

SUMMER 2001

VOL. 34, NO. 3

# USI MAGAZINE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA



# COMMENCEMENT 2001

## From the editor

# More courses online; Fitness gets a boost

**W**hile a record number of graduates set off in May with diplomas in hand and undergraduates left for summer jobs or other useful adventures, the University is getting ready for another year. On page 3 of this issue, you'll read about a special two-week institute that has prepared 11 of our professors to deliver courses online. As technology changes the way we teach and learn, these faculty members are developing courses that are collaborative, interactive, and designed to make education more available and centered on the learner.

Also in this issue, we feature the University's new Recreation and Fitness Center which opened during the spring semester. This \$4.7 million facility already has become a gathering place for students, faculty, and staff in pursuit of a healthy lifestyle. The three-story on-campus center replaces the off-campus fitness center that opened in 1997. Not only is the new location more convenient, it provides more space, more equipment, and more programming for a campus that is becoming increasingly residential. Students will find the center a great place to improve their fitness-level, take a study break, relieve stress, and bond with friends.

Although the Recreation and Fitness Center is already in full operation, a grand opening will be held in the fall.



Betty R. Vawter

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TEL. 812/464-1924  
[www.usi.edu/alumni](http://www.usi.edu/alumni)

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**Editor:**  
Betty R. Vawter  
**Art Director:**  
Michael D. Harbison  
**Contributing Editors:**  
Nancy Johnson, '83  
Suzanne Nicholson  
Ray Simmons  
**Photography:**  
Elizabeth Courtney  
LaVerne Jones  
Mark Brendel

Find USI on World  
Wide Web at  
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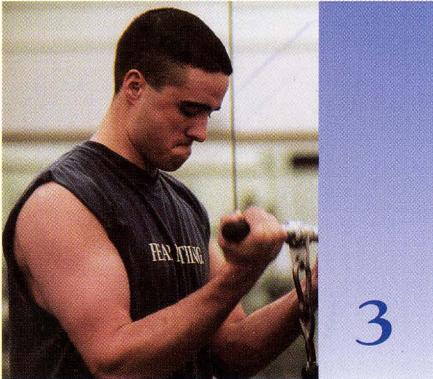
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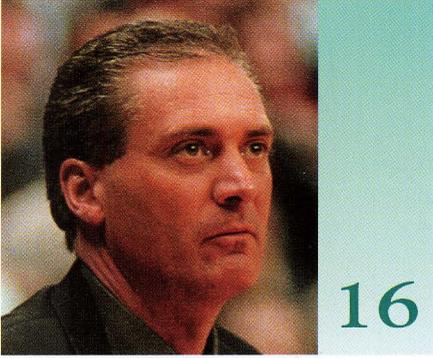
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### ON THE COVER

A record number of students, including the first in the Honors Program, graduated this year. See page 8.

NEW techniques

4

NEW technology

*Summer Institute boosts development of Internet courses*

Michelle Alvarez has had many a sleepless night lately. She lies awake thinking about the ways she can use today's cutting-edge technology to make a course delivered online exciting for her students.

Alvarez, assistant professor of social work, is one of 11 faculty members who participated in May in a two-week Summer Institute for Online Teaching and Learning on campus.

"I can't wait to design this course," Alvarez said as she was doing research in preparation for putting the graduate-level course Foundations of School Social Work online for the third summer session.

Most of the students in the course Alvarez will teach online are adult learners with full-time jobs. Some drive to campus from Illinois or from other Indiana counties after a day on the job to take the course at night. The Internet-delivered course will allow them to learn from their own home or office, wherever they have access to the appropriate technology.

As a hands-on learner herself, Alvarez said the online course would fit with her own style of learning. She plans activities that will involve the students interacting with the technology and with each other.

One component will be a series of virtual guest speakers. Students will ask a question of an expert in the field and receive a reply electronically. A school psychologist from Florida will be one of the experts available to the graduate students.

"Students will get a sense of national issues and perspectives in the field," Alvarez said.

Another element is an interactive CD-ROM. Dana Willett, media production manager for USI's Instructional Technology Services, suggested that students majoring in theatre could act out scenarios for the CD. Other activities will have the students working through a chat room or by e-mail in small group activities. Alvarez will compile a list of school social workers from around the country that students can interview electronically to expand their practical knowledge.

Dr. Karen H. Bonnell, director of instructional technology services for USI, said the purpose of the summer institute was twofold. First, the University wants to encourage faculty to think about ways they can integrate technology into their teaching and learning practices. Second, the addition of courses delivered online will give distance education students more options. Some of the faculty members who participated in the institute will put courses in the Core Curriculum online.

The number of students enrolling in distance education courses continues to increase each year. In 1996-97, total course enrollment for distance education courses was 338 students. The number expanded to 776 students in 1997-98, to 1,215 in 1998-99, and to 2,066 in 1999-2000. By the time the summer sessions are complete, 2000-01 enrollment in distance education will top 2,600.

Bonnell said that much of USI's early leadership in distance education courses was centered in the School of Nursing and Health Professions, which offers its baccalaureate programs in nursing and health services online.

The School of Liberal Arts has a number of courses online, including its associate-degree program in communications. The Bower-Suhrheinrich School of Education and Human Services, the Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology, and the School of Business also are developing distance education courses.

In addition to Alvarez, these are the faculty members who participated in the Summer Institute and the courses they will deliver online during 2001-02:

- Michael Aakhus, Ancient Art of Mexico
- Dr. Iain Crawford, Contemporary British Fiction
- Dr. Abbas Foroughi, Management Information Systems
- Dr. Julia Galbus, Autobiography
- Edie Hall McClellan, Lifespan Development
- Dr. Althea Rhodes, Rhetoric and Composition I
- Dr. Martha Raske, Social Work Research
- Dr. Michael Slavkin, Educational Psychology
- Lori Suter, Reading Power
- Dr. Carl Saxby, Marketing Strategies

The summer institute was supported by USI's Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, which administers the Lilly Retention Grant ■

# NEW Recreation and Fitness Center opens on campus

Almost anyone advising you how to buy a home will tell you that location is the prime consideration. And location is just one of the great things about the University's new home for recreation and fitness programs — a \$4.7 million Recreation and Fitness Center that opened on campus March 12.

The facility replaces the off-campus fitness center that began operation in 1997 at the University Village Shopping Center.

Rick Hudson, Student Government Association president, told the crowd of students, faculty, staff, and trustees at the opening that the new center is an important step in the transition to a more residential campus. The new facility is larger than the off-campus center and will offer more recreation and fitness programs to an increased number of participants.

The three-story, 46,000 square-foot center features a mirrored group exercise room, two wood-floor playing courts, a mirrored fitness area, a suspended track for walking and running, a billiards area, and locker and shower facilities. It is located south of the Physical Activities Center. Because of space constraints, activities at the off-campus facility were limited to weight training and small aerobic classes.

Glenna Bower '95, student fitness center coordinator, said, "The location is the big advantage, making it more convenient for students to go to the center whenever they want."

She said the center staff encourages the life-long pursuit of an active, healthy lifestyle.

Research published last year in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine indicates that students who get into the exercise habit before they leave college are more likely to continue the habit for life. Young adults who leave the college campus as sedentary individuals



Elizabeth Courtney and LaVerne Jones-USI

*Continued on page 4*

Continued from page 3

will be unlikely to adopt a physically active lifestyle after entering the workforce, according to the researchers.

The report advised colleges to remove the barriers to students being physically active. "One example of a barrier may be old, outdated facilities that aren't inviting to students, or not offering exercise opportunities at convenient times," the author said.

USI's off-campus facility served about 600 persons a day. As soon as the new center opened, it attracted about 750 individuals a day, and Bower expects daily use to increase to almost 900 persons. Students, faculty, and staff show a valid Eagle Access card upon entering the center.

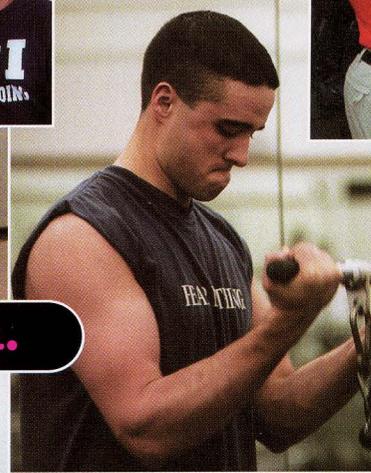
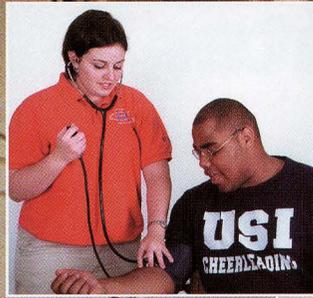
The new fitness center should serve as a recruiting tool and increase student retention. "This is something that other campuses have and we're keeping up with that trend," Bower said.

In addition to serving as a focal point for fitness and wellness programs, the center offers an environment that encourages socialization. Students can come to the facility and spend time informally with their friends. The Recreation and Fitness Center is near USI's residence halls.

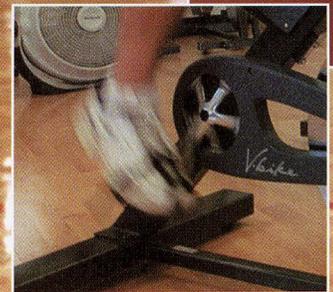
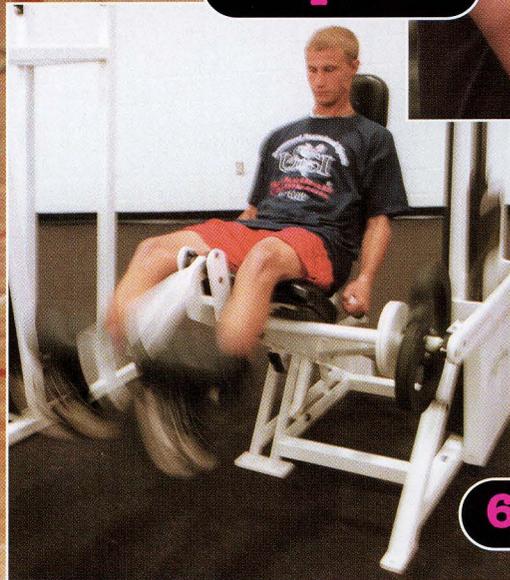
The center also provides leadership opportunities for students and a number of jobs for student workers.

Facility hours are from 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays, and from noon to 5 p.m. Sundays.

The opening celebrates the conclusion of Phase I of a three-phase fitness and recreation facilities expansion on campus. The new facility, which is being financed with student fees, was an initiative identified by student groups as a priority for the campus. Construction began in 1999 ■



9 p.m.



6:30 p.m.



# Fitness around the clock

From early morning until closing time, the new Recreation and Fitness Center is alive with muscles moving and calories burning. To some, the pursuit of a healthy lifestyle is a solitary workout on the equipment. To others, getting fit means moving to the music, keeping up and keeping in rhythm with the leader of group exercise. Take a look at what happens around the clock in this new campus facility.



**6 a.m.**

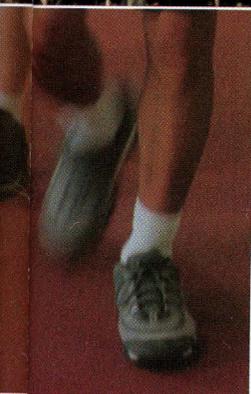


**6 a.m.**

Early risers are eager to fit in their fitness routine before class or work. They show their Eagle Access cards at the front desk before heading to the weight machines to build muscle in a morning workout.

**noon**

Lunch can wait. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, spinning is the activity of choice in the exercise room. Upstairs, runners and walkers on the suspended track go round and round.



**noon**

**3:30 p.m.**

The afternoon rush begins. The group exercise room fills up and pick-up games develop on the basketball courts.

**6:30 p.m.**

Try cardio kick boxing or step-n-jab. Special classes offer opportunities to improve fitness, learn new skills, and make friends. Beginners proceed tentatively while participants at the intermediate and advanced levels move confidently through their paces.

**9 p.m.**

The evening hours provide one more opportunity for physical activity. Some lift weights while others run laps before the Recreation and Fitness Center closes for the night.



**3:30 p.m.**



# Complementing Academics

USI students put book knowledge to the real-world test with internships



Mark Brendel/USI

Internships can give University of Southern Indiana students the edge they need to compete in today's job market.

"These opportunities are important because so many people are competing for similar jobs," said Pamela S. Doerter, coordinator of internship and cooperative education in USI's Office of Career Services and Placement. "The experience from an internship can put a student over the top in comparison with a student equally qualified but without the experience."

During the 2000-01 academic year, 265 USI students completed internships and co-ops. "It's a good collaboration among faculty, students, employers, and Career Services," Doerter said.

Generally, an internship involves one semester and 150 hours of work. A co-op may be a two- or three-semester commitment with the student working part-time while going to classes or alternating a full-time semester of work with a full-time semester of school.

Work experiences offer many benefits. They translate classroom theory into application. They make subsequent academic course work more relevant by providing a practical framework. They enhance the resume and provide networking opportunities. They sometimes provide a salary. Often, they lead to a permanent position.

Students in any major can benefit from a work experience related to their study. Recent years have seen rapid growth for USI students in opportunities in the psychology and health services fields. An internship for stu-

dents interested in the judiciary system is under development.

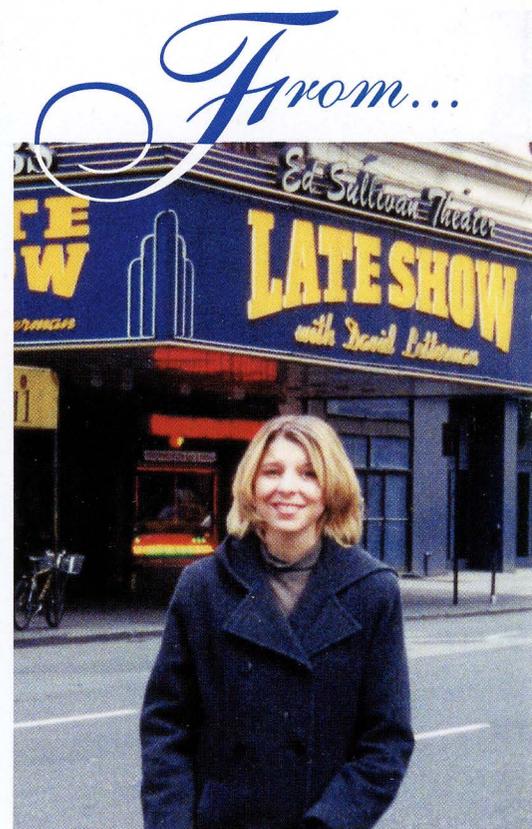
While many students complete internships in the Tri-State area, some venture farther geographically. USI serves as a regional recruitment site for Disney, bringing students from 10 other universities on campus twice a year to interview. About 20 USI students accept Disney opportunities each semester.

Kara Hemenway, a marketing major, worked spring semester in marketing and human resources for the Grand Teton Lodge Company at Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming. Amanda Glass, a radio-television major, spent a semester in the talent department at "The Late Show with David Letterman" in New York City. Five students completed internships in the spring at the Indiana statehouse. Jean Cunningham, a political science and public relations major, has worked in the office of the Evansville mayor. In spring 2000, Michael Hartmann, a German major,

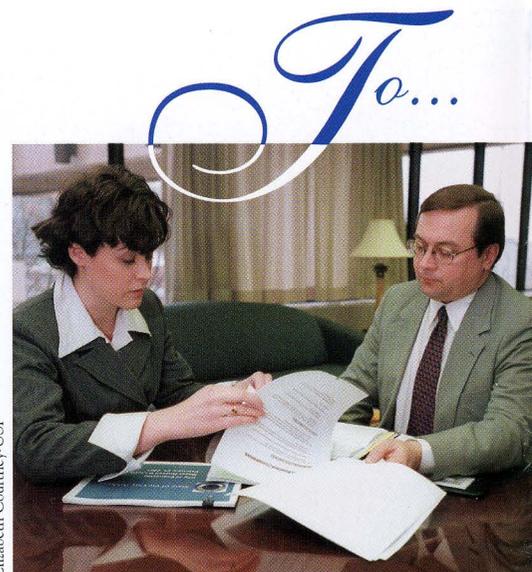
translated documents for a business in Koln, Germany.

Some students find their own internships or cooperative education experiences through research or networking. Others check the Career Services Web site and hotline or talk with the Career Services staff about appropriate experiences. Doerter works with the employers and the students to ensure that the opportunity offers significant experience related to the student's academic work and is appropriate for college credit ■

Students in any major can benefit from a work experience related to their study.



Mandy Glass worked at the Ed Sullivan Theatre in New York City during her internship with "The Late Show with David Letterman."



Jean Cunningham had an inside look at city government working with Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr. in Evansville.

Elizabeth Courtney/USI

## ...“The Late Show” in New York City

Mandy Glass caught glimpses of stars such as Anthony Hopkins and Tom Selleck in her internship spring semester in New York City. Glass was in the Big Apple as an intern for “The Late Show with David Letterman.”

A junior majoring in radio-television, Glass is the first student from the University of Southern Indiana to complete a work experience on the popular late-night show hosted by the Indiana native. “Somebody mentioned I should intern in New York because I’ve always wanted to live there. I found out about the Letterman internship on the Internet, sent in my resume, and they called me for an interview,” she said.

During the interview process, Glass learned about the work of several departments—including writing, music, research, and production—before receiving an assignment in the talent department. One of the daily duties of this department is to tape and review the morning shows on the three major

networks as well as two programs with breaking entertainment news, “Access Hollywood” and “Entertainment Tonight.” The talent department puts together a report on the celebrities interviewed and the topics of interest that day.

“We look at eight or nine hours of video and make a report in an hour to an hour-and-a-half,” Glass said. The report has to be ready for the 11 a.m. production meeting.

The Letterman show usually has two guests each evening. In addition to Hopkins and Selleck, recent celebrities booked by the talent department have included Julia Roberts, Tim Robbins, Keanu Reeves, and Dolly Parton. Among the musical guests while Glass was an intern were Matchbox Twenty and the Dave Matthews Band.

“The interns each have a day once a week to go backstage and show the guests hospitality. We get them things they need while they’re getting ready—not that they really need it, but it’s

a plus we get from the internship,” Glass said.

She and the 16 other interns from around the country also took turns sitting in on the production meeting and control room activities. At Letterman’s insistence, these two opportunities were added to the internship schedule for the spring semester to give the students more exposure to the varied responsibilities of putting on the show.

Glass said the internship experience taught her that getting ready for a daily taping is more stressful than she anticipated. “I’ll never regret going, but it was hectic,” she said. After a semester of learning about the entertainment side of the industry, she thinks that television news and radio are also avenues she should explore.

And now that she’s had a semester in New York, does she still want to live there? No, she missed her family. Glass is from Charlestown, Indiana ■

## ...the mayor’s office in Evansville

Jean Cunningham, a senior with a double major in political science and public relations, found an internship that combines both fields. She is getting practical experience in the office of Evansville Mayor Russell Lloyd Jr.

“Just being here is the political science part of it,” Cunningham said. “My political science courses gave me a tremendous amount of background.”

“The speechwriting and work I do on the Internet use my skills in public relations and communications.”

Her duties include clipping news articles that pertain to city business and answering the mayor’s help line. She has fielded calls from the media, referred complaints to the appropriate city department, and answered questions for people who may be uncertain what level of government handles a particular issue.

Cunningham also has been

involved in the development of a new service provided by the city. The Web site, [www.netgov.com](http://www.netgov.com), was launched April 1. It provides links to city departments, allowing users to look up information they need, contact city officials, and pay some city fees online. Cunningham is the site administrator.

She also helped put together a PowerPoint presentation for the mayor’s State of the City address to a joint meeting of Rotary and Kiwanis clubs and has handled other duties related to speechwriting.

The USI student began working in the mayor’s office in November and plans to continue through part of the summer. Cunningham’s pursuit of an internship began near the end of her sophomore year when she talked with officials in USI’s Office of Career Services about the possibility of getting some practical experience in a law office.

When the opportunity came up in the mayor’s office, she knew the experience would provide well-rounded exposure to the workings of government.

“I didn’t realize how closely I’d be working with the mayor and with the chief of staff. I’m surprised at my access,” Cunningham said. Joan David is Lloyd’s chief of staff.

The internship also has helped Cunningham define her career goals. “Originally, I thought I would practice environmental or health law,” she said. “Now I’m wondering if I should do something with government.”

Cunningham hopes to enter law school in the fall. And she’s thinking that she just might get involved in politics at some point later on in life.

“The internship has really helped pull all my education together,” she said ■

# USI presents diplomas to record number

*Jim Sanders, Helen Thomas, James Vinson awarded honorary doctorates*

A record number of graduates completed their studies at the University of Southern Indiana in 2001. The University awarded 1,390 degrees during the Commencement ceremony May 6 at Roberts Stadium.

Honorary doctoral degrees were bestowed upon James A. Sanders, Evansville educator and USI Foundation board member; Helen Thomas, an American journalist known for her coverage of U.S. presidents; and Dr. James S. Vinson, president of the University of Evansville.

Thomas was the Commencement speaker. Her great-nephew Patrick Mabarak is a sophomore at USI.



Sanders

Jim Sanders taught in the Henderson, Kentucky, public schools from 1961-1963; was a teacher and coordinator for the Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation from 1963-1985; and served as the district state supervisor for marketing instruction from 1965-1972. In 1985, he became the University's first director of Historic New Harmony. After 10 years in that post, he was named director of Corporate Relations at USI. Sanders also helped establish

the University's Art Collection Committee and obtained funding to support the teaching collection.

An American antiques expert, he lectures and teaches throughout the nation and abroad.

Sanders was recognized for a major planned gift to the USI Foundation which will endow Presidential Scholarships, a distinguished professorship, and the University's art collection fund.



Thomas

Raised in Detroit, Helen Thomas wanted a career in journalism from her earliest years as a high school newspaper reporter. From her job as a copy aide at the *Washington Daily News*, she moved to a career as a radio

news writer for United Press International (UPI).

She was assigned to the White House press corps in 1961 and covered every administration since President Kennedy's. Thomas helped break down barriers against women in the national media and became the first female president of the White House Correspondents Association. She resigned in 2000 after a 57-year career with UPI.

As the senior wire-service correspondent at the White House, Thomas was known to television viewers as the reporter whose dignified "Thank You, Mr. President" signaled the end of press conferences.



Vinson

Retiring as UE president this summer after 14 years of service, James Vinson provided leadership for improvements in curriculum, departmental organization, and student recruitment and retention.

During his tenure, the UE campus has seen renovation and new construction.

Vinson was recognized for his leadership in supporting the partnership between private and public higher education institutions in southwestern Indiana.

The USI Class of 2001 included nine members who graduated *summa cum laude*. They are Ashli B. Blankenship, Mary V. Bruins, Kacie L. Farmer, Sarah L. Grabbe, Kevin V. Hasenour, Kara J. Kavanaugh, Brianne E. Miller, Erin E. Robling, and Summer R. Weber.

The class also included the first students graduating as University Honors Scholars ■ (See story below.)

## Honors Program attracts students who want academic challenge



**First seven complete degrees with distinction**

Though his great-aunt Helen Thomas had a front-row seat at White House press conferences, Patrick Mabarak says she is just one of the family when his relatives get together for reunions in Michigan.

Mabarak, a University of Southern Indiana sophomore, is one of 230 students in the University's Honors Program. He was one of six Honors Program students who went in the fall to Washington, D.C., where his great aunt, known as the dean of the White House press corps, spent much of her career.

The USI students participated in a forum on the topic of "Governing America" as part of the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference.

Students and faculty from other honors programs across the country also attended. The USI students were accompanied on the three-day trip by Dr. Phyllis S. Toy, associate professor of English and director of the University Honors Council, and Dr. Dane M. Partridge, associate professor of management.

The Honors Program is completing its third year. Seven students who entered the programs as sophomores or juniors graduated in 2001 as the first with the University Honors Scholars distinction

## Aimee Luebben named Distinguished Professor

Dr. Aimee J. Luebben, associate professor of occupational therapy, was named the Integra Bank 2001 Distinguished Professor. The award was presented May 6 at Commencement.

Luebben joined USI in 1992 as the first director of the occupational therapy program. Occupational therapy programs are now available at the associate, baccalaureate, and master's levels.

She is a member of the USI Institutional Review Board, the USI Disabled Student Advisory Committee, the Epi-Hab/USI Center for Disability Studies Advisory Committee, and serves as advisor to the Student Occupational Therapy Association.

Active in community and professional organizations, she is a member of the HealthSouth Tri-State Regional Rehabilitation Hospital Advisory Board, Indiana Economic Development Council work groups, and Evansville-Vanderburgh School Corporation committees.

Luebben is secretary of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). In 1996, she was named a fellow of the AOTA, the highest distinction in the profession.



Luebben

Her scholarship is evidenced in 125 articles published in papers, book chapters, refereed abstracts, and editorials. She makes national and international professional presentations.

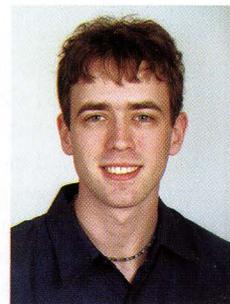
She earned a B.A. from Illinois State University, B.S. and M.S. degrees from Washington University, and an Ed.D. from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

The Distinguished Professor Award is made possible by a generous gift from Integra Bank. As Distinguished Professor, Luebben will receive a grant from Integra Bank, select a student to receive a scholarship in her name, and deliver the Distinguished Professor lecture during the next academic year ■

## Eric Norton awarded President's Medal

Eric Norton of Bloomington, Indiana, is this year's recipient of the President's Medal, the highest honor bestowed on a graduating senior at the University of Southern Indiana.

Norton graduated *magna cum laude* with a major in English. He is a member of



Norton

Sigma Tau Delta English honorary society, Golden Key national honor society, and Alpha Chi national honor society. For the past year he has been a member-at-large of the Student Honors Council.

Norton has participated in many University committees and co-curricular programs. He has been managing editor of *Aerie* student literary magazine and has acted in plays produced by the theatre department.

A Habitat for Humanity volunteer, he also served as vice president of the USI Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. During summer 1998, he was a staff member in the Appalachia Service Project, organizing and overseeing the work of 800 volunteers who provided emergency home repair assistance to the poor near Brenton, West Virginia.

Norton plans to work for Teach for America, a program in which recent college graduates commit two years to teach in urban and rural public schools. He has requested an assignment in inner-city Chicago. The program encourages the nation's most talented graduating seniors to expand educational opportunity to the nation's most disadvantaged students.

Other finalists for the President's Medal were Jill Bertke, Fredericksburg, Virginia; Ryan Helzerman, Newburgh, Indiana; Melissa Lindley, Orleans, Indiana; Kimberly Schwindel, Mt. Vernon, Indiana; and Kelly Sergesketter, Evansville ■

on their diplomas. They are Cori Smith, Rachael Frasier, Eric Norton, Mark Workman, Kimberly Loudon, Kristina Groves, and Manda Clevenger.

Mark A. Rusk, senior admission counselor, said the Honors Program is an important tool in recruiting top students to the University.

"We are tracking a higher quality student each year," he said, "and one of the things these students seem to desire is the knowledge that they will be challenged."

Acceptance of students into the Honors Program is based on standardized test scores, class rank, high school grade-point average, and involvement in extracurricular activities. To receive an honors diploma, students must finish their undergraduate work with a cumulative 3.25 grade-point average or above and complete a minimum of 21 hours of Honors credit — including a three-hour Honors seminar and a three-hour senior-level research project or performance ■

# Annual Fund tops goal

Record \$272,248 raised in 2000-01

USI Foundation board members, volunteers, and staff set a record-breaking Annual Fund goal of \$255,000—a nine percent increase—and then topped the goal. Gifts, pledges, and matching gifts in process totaled \$272,248 by May 30.

Foundation chair John Dunn praised the efforts of the three separate campaigns, each of which had its own goals and strategies. Friends Campaign chair Tom Topper announced his team had \$151,996 in May, heading for its goal of \$153,000. The Corporate Campaign, chaired by Lucy Himstedt, topped its \$51,000 goal with \$54,590 in May. Alumna Nancy Sieben '93 headed the Alumni Campaign which topped its \$51,000 goal by December 31, coming in at \$65,662 in May.

The 11-month total exceeds last year's total efforts by over \$35,000 ■

## Boards pay tribute to Joe O'Daniel

The late Joseph E. O'Daniel, founding member and first chair of the USI Foundation, was honored by three key University boards at the USI Foundation board of directors' annual meeting on May 17. O'Daniel died in January at age 88.

Memorial tributes by both USI President H. Ray Hoops and President Emeritus David L. Rice focused on O'Daniel's leadership and untiring work in helping establish the University of Southern Indiana. John M. Dunn, chair of the USI Foundation, and Bruce Baker, vice chair of the USI Board of Trustees, announced that two oak trees have been planted in the heart of campus to commemorate O'Daniel's leadership strength during the University's formative years.

In addition, Chris Melton, president of Southern Indiana Higher Education, reported that the SIHE board had directed him to transfer a memorial gift of \$15,000 to the O'Daniel Leadership Academy, boosting the fund's endowment to more than \$157,000. O'Daniel had established the academy as a gift from him and his wife Marie to USI students during *Campaign USI*. Mrs. O'Daniel died in December.

The O'Daniels' five children, Pat O'Daniel, Mary Jane Miles, Marilyn Engelbrecht, and Dan O'Daniel, all of the Evansville area, and Roger O'Daniel, of Minnesota, were invited to the meeting. Pat O'Daniel is a Foundation board member ■

## Planned giving society hears about University's future

USI President H. Ray Hoops spoke about the University's future directions when members of Reflections gathered June 21 for their third annual luncheon in Carter Hall.

Reflections members are donors who make planned gifts to benefit the University of Southern Indiana. Membership, now totaling 219, includes those with plans in place

as well as those whose deferred gifts have been realized since the University's founding.

New members during 2000-01 include the late Leo A. Adler, Edward and Holley Brundick, Emma Gorby, Grace Hart, Wanda Hibbitts, Diane Leitch, Kenneth and Deborah Nachtnabel, Robert Orr, Mildred Voelkel, and Henrietta Zurstadt ■

## Recent Gifts

The USI Foundation recently received the following generous gifts and bequests:

- **The American Association of University Women Evansville Chapter Scholarship** is the gift of the local AAUW Chapter. The \$18,000 endowment will fund a renewable scholarship for female students who graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class and whose majors fall within the Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology. The first scholarship will be awarded in 2002-03.

- **Dr. Edward and Holley Brundick** are the donors of a charitable remainder unitrust of which more than \$250,000 is earmarked for the University of Southern Indiana. Dr. Brundick received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from USI in 1999 in recognition of his 25 years as the team physician for USI Athletics. The Brundicks are All-American Eagles, \$1,000-level members of the Varsity Club.

- **Ray and Mary Pelle Goebel's** most recent charitable gift annuity of more than \$45,000 brings their total planned gifts to \$125,000. The Goebels have decided these gifts will endow a Presidential Scholarship, a full four-year scholarship for qualified valedictorians and salutatorians from throughout the state of Indiana.

- **Kenneth McCutchan**, Evansville historian and collector of paintings by well-known Indiana artists, is planning for USI to use his recent \$500,000 charitable gift annuity to meet the University's most pressing needs. McCutchan, who received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from USI in 1996, also has given the University a major portion of his Indiana art collection.

● **Joe and Marie O'Daniel's** deferred gift of life insurance is providing funds to endow the Presidential Scholarship they planned during their lifetimes. O'Daniel, one of USI's most ardent supporters and leaders, who died in January, and Mrs. O'Daniel, who died in December 2000, also provided the leadership gift establishing the O'Daniel Leadership Academy during *Campaign USI*. Their scholarship will make its first award in 2002-03.

● **Stephen and Palmira Pace** of New York City are committing \$50,000 in two charitable gift annuities to underwrite an art scholarship at USI. Pace, an Evansville native, is a successful artist and former professor of art at American University. He has contributed several of his abstract paintings to USI's teaching art collection.

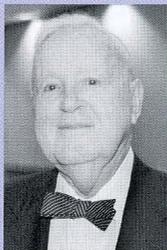
● **Dr. Olen and Inez Pumphrey** of Fort Branch, Indiana are the donors of 12 annual scholarships through their charitable foundation. The Pumphrey Foundation Scholars are deserving students who meet the minimum high school 2.75 grade-point average and demonstrate commitment to community and student activities. These \$1,000 annual scholarships are renewable for up to four years.

● **Jim Sanders**, USI Foundation board member, is the donor of a charitable remainder unitrust to underwrite Presidential Scholarships, a distinguished professorship, and the University's teaching art collection. Sanders, who retired in 2000 as corporate relations director for the USI Foundation, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws at the 2001 Commencement.

● **Henrietta Zurstadt's** unrestricted bequest of \$10,000 will be used to establish the Fritz and Henrietta Zurstadt Scholarship. Her husband Fritz who died in 1996, left a \$5,000 bequest that was used to help underwrite the USI Foundation's permanent recognition of Reflections members, donors who plan and make deferred gifts to benefit USI ■

## USI Foundation elects new officers, directors

### Torrington, Baker, Ruston honored



Torrington



Baker



Ruston

Evansville surgeon Tom Topper, who led the successful USI Annual Fund Friends Campaign, has been elected to serve as the USI Foundation's vice chair for development.

Officers elected to serve with him are Mark Neidig '76, senior vice president of operations for Old National Bank Service Division, as vice chair for planning, and Robert Woosley II '92, certified financial planner at Umbach Financial Group, as treasurer. Their two-year terms are from July 2001 to June 2003.

Foundation chair John Dunn, chair-elect Carolyn Georgette, and secretary Ron Romain '73 will continue in office through June 2002. Donna Mesker '86, 2001-02 Alumni Association president, will serve as the vice chair for alumni affairs during her term in office.

The USI Foundation Board of Directors has given special recognition to three individuals. Paul Torrington, who has made substantial gifts to the Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology for science laboratories and scholarships, was named a director emeritus. Carol Baker, a longtime

supporter of the University who has served in a variety of volunteer capacities, and Henry Ruston, USI booster and donor, were elected life directors.

New directors elected at the Foundation's annual meeting in May are Jim Brown, senior vice president and general manager at Casino Aztar Indiana; John Daniel, president/CEO, Fifth Third Bank; Lois Duncan, human resources benefits administrator at Whirlpool Corporation; Frank McDonald II '73, president, Integra Bank; Susan Parsons, secretary/treasurer, Koch Enterprises; John Stuff Staser, CEO, Old National Trust Company; and Robert Woosley II '92.

Annual appointments by USI President H. Ray Hoops to the Foundation board include Dr. Tom Pickering, dean, Bower-Suhrheinrich School of Education and Human Services, representing the deans; and Dr. Dan Wade, director of accounting programs for the School of Business, representing the faculty. David Herrenbruck '76, president elect of the USI Alumni Association, also will join the board for a three-year term ■

# Construction to begin on Science/Education building

*Tight state budget provides positive aspects along with some challenges*



*The Science/Education Classroom Building will be located west of the existing Science Center.*

The Indiana General Assembly has appropriated funding for phase two of the much-needed Science/Education Classroom Building at the University of Southern Indiana.

In April, the legislature approved \$10.5 million in bonding authority as part of USI's budget appropriation for the 2001-03 biennium. The 1999 General Assembly provided \$12.6 million for the first phase of the project. At that time, University officials decided to wait until funding was complete to begin construction.

Plans call for bids to be awarded in July and for construction of the \$23.1 million center to begin in August. Richard Schmidt, vice president for Business Affairs, said the project is expected to take about 24 months. Assuming no delays, the building will be ready in July 2003.

Also in the capital budget appropriation, the legislature provided \$1.6 million in architecture and engineering support for expansion of the Rice Library. The University had requested \$23.2 million in bonding authorization to provide additional library space, general-purpose classrooms, and other programming and administrative space.

USI President Ray Hoops said that while the 2001-03 funding has some positive aspects for the University, most significantly the go-ahead for the Science/Education Classroom Building, the appropriation falls short of the University's request. In some areas, the appropriation provides only small inflationary increases; in other areas, funding is reduced. Nevertheless, given the state's tight financial situation and the amount of funds available for higher education, he said the University has a budget it can "work with."

Hoops and other University officials were in Indianapolis to monitor the legislature's deliberations and to present the University's case.

In addition to the funding for the new classroom building and the library, the budget offers the following provisions:

- Includes enrollment change funding to address historical and future enrollment growth. USI's share is nearly \$2 million per year.

- Includes very small inflationary increases for salaries/benefits, supplies and expenses; provides no increase in institutional student aid.

- Provides about 70 percent of the

special technology funds that USI received last year. In round numbers, USI will drop from \$1 million per year to \$700,000 per year.

- Provides 75 percent of the general repair and renovation funds that were received last year. In round numbers, USI's \$580,000 per year drops to \$435,000 per year.

- Provides a slight drop in support for the *Young Abe Lincoln* production at Lincoln Amphitheatre and for Historic New Harmony.

- Addresses the state's cash-flow problems by slowing down the distribution of funds to the universities. In each year of the biennium, one of the 12 regularly scheduled monthly payments will be deferred to the following year.

- Increases USI's operating appropriation (not counting repair and renovation funds, technology funds, debt service appropriation, *Young Abe Lincoln*, or Historic New Harmony) from \$28.5 million in 2000-01, to \$30.9 million in 2001-02, to \$31.4 million in 2002-03.

Because of the below-average increases in state funding, Hoops said that most state universities will find it necessary to increase tuition and fees at higher rates than in recent years in order to address inflationary pressure.

Cynthia S. Brinker, USI associate vice president for business administration, said that another important piece of legislation passed by the General Assembly sets forth methods for establishing charter schools in the state. A charter school controls its own budgets, can design its own curricula, and can be exempt from some state regulations. The legislation identifies three entities that can sponsor charter schools: the governing body of a school corporation, the mayor of Indianapolis, and four-year state universities. Under this law, USI would be eligible to sponsor a charter school ■

# Lead gift commitments needed to expand PAC

## Study examines support for instructional space, new Basketball Arena

The USI Foundation has funded a study by Cargill Associates, fund-raising consultants, to determine support for expansion of the Physical Activities Center.

Questionnaires were mailed to more than 5,700 friends, alumni, and employees. In addition, 46 people were interviewed personally. Cargill found that 87 percent of all respondents said they would support a campaign to raise the necessary private funds for the expansion and 65 percent thought a campaign goal of \$6-8 million was attainable. However, Cargill reported

that no major leadership gifts, necessary to attain such a large goal, were identified. Cargill has advised the USI Foundation to work to secure lead gift commitments of \$4-5 million and then undertake a broader campaign to raise the additional amount needed.

Proposed improvements include improved classrooms, faculty offices, support areas, and new chairback seating for 8,000. The estimated cost for the PAC expansion is \$12-16 million. Since the State of Indiana provides funding only for space needed for educational programs, the University would need gifts and multi-year commitments for \$6-8 million to pay for improvements in the playing arena. The PAC opened in 1980 and since then, USI's enrollment has tripled ■

## O'Bannon Hall to open in fall

A new residence hall to open in the fall will be named O'Bannon Hall for Governor Frank O'Bannon, a native of Corydon in southern Indiana. The naming continues the USI tradition of naming residence facilities for Indiana governors.

O'Bannon Hall is the third suite-style residence hall on campus. Together with student apartments, the University of Southern Indiana will provide housing for more than 2,900 students with the opening of the new facility.

The access road to O'Bannon Hall will be called Rochelle Lane, honoring the late Charles Rochelle, an African-American educator who was awarded an honorary USI degree in 1972 ■



Mark Brendel, USI

O'Bannon Hall is the third residence hall to open since 1999.



### Twelfth Night

July 6-22



### Sleuth

July 27-August 12

Murphy Auditorium  
419 Tavern Street  
New Harmony, IN 47631

812/682-3115 or toll free  
877/NHT-SHOW (648-7469)

## Lincoln Amphitheatre

through August 11



### Young Abe Lincoln



Earlier curtain time - 7:30 p.m. CDT

800/264-4ABE

Lincoln State Park • Lincoln City, Indiana

## Kevin Celuch to fill Blair Chair

*First endowed faculty post is in business science*

Dr. Kevin Celuch, a professor in the College of Business at Illinois State University, has been named to the first academic endowed chair at the University of Southern Indiana.

He will join the USI School of Business faculty in the fall as he fills the Blair Chair of Business Science. The new faculty position was initiated by Meg Blair, president of rsc THE QUALITY MEASUREMENT COMPANY, an Evansville-based market research company. She established the endowed chair during *Campaign USI* in recognition of the value of nurturing the business science field.

The new USI faculty member will teach and conduct applied research to benefit local business with national and international objectives.

Dr. Philip Fisher, dean of the USI School of Business, said, "We searched for someone with a record of accomplishment and identified Dr. Celuch as the top candidate who could bring leadership to a wide range of challenges within the business sciences arena."

In his first semester at USI, Celuch is scheduled to teach courses in promotional strategy and marketing research. He also may teach the graduate course in marketing management and is interested in instructing a new course in e-business marketing called interactive marketing.

Celuch was honored recently at Illinois State with the Outstanding Researcher Award in the College of Business. He also was named recently to the research staff of the Carl Gunnard Johnson Center at Worcester Polytechnic Institute for his contribution to the research field.

He said, "Research is important to me! I view the upcoming collaborative work with USI's colleagues and students as an important facet of professional growth in the collegial environment."

Celuch earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from State University of New York; a master's degree in clinical/community psychology from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York; and a Ph.D. in marketing with minors

in research methodology, and organizational behavior from Syracuse University in 1988, after which, he joined the faculty at Illinois State University.

Celuch has written a number of articles appearing in business science publications, including *Psychology & Marketing*, *Journal of Consumer Satisfaction/ Dissatisfaction and Complaining Behavior*, *Advancing the Consumer Interest*, and *Journal of Applied Social Psychology*. He also has works in progress with the *Journal of Business and Psychology* and the *Journal of Business Research*.

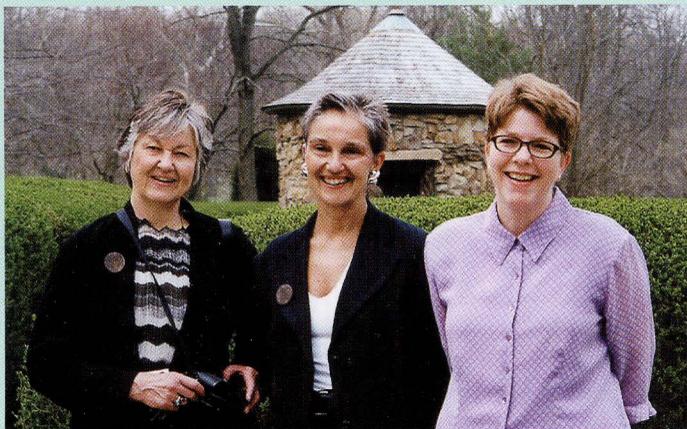
In response to the appointment, Blair said, "I have every confidence that Dr. Celuch will work to redefine market research. He knows that in the information and technology age, business research organizations will continue to be bombarded with data from multiple sources.

"We will learn to synthesize, analyze and insightfully relate this information to business decisions and performance – at lightning speed. Those of us in the business sciences arena will direct the transformation and transfer of this information to knowledge that leads to improved performance and stakeholder value" ■

## Harmonist Labyrinth Temple restored

The Harmonist Labyrinth Temple in New Harmony, Indiana, was rededicated in April following an extensive restoration.

The project included a new roof, repairs to and replacement of plaster, historic paint analysis, restoration of decorative paint finishes, a new door, new windows, and interpretive signage.



The restoration was made possible by the family of Mrs. Edmund Burke (Bertha Crosley) Ball, a member of the first New Harmony Memorial Commission, which supported the construction of the Labyrinth and its Temple between 1939-41. Mrs. Ball provided funding for the purchase of some of the land for the Labyrinth project as well as for the construction of the temple itself.

Though the 1941 Labyrinth is not in the exact location of the original Harmonist Labyrinth, it has been found to be historic as an interpretation of the Labyrinth Temple for the time during which it was built. The restoration focused on the 1941 appearance of the Temple.

Historic New Harmony is a unified program of the University of Southern Indiana and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites ■

Connie A. Weinzapfel, right, director of Historic New Harmony, thanked members of the Ball family for their continuing support. Barbara Goodbody, left, and Ann Stack are granddaughters of Bertha Crosley Ball, who was instrumental in construction of the Labyrinth more than 60 years ago.

## Interns at Indiana Statehouse



John Newlin, center, an accounting major, was one of five University of Southern Indiana students, who completed internships with the Indiana General Assembly during the spring semester. The students met and worked with elected officials and staff members, including State Senator Greg Server of Evansville and Gretchen Gutman, fiscal and policy analyst for the Senate majority. (To learn more about internships, see story page 6.)

## SGA President Rick Hudson receives trustees' merit award

Rick Hudson of Patoka, Indiana, is the 2001 recipient of the Trustees' Distinguished Merit Award. The \$1,000 award is the highest recognition given to a student during Honors Week, a spring event that celebrates the intellectual and leadership achievements of USI students.

Hudson is a mathematics major who plans to teach. He is president of the Student Government Association and a member of the Student Education Association, Alpha Chi National Honor Society, Sigma Zeta Science & Math Honorary Society, and Golden Key National Honor Society. He is a member of the Student Alumni Association and assists with orientation of freshmen as an AMIGO (Ask me. I give orientation). He holds membership in the Mathematical Association of America, the Indiana State Teachers Association, and the National Education Association.

A consistent Dean's List honor student, Hudson serves on a number



Hudson

of University committees and is a Bible school volunteer, special musician, and choir member in the Patoka United Methodist Church. He has volunteered his time for Race for the Cure, USI Phone-a-thon, and USI Activities Programming Board.

The Trustees' award recognizes a junior or senior for outstanding achievement in the student's major and in the liberal arts and sciences that form the core curriculum of a college education. One student is nominated from each of the five schools. Hudson represents the Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology. He carries a 3.9 grade point average.

This is the 11th year the Trustees' Distinguished Merit Award has been presented ■

## Jeff Seyler honored with service award

Dr. Jeff W. Seyler, associate professor of chemistry, has received the Sydney L. and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award for 2001.



Seyler

The award was presented during the Honors Program for the Pott School of Science and Engineering Technology.

Seyler's selection was based on his work promoting chemistry in the community. He judges local science fairs, provides chemistry demonstrations to local schools, aids scout organizations in earning merit badges in chemistry, consults with local industry, and works with Ohio Valley Common Ground to help educate the public on environmental factors that influence health in the region. He is an active member of the American Chemical Society and chairs the Indiana-Kentucky Border Section Career Services committee, where he assists with resume preparation and conducts seminars on careers in chemistry.

He joined the USI faculty in 1993, after earning a Ph.D. from Purdue University. He teaches courses in general chemistry, inorganic chemistry, and polymer chemistry. He is the advisor to the Kappa Chi Christian Fraternity on campus.

The Sydney and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award is made possible by the Bergers' son Charles and his wife, Leslie. The award is presented by the Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee ■

# Herdes named head coach for men's basketball

*Top assistant for nine years will lead players he recruited*

**R**ick Herdes has been named head coach for the University of Southern Indiana men's basketball program. He becomes the eighth head basketball coach in the history of the program.

Herdes succeeds Bruce Pearl who left USI to take the head coaching position in the Division I program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

After nine seasons with USI as Pearl's top assistant coach, Herdes is widely known as one of the best recruiters and top coaches in Division II basketball.

In his nine seasons, Herdes has helped direct the Eagles to a 231-46 overall record (.833), the 1995 NCAA II National Championship, the 1994 NCAA II National Championship game, three Great Lakes Valley Conference Championships, nine consecutive NCAA II Tournament appearances, and nine straight 20-win seasons. USI has averaged more than 25 victories a season since 1993-94.

USI's point man on the recruiting trail, Herdes brought in nearly all of the key players in USI's becoming a national power in Division II. Some



*Rick Herdes will take over as head coach for men's basketball.*

of those key recruits were two-time NABC/NCAA Division II Player of the Year Stan Gouard, All-American and GLVC Player of the Year Chad Gilbert, *Division II Bulletin* All-American Jeremy Pearson, and 2001 first team All-American Derrick Lyons.

Herdes is a native of Noble, Illinois. He came to USI from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, where he was an assistant from 1986 to 1992. While at SIUE, Herdes helped Head Coach Larry Graham lead the Cougars to a 127-56 (.694) record and

three NCAA tournament appearances. He was responsible for coordinating recruiting. He also was academic advisor to the basketball team and director of summer camps and fund-raising events.

In 16 collegiate basketball seasons, the programs with which Herdes has been involved have recorded a .770 winning percentage (358-102).

In 1991 and 1992 at SIUE, he was the head coach for the Illinois Prairie State Games, Southern Open Men's Division. His 1992 team received the silver medal.

Herdes graduated from Graceland College in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in education. As a player, he led Lincoln Trail College to a ninth-place finish in the national tournament and helped lead Graceland to its first-ever appearance in the NAIA Tournament.

USI's new head coach should hit the ground running for 2001-02, returning 11 active players from last year's team that was 26-4 overall and appeared in its ninth consecutive NCAA II Tournament ■

## Hostetter rejoins men's basketball staff

**T**he University of Southern Indiana Athletic Department welcomes



Hostetter

back one of its own, Marc Hostetter '98, to be a men's basketball assistant coach. Hostetter joins new USI Head Coach Rick Herdes, who was promoted in April.

Hostetter returns to the USI program after two seasons as an assistant coach at Longwood College in Virginia. Last season, Hostetter helped lead the Lancers to a 23-8 overall record, Longwood's first-ever Carolinas-Virginia Athletic Conference championship, and an NCAA Division II Tournament appearance.

The Lyons, Indiana, native comes back to the USI team he helped lead as a player to the 1995 NCAA Division II National Championship. The Screaming Eagles posted a 105-17 record in four

seasons with Hostetter as a point guard. During his four seasons, the Screaming Eagles were ranked number one nationally at one point during the season in three of four seasons.

After his playing days, Hostetter joined the staff of former USI Head Coach Bruce Pearl for two seasons as an assistant coach. USI finished both seasons as the GLVC Tournament runner-up and made a pair of NCAA II Tournament Sweet 16 appearances ■

## Women's basketball gets action in Elite 8

The USI women's basketball team crashed the NCAA Division II big dance in 2001 and took the number-one ranked team to the brink before bowing out as gracefully as it played all season.

In the preseason poll, the Screaming Eagles were picked to finish fourth in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, making it unlikely they would make an appearance in the 2001 national tournament. Head Coach Rick Stein and the Eagles spent 2000-01 proving those critics just how wrong they were.

Stein's Eagles, six returning players and seven newcomers, began 2000-01 with nine straight victories, averaging more than 93 points a contest while holding the opposition to 61 points a game. The team averaged a winning margin of 32 points an outing.

After facing some difficulties midway through the season, the Eagles exploded into the national rankings for the first time since 1998 and began a 15-game winning streak.

During this winning streak, USI came from two-games back to win a share of the GLVC regular season title, capture its second GLVC Tournament title (the first at Roberts Stadium), and



Lady Eagles celebrate after winning.

Elizabeth Courtney-USI

seize its second ever NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region title.

The Eagles' season came to a hard-fought end at the NCAA Division II Elite Eight in Rochester, Minnesota, against the number-one-ranked Cougars of Columbus State University. The Cougars prevailed over the Eagles in a contest that featured 25 lead changes and 10 ties.

USI, which defeated the Division II defending national champion Northern Kentucky University twice, was led by seniors Natalie Glaser, a guard, and Elizabeth Prewett, a forward/center.

Prewett was named third team All-American and first team All-Region by Daktronics. She also was named first team All-GLVC and the NCAA II Great Lakes Regional Most Outstanding

Player. Glaser was named second team All-GLVC.

Forward Jessica Stuckman was named GLVC Freshman of the Year. Despite missing eight games with a stress fracture of her left foot, Stuckman was second on the team in rebounds with 6.4 per game and third on the team in scoring with 14.2 points per outing. She was named the GLVC Tournament Most Valuable Player, leading USI to a championship win over NKU with 20 points and 13 rebounds. Stein, who was named the GLVC Coach of the Year, can already start looking to next season. The team will return nine players from this year's team ■

## Lyons named All-American

University of Southern Indiana senior guard Derrick Lyons (Albany, Georgia) was named first team All-American by *Division II Bulletin*, second team All-American by *Basketball Times*, and third team All-American by the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

Lyons joins USI players Chris Bowles, Stan Gouard, and Chad Gilbert in receiving the award from *Basketball Times*.

The past two seasons, Lyons has led the Screaming Eagles to



Lyons

two straight NCAA Division II Tournament appearances, the 2001 Great Lakes Valley Conference regular season title, and to a two-year record of 51-10 overall (.836), 35-5 in the GLVC (.875).

In addition to this All-American award, Lyons has been named the GLVC Player of the Year, first team All-GLVC, Daktronics sec-

ond team All-Great Lakes Region, and second team preseason All-American by Street & Smith. He also was named GLVC Player of the Week for his efforts against Saint Joseph's College and Indiana University/Purdue University Ft. Wayne when he averaged 23.5 points per game, 6.0 rebounds per game, and shot 66.7 percent from the field (20-30).

In 2000-01, Lyons averaged 17.0 ppg in 2000-01 with 3.6 rpg and 3.0 assists ■

## 1970s

**Frank F. McDonald II '73**, marketing, has been named president of Integra Bank in Evansville.

**Dennis C. Woehler '73**, social science, is group benefits consultant at Old National Life Insurance in Evansville.

**Carl J. Conner '74**, accounting, is the president of Conner and Associates, Inc., an architectural design firm in Evansville.

**Joan E. Heath '74**, sociology, is a records technician for Irving Police Department in Irving, Texas.

**Martha A. Render '77**, elementary education, principal of Evansville's St. Agnes School, was named Vanderburgh County Administrator of the Year.

**Matthew E. Wannemuehler '79**, engineering technology, is administrator of engineering and surveying at Bernardin Lochmueller & Associates Inc., in Evansville.

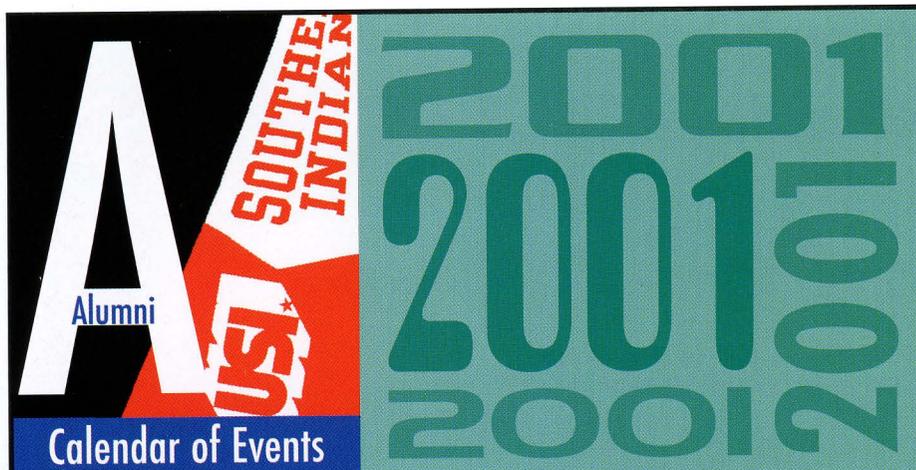
## Three rate among Indy's top doctors

Fellow physicians in Indianapolis have named three graduates of the University of Southern Indiana among the doctors they would choose for themselves or a loved one.

The March 2001 issue of *Indianapolis Monthly* lists 288 physicians in 33 specialties as top doctors. The magazine mailed surveys to 5,500 medical doctors in Greater Indianapolis and received responses from more than 425 physicians.

The USI graduates, all biology majors, who made the list of most trusted doctors as selected by their peers include:

- Dr. John W. Fehrenbacher '71, cardiac and thoracic surgery
- Dr. Daniel Beckman, '75, cardiac and thoracic surgery
- Dr. Michael R. Niemeier, '75, pulmonology ■



### Calendar of Events

July 10	Alumni Council Meeting, 5:45 p.m. USI University Center
July 24	Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter Meeting 7 p.m., Rick's Café Boatyard, Indianapolis
August 9	Volunteer USI Recognition Dinner USI Carter Hall
August 12	Greater Indianapolis Chapter Alumni and Entering Student Gathering, Indianapolis Indians Baseball Game, Victory Field, Indianapolis
August 24	Greater Indianapolis USI Scholarship Golf Scramble, 12:30 p.m., The Links Golf Course, New Palestine, Indiana
September 11	Alumni Council Meeting, 5:45 p.m. USI University Center
September 21	Alumni Fun Golf Scramble, 11:30 a.m. Helfrich Hills Golf Course, Evansville
October 23	Return to the Heart of Nursing: First Annual Nursing Alumni Gathering
February 2	Homecoming 2002

All alumni are welcome to attend these events. For further information and reservations, call the Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 812/464-1924. Check out the Alumni Web site at [www.usi.edu/alumni](http://www.usi.edu/alumni) ■

## 1980s

**Stanley J. Miller '82**, accounting, is a partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP in Woodland Hills, California.

**Donald R. Breivogel '83**, accounting, is vice president and chief financial officer of American General Finance in Evansville.

**Mark B. Gerst '83**, business administration, recently earned his certified financial planner designation. He is first vice president at Hilliard Lyons in Evansville.

**Gerald A. Montgomery '83**, marketing, is director of operations support at American General Finance in Evansville.

**Daniel M. Durbin '84**, communications, has accepted the position of principal at Logansport High School in Logansport, Indiana.

**Terri L. Koch '85**, accounting, has joined the Accounting Services Plus department at Harding Shymanski & Co., in Evansville.

**Donald R. Neel '85**, accounting, is president and chief executive officer at United Fidelity Bank in Evansville.

**Rebecca A. York '86**, business administration, is continuous improvement manager at Old National Bank Service Division in Evansville.

**Jeffrey L. Cleek '87**, chemistry, is vice president of technology for AmeriQual Group in Evansville.

**Marlene A. Hirsch '87**, English, is an account representative at Keller Crescent Co., in Evansville.

**Mark A. Isaac '87**, accounting, has been named senior vice president in charge of finance and operations at United Fidelity Bank in Evansville.

**Robert Peckenpaugh '87**, marketing/management, is owner of the American Mortgage Funding Corporation in Indianapolis.

**Paula A. Borman '88**, communications, is the director at Success Lab, Inc., in Chicago.

## Belief in yourself is key to success, says Steve Lowrey

Steve Lowrey, president and chief executive officer of Texas-based Franchise Concepts Inc., urged students in the School of Business to believe in themselves while working toward success in the future.

"That's the greatest power you have. Once you believe in yourself, no one can take that away from you," said Lowrey, whose FCI brands generate more than \$150 million in annual retail sales.

The Mount Vernon, Indiana, native presented "From the Classroom to the Boardroom" March 26 as the Spring 2001 Alumni-in-Residence program.

Lowrey graduated from USI in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and finance, became a CPA, and eventually a franchisee for the Deck the Walls chain of frame shops. He owned three Deck the Walls stores, including the one in Evansville's Eastland Mall, before selling them in 1985 to accept a position in operations with the company.

FCI, a system of more than 400 retail stores across the United States and Canada, includes Deck The Walls, The Great Frame Up, and Framing & Art Centre as well as Ashley Avery's Collectables, a joint venture incorporated under FCI.

Lowrey lives in Houston ■



*Steve Lowrey renews his friendship with Dr. Wanda Hibbits, USI professor emerita of business.*

Elizabeth Courtney-USI

**Shari A. Cassler '88**, social work, '98, Master of Social Work, is a behavioral clinician with the outpatient child services department at Howard Community Hospital in Kokomo, Indiana.

**Glenn A. Myres '88**, psychology, was sworn in as a pretrial services officer for the U.S. District Court of the Eastern District of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Sonja L. Ramey '89**, elementary education, is health education coordinator at the University of Evansville.

**Michael F. Roeder '89**, communications, is director of corporate communications/lobbyist at Vectren Corporation in Indianapolis.

## 1990s

**Randall E. Graber '90**, accounting, is controller at Warrick Federal Credit Union in Newburgh, Indiana.

**Jeffrey W. Harding '90**, marketing, is vice president of the northern sales territory for Evansville Bolt and Nut.

**Greg R. Harpenau '90**, accounting, is vice president, assistant controller at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

**Glenn T. Kingsbury '90**, business administration, has joined Peoples Trust and Savings Bank as vice president and manager of the Boonville, Indiana, location.

**Shannon L. Wathen '90**, marketing, is senior director of client services at Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

**Melanie Razor Bretz '91**, business administration, is assistant manager of Hilliard Lyons, Inc., in Evansville.

**Kendra Kleiman Cecil '91**, dental hygiene, is a dental hygienist for Dr. Gerald Enlow in Newburgh, Indiana.

**Michael R. Moade '91**, political science, is production team leader at Cinergy's Gibson Generating Station in Owensville, Indiana.

**Eric J. Postlethweight '91**, marketing, is vice president of the southern sales territory for Evansville Bolt and Nut.

**Mark L. Preske '91**, business administration, has been named float manager with Old National Bank Service Division in Evansville.

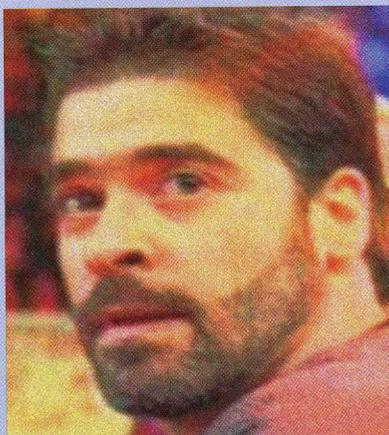
**Jacqueline K. Russell '91**, marketing, has joined Integra Bank as assistant vice president and business development officer in Evansville.

**John P. Wible '91**, business administration, is internal systems manager for Verizon Wireless in Roswell, Georgia.

**Geoff A. Gentil '92**, business education, has accepted a position as commercial credit analyst with Integra Bank in Evansville.

## Vince Russo - writing scripts for

By Daniel A. McDonnell, USI Sports Information Assistant



One University of Southern Indiana graduate knows firsthand how hard work and focus can put you in the right situations to succeed.

His name is Vince Russo '83, familiar to many professional wrestling fans as one of the most creative minds in sports entertainment history. His hard work, focus, and creativity have played a great role in the reshaping of not only professional wrestling, but also television programming.

An article in the November 22, 1999, issue of *The New York Times* called Russo and fellow scriptwriter Ed Ferrara of World Championship Wrestling "the magic bullet that makes wrestling programs among the fastest-growing shows on television." The two are known for introducing the more liberal language, action, and story lines that have attracted increasing

numbers of viewers. Their tight scripts have turned professional wrestling into a narrative with complex plots and highly developed characters.

Since that article appeared, the rough and tumble world of professional wrestling continues to evolve. The WCW recently was in the process of being sold to its rival, the World Wrestling Federation, Russo's former employer. Though his future was undecided at the time of the sale, he expects the same work ethic that took him to the top of the television industry's world of professional wrestling will enable him to take charge of his own destiny.

With all of the fame and publicity he has achieved since graduating 18 years ago, Russo has not forgotten the lessons he learned at USI and the joy his USI years brought to him.

Russo came to USI from Farmingville (Long Island), New York. "I was lured to USI by a friend of mine, Steve Costello, who was the sports editor (of the student newspaper, *The Shield*) at the time," he explained.

Looking back, Russo said, "I can honestly say that the three years that I spent at USI were probably the best three years of my life. I made some great friends at the college, I was vice president of Sigma Tau Gamma, and on top of that I met my wife and we have been married for 18 years."

Russo got to know the former Amy Gartner '83, when they both served as AMIGOs (student orientation leaders). They are now the parents of Will, 13; V.J., 10; and Annie, 5. The family lives in the Atlanta area.

While a student, Russo also worked as editor of *The Shield*, an experience that would pay off for him down the road.

"It kind of set the table for the kind of person that I became once I graduated," Russo explained. "I can remember going to class and then going into *The Shield* office and literally working around-the-clock to get the paper out. I really think it was that experience that gave me the work ethic I needed in order to be successful."

After completing a bachelor's degree in communications at USI, Russo worked for CBS Publishing, selling textbooks to college professors in the Long Island area.

"It was an extremely stressful job because basically I would have to sell textbooks to college professors in every field when, 75 percent of the time, I didn't have a clue what I was talking about," Russo confessed.

That experience made Russo realize that life was not so easy after college. "You've got to do what you've got to do, at certain periods in life," the 40-year-old explained.

**Carol A. Hackworth '92**, nursing, is lead clinical coordinator in the emergency room at Methodist Hospital in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Robert K. John '92**, business administration, is the owner of Colortech in Evansville.

**Jeffrey H. Wedding '92**, business administration, is the coordinating manager for Firemaster, Inc., in Evansville.

**Greg L. Fredrich '93**, sociology, has been named general manager at Pave Tech, Inc., in Evansville.

**Jeffrey S. Hamilton '93**, psychology, is completing a bachelor's degree in Organization, Leadership, and Supervision at Purdue University-Calumet. He also is an academic advisor in the Information Systems and Computer Programming department at Purdue University-Calumet in Hammond, Indiana.

**Gayla R. Killough '93**, biology, works for IDEM as a rulewriter in Indianapolis. She received a Master of Public Affairs degree from Indiana University in August 2000.

**Lori Vendetti Mehne '93**, business administration, is a manager at Ameritech SBC Global Network in Evansville.

**Christopher D. Neu '93**, accounting, has accepted the position of manager of computer infrastructure at Kimball International in Jasper, Indiana.

## *professional wrestling and for life*

To earn extra money, he worked at a video store on the weekends. "I've always liked entertainment, so it was nice to be working in that field," he said.

One thing led to another and Russo wound up buying the store. He got out of the publishing business and, in time, opened a second video store.

"The one thing I learned about myself is that there is nothing like working for yourself, I like to be in control and in charge of my future," he said.

Owning the two successful stores was an ideal situation for Russo until the Blockbuster chain opened up locations near both of them.

"We just couldn't compete at that level," Russo said. He decided to get into something else that would be satisfying.

"I really went back to my roots," he said, "and my whole life I was a wrestling fan. I always loved wrestling for the sports entertainment of it. I knew it was entertainment, I knew it was Hollywood, and I loved it."

Paying for the time out of his own pocket, he started a radio show on Long Island called "Vicious Vince's World of Wrestling." In time, it was syndicated in 12 markets. Because his funding was limited, however, he began to look for additional opportunities.

While doing the radio program, he had established a relationship with the World Wrestling Federation.

Russo said, "I made a decision, and this was very key in my career, to write a letter to Linda McMahon, who was at the time the vice president of the World Wrestling Federation."

---

**I always loved wrestling for the sports entertainment of it. I knew it was entertainment, I knew it was Hollywood, and I loved it.**

---

A couple of weeks later he got a call from her, saying that the WWF magazine was looking for writers. He started as a freelance writer, making about \$150 per story, but his "foot was in the door."

Then, Russo was named editor of the magazine. He worked in that capacity for a couple of years but grew increasingly frustrated as the television ratings for the World Wrestling Federation were on the brink of bottoming out. He told Linda McMahon and her husband, WWF owner Vince McMahon, that he could do more for the company than edit the magazine.

A week later, when WWF ratings hit an all-time low, Russo got a call from Vince McMahon's assistant asking him to come upstairs for a meeting. At that point, Russo started writing the television shows. Ratings went up significantly over the next two years. "We changed the face of sports entertainment," Russo said.

After helping restore the WWF to prominence, Russo was hired by the company's competitor, World Championship Wrestling. He started appearing on television and becoming part of the action himself, despite not wanting to do so.

"I was put in the position where there was a lot of pressure on me to get ratings," Russo said. "I was willing to do whatever it took to make the company successful."

However, his willingness to do whatever it took backfired from the standpoint of his own physical well-being. He suffered a number of concussions from his experiences in the ring.

After being out of work for a few months with post-concussion syndrome, Russo recently was dealt another blow when WCW was to be sold.

Playing the waiting game, Vince sees his future as "Vince Russo working for Vince Russo."

"One thing I have learned is that you've got to control your own future," he said ■

**Lisa Loechte Witte '93**, business administration, is project manager at Kimball International in Jasper, Indiana.

**Lori Kostbade Wood '93**, political science, is biological products specialist with Aventis Pasteur. She resides in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Deborah J. Gilham '94**, early childhood education, is Child Life Center director at Evansville ARC.

**Constance F. Grossman '94**, communications, is assistant cashier at Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

**Tarrie R. Kendall '94**, communications, is an instructor in communication at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

**Amber L. LaBaw '94**, business administration, is an agent with Vicki Brasel State Farm Insurance Agency in Evansville.

**Rena Stankovich Scholz '94**, accounting, is a CPA for Kruse Dieus & Associates LLP in Evansville.

**Robert A. Threet '94**, history, has accepted a position as computer network technician at USI.

**Dennis E. Daniel '95**, sociology, is a lieutenant and instructor of state certified law enforcement for the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's department in Evansville.

**Sherry A. Duff '95**, business administration, is a franchise development coordinator at Abbey Carpet in Bonita Springs, Florida.

**Robert D. Kerns '95**, social science teaching, is a social studies teacher at Springs Valley High School in French Lick, Indiana.

**Kitty G. Lutz '95**, health services, '00, Master of Elementary Education, has been named a full-time faculty member at Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville.

**Shara L. Mitchell '95**, marketing, is a trust officer for Fifth Third Bank in Evansville.

**Mayola Rowser '95**, nursing, '99, Master of Nursing, has been named project coordinator for the USI School of Nursing & Health Professions.

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Make a gift to USI

<https://www.usi.edu/giving/ssl/giftform.htm>

USI provides a secure Web site  
for your transaction.

**Amy Rapp Van Dyk '95**, social work, is a case manager for the Homeless Initiative Program in Indianapolis.

**Anna Buchhorn Ankenbrand '96**, communications, is a marketing specialist at Wise Solutions, Inc., in Canton, Michigan.

**Dana M. Bumpus '96**, biology, is a chemist with Bondline Adhesives, Inc., in Evansville.

**Michael W. Cameron '96**, accounting, has been promoted to supervisor in the client service department at Harding Shymanski & Co. in Evansville.

**Sherry A. Crawford '96**, Master of Liberal Studies, is a faculty appointee for the Community College of Indiana and will teach general education courses at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana.

**James R. Gregory '96**, psychology, is a family case manager for the Child Protective Service in Indianapolis.

**Maria Ritchel Kopec '96**, business administration/French, is a human relations finance assistant for Creative Press, Inc., in Evansville.

**Amy Huebschman Lutzel '96**, communications, is senior travel consultant with Evansville Teachers Federal Credit Union in Evansville.

**Lafe A. Ransom '96**, physical education, has been named mortgage loan originator for Integra Bank in Evansville.

**Rodney R. Summers '96**, communications, has been named Cystic Fibrosis Foundation development director for Southern Indiana.

**Cheryl A. Wathen '96**, Master of Business Administration, is chief financial officer for The Women's Hospital in Evansville.

**Tony Butler '97**, accounting, has been promoted to supervisor in the client service department at Harding Shymanski & Co. in Evansville.

**Lisa F. Cox '97**, nursing, is a coordinator of regulatory compliance at Clarian Health in Indianapolis, Indiana.

*continued on page 24*

# Alumni Association presents four awards

An administrator, a faculty member, and two alumni were honored recently by the USI Alumni Association for their outstanding achievements or services. The awards were presented in May at the Class of 2001 Reception and Dinner.

## Special Recognition Award

### Richard W. Schmidt

Richard Schmidt, vice president for Business Affairs and USI treasurer, joined the University in 1972. Over the years he has steered the development and evolution of sophisticated accounting and budgeting functions for USI. During his tenure as vice president, \$75 million worth of capital projects have been added.

Schmidt has played a major role in educating the members of the Indiana General Assembly about USI. His leadership has helped bring major advancements including funding for the Liberal Arts Center, renovation of the Science Center and Health Professions Center, development of on-campus housing, and improvements to the base budget. He helped direct the formation of a campus master plan.

He is a longtime member and treasurer of Southern Indiana Higher Education (SIHE) and holds leadership positions in the USI Foundation and USI/New Harmony Foundation.

## Faculty Recognition Award

### Larry W. Arp

Dr. Larry Arp, professor emeritus of business education, retired in 2000 after 28 years of service to USI and his profession. At retirement, Arp chaired a department that offers undergraduate majors in computer information systems and business education as well as a post-baccalaureate certificate in computer information systems.

In addition to taking on increasing responsibilities in the teaching arena over the years, Arp served from 1987-91 as director of athletics. He has served



Schmidt



Arp



Sieben



Stilwell

as chair or member of all major University and School of Business standing committees, including the Faculty Senate. He received the USI School of Business Distinguished Service Award in 2000.

Arp is widely recognized for his service to his profession, particularly for his work on the Leadership Board of the Region 13 Southwestern Indiana Partnership for Workforce Development and for contributions to Indiana's Tech Prep program. In 1999, the Indiana Business Education Association named him Outstanding Business Educator.

## Alumni Service Award

### Nancy J. Sieben '93

Nancy Sieben's service to USI personifies the Alumni Association's mission to serve and develop a committed body of alumni dedicated to promoting and enhancing the excellence and the reputation of the University.

Sieben completed a bachelor's degree in communications at USI in 1993. While a student, she was a senator and vice president of Student Government Association and served in a number of leadership roles for Delta Zeta sorority. She received the All Campus Student Achievement Award, the Female Student of the Year award, and was voted Homecoming Queen.

Her involvement with USI continued after graduation. The 2000-01 Annual Fund campaign reached 128 percent of its goal with her leadership as alumni chair. She has served as president of the USI Alumni Association, as Alumni Council member, and as alumni special events chair. She was on

the USI Foundation Board from 1997-2000, was a Campaign USI volunteer, and is Delta Zeta alumni advisor.

Sieben is executive director of the Deaconess Hospital Foundation in Evansville.

## Distinguished Alumni Award

### Russell L. Stilwell '77

Russell Stilwell, state representative from House District 74, was recognized for his distinguished career as a civil servant. The Distinguished Alumni Award is conferred upon a graduate who has made outstanding achievements in career or in public service.

A 1977 political science graduate, Stilwell was elected in 1996 to the Indiana House of Representatives. He has worked on numerous committees to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Indiana. He has served as the House Majority Assistant Whip and as a member of the House Labor Committee, the Elections Committee, and the Public Policy Committee.

Stilwell, a third generation coal miner, earned a bachelor's degree from USI while working the evening shift at the mine. In 1981, he became the political director for the United Mine Workers of America. He remains an outspoken proponent for working families.

Stilwell has been instrumental in the continued funding of USI Theatre productions at Lincoln Amphitheatre. He was selected as an election observer during the first free elections in South Africa in 1994. ■

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**Jara Custis Dillingham '97**, social work, '98, Master of Social Work, has accepted a position as social worker/therapist for the Evansville Psychiatric Children's Center in Evansville.

**Anastasia M. Draper '97**, business, is an account manager for Card Management Corporation in Evansville.

**Lesa Hedinger Hamm '97**, communications, recently graduated with a Master of Management degree from Indiana Wesleyan University in Indianapolis.

**Jason W. Hopf '97**, business administration, is treasury services manager for Eden Capital LLC in Carmel, Indiana.

**Krista L. Loewen '97**, art, has been named art director with the marketing group at Gray Loon in Evansville.

**Christine M. Schuck '97**, radiologic technology, is an x-ray lab supervisor with Parkside Family Physicians in Indianapolis.

**Dawn Clesi Schuler '97**, English/communications, has joined Community Hospitals Indianapolis as a communications associate in Indianapolis.

**Mark G. Shell '97**, business administration, was recently promoted to manager of application and network development for Diesel Technology Company. He resides in Kentwood, Michigan.

**Jennifer L. Sipes '97**, Spanish, is the logistics manager for Zipp Logistics in Indianapolis.

**Jill Steurer Trautvetter '97**, communications, is public relations specialist at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

**Jody Dedmon Troutman '97**, communications, is the district director of the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Indianapolis.

**Melanie K. Bauermeister '98**, biology, is an analytical lab technician with Sure Tech Labs in Indianapolis.

**Kerri Seib Baumholser '98**, accounting, is accounting controller for ChemGroup, Inc., in Evansville.

**Laurissa M. Becher '98**, computer information systems, recently joined Peregrine Systems as a support engineer in Indianapolis.

**Heather B. Graves '98**, communications, is a marketing associate at Utilities District of Western Indiana R.E.M.C. in Bloomfield, Indiana.

**Johnpaul Josey '98**, political science, is a production coordinator for Audience Response Systems in Evansville.

**Laura B. Libs '98**, English/political science, has joined the Evansville Convention and Visitors Bureau as marketing and communications manager in Evansville.

**Natalie A. Schmaltz '98**, psychology, recently graduated with a Master of Arts degree in counseling from Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana.

**Kenneth R. Troutman '98**, biology, is attending Indiana University's dental program in Indianapolis.

**Scott M. Wunderlich '98**, political science, has been promoted to branch manager at the Red Bank branch of Old National Bank in Evansville.

**Jeffrey P. Barnes '99**, computer information systems, was recently promoted to project manager for Williams Communications in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

**Jennifer M. Boes '99**, nursing, is clinical coordinator in the emergency room at Methodist Hospital in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Antonia M. Brannon '99**, physical education, is a compliance officer with BB&T Investment Services in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Angela Byers Bulkley '99**, nursing, is a registered nurse at Welborn Clinic in Evansville.

**Farrah Stichler Jones '99**, accounting, is senior accountant at St. Mary's Healthcare Services in Evansville.

**Brent C. Ketcham '99**, chemistry, is a forensic scientist with the Indiana State Police in Evansville.

**Casey A. Lasher '99**, civil engineering technology, has joined J.H. Rudolph & Co. as an estimator in Evansville.

**Daryl L. Laughbaum '99**, accounting, has accepted the position of staff accountant with Village Care Assisted Living Corporation in Garden Grove, California.



**Hot dog,  
it's final  
exams  
week!**

Members of the Alumni Association and the Student Alumni Association served hot dogs to students during finals week. Dubbed as Wiener Wednesday, the event provided a study break while increasing awareness of the Alumni Association.

**James M. Myrick '99**, physical education, is the boys' varsity tennis coach for Troy High School in Troy, Michigan.

**Cynthia M. Speicher '99**, elementary education, teaches first grade at Saint Mary's Catholic School in Mount Carmel, Illinois.

## 2000s

**Jill R. Baumgart '00**, nursing, is a registered nurse at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

**Sherry Arnold Boggeman '00**, nursing, is a registered nurse at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

**Rich E. Curran '00**, elementary education, is a fifth grade teacher for Fox C-6 School District in Arnold, Missouri.

**Carrie L. Dague '00**, accounting, is a corporate accountant with Atlantis Plastics in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Mandy E. Damm '00**, accounting, is an accountant with Ernst & Young LLP in Indianapolis.

**Thomas G. Elpers '00**, mechanical engineering technology, has accepted a position with PPG Industries, Inc., as a mechanical engineer in Evansville.

**Stanley Gouard '00**, communications, is an academic advisor with John A. Logan College in Carterville, Illinois.

**Brandi Schwartz Hess '00**, journalism and computer publishing, has accepted a position as graphic designer for the USI Web Team.

**Summer L. Holt '00**, public relations and advertising, has joined the Evansville Convention and Visitors Bureau as a sales support manager in Evansville.

**Casey J. Kostrzebski '00**, accounting, has joined the accounting and consulting department of Gaither Rutherford & Co. in Evansville.

**Joy A. Napier '00**, nursing, is a registered nurse with St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville.

**Corby S. Phillips '00**, business administration, is the owner of Wheelchair Getaways of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina.

**Anselm Russell '00**, nursing, is a registered nurse with Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

**Krista Schmutzler '00**, nursing, is a registered nurse with Memorial Hospital in Jasper, Indiana.

**Paula J. Snodgrass '00**, nursing, is a registered nurse at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

**Mary E. Stephens '00**, nursing, has been named manager of neonatal intensive care at The Women's Hospital in Evansville.

**Jennifer R. Tamillo '00**, interpersonal organizational communications, is an admission counselor at the University of Evansville.

**Jill M. Welden '00**, accounting, has joined Kemper CPA Group as staff accountant in Evansville.

**Sherry A. Alvey '01**, health services, is a sales representative with Western Southern Life in Evansville.

**Jessica A. Bradley '01**, accounting, is a staff accountant with Harding Shymanski & Co. PC in Evansville.

**Dana Kissel Ketcham '01**, accounting, has accepted a position as staff accountant at USI.

**Wendy J. Wade '01**, computer information systems, is an accounting software consultant with Kemper Technology Consulting in Indianapolis.

## Marriages

**Teona M. Bender '91**, business, and Richard Forister, January 19

**Denise D. Mathew '91**, business, and John Dike, September 23

**Mark D. Lynn '93**, business administration, and Dixie Barton, April 15

**Chris D. Schutz '95**, marketing, and Lee Scheller, September 9

## Award-winning writer Amy Ramsden reads for Ropewalk series

Writer Amy Ramsden '95 believes that writing a good sentence is different from telling a good story.

"To write a good story," she said, "you must understand people and characters."

A graduate student in the creative writing program at the University of Arkansas,



Ramsden

Ramsden returned to USI in February as a featured writer in the Ropewalk Reading Series. She read her story "Trespass," a confessional told from the point of view of a male character. The story was named this year as one of 12 finalists for the Raymond Carver Short Story Award at the University of Washington.

In 1999, her short story "CQ" was a finalist in the very short fiction competition sponsored by the literary magazine *Glimmer Train*. She has since developed that story into a longer one called "Phone Patch," based on childhood memories of her grandfather connecting people by phone and ham radio.

For her thesis the USI graduate is working on a collection of stories told from different points of view. In her final year of graduate studies at Arkansas this year, Ramsden received a Truman Capote Fellowship, a \$9,000 award that enabled her to set aside teaching responsibilities to concentrate on creative writing.

A USI English major, Ramsden received a scholarship to Ropewalk Writers Retreat when she was an undergraduate. She credits that experience with exposing her to published writers and furthering her interest in a writing career ■

**Christine L. Adams '96**, elementary education, and **Brian Waddell**, November 25

**Anthony J. Bacon '96**, math, and **Jill Coomes**, November 4

**Tracy A. Kollker '96**, communications, and **Josh Crick**, June 3, 2000

**Lisa D. Kissinger '97**, communications, and **Matthew C. May '97**, communications, September 9

**Michelle R. Koch '97**, dental assisting, and **Doug Hogan**, September 2

**Denise L. Luttrull '98**, communications, and **Edward Hull**, September 23

**Brett M. Perry '98**, elementary education, and **Susan Kennedy**, September 30

**Blythe J. Schreiber '98**, physical education, and **Chris R. Reheman '88**, communications, March 24

**Douglas A. Allison '99**, elementary education, and **Shanda White**, June 26, 2000

**Christina L. Edwards '99**, health services, **Donald Rice II**, March 17

**Abigail J. Floyd '99**, public relations and advertising, and **Darryl E. Adler**, elementary education, December 30

**Randi J. Lampton '99**, business administration, and **Matthew A. Rice '99**, business administration, July 15

**Shannon M. Wallace '99**, biology, and **Scott K. Tieken '00**, communications, October 28

**Emily J. Waltz '99**, dental hygiene, and **Joshua Jackson**, November 4

**Lisa K. Bryant '00**, nursing, and **Brian J. Glaser '99**, business administration, February 24

**Mark Decamps '00**, German, and **Tiffany Case**, July 15

**Melissa A. Dierdorff '00**, elementary education, and **Andrew M. Dorsett '00**, mathematics, June 3, 2000

**Krista D. Douglas '00**, elementary education, and **Chris M. Webb '00**, elementary education, July 22

**Abigail J. Floyd '00**, communications, and **Darryl E. Adler '96**, elementary education, December 30

**Crystal D. Virgin '01**, public relations and advertising, and **Jason M. Fisher '98**, business administration, August 12

## Births

**William E. Harrison '80**, communications, and **Elizabeth**, son, **Benjamin William**, October 21

**David A. Stevenson '84**, sociology, and **Lori**, son, **Jacob Patrick**, September 25

**Alicia Tillman Motz '85**, dental hygiene, and **Rick**, son, **Cooper Alan**, September 24

**Marcia Meriwether Irvin '86**, business administration, and **James**, daughter, **Kayah Nicole**, January 26

**Kelly Carlton Stone '89**, psychology, and **Kevin**, twin daughters, **Adison Jayde** and **Ashton Elyse**, July 18

**Michelle Boyd Webb '90**, marketing, and **Michael**, son, **Manning Michael**, May 13, 2000

**Tristen D. Barnett '91**, mechanical engineering technology, and **Paula**, son, **Lucas Glenn**, November 16

## We want to hear from you!

Do you have professional news about yourself to share with fellow graduates? Have you moved? Do you have a suggestion for a story? Use this space to let us know! If you have been quoted in a newspaper article, send us a copy. We want to hear from you.

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

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We value your comments via mail (Alumni and Volunteer Services Office, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712), Phone (812/464-1924, FAX (812/464-1956), or e-mail (alumni@usi.edu).

**Julia Schank Kunkler '91**, business education, '96, Master of Secondary Education, and **William L. Kunkler '93**, mechanical engineering technology, son, Jonah William, November 23

**Cathleen Howard Morrow '91**, elementary education, and **Joseph P. Morrow '90**, finance, son, Seth Michael, August 3

**Anita Lengacher Miller '92**, elementary education, and Bruce, daughter, Caitlin Danielle, March 8

**Jennifer Thorbecke Poole '92**, dental assisting certificate, and Jamie, daughter, Hailey Elizabeth, January 29

**Thomas L. Drake '93**, business administration, and Amy, son, Justin Thomas, October 20

**Julie Jenkins Eder '94**, Spanish, and Bernie, daughter, Claudia Ann, April 30, 2000

**Melissa Padgett Edris '94**, business administration, and **Garold Q. Edris '95**, business administration, son, Patterson Quinn, November 23

**Cassie Mason Hill '94**, elementary education, and Scott, son, Samuel Gage, December 21

**Mary Koch Pullen '94**, early childhood education, and Robert, daughter, Morgan Lee, October 23

**Brian D. Server '94**, business administration, and Sandra, son, Kyle Everett, January 2

**Holly Baehl Vidmar '94**, health services, and **Joseph J. Vidmar '97**, business, daughter, Samantha Nicole, January 29

**Amy Hurt Blanford '95**, elementary education, '00, Master of Elementary Education, and Jim, daughter, Madeline Campbell, October 13

**Valerie Elliott Jones '95**, mathematics, and Scott, son, David Foster, January 2

**Rebecca Titzer Rexing '95**, elementary education, and Todd, son, Brayden Anthony, December 20

**Jayne Kroeger Tang '95**, Master of Liberal Studies, and David, son, Nathaniel Michael, November 20

## San Francisco Alumni attend reception



*Alumni in the San Francisco area got together in April for a reception. Enjoying the festivities are, from left, Cheryl Barth '82, Stephanie Fuelling '78, Tina Kern '86, and David Raibley '73. Kern and Raibley were attending the Association of Governing Boards National Meeting, which created the opportunity for a reunion.*

**Lynn Stilwell Bell '96**, social work, '97, Master of Social Work, and Tony, son, Tanner Wayne, November 4

**Michael W. Fetscher '96**, communications, and Angie, son, Shawn Michael, December 19

**Michelle Welp Fulton '96**, psychology, '98, Master of Social Work, and **Timothy A. Fulton '91**, electrical engineering technology, son, Michael Alan, February 2

**Erin Bledsoe Sizemore '96**, business administration, and **Michael Sizemore '97**, communications, twin daughters, Brooklyn Michelle and Brianna Mackenzie, August 26

**Ellen Wellmeier Bickel '97**, Master of Secondary Education, and Tim, son, Kyle Joseph, January 30

**Jennifer Chumley Fitzgerald '97**, dental hygiene, and Marc, son, Nathan Sean, September 2

**Warren Fleetwood '97**, English, and Alana, son, Jaden Lee, September 15

**Bridget Gries Martin '97**, health services, and Gregory, daughter, Cecelia Paige, September 5

**Diane Filbert Murphy '97**, occupational therapy, and Brian, son, Dalton Joseph, February 16

**Amanda Stroud Thompson '97**, dental hygiene, and Daniel, daughter, Ashlyn Danielle, October 31

**Julie A. Vandevener '97**, communications, and John, son, Christian Charles, August 14

**Twyala D. Carner '98**, Master of Business Administration, and Guy, daughter, Kaitlyn Dawn, October 7

**William M. Schlageter '98**, chemistry/math, and Elaine, daughter, Katelyn Elizabeth, February 28

**Kristen Masterson Stanesco '98**, business administration, and Dan, daughter, Emma Ann, November 30

**Dana Goedde Van Bibber '98**, radiology, and Gregory, daughter, Vanessa Marie, December 29

## In Memoriam

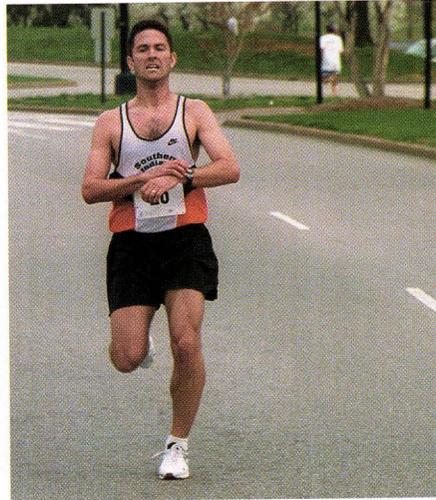
**Ophelia Bradshaw '78**, health services, died December 19 in Terre Haute, Indiana. She was a registered nurse and had worked at Community Methodist Hospital in Henderson, Kentucky.

**Christopher A. Bengert '85**, finance, died May 6 at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville. He was the senior vice president and treasurer of First Federal Savings Bank since 1994 and had managed the accounting department since 1988.

**James V. Sharer '83**, communications, died April 27 at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville. He retired in 1991 as an instructor at Louisville Technical Institute.

**David W. Snelling '83**, business, formerly of Evansville, died April 29 at his home in Henderson, Kentucky. He retired from the labor relations department at Alcoa Warrick Operations and from Visiting Nurse Association as manager of human resources.

## Centifanto wins Eagle 5K



Elizabeth Courtney-USI

*Bill Centifanto '96, English teacher and track coach at North Posey High School in Posey County, Indiana, was the overall winner of the USI Eagle 5K Run/Walk with a time of 17:03. More than 275 people participated in the April 7 event.*

**Jeffrey B. Boyles '92**, art, died May 2 at Deaconess Hospital. He was an abstract artist.

**Harry A. McCarty '92**, English/philosophy, died April 19 in Carbondale, Illinois. He was an ordained Unitarian minister.

**Ethel P. Peppiatt '94**, business, died December 5 in Evansville. She was retired from George Koch Sons.

**Sherry A. Healy '95**, social work, '96, Master of Social Work, died May 1 at her home in Washington, Indiana. She was a licensed social worker with St. Joseph Hospital Home Health Care and taught part-time at Vincennes University.

**Cortez Collins** died February 16 in Evansville. He was an environmental specialist for the Commonwealth of Kentucky and a former USI men's basketball player.

## Were you a student worker? Tell us about it

When you were a student, did you balance your academic work with an on-campus job? Student workers are an irreplaceable cog in the wheels of the University of Southern Indiana community.

During the spring semester, the University employed more than 875 student workers. They helped with intramural and fitness programs, worked at the campus radio station, assisted the staff of the Children's Center, aided the campus photographer and graphic artists, provided technical assistance for computer-users, tutored students in need of academic support, worked with campus security officers, and performed countless clerical functions.

For *USI Magazine*, we would like to hear about your memories as a student worker. What skills did you learn? How do you use these skills today? What was your greatest challenge in the job? What was your greatest achievement? How did you use the money you earned? Did you get to know someone who has remained significant in your life?

Send us your thoughts. We will compile some of them into an article for a future issue of *USI Magazine*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

My job as a student worker: \_\_\_\_\_

My memories of the work experience: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send your comments to Alumni and Volunteer Services, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712, or e-mail to [alumni@usi.edu](mailto:alumni@usi.edu).

# Spotlight

## 30-year turning point

### Bob Roeder — then and now

Robert C. Roeder '71 holds a number of “firsts” for the University of Southern Indiana. He was the first president of the Student Union Board, now known as the Activities Programming Board. He was a member of the first graduating class and received the first Student Achievement Award. He was the first recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, established in 1978.

As a student and as an alumnus, Roeder has spearheaded projects that have stood the test of time. Founding members of the Student Union Board had a voice in long-lasting decisions such as the design of the University Center and the choice of the eagle as the University mascot. In his college days, Roeder also chaired a student campaign to acquire books for the library and led the Students for Separation Committee, testifying before the state legislature about making the school a separate state university. As a graduate, he has served on the Alumni Council and is active now on the USI Foundation Board, as vice president of the USI Greater Indianapolis Alumni Chapter, and on the Alumni Legislative Assistance Committee.

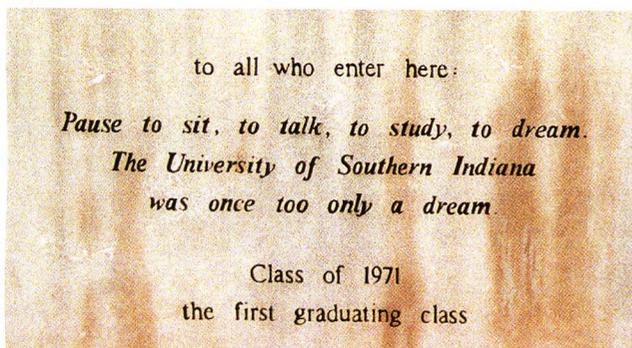
In 1996, he chaired the 25th reunion campaign that provided funding for the construction of Centennial Court on the site of the first commencement. A plaque at the court bears his words: “pause to sit, to talk, to study, to dream. The University of Southern Indiana was once, too, only a dream.”

As the first graduating class celebrates its 30th anniversary, Roeder looks for the University to continue its responsible growth and to instill in graduates a commitment to helping future students get an education.

Roeder is a principal in the human resources consulting firm of William M. Mercer, Inc., in Indianapolis.



Elizabeth Courtney-USI



Roeder

## New look for USI Athletics

A sleek new logo now identifies the Screaming Eagles. This sophisticated design was chosen to send a message of confidence, strength, and pride in the growing tradition of USI Athletics. Watch for the new image to appear on team uniforms, publications, signage, and licensed merchandise.



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