

The SHIELD

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by our 'Fashion Guru'
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February 24, 2004

University of Southern Indiana student newspaper

Vol. 35 Issue 21

Panelists discuss civil liberties post-Sept. 11

By Amelia Jeffirs
News editor

Members of the Evansville community took part in a discussion of civil liberties in the post-9/11 era during a panel in the UC Thursday, Feb. 17.

Gary May, chairperson of Veterans Defending the Bill of Rights and associate professor of social work, and Fran Quigley, executive director of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, opposed several provisions of the Patriot Act.

FBI Agent Tom VanWormer and U.S. Attorney Todd Schellenbarger defended the Patriot Act.

Mark Miller, an attorney and local representative of the ICLU board of directors, moderated the discussion.

Several audience members voiced their opinions of Patriot Act, which passed in the Senate 98-1 and in the House 357-66.

The most common complaints were that the Patriot Act is an invasion of privacy and a violation of First Amendment freedom of speech rights.

VanWormer said discussions about government actions are very healthy and people should challenge the manner in which situations are handled.

"The Senate and the House didn't even

read the Patriot Act, but they voted for it. It's an embarrassment," said one member of the audience.

"There are misunderstandings about the Patriot Act. I would encourage people with concerns to get all the information about the Patriot Act. I don't think there is much of a change in the manner we do investigations before and after 9/11," said Shellenbarger.

Shellenbarger said the Patriot Act is a sign of the federal government shifting priorities from enforcing laws to preventing them from being broken.

"We are less private now than we ever have been before. I fear we are teetering on the brink of losing liberties," said May.

John Blair, instructor of digital photography, said an Evansville police officer violated his right to expression of free speech during a peaceful protest in 2002.

Blair was across the street from the Civic Center, or "the hall of free speech" as Blair refers to it, when Dick Cheney and John Hostettler were appearing.

Blair said he complied with an officer who ordered him to leave the area, but was arrested for disorderly conduct without having been read his Miranda rights when he



The panel is, from left to right, Gary May, Fran Quigley, Tom VanWormer and Todd Schellenbarger. The panelists discussed civil liberties in the post-9/11 era (photo by Amelia Jeffirs).

asked if he could protest in a nearby parking lot.

"It was a degrading and chilling experience," said Blair.

Blair said people have approached him to say what he did was courageous.

"When it becomes a courageous act to speak as a citizen, we are on the wrong path," said Blair.

"John [Blair] is represented by the Civil Liberties Union, and there are more cases just like his. There is a climate of fear for expressing our opinions and should be addressed from the president of the United States down to the city of Evansville and to all of us," said Quigley.

Quigley said one good result of Sept.

11 was the escalation of passions in the federal government, but as a Supreme Court judge said "the state of war is not a blank check for taking away the rights of citizens."

"We are at this point that we have a duty. We have to push back and say it's gone too far after 9/11," said Quigley.

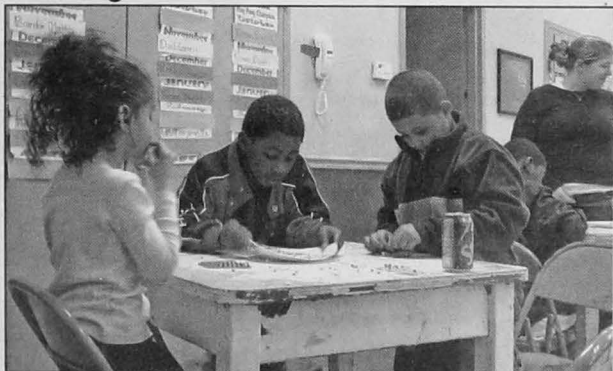
Shellenbarger said the Patriot Act contains a provision that forces any use of the Patriot Act to be reported to Congress.

"I wonder if they'll read the reports any more than they did the Patriot Act," said one member of the audience.

VanWormer said he wanted to bring the practical application of the Patriot Act to the

See PANEL on Page 8

Boys and Girls need more support



Children at the Fulton Square Boys and Girls Club play "Catch Phrase" while working on crafts. The Caldwell Boys and Girls Club site closed on Tuesday (photo by Shyloh Karshner).

By Jessica Easterly
Special to The Shield

An Intro to Performance Studies class that works with a local Boys and Girls Club may have to find another agency to work with.

Only Caldwell, one of three Evansville Boys and Girls Club sites, has had to close its doors due to a lack of funding, but the Fulton Square satellite location is in jeopardy of closing soon.

"Kids are taking pictures and making this the best last day we can have," Tonya Staup, assistant executive director of the Boys and Girls Club, said on Monday when the Caldwell site closed.

Dr. Leigh Anne Howard,

assistant professor of communication studies, occasionally takes her class to the Boys and Girls Club to teach the children performance techniques.

Howard said that the class can find another agency to go through, but the Boys and Girls Club gives students a reason to make a difference.

"The benefit is being able to see the connection between the class and their roles as members of society. The kids have been so active, so vital, so interested. I think they'll recognize a void," Howard said.

"We're all very saddened. When you can see a program have the opportunity to grow like ours did, it's sad,"

Staup said.

"Basically, we have zero dollars coming in. Unfortunately, it's a decision we had to make, not that we wanted to or had fun doing it," Staup said.

Staup said the board took measures including trying to cap spending, applying for funding from United Way and applying for a government grant.

Staup said she thinks the Caldwell closing will widely affect the 365 children who had enrolled at the end of last year and the 60-65 children who attended on a regular basis.

"The kids will be out in the neighborhood, doing
See SUPPORT on Page 8

BSU says 'Speak to me' Counseling Center offers screenings

By Salena Woodford
Staff Reporter

"Speak to me" pins were worn by Black Student Union members and others who attended the first BSU Week activity Monday.

Dr. Charlie Nelms, vice president for Institutional Development and Student Affairs at Indiana University, spoke about the lack of communication and common courtesy.

Nelms identified the social implications for greeting others, acknowledged the reasons some people ignore others and named 10 essential reasons people should communicate.

"One of the things that I have been bothered by is the growing tendency of people not to speak to each other, the tendency for people to just look away," said Dr. Nelms. Nelms said many people

avoid greeting strangers because they fear the reaction of the stranger.

"If you speak to me, you can't be sure if I'm going to respond.

"I may look the other way. I may look down," said Nelms.

Nelms said speaking to others is important because it is a sign of courtesy, affirms the other person's humanity and fulfills the other person's need to be recognized.

"Speaking recognizes the common struggle that all persons of African descent have experienced and the struggles of human rights, dignity and social justice that all disenfranchised people have in common," said Nelms.

"We all have a common bond. It's not our race, it's not our gender and it's not our age.

"It is our humanity. That's the common denominator and that is worthy of acknowledging" said Nelms.

Counseling Center offers screenings

By Jessica Easterly
Special to The Shield

The Counseling Center will be offering a lifesaving opportunity for those suffering from anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa or binge eating March 2.

Mary Beth Weber, staff counselor in the Counseling Center, said the screenings consist of a paper self-report followed by a confidential session with a professional staff member.

"We will go over the screening results and offer a referral to the individual if necessary," said Weber.

Weber said females are more prone to eating disorders, largely due to the images in the media of the "ideal woman."

Weber said eating disorders are common on college campuses and 10 percent of those who seek treatment are males.

According to the National Eating Disorders Association, athletes are vulnerable to eating disorders, since college and professional sports usually require athletes to maintain a certain weight.

Weber said most people who do seek treatment are referred by roommates, significant others or family members.

Weber said some signs of eating disorders include repeated weight gain or loss, visiting the bathroom at meals, use of laxatives and/or diet pills among others.

For more information call the Counseling Center at 464-1867.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

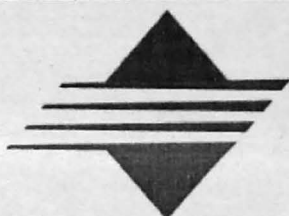
Thursday, Feb. 24
RopeWalk Reading Series: poet Richard Jackson - 7 p.m., Kleymeyer Hall, LA. Information: 461-5208.

Success Series Workshop: Thinking About Thinking - 3 p.m., ED 1103. Free.

Friday, Feb. 25
RopeWalk Winter Retreat - Information: 464-1989 or 800/467-8600.

Saturday, Feb. 26
Annual Bluebird Trail Cleanup - Information: 464-1939.

Tuesday, March 1
Local dentist, doctor to discuss time served in Iraq. 8-11 a.m. Mitchell Auditorium, HP. Information: 465-1155.



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Like '1984,' but without the fiction



By Jeff Walker
Opinion Editor

When you're a kid, you're generally forced to say the Pledge of Allegiance a lot in class, and for the most part that's OK. Simply put, when I was a kid, I thought that stuff promised to me by the Pledge made me WANT to say it.

I never felt forced to say it. "Liberty and Justice for all?" When I was 12, I don't think I really understood what it meant, but I sure thought it sounded cool.

As I've gotten older, I've come to realize that the arguments we made way back when we were writing the Declaration of Independence and later the U.S. Constitution are being rendered null and void.

On Monday, the lead editorial in the Washington Post centered on the case of Ahmed Abu Ali. Not surprisingly, I don't know the guy who this focuses on. I don't know what he's like; he might be a total jerk.

What I do know is that the story that has unfolded over the last 20 months makes me abhor the U.S. Government, and quite

honestly terrifies me.

In June 2003, Ali, a U.S. Citizen, was arrested in Saudi Arabia at the request of the United States. Our government cannot make a case against him, but we have encouraged the Saudis to continue his detention.

Technically, American judges have ruled, we don't have the jurisdiction in the case, so American judges can't overturn any charges that may have been pressed against him.

The thing is, he's never been told what he's being charged for. In fact, no charges have been officially filed.

The guy has been sitting in jail for 20 months with absolutely no charges against him.

That's his right. He has no idea why he's in jail. Neither does his family. Or his lawyers.

But that's not all. It gets better.

The U.S. government argued in court this month that, get this, legal theory by which it defends its behavior should be immune from argument.

Oh, and that they shouldn't have to tell anyone what that theory is, either.

Furthermore, the lawyers have submitted secret evidence,

and have made secret arguments to the judge that Ali's lawyers have not been allowed to even hear or read notes of, let alone make a reasonable argument against.

It would be easy for me to take the same line I always take, and blame Bush and his administration for the gross mismanagement of this country and all things related to it, but instead I'm going to leave them blameless.

Instead, I blame all of the American media that has allowed this to continue for such a long time.

How is it that we can let this happen in this country?

I've known about this for sometime, but I always assumed it was false. I don't have the resources to investigate something like this.

I always assumed it was just something on the Internet that had been some elaborately constructed lie. Turns out, this is a true story.

This is a story that should terrify us all. And it probably does.

Imagine the fear of being held in a country that's not your own.

There is a perceived "Axis of Evil" that was revealed in the days and weeks after Sept. 11. Of the countries on there, I don't remember the United States being part of

the axis.

Why then, are we acting like we should be number one on there?

After invading Iraq, a sovereign nation, we have detained their prisoners at Abu Ghraib and tortured them, violated international law with our treatment of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba, and then, we egregiously violate our own laws by supporting the imprisonment of a "criminal" who hasn't even been charged with a crime.

The time has come for us to hold up our end of the bargain in the global community. That has to start here at home.

Write your congressman or congresswoman and demand that they speak out against the current U.S. policy.

Whether it's us or our children or grandchildren, someone will certainly have to pay for the mistakes that we're allowing our government to make.

If you don't care, and you don't act to make things right, it could just as easily be you or someone you know or love detained illegally in some foreign country.

Not caring is just too big of a risk to allow yourself to take.

Get out of here, please



By Randy Hawkins
Editor-In-Chief

Being a military brat, I have become accustomed to travel.

While born in Panama City, Republic of Panama, I have also lived in such popular states as Delaware, California, and, obviously, Indiana.

With the exception of the trip back to the states from Panama, we did all our traveling and relocating by automobile. After so many years in the Air Force, my dad decided he had had enough of flying.

It wasn't until we moved to Indiana that I ever encountered people who had lived in one place forever, entire generations located in the same 15-mile radius. I can barely comprehend it.

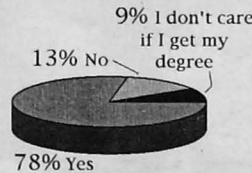
I love traveling, by car or by airplane. I actually get cabin fever if I don't get out of the city often enough, let alone my apartment. Even when broke and crunched for money, I find a way. Normally it involves conning my friends into accompanying me on a road trip and splitting the cost, but I find a way.

I weep at the thought of staying in Evansville for the rest of my days. Not that this wouldn't be a nice place to raise a family or "settle down," but for the point of life I am in, I need to get out.

We've all been told about the importance of traveling.

Last week's online poll question

"Do you agree with Professor Von Fuhrmann that education is being dumbed down?"



This week's question

How far would you move for a job?

- Across the country or out of it if possible
- Within the Mid-west. The Cardinal must be the state bird (Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky all have the same state bird).
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'Constantine' brings Hell to the big screen

By Shane Todd
Et. Cetera editor

Alright, kids, it's story time. A couple of years ago, the Devil went down to Georgia, looking for a soul to steal.

No, wait. That's not the right story. Let's try that again.

A couple of years ago, the Devil went down to California, looking to make a deal.

The Devil met a young, aspiring actor there, and did indeed make a deal.

See, the Devil gave this barely talented actor a career making blockbuster movies.

And in return, said actor was required to make a movie about Satan, and or Hell, every couple of years. See, it's a win-win situation.

Now, I know what you're thinking. Whoa. And yes, you're right.

Ladies and gentleman, said actor is none other than everyone's favorite emotionless hero, Keanu Reeves.

Following his bogus journey with Death and his legal battles with Pacino's Satan, Reeves brings to us his newest Hell in-



DC's comic 'Hellblazer' John Constantine

spired vehicle, "Constantine."

"Constantine" is based on the DC/Vertigo comic book "Hellblazer."

In this film version, John Constantine is a grim and dark character, a man cursed with the

ability to see both angels and demons.

Now, we take a timeout for a moment while I try to explain this one. Apparently for fun, God and the Devil made a bet for the souls of all mankind, (remember this from the trailer?).

They're not allowed to directly touch or possess any human being, just simply influence them into making the right or wrong decision.

So there are all kinds of angels and demons walking around that the average Joe just doesn't know about, whispering in people's ears and telling them to jump. Or not to jump.

Now, back to Constantine. Granted this amazing ability, Constantine travels around LA, looking for any agents of Heaven or Hell that, may be trying to upset the balance.

And as soon as they do, Constantine's there to send them back to Hell where they came from. Fun gig, no?

Lately, though, the rules are being broken left and right.

Demons are trying to force their way out into our plane, (one of those things they're not supposed to do).

Some have even made their way to our plane, and are attacking Constantine out in the open.

So he's on a mission to find out why. Along the way, Constantine gets mixed up with a detective named Angela, played by Rachel Weisz, who's sister has recently committed suicide.

However, Angela doesn't believe that her sister's death was entirely on the up and up.

She suspects the suicide has something to do with the visions her sister saw, of demons, naturally, and enlists the reluctant help of Constantine to help her find out the truth.

Lost somewhere in the confusion of Angela's investigation, and her apparent high-ranking on Hell's most wanted list, is a plot about the Spear of Destiny, (you know, the one that Roman stabbed

Jesus with), and an apparent usurpation of power by some of Hell's more mischievous minions.

Most of the film revolves around the relationship of Angela and Constantine, and their growing notability on Hell's radar.

So there's a lot of Reeves looking morose, (which he's good at), and being a complete prick, (which he's also rather good at).

Weisz gets some mileage out of looking very sad, (she's a good crier), confused (not too bad), and then really scared (might use a little work here).

On the supporting cast side of things, there's Constantine's young and enthusiastic taxi driver Chas (Shia LeBeouf), the well-dressed and arrogant minion of Hell Balthazar (Gavin Rossdale), and the voodoo witch doctor owner of a nightclub for the otherworldly (Djimon Hounsou).

Most everyone in the cast does an excellent job of what they're supposed to.

Again, there's that one problem of Reeves not being the most versatile actor in Hollywood, but he's competent enough for this role.

John Constantine is an ass-

anti-hero to ever grace the screen, but there are redeeming qualities buried deep within the film.

The movie, for all its potential, drags a bit under the weight of its own ambitions.

Balancing both the story of Angela's sister and the Spear of Destiny, and more so trying to weave the two together.

There's a lot of explanation here, trying to bring the viewer into this world of demons, angels and man.

Now don't get me wrong, it's an intriguing idea. The story is actually pretty good, and nearly original.

But there's a point where there's been enough talk, and it's time for Keanu to beat some demon ass.

For this kind of film, there's just too large a gap between the action.

That doesn't mean this film isn't worth watching, though. The finale is redeeming enough to make up for the film's handful of shortcomings.

"Constantine" has an almost original idea, and it executes well. There's some slow pacing, and a few of those leaps of logic com-



Keanu Reeves' film adaptation of the DC hellblazer John Constantine

monly found in comic (or Keanu) films.

But there is a bit of wasted potential here, and some missed opportunities that really could have brought the film up.

For those curious, "Constantine" will surely satisfy, but missing it certainly won't be damning anyone to Hell.

He's not the most loveable

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6:00 p.m.
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9:00 p.m.
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Friday
6:00 p.m.
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9:00 p.m.
Intolerable Cruelty

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DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN (PG-13)
1:10 4:10 7:20 10:00
MAN OF THE HOUSE (PG-13)
[11:30am] 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE (PG)
12:50 3:30 6:10 8:45
CONSTANTINE (R) [11:00am] 1:15 1:45 4:15
4:45 7:10 7:45 10:05 10:30
SON OF THE MASK (PG)
[11:20am] 1:50 4:20 6:40 9:00
HITCH (PG-13) [11:15am] 1:00 2:15 3:40
5:10 6:30 7:50 9:15 10:35
BOOGYMAN (PG-13)
12:40 3:00 5:20 8:05 10:15
THE WEDDING DATE (PG-13)
[12:10] 2:20 4:50 7:15 9:40
HIDE AND SEEK (R)
[12:15] 2:50 5:30 8:00 10:20
MILLION DOLLAR BABY (PG-13)
12:30 3:45 6:45 9:45
SIDEWAYS (R) 1:30 4:40 7:40 10:25
ARE WE THERE YET? (PG)
1:40 4:30 6:20 9:10
COACH CARTER (PG-13)
12:45 3:50 6:50 10:10

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Hot tips for Spring: White is in



By **Betsy Gentry**
Fashion
guru

some of the hot new fashions for this year.

White: The rule of not wearing white after Labor Day or before Memorial Day can be thrown out.

This spring, white is in, and it is hot. Every designer from Marc Jacobs to Chloe is fanatical about white.

Wearing white as a top, bottom, or both look great, especially with a slight tan.

A great white basic for your wardrobe is the BCBG Flat-front trouser (www.saks.com). They fit great and stay true to size.

Shrunken jackets: Jackets are no longer just for the work place.

These perfect everyday jackets add to a more casual but pro-

fessional look.

You can also wear this in place of a leather jacket. One jacket you can not go wrong with is the Vince striped jacket at www.neimanmarcus.com.

It is available in a khaki color which makes you able to wear it with almost anything.

The new jean: The new look for jeans are a slimmer leg and a higher rise in the waist.

This does not mean that you have to start wearing straight legs with a waist that reaches your bellybutton.

Try a basic boot cut that still has a low rise but does not come down too far.

The perfect brands for this newer style are Seven for all Mankind, Citizens of Humanity, and Yanuk.

Yanuk jeans are especially great because they are lower in the front and higher in the back.

Full skirts: This season is going for a classier look than before.

The full skirts hit about the knees and go well with basic tops. Be careful of the full skirts that flare out too much.

You always want the style to flatter your figure. Laundry by Shelli Segal took the full skirt to the next level by making a dress out of the style in the beautiful color of Atlantis (www.saks.com).

These skirts are great for the warm weather and a different look than the classic mini.

Wedges: These shoes give your outfit the perfect touch. By adding some heels to your height, it can make you appear to be slimmer.

Colors to invest in are white, black, ivory and brown. These basic colors for shoes will allow you to save money, and you can put them with anything.

The Prada straw platform sandal (www.saks.com) is a perfect model for the spring wedge.

Totes: These handbags allow you to carry more than just a cell phone and a wallet.

The woven and straw-style totes are catching stares this season. The totes are great for shopping or to take on a date.

They can fit so many things in them and are great for organizing your items.

Designer Kate Spade has a vast variety of colors and styles in her collection that look great for the season.



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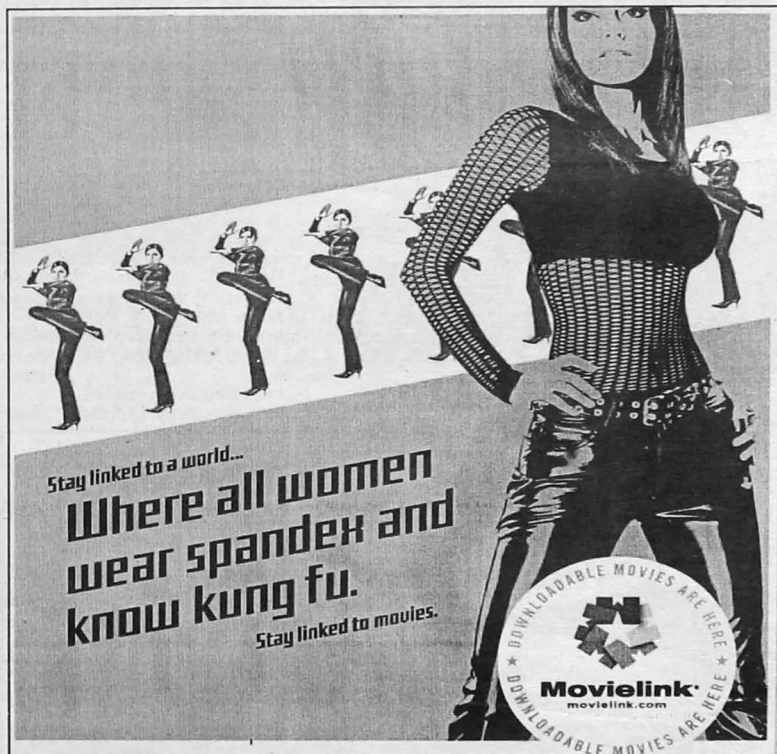
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Women split weekend games, GLVC tourney hopes still alive

By Aaron Grider
Sports reporter

'Win and we're in,' is what's on the mind of the University of Southern Indiana women's basketball team.

The Eagles must win both of their road games this week to ensure they will be in the GLVC tournament.

The road to the tourney begins tonight at rivals Kentucky Wesleyan College where the Lady Eagles hope to avenge an earlier loss at the PAC.

The Eagles will then finish the regular season on Saturday against Bellarmine University.

If the Eagles win both games, they will enter the GLVC tourney as the number seven seed.

USI leads the all-time series against the Panthers 37-22, but are a dismal 16-33 against Bellarmine.

Like the Panthers, Bellarmine also beat the Lady Eagles at the PAC earlier in the season.

The Eagles didn't do much to help their cause last Thursday against the Quincy Hawks.

Quincy's victory was due in large part to former USI forward, Jessica Stuckman's 21-point performance.

The Eagles lost the battle of the birds, 67-53.

This was the fourth consecutive loss for the Eagles dropping them to

just 5-12 in the GLVC.

USI kept the game close in the first half and only trailed by eight at halftime, but then the Eagles returned from halftime only to score two points in the first six minutes of the second half.

This drought allowed Quincy to increase the lead to 17 points. The Hawks never looked back.

The Eagles only shot 32 percent in the second half and scored just nine field goals en route to the loss.

Sabrina Brandon, junior forward, lead USI with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Andrea Engleking, senior forward/center, was able to contribute 11 points and fellow senior Jamie Truitt scored 10 points.

Truitt's 10 points moved her into the number 19 spot on the all-time women's scorers' list.

On Saturday the Lady Eagles were finally able to snap their four game losing streak with an 82-78 victory over Missouri-St. Louis.

The Eagles connected on 28 of 31 free throws, and for the first time in 12 games scored more than 70 points.

USI started strong and jumped to a quick 9-0 lead. The Riverwomen battled back to lead by three with more than seven minutes to go in the half.

USI then used a 7-2 run to take an overall 40-38 lead heading into the

locker room.

The pace went back and forth most of the second half before the Lady Eagles used another run, 12-5, to pull ahead by eight with four minutes remaining.

USML did not rollover as they scored nine unanswered points to take the lead by two, before a three-point play by senior Megan Nelson put the Eagles up by a basket.

Two free throws by USML tied the game again before junior Ashley Green put back a basket to put away the game for good.

USI shot 52 percent from the field and received another stellar performance from Truitt.

Truitt scored 19 points and moved up two more spots on the all-time scorers' list to 17.

Engleking contributed 16 points while junior guard Tiara Brown was able to rack up 14 points and five assists.

The win moved USI into a tie for eighth in the GLVC.

The Eagles need to win their last two games to ensure a conference berth or else they will have to rely on some other teams to lose in order to get in.

If the Eagles get to the tournament, USI would begin play on March 4 with the championship game being held on March 6 at Roberts Stadium.



Head coach, Rick Stein talks to the team during the Wisconsin-Parkside game. The Eagles lost 72-64 (photo courtesy of News and Information).

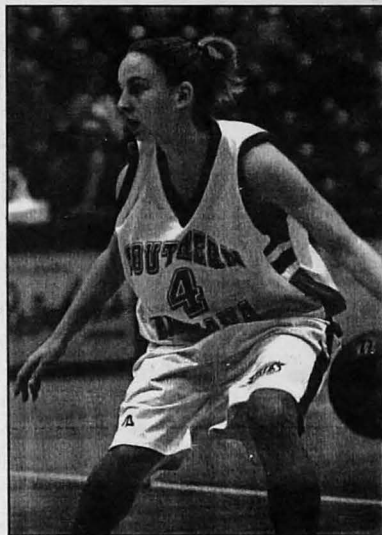
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Leah Stormont had three assists against Wisconsin-Parkside. If the women win both of their games this weekend, they make it into the GLVC tourney (photo courtesy of News and Information).

Men's basketball team continues streak, works for champion finish

By Aaron Grider
Sports reporter

The USI men's basketball team has clinched a number one seed in the GLVC tournament and is one win away from securing the regular season title.

The Eagles have won 20 games or more for the thirteenth straight season.

With 21 wins and four losses, the team is ranked fifth in the NCAA Division II.

The men have won 11 games in a row and look to continue the streak on the road tonight against Kentucky Wesleyan. On the road, the men have won five consecutive games.

If they are victorious over Wesleyan, it will be the first season sweep against this rival since the 1979-80 season.

Of their last seventeen games, they have won sixteen.

During the first of two road games last week, the Eagles overcame a six-point deficit on two oc-

casions before a Carl Richburg three-pointer sparked a 14-4 run in the last 5:44 of the game to give USI a 71-63 victory.

Senior Kris Brunson scored the last five points for the Eagles to help seal the victory.

Brunson, Chris Thompson, junior forward, and David Bryant, junior guard, all scored in double figures for the Eagles.

Last Saturday the Eagles used an eleven-point halftime lead to pull away from Missouri-St. Louis and clinch a GLVC tournament number one seed with a 78-51 victory.

USI shot 60 percent from the field in the first half to open up the lead and never looked back. They also held UMMSL to 33 percent shooting in the second half.

Senior Randy Holbrook led the way with 22 points and eight rebounds during his game as an Eagle in his hometown.

Seniors Brunson and Newsome also contributed with 18 and 12 points, respectively.

Saturday the Eagles will face Bellarmine, against who USI has won 11 of the last 12 games. In January, the men scored 109 points against Bellarmine, the highest scoring game all season.

After Saturday, the Eagles will head back to Evansville for the GLVC tourney on March 3.

As of press time, USI was second in regional ranking behind Findlay. Findlay's loss to Wayne State Feb. 14 may have allowed USI to gain the number one spot in regionals.

The Great Lakes Region will have updated their ranking Wednesday. If USI is number one after the final regional ranking, we will host a regional in the NCAA Division II tournament.

The final ranking will be published March, after the regular season.

If USI has been deemed first in the most current ranking, and wins the last two games of the regular season, the men will most likely be first in the final ranking.

Track ready for GLVC tourney, women expect to finish in top-three

By Aaron Grider
Sports reporter

The University of Southern Indiana track teams are busy preparing for the weekend GLVC Indoor championships in Crawfordsville, Ind.

Some of the runners, especially the distance relay teams, got a nice tune-up at the Friday Night Special competition last week in Charleston, Ill.

Both relay teams were able to beat their competition, with the men finishing in a time of 10 minutes and 17 seconds and the women won in a time of 12 minutes and 4 seconds.

"Our relay races were total opposites of each other. We led the men's race pretty much from the first step and were never really challenged.

"On the women's side we had to come from behind to win. We had to chase down Lincoln University, who were national champs last year.

"When Heather (Cooksey) got the baton she was 17 seconds behind, which is about a football field in length, and was able to chase the girl down who had won the mile earlier in the meet and we were able to pull away," Mike Hillyard, the men's and women's track coach, said.

Both of the races were used to fine tune the runners and get them

ready for what they hope will be a successful day at the GLVC championships.

"On the men's side, I think we will score very well in the 800 and up, especially the distance medley.

"For the most part I think we will be in the middle of the pack in the men's competition.

"On the women's side we are very confident that we can finish in the top three, which we have never done and maybe contend for the top two," Hillyard said.

The Eagles also sent a couple of long jumpers to the Depauw Classic in Greencastle, Ind.

Junior Abby Boberg won the contest with a jump of 5 feet and 4.25 inches. Molly Gilland wasn't far behind, finishing fourth with a jump of 4 feet and 10.25 inches.

Most of the USI runners have basically had two weeks off since their last competition and the break has allowed the team to change their practice routine in order to be fully prepared for the conference championships.

"We are going to back off the intensity and volume a little bit and be refreshed for the conference.

"We don't run another meet for a month so we can afford to rest a little more now and then build our tails for a month," Hillyard said.

If any Eagles qualify for the National Championships after the GLVC, they will travel to Boston, Mass. beginning on March 11.

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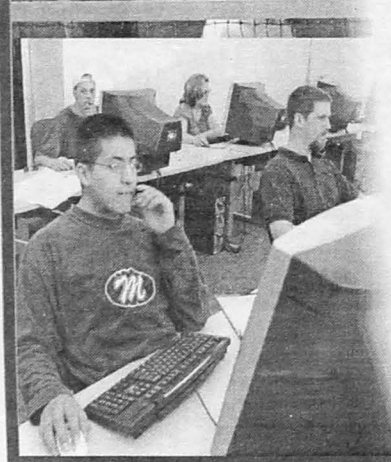
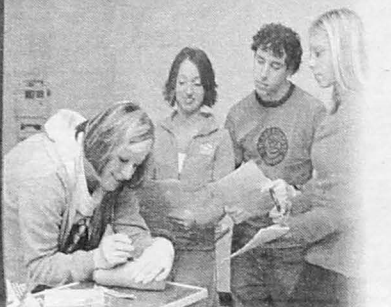
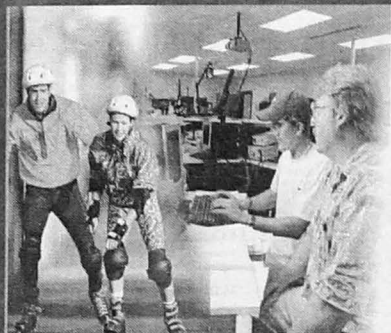
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discussion.

"We're three years after Sept. 11 and we're criticized for taking away privacy, but if something happens again, we'll be criticized for not being prepared," said Van-Wormer.

"It's not just about the Patriot Act tonight," said Quigley.

May said a change to the First Amendment that would prohibit the desecration of the United States flag has been proposed to Congress and is currently under consideration.

May said Veterans Defending the Bill of Rights oppose the potential amendment, even though those who support the amendment say it is out of respect for veterans.

"It's our position that we will have lost a fundamental freedom. We submit we didn't do those heroic things for the flag. We did that to protect our buddies and values and freedoms," said May.

May said the proposed amendment is fundamentally important.

"We're perilously close to losing a freedom. Please understand the importance of this assault on our First Amendment liberties. We lose way too much for what we would gain," said May.

things they're not supposed to be doing, instead of being at the Boys and Girls Club," said Staup.

Howard said she still has hope for the Fulton Square branch.

"A couple of things are in the works. They're waiting for a Ross Grant, and they've been provided with space and utilities by the Evansville Housing Authority, as well as funding for programs and staff, amounting to \$130,000," Howard said.

"We're having our financial issues here, but with community support, we should be able to remedy those. I hope we're here in another year," Staup said.

"Hopefully it won't close down. Hopefully money will be made available. I think the program is very much needed," Howard said.

Howard said she believes children need organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club.

"It helps teach leadership, how to make good choices.

"It leaves a big impact," Howard said.

News editor Amelia Jeffirs contributed to this article.

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