe in Obama or McCain, by all means, vote the way you want.

Realistically, no minor candidate stands a chance of beating them, and the election will be a tight one. Your vote will count.

However, if you were going to go out and vote for the candidate you believe is a lesser of two evils, make a bigger statement.

Find a third party candidate and show the Democrats and Republicans that, though minnows they may be, there are other fish in the political pond. Minnows can grow.

Or, if there is no one for you, let your dissatisfaction ring out through your silence.

Show that you will no longer accept the efforts from the parties to simply hold on to power while making no statement, showing no inspiration, simply making the same empty promises we've heard a thousand times before.

Or, if you're lazy, use this as an excuse if people give you flak for not voting.

Go be jaded and change the world.

Chalk it up to bad politics

By **ANDREW FOSTER**
Opinion editor

I am a college student and as much as I think I understand my peers and can empathize with their actions, I sometimes am left bewildered by what they do.

For example, the new unauthorized Obama chalkings that have popped up in response to initial McCain chalkings.

Last week, I wrote in "Unauthorized chalkings miss point" that the advertisements "meant nothing" because they have no persuasive quality to them.

I felt like this was a simple assessment and hoped students would realize the chalkings were doing nothing and would stop them immediately.

But to my surprise, as I walked on campus, I saw even more outrageous pro-Obama messages strewn across campus.

I really don't know what is more stupid, the original chalkings or the people who saw those chalkings and thought a bigger design would do the trick.

The point remains the same, regardless of the candidate, the chalkings can't possibly convince the undecided and have no substantive quality to them.

And what scares me more than simple chalk outlines is that this could very well be a case of what our politics have come to: who can shout the loudest.

Just look at news, and the

numerous pundits who yell at one another and the endless spinning and manipulation both campaigns spew as informative and needed.

To some extent I think this is the nature of politics or any two-sided argument. You try to make yourself look good and the other look bad.

But the modern era has taken it too far, discussing flag pins, a teenager's sexual activity and having political lackeys bash and condemn the other side until there seems to be nothing good in either side.

Politics ends up being whoever was heard last or whatever idea makes it over the political firestorm.

We can argue over the cause of this stagnant system. News outlets will say this is what the people want and the people will say this is what has been given. The chicken or the egg, pick your poison.

All I know is we can only control ourselves. If we don't want this brand of news, then we must reject it.

We must see the chalkings in this light. The underlying purpose is flawed and ineffective and must be rejected as legitimate political thought.

I hope the people realize this and the majority of the campus do not feel the need to tattoo the campus with whatever name they see fit.

But college students do surprise me.

Student voices

What makes someone an adviser? Is it experience? Prestige? How about IQ? I have people in my life willing to advise me at the drop of a hat and they have little of the above, or any good advice. So why is it all professors are asked to be advisers without any training or know how? They certainly had to go to school for many years to learn their subject. What makes them qualified to tell me or suggest what I need to do? It is for

us, as a student body, to think about why our advisers are not given workshops or required to know how to advise students in order to be a professor here at USI. How many of us have taken a class we didn't need to or been told you should have taken another? Our student government should look into this. Why? Well it is your future they are advising.

- April Nordenbrock

Friday, Oct. 17, 2008, my friend Jenny and I stopped at the Kwik Liquor on Green River road to buy a pack of cigarettes before going out for the night. Jenny is an exchange student from Sweden studying at USI this semester to get a taste of American culture. Upon entering we were immediately affronted by the owner, demanding that we show her our IDs. Seeing that we are both of age, we complied and asked for the box of cigarettes that we came to get.

The owner told Jenny she had to leave the store and that she would not be served. Jenny, 23, has a valid Swedish ID written in both Swedish and English. Jenny agreed to step out, but on her way asked why she was being forced to leave.

The impetuous woman told her that she had to have American identification to be served in her store and told Jenny that she is in America and should get an American ID like the rest of us. I could see the shock in Jenny's eyes as she walked out the door into the rain.

Despite the global stereotype of Americans as close-minded and ignorant, Jenny gave us the benefit of the doubt and decided to study in Midwestern America. Before coming, she had a good idea of what to expect, she knew there

would be many people who wouldn't know the capital of her country, let alone its geographical location, but she never expected to be the victim of prejudice and bigotry.

If the reason for the owners' refusal would have been because Jenny's ID was illegible or possibly invalid, I would have understood, but she clearly stated more than once that she would only serve Americans. When I asked the woman if it was legal to refuse to attend to someone because of his or her ethnic background, she maintained that this was her store and she would do as she pleased.

With globalization playing a huge role in the world today, we need to learn to live and function together as an entity. Discrimination, xenophobia, and ethnocentrism are puerile things of the past and even smaller cities like Evansville are being affected and need to adapt to the major changes taking place in the world.

Perhaps we can start by showing a bit of courtesy to our foreign guests and attempt to act as ambassadors of our country when presented with moments where we feel the affects of globalization seeping into our sheltered Midwestern lives.

- Brittany Gray

Public servant forgets public

By **JON WEBB**
Editor in chief

On Oct. 10, The Courier and Press obtained e-mail records showing the secrecy and embrace of partisan lobbyists and overall disregard for public information going on within the ranks of the Vanderburgh County Commissioners.

Early in August, Commissioner President Jeff Korb and Commissioners Bill Nix and Troy Tomatta passed "An Ordinance Concerning Abortion Provider Patient Safety" without any public input whatsoever.

According to The Courier: "Korb, Nix and Tomatta passed (the ordinance) in one reading and moved on" without ever uttering the word abortion.

A pseudo-law, the ordinance stated physicians could not perform abortions without jumping through bureaucratic hoops.

The ordinance itself is convoluted and passive aggressive, but I'll attempt to explain it succinctly.

Essentially, the ordinance requires any physician performing an abortion to have admitting privileges at an area hospital, file a "verification of admitting privileges" with the Vanderburgh County Department of Health, provide patients with oral and written information as to where they can receive follow-up care and provide the \$100 charged by the county to file these papers.

Upon reviewing the e-mails, it's clear the move was spearheaded by Allen County right-to-lifers, who managed to pass a similar ordinance a short time before - local right-to-life lobbyist Bill Butterfield and

County Attorney Ted C. Zeimer.

Throughout the correspondence, Zeimer - also a member of the USI Board of Trustees and key figure in tabling the recent proposal to allow same-sex insurance benefits at USI - played the largest role in passing the ordinance by arranging meetings with doctors from Deaconess and St. Mary's and keeping in close contact with supporters from Allen County.

Zeimer made sure only one county commissioner met with doctors from Deaconess and St. Mary's to prevent their discussions from becoming open meetings.

"No more than one commissioner could attend the meeting without making it a public meeting for which we have to notice the media," Zeimer wrote in an email to Dr. James Porter, chief medical officer at Deaconess, "and ... the media would no doubt also attend."

The ordinance itself is mostly irrelevant because, according to an e-mail written to Zeimer by Dr. Porter, "anyone who establishes an ambulatory surgery center (must) have a transfer agreement with a local hospital."

The ordinance, however, isn't the problem.

The problem is commissioners like Korb, Nix and Tomatta forgetting they are elected by the public and therefore work for the public.

Jeff Korb's name appears on the ballot this November.

If he doesn't care enough to share the business of the county with Vanderburgh's citizens, why should the citizens care enough to vote Korb in for a second term?

What do you think of the political chalkings?

- They are an eye sore
- They are effective
- They have gone too far
- I don't know

Tell us what you think at our website. Log on to www.usishield.com and vote in our online poll, and compare your choice with others.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Shield accepts original, unpublished letters from all of its readers. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number for verification. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar and spelling. Pieces will appear in The Shield Online. Letters can be submitted online or via e-mail.



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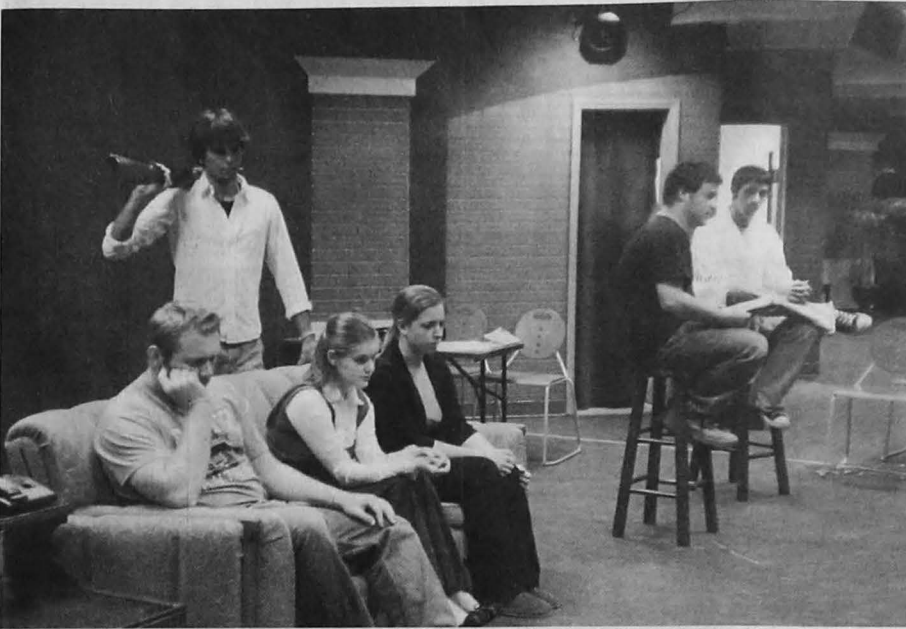
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GUEST COMMENTARIES

The Shield is a designated public forum. Signed opinions are published to provide diverse viewpoints and to encourage debate on issues important to the university community. Such commentaries represent the views of the author and not necessarily those of this newspaper.

Students direct horror

Variety of 'Night of the Living Dead' offered



Actors rehearse "Night of the Living Dead" for the upcoming Horrorfest in the Evansville Civic Theater's Annex. Naem Madi, John Wenzel, Kristine Farley, and Kiersten Dieg (counter clockwise) freeze as Zach Tloken, left, and Ben Crockett perform.

Photo by Lana Kunz

By LANA KUNZ
Student Life editor

Theater is scary. At least it will be at Horrorfest 2008, a theater event which contains three suspense plays directed by students and North High School's production of George Orwell's "1984".

USI freshman Nick Wentzel and Sidney Shripka are directing "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" and "Nightfall with Edgar Allan Poe".

"This adaption of Jekyll and Hyde is a looser interpretation. It's nothing like the musical," Wentzel said.

"Give me a guy who was trying to do good and ends up turning evil... That is real fear."

"Nightfall with Edgar Allan Poe" consists of Poe's stories: "The Raven", "The Tale-Tale Heart", "The Pit and the Pendulum" and "The Fall of the House of Usher".

Originally Wentzel wanted to direct a piece that focused on Poe's mysterious death, but due to staging difficulties he chose to direct this version.

"I am a Poe fan and this is my big thank you," Wentzel said.

"This is my second time directing at Horrorfest, but my

first time directing two at the same time. It's be stressful, and I will not direct two again," Wentzel said.

"Night of the Living Dead" is USI student Clay Prindle's second time directing a play.

He first directed a combination of Saturday Night Live skits with friends from his high school.

With this project, several of those friends have rejoined him to revamp the classic movie.

"This is not your grandpa or daddy's Night of the Living Dead, we've cut out all of the sixties words and took out the cheesiness," Prindle said.

"Nightfall with Edgar Allan Poe", "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde", and "Night of the Living Dead" will be performed at the Evansville Civic Theater's Annex in Washington Square Mall.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$6 by calling the Evansville Civic Theater's box office at 425-2800, or for \$7 at the door.

North High School's production of George Orwell's "1984" will be performed Oct. 23-26 at 7 p.m.

Student tickets are \$6 and adults are \$8, they can be purchased at North High School or at the door.

Horrorfest 2008

"Nightfall with Edgar Allan Poe"

Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.

"The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"

Oct. 23 and 25 at 7 p.m.

"Night of the Living Dead"

Oct. 30 -Nov. 1 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased in advanced by calling 425-2800 or \$7 at the door.

Student productions will be performed at the Evansville Civic Theater's Annex in Washington Square Mall.

"1984"

at North High School.

Oct. 23-26 at 7 p.m.

Tickets- Student \$6

Adult \$8

Which version of "Night of the Living Dead" do you prefer?

- 1968 original
- 1990 remake
- 2006 3D
- Clay Prindle's production

Take our survey at www.usishield.com on the Student Life page!

Canseco falls on hard times

By JON WEBB
Editor in Chief

My sense of overall human decency prohibits me from laughing when I hear a man—even Jose Canseco—has been rendered completely impotent.

The baseball loving eight-year-old inside me suppressed a smile, however, when Canseco admitted his steroid-initiated-impotence during the Oct. 20 A&E special about his life: *Jose Canseco: Last Shot*.

According to the synopsis on A&E's Web site, the hour-long documentary follows the former baseball "star" as he attempts to kick his 24-year

addiction to performance enhancing drugs, find a way to pay his bills and live with the careers he tarnished with his book: *Juiced: Wild Times, Rampant 'Roids, Smash Hits, and How Baseball Got Big*.

For those who don't know or don't care—and if you don't care, congratulations on making it this far in the article—Canseco used his book to out former teammates and former friends as steroids users.

Juiced, first dismissed by baseball lovers and fans of fluent English, probably brought about the congressional hearings on steroid use and played a major role in implementing

tougher drug-testing rules in Major League Baseball.

After former Sen. George Mitchell released his eponymous report to MLB Commissioner Bud Selig and proved many of Canseco's allegations to be true, public opinion shifted and sports radio erupted, posing different versions of the same surreal question: "Is Jose Canseco a Prophet?"

Since his vindication—which he celebrated with a second book called, fittingly, *Vindicated*—Canseco's reputation has fallen from its once dizzying, St. Peter heights.

In June, according to an

article at ESPN.com, his former lawyer announced he was suing Canseco for unpaid legal fees nearing \$500,000.

According to another ESPN article, Canseco was also recently charged with a misdemeanor for attempting to smuggle testosterone-boosting fertility drugs across the Mexican/Californian border.

Now—with the release of the A&E documentary—Canseco apparently suffers from the backlash many "prophets" experience after the public no longer needs their prophet-teering.

Although Canseco won't be burned-at-the-stake in the

public square—barring some radical swing in United States law—he appears doomed to live away from baseball and, most likely, from respectable public life for the rest of his days.

"The biggest mistake I made... I should not have written that book," Canseco said of *Juiced* during his special. "The more I think about it, the more wrong I was."

Sadly, "that book" will define Canseco more than anything he accomplished during his playing days.

Deeply regretting one's legacy is enough to render any man impotent.

By KIMBERLY STURGILL
The Shield staff

There may come a time when no one remembers the classics, so a little reminder can't hurt.

Night of the Living Dead, directed by George A. Romero, was originally produced in 1968 in black and white; he later directed a re-make of the film in full color in 1990.

Both films are set around the same general storyline: the world is over-run by a horde of walking dead people, which forces a group of individuals to take shelter in an old farmhouse.

In the classic black and white, the general zombie rules apply. They're slow, stupid and moan and groan.

They're afraid of fire and can only be killed by a bullet to the brain.

Generally, this makes for a good storyline and decent visual effects. Due to the age of the film, however, there are a lot of annoying little qualities to the movie that stand out to an audience.

For instance, the acting is so over-dramatic it could fit a stage better than a film, especially where it concerns some of the female characters.

A local theater production of the film, directed by USI student Clay Prindle, will be performed at Horrorfest 2008 (see article to left).

Other dramatic qualities of the movie concern the music. Typically, there is almost always background music to a film, to build suspense or make a scene more moving to the audience so they can connect to the story.

In this film however, there's a constant backdrop of music; not unusual for movies of the time, but definitely not something done too often in the modern day.

The visual effects are decent enough to be believable. Sure, the pieces of dying flesh tossed around here and there looks like and probably is made of rubber, but the general picture is still good.

There are some who say the 1990 version is better.

This may be due to the simple fact that there is color to the newer version of the movie, but that is only one of the few additional qualities of the remake.

The characters are obviously portrayed by different actors, but in the new movie, some of the characters themselves have changed as well.

The storyline is the same, but some of the scenes were altered, and the ending of the movie is entirely different than the first.

The personalities of some of the characters are entirely different as well; the dynamics change drastically.

For example, the character named Barbara in the 1968 version of the movie is a complete pansy, but in the 1990 version of the movie, she pretty much kicks ass.

Of course, the general effect of this movie is of higher quality, but to some the original is still better.

The zombies in the 1990 version are more life-like and more disgusting, but that's to be expected.

It's also interesting to note that in 2006, *Night of the Living Dead* was made into a 3D film—but with diverse results.

The first major issue is that a white man played one of the main characters—originally a black man in both the 1968 and 1990 version.

Whether it was intentional or not, it raised a lot of questions from the audience, at least by those who have seen the other two.

For first time viewers, it probably didn't mean much. Romero did not direct the 2006 version, but was replaced by Jeff Broadstreet—a, shall we say, not-very-renowned director.

According to Answers.com, by 1979, the 1968 version of *Night of the Living Dead* had grossed over \$12 million in profits, and inspired many future horror films, including the original *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*.

The same site also noted that the "sole heroic figure and only African-American had added resonance with the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X fresh in the minds of most Americans."

I'm not sure if audiences would even consider the race aspect today, though.

The 1968 film was the first ever horror movie to show full body nudity—from the back only—of a female. It was a zombie, of course, but hey—it was still a first.

Even the 1990 version had nudity in it—displaying the derrière of a male zombie within the first 20 minutes of the show.

As more and more zombie flicks hit the screens, the older movies are sometimes pushed onto the back burner of history.

Kerasotes Stadium 16 Movie Times

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High School Musical 3: S
R 2 1:47 1:40PM 4:40PM 7:10PM 9:50PM
Saw V
PG 13 3 1:52 2:00PM 4:50PM 7:15PM 10:05PM
Max Payne
R 4 2:17 [10:30AM] 1:30PM 4:20PM 7:20PM 10:10PM
Pride & Glory
PG13 5 1:49 1:50PM 4:15PM 6:45PM 10:00PM
Nights In Rodanthe
PG 6 2:14 1:00PM 3:50PM 6:30PM 9:20PM
Fireproof
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Max Payne
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Secret Life of Bees
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Eagle Eye
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Beverly Hills Chihuahua [11:20 AM] 2:00 PM 4:40 PM 7:15 PM 9:40 PM
Righteous Kill [11:45 AM] 2:40 PM 5:05 PM 8:05 PM 10:35 PM

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Tyson inspires USI student

By LINDSEY ZILIAK
Sports editor

As 13-year-old Troy Samocki sat in a Florida gym watching Mike Tyson train, the young boy became fascinated with boxing.

That was twelve years ago. It was 1996, and Mike Tyson was preparing for his infamous fight against Evander Holyfield.

Tyson had set up his training camp in a Florida town near Samocki's home. Samocki said the gym would sell tickets, so anyone could pay to watch the training sessions.

"You could pay, like \$20 and watch him train. I would go every day and watch."

After he watched all of the training sessions, Samocki had no money left. The gym's trainer felt so sorry for the 13-year-old boy that he let Samocki train at the gym for free for one

month. Samocki has been boxing ever since.

When Samocki was younger, he said he really wanted to wrestle. Because of insinuating circumstances, however, he was prevented from doing so.

Samocki split his time between his mom's house in Florida and his father's house in Valparaiso, Ind. He was never in either place long enough to join a school sport's team. He would always miss part of the season.

Samocki said boxing was a better fit for him.

"I could do that from anywhere," he said.

And so he began fighting. At first he said it was relatively safe. At 13 and 14, kids didn't hit that hard, he said.

But by the time he started training hard at 15 or 16, he would come home battered,

sometimes with two black eyes.

"My mom hated it," he said. "But it's a rough sport, you're going to get hurt."

Samocki, however, has never broken a bone. He has had black eyes, a bulged disc in his back and several sprained ankles.

It was a sprained ankle that kept Samocki from fighting in the Indiana Golden Gloves last year.

Samocki started school at USI in 2006. While in Evansville, he began fighting for the Evansville Boxing Club.

He fights mostly exhibitions, but has gone 12-0 in his sanctioned fights. He has had 9 knockouts and has never been knocked out himself.

In 2005, Samocki won the Indiana Golden Gloves after what he said was "a long, hard fight."

The fight went three rounds. Samocki managed to get an

eight-count in during round one. By the end of the fight, one judge had Samocki winning, another judge had his opponent winning and the third judge deliberated a long time before saying Samocki's opponent won.

Samocki, however, received a phone call the next day saying the judges had miscalculated and he had actually won.

It didn't come without a price, though.

"It was a rough fight. I had to have my nose cauterized afterwards because it was bleeding so bad," Samocki said.

Over the summer, Samocki took some time off fighting and instead focused on training other fighters at the Evansville Boxing Club.

He said it was a refreshing change. After years of being told what to do, he actually got to tell others what to do.

His training sessions modeled the training sessions he endured for years. Samocki said boxing is all about explosion or fast movement.

Training includes warm-up movements, shadow boxing, jump rope, three rounds on the heavy bag and three rounds on the speed bag.

Samocki said the heavy bag builds power and endurance while the speed bag helps time punches.

As Samocki stood at the speed bag last Thursday, he began hitting it with his eyes closed.

"It's all about the timing," he said.

In his mind, he said he was simply repeating a one, two, three count over and over.

He also has his boxers lift weights on occasion, which deviates from what most coaches do.

"Most coaches are against it. I'm not," Samocki said.

With his supervision, he has boxers perform various Olympic lifts including dead lifts, power cleans and snatches. Boxing is about more than power and strength, though.

"The best fighters are so smart. They mentally break down their opponents in the ring," Samocki said.

He compared it to a game of chess, where players mess with their opponent's mind.

He said this is where boxing differs from the recently popular sport of ultimate fighting.

"You don't have to outthink your opponent in UFC. I consider it human cockfighting," he said.

There is more technique involved in boxing. Because of this, Samocki said ultimate fighting will never have a dominant person like Mike Tyson.

Samocki attributed the waning popularity of boxing to Mike Tyson's fall.

"Mike Tyson in the 80s was bigger than Michael Jordan," he said. "His defense was top-

notch. His defense set up his offense."

"When Mike Tyson stopped, boxing stopped, too," he said.

Despite the sport's decrease in popularity, Samocki said he plans to make it to the pro circuit by this summer.

13

Age he started boxing

9

Number of Knockouts

0

Number of broken bones

1000

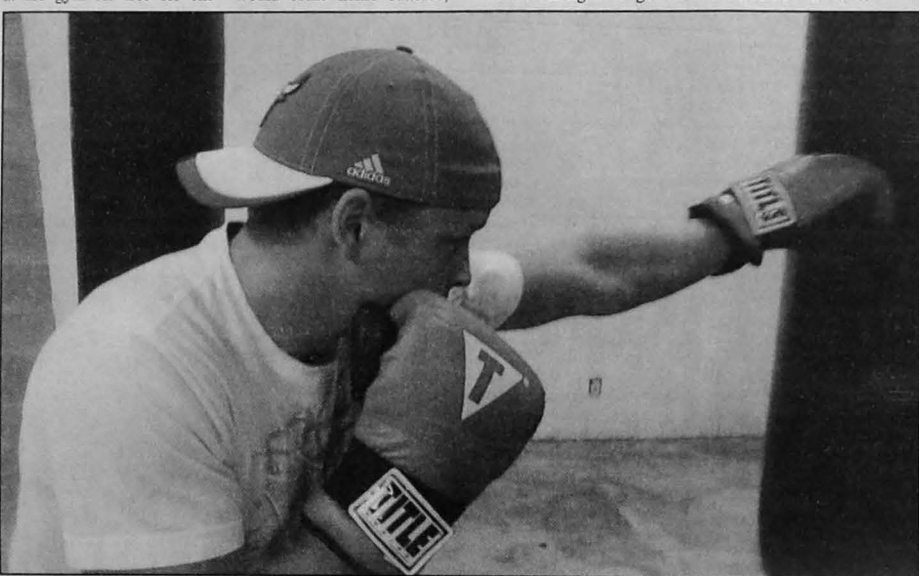
Number of calories burned in a one-hour training session

22

Age he won Indiana Golden Gloves

25

Hours spent training per week



Troy Samocki works on the heavy bag during a recent training session at the Evansville Boxing Club. Samocki has been boxing since he was 13 after seeing Mike Tyson train in Florida for his match against Evander Holyfield. Photo Courtesy of Troy Samocki

Correction: In the Oct. 16 story "Rugby team used to hard knocks," we published quotes by Roderick Sims and Zach Schiller in which they said, after their first goal, rugby team members run around naked. According to player Jeff Russell, this tradition no longer takes place, and was done away with several years ago.

The Rays' World Series Debut

By CODY FULFORD
The Shield staff

The owner of the Tampa Bay Rays, Stuart Sternberg, decided the 2008 season needed change. The Devil Rays had finished dead last in every season since their 1998 conception, except in 2004 when they finished fourth in the American League.

Mr. Sternberg decided a new change was in order. What better way to initiate transformation of a team than modifying their name? He changed the name of the team to the Tampa Bay Rays. Not a drastic change, but one that had obvious merit nevertheless. Anytime you or I have been to Florida it has usually been for one of several reasons: booze, bikinis or rays.

Sunshine rays that is. Florida is known as the Sunshine State after all. So, he decided to incorporate that adage of Florida into the team's name. Sternberg stated that the new name correlated with "a beacon that radiates throughout Tampa Bay and across the entire state of Florida" (MLB.com).

As I am sitting here writing this piece, the Rays just beat the Red Sox in game seven of the ALCS. By the time this edition comes out, game one of the 2008 World Series will have been played.

The Rays have a very tough competition ahead of

them. The Phillies have played solid this year as well. They averaged a .568 winning percentage and won the National League East Division.

They also have an open-air stadium, which could play in their favor. Although the Rays did play well at Fenway, which is outdoors, they are accustomed to playing inside at Tropicana Field. This will be a challenging World Series for both teams; completely different environments as well. When I think of October baseball, I think of cold beer and hot dogs at Fenway or obnoxious New Yorkers crying when the Yankees lose.

I do not think of pretentious fans in Tampa Bay rattling cow bells like they have been fans all season. Or lounging comfortably in the climate controlled Tropicana Field.

A friend of mine told me that the wealthy people in St. Petersburg sit comfortably in their yachts docked off the pier, and the game is played on a jumbotron.

That is not October baseball if you ask me. At least in Philly it will be cold, and fat old fans will be spilling beer on their Philly cheese steaks. The Phillies have been around since 1883, so they do have some lifelong fans out there.

Let's hope they can provide the fanfare needed to overcome the Rays this October.

Flag football draws large numbers at USI

By RACHEL TERLEP
Special to the Shield

Whistles blow and fans cheer amidst a crisp October night. "It's cold and wet," said Scott Wood, USI's Recreation, Fitness and Wellness (RFW) program coordinator. "It's flag football weather."

Nearly 1,000 students participate in one of the most popular and competitive intramurals at the university. Although Wood described the first week of play as "very hectic," he said the turnout was "unbelievable."

"I love being out here and watching these activities," he said. "Watching spectators cheer for their team is great to see. Hopefully the university is happy, too. We want to put out our best product whenever we do something, and this is one of our best."

Wood said he and his staff worked hard to prepare for and manage the intramural's 97 teams. After drawing up schedules for each team (a mostly random process), the RFW coordinated all five playing fields, referees, scorekeepers and parking (which is very limited).

"The student staff does an excellent job," Wood said. "When I'm down here directing traffic, I have no fear for what's going on [at the sign-in table or on the field]. I know I have good workers."

Junior Curt Beaman has a rare opportunity to experience both sides of the sport. He plays for the Su-Fi team along with refereeing up to five games a night. The 3-year, multi-intra-

mural participant said flag football is "by far" his favorite.

"Football has been my life since fourth grade," said Beaman, who is running back, wide receiver and cornerback for Su-Fi. "It's a lot of fun."

He has high hopes for his team, which went undefeated in league play last year and practices every other day. As a first-year referee, he has yet to experience any heckling crowds or unruly players.

Nursing student Kristie Craddock is the quarterback for the intramural powerhouse the Queen Bees, made up of teammates she refers to as "studs."

In 2007, the team won its league in softball, co-ed softball and volleyball, won second place in basketball, and won the Sportsmanship and Team Spirit awards at the end-of-the-year intramural banquet.

"We're just a bunch of athletic girls who get together," said Craddock, whose twin sister Brittany co-founded the team four years ago with Breana Laue.

"I just love playing," Craddock said. "It's just something fun to come out to every other night."

Wood said, besides the shortage of parking space, no major problems have sprung up yet. He faces his share of complaining about officiating, though.

"When someone comes to me [with a grievance about referees], I talk to the complainer and listen to his side," he said. "My usual response is 'Well, did you make every catch in your game?' The answer is usu-

ally 'no.'"

Wood said, in the past, officials "have done an excellent job" breaking up fights, which are inevitable with the level of competition and rivalries that come with the game. The "team

to beat" this year is Southern's Finest, a team that "enjoys competing," he said.

Overall, Wood is satisfied with the league, which has grown from 60 teams in 2002 to 97 teams in 2008.

Upcoming Games

Men and Women's Cross Country
Oct. 25 GLVC Tournament at Rolla Missouri

Men's Soccer
Oct. 24 at Wisconsin Parkside
Oct. 26 at Lewis
Oct. 29 vs. Harris-Stowe St.

Women's Soccer
Oct. 24 at Wisconsin Parkside
Oct. 26 at Lewis

Volleyball
Oct. 24 vs. Rockhurst
Oct. 25 vs. Drury

Rugby
Oct. 25 vs. the Indianapolis Impalas in Indianapolis.



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