

University Notes

Wendy Bredhold, editor • 812/461-5259 • Brandi Schwartz, managing editor • 812/465-1192

Vol. 42, No. 27 ► September 28, 2007

What it really means to “get medieval”

“I’m going to get medieval on you.”

Marcellus Wallace vows revenge with words like these in the Quentin Tarantino film, “Pulp Fiction.” The scene suggests that Wallace’s chosen form of punishment will be particularly violent and savage, and perpetuates a stereotype that **Dr. Jason Hardgrave**, assistant professor of history, works to combat.

Hardgrave teaches a course in medieval history and will present the College of Liberal Arts Faculty Colloquium, “Medieval Justice Personified and Enacted,” at 3:30 p.m. Friday, October 12, in Kley Meyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center. He said the Middle Ages “is not simply a cruel time.”

“Medieval concepts of justice are not as alien as perhaps most people think them to be,” he said. “We think of the Inquisition, the rack, and burning at the stake, and that’s not the beginning and end of medieval justice. It’s also the era that gave us trials, witnesses, evidence, and also – unfortunately – lawyers.”

In his colloquium, he plans to refute the myth of the Middle Ages as obscenely dark and cruel, as well as show the era’s relevance to contemporary times. “Our justice system is based on the system of law in England, and that system of justice is based in the middle ages,” he said.

He also will show how justice was portrayed in art through paintings and statuary.

Hardgrave joined USI in 2004. He was the first recipient of USI’s Scavone Award in Medieval Manuscripts and Culture, established in honor of **Dr. Daniel Scavone**, professor emeritus of history, by **John Lawrence ’73**.

He received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Wyoming and his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas.

The College of Liberal Arts Faculty Colloquium is a free lecture series featuring faculty research in the College of Liberal Arts. For more information, contact **Dr. Teresa Huerta**, coordinator, at 812/465-7053.

Kimball International CEO: “To Live is to Change”

James C. Thyen, president and CEO of Kimball International Inc., is the 2007-08 College of Business Executive in Residence on Monday, October 1. He will meet with students and classes and offer two public presentations on the topic “To Live is to Change” at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in Carter Hall.

Since 1950, Kimball has grown from a company with fewer than 30 employees to an international organization with facilities in seven countries and three continents, and employs more than 7,000 people worldwide. It became a publicly traded company in 1976 and was named to the Fortune 500 list for the first time in 1988.

Kimball was founded as The Jasper Corporation, a small contract furniture manufacturing company in Jasper, Indiana. In 1959, the company acquired the W.W. Kimball Piano Company, and began production of electronics for its organ business two years later with the formation of Kimball Electronics.

Today, Kimball Electronics provides design, engineering, manufacturing, packaging, and distribution of electronic assemblies and circuit boards for the automotive, industrial, medical and public safety industries. Its furniture

manufacturing segment produces three brands: Kimball Office, Kimball Hospitality, and National.

Thyen joined Kimball in 1966 and has served in various financial and executive capacities. He joined the company’s Board of Directors in 1982, and has served as president since 1997. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Xavier University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Indiana University.

For more information about the event, contact the College of Business at 812/464-1718.

Two RopeWalk Readings within a week

The RopeWalk Reading series will host the writers Michael Martone and Gary Gildner within a week of each other in October.

Martone is the author of several books of fiction and nonfiction, including *Doublewide*, a new collection of his work over the last two decades; *Michael Martone: Fictions*, a memoir in contributor’s notes; *The Blue Guide to Indiana*; *Seeing Eye*; *Pensees: The Thoughts of Dan Quayle*; *Fort Wayne is Seventh on Hitler’s List*; and *The Flatness and Other Landscapes*, which received the 1998 AWP Award for Creative Nonfiction. He teaches creative writing in the University of Alabama’s MFA program.

Martone’s reading will be held at 5 p.m. Wednesday, October 3, in Kley Meyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

Gildner is a nationally recognized poet and writer whose books include *Cleaning a Rainbow*, recently released by BkMk Press; *Somewhere Geese are Flying*; *New and Selected Poems*; *Blue Like the Heavens*; *The Second Bridge*; and *The Warsaw Sparks*. He has received the National Magazine Award for Fiction, a Pushcart Prize, and the William Carlos Williams and Theodore Roethke poetry prizes. He has been a Senior Fulbright Lecturer to both Poland and Czechoslovakia. Gildner lives in Idaho’s Clearwater Mountains.

Gildner’s reading will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, October 8, in Room 0017 in the lower level of the David L. Rice Library.

For more information, contact **Nicole Reid**, assistant professor of English, at 812/464-1916 or go to www.ropewalk.org.

USI Retiree publishes memoir

A book signing by **Arthur B. “Mac” McCaffry**, a former Residence Life staff member, will be held at Barnes & Noble Booksellers from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 6. McCaffry, who retired as manager of the Golden Tower Apartments in 2001, will sign copies of his memoir *Preacher Boy in the Heartland* (iUniverse, Inc., 2007). The book is set during the Great Depression, and recalls McCaffry’s years as a child evangelist. His mother died when he was two years old and he was raised by his grandmother. His father was a “rogue preacher,” an “Elmer Gantry-type, but worse,” he said. McCaffry preached all over southern Indiana, Kentucky, and Illinois. The book is 238 pages, including pictures and newspaper articles from the time, and is dedicated in part to **Eric VonFuhrmann**, associate professor of English, who encouraged McCaffry to tell his story. *Preacher Boy in the Heartland* is available at Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com. McCaffry also will appear on the Fox 7 morning show “A.M. Evansville” at 6:25 a.m. Tuesday, October 2. McCaffry’s grandson, **Adam Balbach**, is a 2007 USI graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in finance and received his commission as a second lieutenant through USI’s Army ROTC program.

Growing...Building: Quadrangle almost complete

After 10 months of construction, the new focal point for the USI campus is nearly complete.

The quadrangle occupies two and a half acres in the center of campus, and will link together the University Center, Rice Library, Technology Center, Liberal Arts Center, and the new Business and Engineering Center, for which construction begins in fall 2008.

In addition to an open lawn space, the quad includes terraced steps leading to Rice Library; a brick-paved Chartres-style labyrinth in front of the Liberal Arts Center; a black granite fountain between the University Center and Rice Library; many new benches and seating areas; wide sidewalks; and extensive landscaping.

A few facts about the quad:

- The fountain has seven nozzles, reaches a maximum spray height of 14 feet, can be illuminated at night, and is programmable to allow for a variety of displays.

- Approximately 250 trees have been planted, including sour gum, serviceberry, dogwood, redbud, hawthorn, oak, maple, linden, sycamore, walnut, and American holly.

- At 56 feet wide, USI's brick-paved labyrinth is the largest constructed in the Chartres design. It is modeled after New Harmony's Cathedral Labyrinth and symbolizes USI's stewardship of Historic New Harmony, an outreach program of USI and the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites.

An official opening of the quadrangle will be held in mid-October, after the sod has taken hold.

An opening ceremony for the labyrinth will be held Wednesday, October 3, with a special guest lecture and labyrinth walk. Ben Nicholson, a leading expert on labyrinths, will present a lecture, "From A to B - The Long Way 'Round," at 6:30 p.m. in Carter Hall in the University Center. Nicholson, a New Harmony, Indiana resident, is associate professor of architecture at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

After Nicholson's talk, there will be a labyrinth walk, followed by a reception with refreshments in the Liberal Arts Center. The labyrinth opening event is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Center for Communal Studies. For more information, contact **Dr. Tamara Hunt**, chair of the History Department, at 812/465-1202.

Names in the news

Welcome

Patricia Beagle has accepted a position as academic advisor in University Division. She holds a Master of Science degree in education from USI and a Bachelor of Science degree in education from the University of Illinois. Beagle was formerly employed as an adjunct instructor at USI.

Bobbie Brown has accepted a position as senior program assistant in Extended Services. Brown was formerly employed as an office clerk for Sodexho Dining Services.

Simon Cisneros has accepted a position as instructor in mathematics in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Texas A&M University Kingsville. Cisneros was formerly employed as an instructor at Northwest Vista College.

Damon Dawson has accepted a position as library assistant in the David L. Rice Library. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from USI. Dawson was formerly employed as an embroidery technician at Southwest Grafix and Apparel.

Brianne DiBacco has accepted a position as instructor in English in the College of Liberal Arts. She holds a Master of Arts in literature and a Master of Arts certificate in teaching of writing from Youngstown State University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in language and literature studies from LaRoche College. DiBacco was formerly employed as an instructor in English

at Point Park University and Jefferson Community College.

Ronald Diersing has accepted a position as assistant professor of engineering in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University, a Master of Science degree in electrical engineering, and a doctorate from the University of Notre Dame. Diersing was formerly in a post doctoral fellowship at Temple University.

Jennifer Greene has accepted a position as reference archive librarian in the David L. Rice Library. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from USI and is currently pursuing a Master in Library Science degree from IUPUI. Greene was formerly employed as an administrative assistant in the Center for Communal Studies and a part-time reference associate in the David L. Rice Library.

Sushila Kedia has accepted a position as visiting professor of accounting and business law in the College of Business. She holds a Master of Science degree in computer science and a Master of Business Administration degree from Louisiana Tech University. Kedia was formerly employed as an assistant professor at Grambling State University.

Kathleen McWilliams has accepted a position as instructor in mathematics in the Pott College of Science and Engineering. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from Millersville University and a Master of Arts degree in teaching from Indiana University. McWilliams was formerly employed as a manufacturing trainer at Master Brand Cabinets Incorporated.

Silvia Rode has accepted a position as chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and associate professor of German in the College of Liberal Arts. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in German, a Master of Arts degree in German, and a doctorate in German languages from the University of California. Rode was formerly employed as chair of the Department of Modern Languages and associate professor of German at Central College Pella.

Julia Winegar has accepted a position as administrative assistant in the Office of the Registrar. Winegar was formerly employed as senior secretary and student records specialist at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

Accomplishments

Jeffrey Thomson has received the Maine Arts Commission Literary Arts Fellow for 2008 based on his chapbook, *Celestial Emporium of Benevolent Knowledge*, released by USI's RopeWalk Press. Thomson is assistant professor of creative writing at the University of Maine at Farmington. He read from his chapbook at a spring 2007 RopeWalk Reading at USI.

A monoprnt entitled "Eternal Time" by Carolyn Roth, instructor in art, was chosen to appear in "A Sense of Place 07," an exhibition on view through October 19 at the Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art in Augusta, Georgia.

FYI

Salsa concert on Columbus Day

USI's Columbus Day concert will feature an hour of music from the Hispanic Caribbean by Salsa Rhythms of Louisville, Kentucky, at 4:30 p.m. Monday, October 8, in Carter Hall in the University Center. The annual event is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. For more information contact **Dr. Guillermo Latorre**, professor of Spanish, at 812/465-7143.

Cast your vote for the USI Scion xB

For the second year in a row, USI and University of Evansville students are competing in a graphic design contest sponsored by Kenny Kent Toyota. Students from each university designed half of a Scion xB with the 86th Annual West Side Nut Club Fall Festival as the theme.

The Scion will be on display during the Fall Festival. The winning school will be announced during the Fall Festival Parade at 6 p.m. on Saturday,

October 6. The winning school will receive \$1,000 for their art department. Go to courierpress.upickem.net/scion/index.asp for more information and to submit your vote.

Film examines differing racial views

The film "Two Towns of Jasper" will be shown at USI as part of the Human Rights Film Series sponsored by CYPRESS, the Evansville Public Library, University of Evansville, and USI. Using two separate filmmaking teams (an all-white crew filming white residents and an all-black camera crew filming black residents), "Two Towns of Jasper" captures very different racial views by townsfolk in Jasper, Texas, the location for a racially motivated murder of an African American in 1998. It will be shown at Central Library in Browning Room B at 6 p.m. Monday, October 15, and in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center at USI at 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 16. For more information about the series, contact **Heidi Gregori-Gahan**, director of International Programs and Services, at 812/465-1248.

Parents and Families Weekend coming up

The USI Parents and Families Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, October 6-7, will feature a variety of family-oriented activities on and off campus. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Saturday in Rice Library. On-campus activities include tours, faculty presentations, a scavenger hunt, disc golf, and volleyball on Saturday, and a brunch followed by men's and women's soccer games on Sunday. The West Side Nut Club Fall Festival will be in progress on Saturday, and Alumni and Volunteer Services will distribute "munchie maps" of the food booths, inviting parents and families to support USI booths. For more information, contact Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/465-1215.

Live at the Apollo showcases student talent

"USI Live at the Apollo," a talent show featuring student performances of skits, songs, dance, instrumental music, monologues, and more, will be held at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, October 13, in Carter Hall in the University Center. This year's show includes 18 acts and 34 students. For more information, go to www.usi.edu/mcc/apollo.asp or contact the Multicultural Center, which sponsors the event, at 812/465-7188.

Literary magazine reviewed

The spring 2007 issue of USI's literary magazine, *Southern Indiana Review*, was reviewed on Newpages.com. Scroll down to read the review at www.newpages.com/magazinesand/litmags/2007_09/litmagreviews_2007_09.htm. Copies of *Southern Indiana Review* may be purchased online at www.usi.edu/SIR/index.asp.

Price's nature photographs online

The summer issue of *The Evansville Boneyard* (published by **John Baburnich**, student records data manager in the Office of the Registrar) features a photo essay by **Dr. Charles Price**, professor of science education, on "The Seasons of USI." Go to www.evansville.net/user/boneyard/price01.htm to view it.

CSI deadline is October 8

Applications for the 2008 class of Connect with Southern Indiana are due Monday, October 8. Candidates should have the desire to develop regional leadership skills and become active in the region. They must be residents, for at least one year, of Knox, Gibson, Pike, Dubois, Posey, Vanderburgh, Warrick, Spencer, or Perry counties. Sessions will be held January 10 and 11 (overnight required), February 1 and 22, March 14, April 4 and 25, May 16 and 30, and June 13. Grant funding from Lilly Endowment covers program expense such as overnight accommodations, meals, and materials for the participants. People in the program provide their transportation to and from sessions and volunteer time to attend sessions

and work on projects. An online application form is available at www.usi.edu/extserv/connect.asp. For more information contact Dr. Darrel Bigham, professor of history and director of Historic Southern Indiana, at 812/465-7014. Applicants will be notified of the decision of the selection committee by November 12, 2007.

National Depression Screening Day

The Counseling Center will conduct screenings for National Depression Screening Day. The screenings will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, October 11, in the Orr Center, Room 1051. The screening will also screen for bipolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

All USI students, faculty, and staff are invited to take the screening which consists of a ten-minute written self-assessment followed by a confidential meeting with a Counseling Center professional. For more information contact **Brooke Orth**, staff counselor, at 812/464-1867.

Business Idea Competition

Announce to students: USI students have an opportunity this fall to exercise their entrepreneurial thinking in the second annual Business Idea Competition, sponsored by the College of Business. Students may submit their innovative ideas by October 18. Students do not have to be in the College of Business to enter. By early November, judges will determine the finalists, each of whom will make a brief presentation before a panel of judges. Winners will receive prizes. The competition will be a focus of the College of Business celebration of Indiana Entrepreneurship Week (November 5-9), sponsored by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. For more information about the Business Idea Competition, visit www.usi.edu/business/ideas.asp.

Nominations for Faculty Awards Due

The USI Faculty Awards for Service, Teaching, and Research Committee is extending the deadline for nominations for two faculty awards to Monday, October 15. The awards are the USI Distinguished Professor Award, presented during the spring Commencement ceremony, and the Sydney L. and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award, presented during Honors Week in the spring semester.

The Distinguished Professor Award is given to a faculty member who has distinguished himself or herself through professional experience, teaching responsibilities, University service, community service, professional activities, and scholarship. Details about the award and the nomination process are available at www.usi.edu/acafrs/Faculty.asp. Scroll to the second headline: Awards Available for Faculty.

Distinguished community service is the rationale for nominating fellow faculty members for the Berger Award. A broad spectrum of community service ranging from balanced activity in several areas to exceptional service in a single one will be considered. The Berger Award nomination form is available at www.usi.edu/acafrs/Faculty.asp. Scroll to the second headline: Awards Available for Faculty.

City parks survey is online

USI employees and students, along with people in the community, are asked to identify their favorite park facilities and recreational activities in Evansville through an online survey developed by the USI Office of Institutional Research for the Evansville Department of Parks and Recreation. Results of the survey, available at www.usi.edu/parksurvey.asp, will help the Parks Department update their five-year master plan with input from citizens about popular park facilities and activities, needed improvements, and suggestions for new recreational activities. The master plan is a required document in the submission of grant applications for state and federal funding. Help the Evansville Parks Department and advocate for your favorite recreational activities.