# The Shield

November 4, 1999.

The University of Southern Indiana Student Newspaper

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# All My Sons first show in Helen Mallette theatre

by KEVIN LOTTES
Guest writer

"Red letter, yellow letter. Red letter, yellow letter . . . the big black bled blood . . . I need New York, unique New York . . . You need New York, unique New York."

These tongue twisting chants pop from the lower level of the New Liberal Arts Castle.

The time is 6 p.m. Everyone else rushes to their dorm, tossing their books on the couch, catching the next Sportscenter. Some are driving off into the sunset trying to make it back home amongst the orange and yellow traffic colors. In the meantime, a group of actors, stage managers, designers and a director meet (for 4 hours!) just as the sun falls to continue preparation for the grand opening of the Helen Mallete Studio Theatre, hosting Arthur Miller's 1947 family drama, *All My Sons*.

"I wanted to do an American play that dealt with serious issues," director of the play and Dean of Liberal Arts Jim Blevins said.

All My Sons will be the first of three productions (The other two being *The Dining Room*, and *Vanities*) this season to be held in the new black box theatre located in the far left hand corner of the Liberal Arts building.

Guest actress, Joanna Olsen, came all the way from her home in Ft. Myers, Florida to play Kate Keller, the mother,



opposite associate professor of theatre, Elliot Wasserman playing Joe Keller. Theatre major Chris Passage, who will be playing the role of Dr. Jim Bayliss, is excited about working not only with a very diverse cast in terms of age and experience, but also with the new theatre space.

"I'm going to be able to smell the perfume of the ladies sitting on the front row now!" Passage said.

The USI Theatre has Helen Mallette to thank for funding the new black box for theatre classes, small-scale productions and other student events. The Iglehart

Theatre, located off Barker Ave., usually holds the season's roster and will remain the main stage for seasons to come. This year is devoted to smaller, more condensed plays, offering higher quality and tougher competition within the theatre department.

Black box theatres are known for the intimacy between the actors and the audience. The audience is wrapped around the stage as opposed to sitting directly in front.

The cast of *All My Sons* includes several USI students including: Josh White, Amy Egnew, Jason McCord, Jenny Kenny, Tyler Mayo, Selah Specht and USI professor Rick Hobbs' son, Adam.

The cast of ten convenes around a circle every night at 6 p.m. sharp, warming up their voices, putting scripts in back pockets, stage manager shouting "lights up!", off-stagers scribbling homework due the next morning. The clock rolls, it is approaching 10 p.m., actors search for the right line . . . it is almost there . . . . GONE . . "Line please," shouts Joe Keller . . . "Oh, I got it . . . Big night, tonight."

The first big night will be Nov. 11 in the Helen Mallette Studio Theatre at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sell now in LA 3094 or call the box office at (812) 422-3970. Ticket prices are five dollars for students and seniors (60+) and eight dollars for Faculty/Staff. General admission is nine dollars. All My Sons will run Nov. 11-21.

# Harmony Korine breaks through with Julien donkey-boy

by RYAN JACKSON Shield staff writer

"Virgins...I love'em!" Remember that famous line? If you don't, let me refresh your memory. Flashback to 1995 the Braves had the World Series, the Fugees scored a music hit and Larry Clark's KIDS debuted to critical acclaim and alarm.

Let's focus on the latter part, KIDS. KIDS was an extremely low budget picture. At the helm was New York photographer turned first-time director, Larry Clark. Clark was looking to break into cinema, but he needed that key element that all directors need, a great story to show and tell. Here's where the story

agreed to let this young unknown teenager, whom he met off the street, write a screenplay. The young boy's name was Harmony Korine and at 18 Korine was credited as the youngest paid screenwriter ever.

My focus here is on Harmony Korine; he's come a long way since scripting KIDS and with a new movie out, (released under the *Dogma 95* Standards) he might just be the true king of independent cinema.

Julien donkey-boy. Say it...Julien donkey-boy, almost sounds ridiculous, doesn't it. Well, to Harmony Korine it sounds like his break-through film, a chance to prove to the world that Howard Hughes and others like him still live inside the minds of some.

I had mentioned earlier *Dogma 95*. Now, I'm not the expert on this new group

of standards, but to gain its approval you must fit a certain criteria, such as shooting on digital video, not exceeding a certain budget, using a lot of natural light and a lot

of technical aspects. The cool and interesting thing is Korine's "Julien" is the first U.S. film to gain the Dogma 95 stamp of approval. Talk about an accomplishment.

Unfortunately, I haven't seen Julien donkey-boy. It's not playing in Evansville

(of course) and I haven't had time to check out some of the bigger cities close-by like Nashville, St. Louis, Indianapolis, etc. I only know about the film from what I've read.

I do know it stars Ewen Bremner (*Trainspotting*) as Julien, a schizophrenic whose family is misbegotten. Julien also

starts Chloe Sevigny (KIDS, Palmetto, Gummo). She's one of my personal favorites, and not just for her acting; check-out her scenes in Palmetto. Besides these details, I'm still in the dark on the subject of Julien donkey-boy. However, when

something's coming from Harmony Korine, you'd better brace yourself and be ready to be a firm believer that art reflects life and cinema is art.



#### Getting in Touch

Editor's Line: 465-1645 News Line: 464-1856

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Sidewalk Survey: College or NBA basketball, which is better? p.3

#### Also...

Shield staff travels to Atlanta for media convention, p.7

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# **Coming Attractions**

Today, November 4

- SGA meeting, 4:30 p.m., LA 1003

Friday, November 5

No events reported

Saturday, November 6

- Rugby vs. Western Kentucky (home), 1
- Volleyball vs. Bellarmine College (home), 2 p.m.
- Cross Country NCAAII Great Lakes Regional championships, Joplin, MO

Sunday, November 7
No events reported

Monday, November 8

- Speaker Donald S. Wolfe, "Remembers a prisoner of WWII, 7 p.m., Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences

#### Tuesday, November 9

- SHA meeting, 9:30 p.m., McDonald West recreation room
- Student Assessment day, no classes

Wednesday, November 10

- Habitat for Humanity meeting, 5 p.m., UC 205
- Speaker Dr. Ulrich Littmann, "History of the U.S., 7 p.m. Mitchell Auditorium
- Black Student Union meeting, 3 p.m. UC 204

Thursday, November 11

- SGA Meeting, 4:30 p.m., LA 1003
- Veteran's Day
- Ground breaking for the Recreation and Fitness Center, 1:30 p.m.

Getting in the Calendar

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

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#### Campus

# Sidewalk Survey

Basketball season is here again. Would USI college students rather watch college basketball or professional basketball?



"Definitely college basketball, because I am from Kentucky." **Brad Youngman** Sophomore



"College basketball because of the NCAA Tournament. It's do or die." Jeff Adler Junior



College basketball, because the players are younger and it means more to them." Rodney Heil Sophomore

# Campus Briefs

As part of the RopeWalk Reading series, Victoria Redel will read at USI today at 7 p.m. in Carter Hall (UC). Redel is a teacher/author and will autograph books at the USI Bookstore following the immediately Publications by Ms. Redel are available to purchase at the USI Bookstore and Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

Dr. Ulrich Littmann will present "Partners distant and close - The U.S. and Germany" on Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. in Mitchell Auditorium, in HP. Dr. Littmann will offer an informed perspective on the history of the U.S. - German friendhip in the postwar world and address the many challenges of that evolving relationship.

Dr. Donald S. Wolfe, associate professor of German at USI, will remember a World War II prisoner of war with the slide lecture "Daniel Mayer: German P.O.W. artist of Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky" at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 8, at the Evansville Museum of Arts and Sciences in the Main Gallery. A reception will be held in the gallery immediately following.

The Indiana Academy of Science will hold its 115th annual meeting at USI, Nov 4-5. Approximately 200-300 people are expected to attend the meeting that will take place in the Science Center (SC) and the University Center (UC). Students whose classes are cancelled on Nov. 5 due to the meeting, are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Feminist artist Judy Chicago, will present "From the 70s to the 90s:Judy Chicago Presents an Overview of her Work" on Thursday Nov. 18, in Carter Hall, UC as part of the Liberal Arts Distinguished Scholar series. A reception and book signing will follow the lecture. Several of her books will be available to purchase. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The Historic New Harmony Museum Shop will sponsor a lecture by Ms. Pamela Winstead, conservator for the Indiana State Museum. She will present "Quilt Care," which discusses the proper way to launder, store and display historic quilts. The lecture begins at 12 p.m on Saturday, Nov. 6 in Clowes Theatre at the Atheneum Visitors Center in New Haromony. The lecture is free and open to the public

# Career networking

shield staff report

The USI Alumni Association is sponsoring a career resource network for USI students. The network offers two opportunites: day on the job and the career mentor program.

The day on the job provides an opportunity for a USI student who is uncertain of a major to spend a day or part of a day with a USI graduate. It matches students with alumni in their workplace, where they can observe and discuss mutual career inter-

The program operates under the simple premise that USI alumni, working in a variety of professional areas in Evansville and across the country, are well informed about what they do, and are willing to share career experiences. Once matched with a graduate, it is the responsibility of the student to arrange a visit at a time convenient for both sched-

The Career mentor program allows 20 selected students who are juniors or seniors to network during the spring semester with a graduate in their field of study. Objectives are to enhance the student's readiness to enter the workforce and to facilitate the student's professional job search. Activities may include job shadowing, professional group meetings, introduction to others in the career field, resume assistance and mock interviews for jobs.

The deadline to apply for the 2000 mentor program is Nov. 5. For further information call 464-1924.

# New fitness center coming soon

shield staff report

Students and members of the USI Board of Trustees will assemble at 1:30 p.m. on Thur., Nov. 4. to break ground for the on-campus Fitness, Wellness and Recreational facility.

The ceremony, open to all USI faculty, staff and students, will take place in the open field south of the Physical Activities Center.

The new facility will include

weight-training equipment, space for playing courts, an indoor track, showers and lock-

The actually event starts at 1:00 on Thur. and will include activities for people to participate

The theme behind this event is influenced by golf. It takes place on Nov. "four" and there will be "Tee" shirts given away from 1:00-1:30.

Also the ground breaking will be untraditional in that there will not be the usual shovel taking out dirt; instead they will take out divits much like in golf.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and watch the start of a much needed on-campus facili-

ty. It is expected to be completed in 2001.

## Opinion

# Big mistake: chose losers as favorite teams

by JOE GRACE Shield staff writer

I'm beginning to regret some of the choices I made when I was younger. They were rash and stupid decisions that could have been avoided. If only I had been patient and thought about what I was doing, I'm sure I would have done better. It's too late now though, and I'm stuck with three of the biggest losers in their prospective sports as my favorite teams.

First mistake: At age eight, I thought the Chicago Cubs were the greatest because I shared my last name with their rookie first baseman Mark Grace. I didn't worry about the last time they won a World Series (scientists believe this happened sometime

during the Jurassic period). I could care less that winning was as foreign to them as Greek was to Cicero. I had no idea that Greg Maddux would leave for the Braves the following year, dooming the Cubs to mediocrity.

All I knew was that I shared a bond (albeit imaginary) with Mark Grace. Now I'm stuck with a team that comes up as a synonym for losers in a thesaurus. But they're lovable losers, so I deal with it.

Second mistake: I thought the Buffalo Bills were the best when I was nine. After losing to the Browns in the 89' playoffs, they performed tremendously the following season. I loved the fast pace of their K-Gun offense so they became my favorite team.

Big mistake.

Then came along \_\_\_\_\_\_ (substitute in a place kicker revered by the Giants). Most Bills' fans refuse to say or write his name. Some even say he doesn't exist, which may be correct since he sort of disappeared after that infamous kick.

Three Super Bowls later the Bills established that they were the premier AFC team to get trampled on by an NFC team. I still have hope though, because of a man named Doug Flutie and his will to win. Dim hope, but hope nonetheless.

Third mistake: My favorite NBA team has been the Orlando Magic since age ten. Needless to say, I hate Shaquille Oneal, not just because he can't rap or act or do anything besides make shots from five feet away (that's my five-year old cousins

range too coincidentally). It's because he shafted the Magic leaving them with a whiner (Penny Hardaway) at the helm.

The whiner and everybody else are gone due to some major renovation (Lloyd Expressway type renovation), so now the star of the team is Darrell Armstrong. Let's just say he was the recipient of the Sixth Man Award last year. That's like saying you win an award for being the best of the losers. My hope for this team is so small that you could fit all of Shaquille Oneal's-basketball talents in it.

Everybody makes poor choices in their lifetime; these three teams are just some of mine. It could be worse, though. My favorite college football team could be Indiana University.

# "I don't know if my cyber-girlfriend is black or white. Actually, I'm hoping she's both."

# United States has a serious problem with homosexuality

by JENNIFER LOESCH Guest columnist

We here in the United States of America have a serious problem that many citizens are not taking seriously: homosexuality.

Homosexuals are out to ruin the country. Grab your gun and hide the kids; homos are out to get us. Homos are often difficult to pick out. It may appear to be a person, but let it be known that homos are aliens from a distant planet sent to ruin our God fearing nation.

Gays are out to get normal America. They're teaching in our schools. They're nursing our sick. Hell, they're even redecorating our homes. They may seem harmless enough, but beware. Those queers want nothing less than to take control of the country. Imagine: a country run by fairies and dykes. They'd do nothing but cross-dress and have those sinful gay pride parades.

The whole concept of gay pride brings up another issue; what the hell are they proud of? They might say they're proud to be human and that they're celebrating their subculture. However, this is a lie. I repeat, the queers are lying. Do not fall for their, "We just want to be accepted" plea. Gay pride is nothing more than an annual gathering of these Godless demons used to recruit heterosexuals, or should we say the "normal." We must save the country. If we do not take action, homosexuality will become a problem of epidemic proportion.

Impressionable children are seeing these people on TV and in magazines. Keep your children safe; don't let them watch TV or read anything. Keep your young locked up in their rooms with Lawrence Welk records and episodes of Captain Kangaroo. Warning: do not let your children think for themselves. Children are easily led astray by homosexuals.

Homos are trying to get special rights. They want protection from hate crimes, the right to marry and the right to be respected as if they were human. Watch out.

#### The Shield

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

#### Opinion

# Ask the Doctor

#### **Ouestion:**

I keep hearing about the meningitis vaccine. What is meningitis and do I need the vaccine?

#### Answer:

Meningitis is an inflammation of the lining which surrounds the brain and spinal cord. It can be caused by either a virus or bacteria. Symptoms of meningitis can include stiff neck, nausea and/or vomiting, rash, fever, altered state of consciousness, and/or paralysis. Symptoms are typically less severe in viral meningitis than in bacterial meningitis and only respond to symptomatic treatment. Antibiotics have no affect on the virus. Bacterial meningitis can be serious, even when treated early with appropriate antibiotics.

Since the release of the HIB (hemophalous influenza B) vaccine, meningococcal meningitis is the most common cause of bacterial meningitis. It affects about three in 100,000 persons each year, with fatalities occurring in 105 of the affected individuals. Fortunately, meningitis is most often caused by a virus.

"meningitis The (Menomune A.C.Y. and N-135) protects against bacterial meningococcal meningitis only. Recipients receive protection 10-14 days after immunization, with immunity lasting three to five years. The immunization is effective in 85 percent of the people receiving the vaccine. Adverse reactions are infrequent and mild, including local irritation and pain at the injection site lasting one or two days. Although most common in young children, occasionally high or persistent fever can

As we have heard on 20/20 and Dateline recently, The American College Health Association has recommended this vaccine for college students. Although outbreaks are rare, close contact does increase the likelihood of an outbreak. Menomune is not required by college campuses, but it is available at the USI Student Health Center for 75 dollars.

For more information visit the web site, www.acha.org/special-pri/men.htm.

## Supermodel Supermarket

by BARBARA DUFFEY

Daily Trojan (U. Southern California)

There are millions of men from around the world who would love to have their genes combined with the most beautiful women," says Ron Harris, proprietor of the web site www.ronsangels.com, which is auctioning supermodels' eggs to the highest hidder

He isn't talking about "combining genes" in the natural sense (wink wink, nudge nudge, know what I mean?), but rather buying eggs for artificial insemination that will grow in a surrogate mother

Who are the "most beautiful women?" Why, supermodels, of course! I, for one, am in a perpetual state of depression because I weigh about 60 pounds too much to be one. I'm also not tall enough. Don't worry about me, though. I've resigned myself to the fact that no one will ever want to "combine genes" with me. Who would want his kid to be short and pudgy with chubby cheeks? Certainly not the men with "substantial financial resources," which Harris says comprise his target audience.

He has bidders, According to an article by ABC News at www.abcnews.go.com, more than five million people have visited his web site, and he's already received four or five bids One bid is \$42,000, which he claims is serious. Rich people want a supermodel for a daughter. People are willing to pay to have a better chance at having beautiful offspring; perhaps the worth of a child is directly proportional to how beautiful he or she is. This beauty is defined in what I consider to be the conventional sense: tall and skinny with striking features.

Defining beauty by the standard of the supermodel leads to a more widespread negative reaction to people who might not be considered beautiful, like you (unless you're a supermodel, in which case I apologize) or me. When a girl who is overweight passes you, do you think that she's ugly? Do you pity her? If Harris' standard of beauty is accepted, you will. He's putting at least a little bit of the idea in your head that the best children are the prettiest ones. You will want to pay to have a beautiful child, to be spared the humiliation of having a normal-looking kid.

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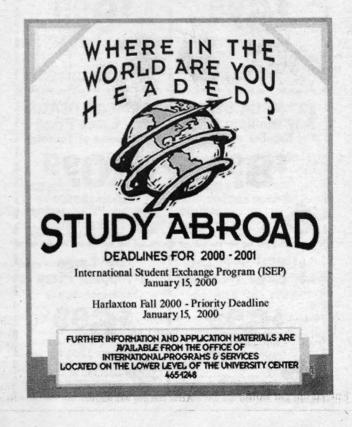
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#### Entertainment

#### Box Office Top Movies

1. House on Haunted Hill

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2. The Best Man

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3. Double Jeopardy \$5.4

4. American Beauty \$3.9

5. Music of the Heart \$3.7

6. Bringing Out the Dead

\$3.5

7. Fight Club \$3.3

8. The Sixth Sense \$3.2

9. The Story of Us \$3

10. Three Kings \$2.5

SOURCE:

**Exhibitor Relations** 

# Matthew Sweet's 'In Reverse'

Daily Nebraskan (U. Nebraska)

The wind has changed for Matthew Sweet.

For eight years he has produced good records that have never quite been able to escape the shadow of his titan record Girlfriend.

But, like all things, this too did pass. Enter In Reverse.

After laboring for eight long years to supersede Girlfriend, In Reverse finally succeeds. Sweet fans,

In Reverse marks a significant shift in Sweet's direction, as the dry, crisp sounds of records past are jettisoned for bellowing sounds of reverb and echo and walls of wet-textured acoustics.

As a whole, the album is a diverse blend of 1950s Phil Spector, '60s Beach Boys harmonies, '70s psychedelia and Sweet's own sharp songwriting abilities.

Much of the psychedelic touches come from reverse guitars, reverse horns and pedal steel guitars. However, the focus of the album is squarely where it belongs - on the songs.

In many ways, Sweet's last album, Blue Sky On Mars, was a slight misstep. It was short, and it lacked the flashy lead guitars that have always accompanied Sweet's fine songs.

Sweet isn't the greatest guitarist in the world, but this is no insult. His gifts merely lie elsewhere. So, the decision to find a new lead guitarist (in this case Pete Phillips) was a very wise one, and Phillips definitely holds his end of the bargain up in a legacy of great guitarists.

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#### Entertainment

# Shield staff members travel to Atlanta

by COURTNY STREEPY Shield editor

Eight members of the Shield staff and the student publications advisor traveled to the National College Media Convention in Atlanta last week.

The National College Media Convention is an annual event that is held in various locations each fall.

Students involved in school newspapers, magazines, radio and TV stations and yearbooks attend the convention. At the convention, students from colleges and univerisities all across the country have access to the most recent information on writing, designing, advertising, marketing and various other topics.

The convention is also a great opportunity for students from different universities to share ideas and trade publications. The Shield staff picked up newspapers from several different

Special events are planned for the students and advisors who attend the convention. One evening, all of those

attending were invited to the premiere of new movie Dogma starring Matt Damon, Ben Affleck and Kevin Smith.

Tours of CNN were also offered to student. One Shield staffer was lucky enough to appear on the CNN show Talk Back Live. Shield Business Manager Becky Pike woke up earlier than the rest of the staff to fight for tickets to the

show. Due to her determination, she appeared in the audience of the Friday afternoon show.

The overall purpose of the Shield staff attending this convention was to get new ideas for the newspaper. In the near future, The Shield will be getting a whole new look including different fonts, graphics, colors, columns and a new logo.



Staff members who attended the convention: Bottom left: Becky Pike, Brogan Baxter, Mark Buczkowski, Brandi Schwartz, Courtny Streepy, back left: Janie Mariconi (advisor), Jason Isaacs, and Leah Litherland; Not pictured: Laurie McCarty due to an un-qualified amateur photographer at the hotel



A funny thing happened on the way to Atlanta . . .

by BROGAN BAXTER Shield staff writer

## Where do we eat?

by LAURIE McCARTY Shield copy editor

With all the possible dining experiences before them. Shield staff members who attended the National College Media Convention worked some time into their busy schedules to dine at some of Atlanta's finest restaurants.

Before getting into the wide array of restaurants in Atlanta, it must be noted first, that you need more than three days to get a full bite of Atlanta. Staff members had only begun to get a taste of Atlanta before they hit the road on Sunday morning.

The most well-known places to dine in Atlanta are Planet Hollywood and Hard Rock Cafe. With the two restaurants only one block away from the convention, most staff members enjoyed lunch at both locations some time during the trip.

staff Two members got free desserts Planet Hollywood for having to wait a while for their food.

So the food was great, but what about the cost? As with any popular dining experience, it's not going to be extremely cheap. However, it's definitely cheaper than eating at any fine restaurant in Evansville. With the tip included, both meals cost around ten dollars each. This is really not bad considering you can watch movie clips or listen to new and old rock and roll while enjoying your meal.

Of course, there are other places to eat in Atlanta besides Planet Hollywood or Hard Rock Cafe. One evening, staff members went to Houlihan's for dinner. This dining experience is similar to Darryl's on Evansville's east-side. The meal cost 15-20 dollars per staff member. The food was pretty good, but it was difficult for the staff to find parking at the restaurant; university fans are too tall to fit in most parking garages.

If you plan on visiting Atlanta soon and would like information before you go, you should visit the website http://www.atlanta.com. In addition to dining, this site contains information about hotels, shopping, business outings and more.

The drive to Atlanta was truly stupendous, starting in the early afternoon and ending in the late evening. It was the most exciting seven hours of my life. There were numerous traffic jams around large cities like Chattanooga and Nashville, in particular. When in a traffic jam, you start to plot out how you, and only you, can escape such a trap that others have so foolishly fallen into. Unfortunately, you end up just like everyone else, ending your superhuman planning capabilities.

From the wonderful Nashville escapade, we continued south to the enormous town of Murfreesboro, Tennessee where we stopped for a bite at a restaurant. The staff of five was very helpful during our visit. I think that this is the first restaurant that I have ever been to where the waitress actually comes to your table and waits for you to return from the bathroom, just to take a drink order. We were also pleasantly informed by the very talkative (sarcasm) waitress that we were in the town of "Murfreesboro" and not "Murphysboro."

Dark had fallen upon us by the time we left the restaurant, but we continued through the mountains at a quick pace. The mountains would have been a scenic paradise, unfortunately for us though, we only got to see the spectacular paving abilities of the Tennessee Department of

Transportation.

After about five u-turns due to several people yelling directions, we finally arrived in Atlanta around 11 o'clock in the evening. At this point, a couple of the other gentlemen and I took off to scout out the town. We walked down the street and happened to come across a few bums and hobos, a few meaning 50! Luckily for us, our hotel happened to be downtown in the hobo refuge district. Each guy had his own story. "I'm different from the rest of these guys," many of the bums said. They also told us that they were "not bums at all," but still wanted any spare change we had.

However, the Atlanta bums were different from all other bums because they wouldn't leave us alone and followed us everywhere. I was impressed by their persistence, but still refused to give them money because I knew there might be consequences.

The bums were also very territorial. They each have a street corner and no other bum strays from his corner. It was pleasant to see that they respect their fellow business associates.

One final note to this trip concerns an experience that occurred while attending the conference, the reason why we went. Now I'm not going to bash the quality of the other students that attended the meetings, but I can now say with great enthusiasm, that I have actually witnessed a 25-minute argument over who was the editor of a newspaper!

#### **Sports**

# Sports Buczkowski Editorial

# Boxing a no-show Mike Tyson isn't helping

Anybody looking to abolish boxing just needs to sit tight. The sport is about to die on its own.

Boxing has become so irrelevant that it can no longer stand comparison to professional wrestling, which at least a reliable source of amusement.

The fact that a WWF event held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas outsold a Mike Tyson fight the night before, is a sign of what the sport is coming to.

And Mike, you're definitely not helping much.

Tyson's latest disaster, last Saturday's bout with Orlin Norris, was just one more disappointing fight to add to the list.

Tyson, on his fourth comeback and apparently eager to fight, could do nothing but drag the sport down a little farther. On this occasion, Tyson knocked Norris down with a punch thrown after the bell ending the first round, and Norris chose not to continue, claiming he twisted his knee on the way down toward the canvas.

The bout

A no-contest.

The fans...

Very upset.

The fans in the half-filled arena set off a roar as soon as the decision was made, and their ticket prices flashed before their eyes in a matter of minutes. The crowd had paid for this scene before, but maybe this time it wasn't entirely Tyson's fault.

There was reason for suspicion.

Norris, because of tax and managerial entanglements, was going to take home \$200, 000 from his \$800,000 purse regardless of what happened.

The man obviously felt the heat from "Iron Mike" and decided to call it quits after hitting the MGM symbol as hard as he did.

I hardly can blame him at all and in fact, he left with both ears intact too.

Phew! Who knows what would've happened if the bout had actually made it to round two.

This was just the nail in the coffin in boxing's inability to provide sufficient entertainment for the paying customer. Wrestling, anyone?

# Titans walk away with victory against Rams

by JOSH BARNETT Shield staff writer

Last Sunday the 1972 Miami Dolphins team had their champagne bottles ready in hopes to drink up. The '72 Dolphins team is the only team in NFL history to go undefeated and win the Super Bowl in one season; every time they see an undefeated team lose for the first time, they drink champagne. In this instance, the Dolphins were watching the Rams play against the Titans. The Rams were the only undefeated team in the NFL going into Sunday's game.

Many people have said that the Rams' "haven't beaten anybody good." I guess they forgot that the San-Francisco 49ers are one of the most dominating teams of the 90's, and the Rams beat them. That alone is proof that the Rams aren't just a fluke. The Niners are just one of six teams that the Rams have beaten this year. So, needless to say, the Rams went into Sunday's game with high confidence.

Strangely enough, the game between the Titans and Rams was probably the biggest game of the year. The 5-1 Titans didn't even make the playoffs last year, while the Rams probably haven't even won five games in the last three years. Oddly enough they went into Sunday as

two of the best.

The game started largely in the Titans favor as they went out and scored three touchdowns (21 points) in the first quarter, two of which came off of two fumbles by Rams quarterback, Kurt Warner. The Rams not only went scoreless in the first quarter, but didn't score in the second quarter either. The Rams came out ready to play in the second half, scoring 14 points in the third quarter, while holding the Titans to just one field goal.

In the fourth quarter, it looked like the tables were going to turn for the Rams, especially after they scored a late fourth quarter touchdown and were now trailing by three. Their only option was to go for the on-side kick, and somehow they recovered the football. The Rams now had the ball on about the fifty-yard line. For some reason they took their time and only got to about the 28 yard line, so they sent their field goal team out. The 38 vard field goal looked good at first then curved right and missed, barley. So the Titans walk away with the victory, and the '72 Dolphins go to drink their champaign for at least one more year.

I'm sure that one day a team will go undefeated and end the Dolphins' champagne streak. You never know, it may be the Bengals.

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