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'Now we have our say'

Political Science Society succeeds in having polling booths moved to USI

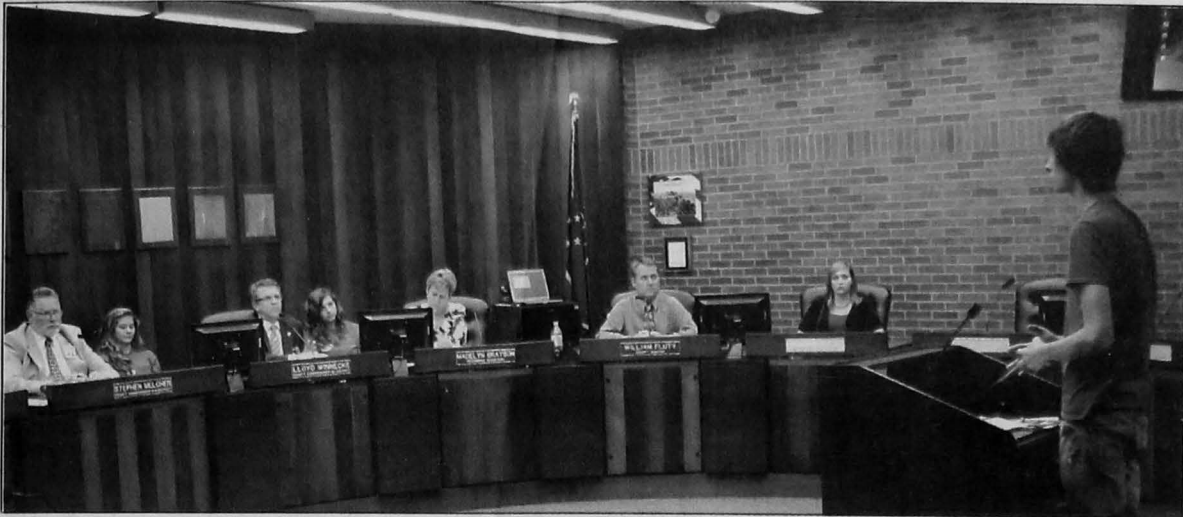


Photo by Jimmy Pyles, Visual Editor

Political Science Society President John Siepierski urges the County Commissioners to vote to move the 8th Precinct polling place to USI.

By **CHANSE FORD**
News Editor

The USI Political Science Society (PSS) got a resolution passed by the County Commissioners to move the polling place from Perry Township's 8th Precinct to the Residence Life Center on campus Tuesday night.

"We're so excited about this," PSS President John Siepierski said. "We've been working on this a long time."

Prior to this, the polling station was located at West Terrace Elementary School, which is lo-

ated outside of the 8th Precinct. "I think one of USI's problems is it's not a force in the community," PSS Vice President Elliot Howard said. "Now they have a voice in what goes on."

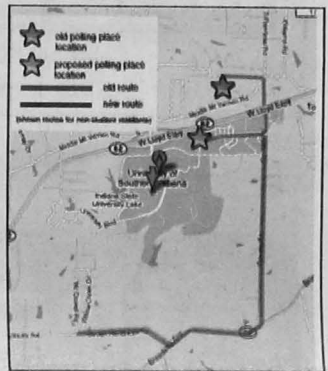
The Vanderburgh County Voters Registration sent two representatives to the County Commissioners meeting in order to oppose the movement of the polling station.

Their arguments were the Residence Life parking lot is not big enough and is on a slope, there aren't many student voters and it would cost an estimated \$1,000

to inform residents of the precinct of the change in location.

"The decision wasn't ours," said Anthony Bushrod, co-manager of the Vanderburgh County Voters Registration. "It's totally the responsibility of the County Commissioners."

In order to convince the commissioners of the necessity for the move, PSS representatives argued the polling place is inaccessible to USI residents without vehicles, the move is more convenient for non-USI residents and there will be better parking at Residence Life than there cur-



Provided by PSS

Map showing the old polling place and the new polling place at Residence Life. See POLLING on Pg. 8

On the Inside

Opinion
Josh Board expresses his opinion on the proposed county consolidation.

Student Life
Brooke O'Shields' relationship column deals with long distance relationships. Read about it on Pg. 5.

Sports
Read about men's tennis preparing for their season on Pg. 7.

Weekend Weather

Friday

Hi 89F Lo 66F

Saturday

Hi 81F Lo 60F

Sunday

Hi 76F Lo 58F

Weather provided by National Weather Service

Student enrollment continues steady growth, hits record

By **IAN BURLESON**
Staff writer

Enrollment this year hit a record of 10,702 students, a two percent increase from last year.

"We have record enrollment really every year," Mark Rozewski, vice president for business af-

fairs, said. "We're always growing. It has been a consistent trend since our founding."

From fall 2000 to fall 2010, enrollment has expanded nearly 19 percent, making a smooth trend of roughly two percent growth in the university's student body per year.

Such growth may pose to be problematic in terms of adjusting capacities for parking, housing and food options, but overall this sort of problem is a positive.

"These are the happy problems of growth. There are many colleges in the United States that would

pay to have our problems," Rozewski said.

Roughly 70 percent of enrolled students drive to campus, so a consideration will be made as to how the university will deal with a consistent increase in demand for parking spaces.

The 426 additional parking spots and shuttle

service to meet this year's demand have been largely well-met and successful.

The university plans to use the shuttle program again in the spring, and will construct new spots if necessary.

Housing solutions, however, are not so easily devised. The starkly

See GROWTH on Pg. 3

Fall break added, winter break extended

By **CHANSE FORD**
News Editor

Starting May 2011, students will start the new five-year academic calendar announced by Provost Ronald Rochon.

The calendar will include many changes for the summer, fall and spring semesters.

During the summer term, students will have three terms: a 4-week term for intensive leaning experiences, and two terms that will vary in length depending on the course. These terms will range from 5-weeks to 8-weeks.

"That's what gave us more flexibility," Assistant Provost Brian Posler said. "Some courses might work well on a more intensive, briefer calendar."

Beginning fall 2011, USI will offer a fall break for students October 10 and 11. The addition of a fall break was something heavily pushed by the Student Government Association (SGA) last year.

"My main focus was really evaluating what it would take to have a fall break," former SGA President Bob Wolfley said. "The students primary focus was fall break, but so many other things got



break and the moving of the spring commencement day. In order to help students deal with finals, a study day will take place each semester, and finals will

be split up over a weekend. So finals will start on Wednesday and go to Tuesday, giving students a weekend in the middle of finals to study.

"One of the key things

we wanted to do was reduce the stress for students," Posler said.

Christmas break was extended by three days. There is an extra day in December, and two added days in January.

"I think the extended time at Christmas break is a positive," said Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Coudret was serving as interim provost prior to the appointment of Ronald Rochon.

Spring commencement usually falls on Mother's Day.

"For the students, it's nice, but for the faculty, that can be a little taxing," Posler said.

Starting in 2012, it will be held on Saturdays, which avoids the holiday. The 2012 spring commencement will take place April 28.

When all of the changes to the calendar are in place, both fall and spring semester will have the same number of days.

Biochemistry major growing at USI

By **JASON WUERTZ**
Special to The Shield

One cannot walk around the University of Southern Indiana without noticing all of the construction going on. The same can be said about the Pott College of Science and Engineering with the addition of the biochemistry major.

"The sky is the limit," said Scott Gordon, dean of the Pott College of Science and Engineering, in reference to the expected growth of the biochemistry major.

USI is working hard to bring in new students to the biochemistry degree through the development of brochures and informing schools.

"We were late last year when this was approved and so a lot of the kids are already decided upon majors, colleges, etcetera," Gordon said. "So this is going to be a key year in the recruitment of new biochemistry majors."

The biochemistry major was approved last December by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education. However, the fall 2010 semester was the first semester to have incoming students choose biochemistry as a major.

"We've had a third of our incoming students that were interested in chemistry have signed up for the biochemistry track," said chair of the Department of Chemistry, Jeffrey Seyler. "We anticipate that in coming years we'll have more students in biochemistry than we have in chemistry."

The student interest has been high so far. "It has been very strong," said associate professor Jeannie Collins. "We've got more new freshman; we've got some students who have changed their major."

USI has added another section for the biochemistry class due to higher interest from students.

"We typically only have enough students to take one section of the class," said Collins. "We have two sections

USI Security Incident Log

Sept. 14

11:24 p.m. - 761 Bald St.
Liquor Law Violations. Case was cleared.

11:24 p.m. - 761 Bald St.
Violation of a University Policy. Case was cleared.

3:00 p.m. - Forum Wing, Administration
Theft. Case was suspended.

7:33 p.m. - Governors Hall - 1700 Rankin
Illness Report. Case was cleared.

1:30 a.m. - O'Daniel Lane
Failure to Comply with a University Official. Case was cleared.

1:30 a.m. - O'Daniel Lane
Disruption. Case was cleared.

2:22 a.m. - Welsh Building
Drug Law Violations. Case was cleared.

2:22 a.m. - Welsh Building
Liquor Law Violations. Case was cleared.

2:22 a.m. - Welsh Building
Failure to Comply with a University Official. Case was cleared.

Sept. 18

8:37 p.m. - 8016B O'Daniel Ln - Jennings
Fire Alarm - False Alarm. Case was cleared.

12:00 a.m. - 800B McDonald Ln - Branch
Theft. Case is pending.

Sept. 15

11:47 a.m. - 819A Moutoux Ln - Orr Bldg
Disruption. Case was cleared.

1:37 p.m. - Physical Activities Center
Hit & Run. Case was suspended.

12:42 p.m. - 932B Eckels Ln - Marshall
Drug Law Violations. Case was cleared.

9:17 p.m. - Parking Lot D - 8600
Violation of University Policy. Case was cleared.

Sept. 19

2:22 p.m. - Livaler Arts Ctr - 8600
Theft. Case was suspended.

4:31 p.m. - Parking Lot K - 8600
Hit & Run. Case was suspended.

1:09 a.m. - O'Daniel Lane
Trespass. Case was cleared.

Sept. 16

10:49 a.m. - 818A Melton Ln - Goodrich Bldg
Theft. Case is pending.

12:25 a.m. - 822A Worthington Ln - Bowen
Liquor Law Violations. Case was cleared.

1:43 a.m. - Health Professions Ctr - 8600
Fire Alarm - False Alarm. Case was cleared.

Sept. 20

12:25 a.m. - 822A Worthington Ln - Bowen
False Reporting. Case was cleared.

8:40 p.m. - 762 Harpy St.
Drug Law Violations. Case was cleared.

2:11 p.m. - Parking Lot D - 8600
Theft from Vehicle. Case is pending.

Sept. 17

11:33 p.m. - 818A Crawford Ln - Orr Bldg
Failure to Comply with a University Official. Case was cleared.

11:33 p.m. - 818A Crawford Ln - Orr Bldg
Drug Law Violations. Case was cleared.

11:33 p.m. - 818A Crawford Ln - Orr Bldg
Public Intoxication. Case was cleared.

10:01 p.m. - 831A Worthington Ln - Craig
Residential Entry. Case is pending.

Sept. 21

11:52 a.m. - Eagle Village Visitor
Criminal Mischief. Case was suspended.

10:32 p.m. - 811 Harpy St.
Public Intoxication. Case was cleared.

10:32 p.m. - 811 Harpy St.
Residential Entry. Case was cleared.

5:11 p.m. - 8056A O'Daniel Ln - Noble Bldg
Drug Law Violations. Case was cleared.

6:47 a.m. - Health Professions Ctr - 8600
Fire Alarm - False Alarm. Case was cleared.

9:44 p.m. - Health Professions Ctr - 8600
Fire Alarm - False Alarm. Case was cleared.

5:22 a.m. - Health Professions Ctr - 8600
Fire Alarm - False Alarm. Case is pending.

Information gathered from USI's Public Crime Log, provided by USI Safety and Security.

GROWTH continued from Pg. 1

increased demand for on-campus housing this year resulted in the university renting out 150 spaces in Eagle Village Apartments, all of which have been filled.

"Housing demand has been up, and has been steadily increasing," Rozewski said. "There's no question that if the demand continues at its current rate over the next few years, we will be entertaining increasing housing inventory."

More new students also means a greater necessity for a variety of food options, a problem that is currently being rectified.

In the new University Center, which will be completed and open for use next spring, two new restaurants - one Mexican, one salad-oriented - will

debut, giving an increased seating capacity and menu options.

All of these new developments, however, come at a cost.

It is too early to tell if tuition will rise in order to finance these projects.

The Indiana Legislature will debate between January and April whether it will appropriate more state funds to higher education, Rozewski said.

If the state increases the university's funding, then the need to raise tuition will be mitigated.

At any rate, USI has kept its tuition rates exceedingly low.

"In fact, we are now at \$5,600 per year, and that's only a few hundred dollars more than Evansville's Catholic high schools' tuition," Rozewski said. "We

are priced right and we offer incredible value, and so people just keep on coming."

Retention and graduation rates have been on the rise as well, as more students arrive as freshmen and stay until they graduate.

In comparing fall '07 and fall '08 freshmen cohorts, 2.8 percent more have remained at the university, and that trend is on the rise as well, Katherine Draughon, director of Planning, Research and Assessment, said.

"It's a good thing," Draughon said regarding the increases. "Our goal is to get these kids to succeed here, and that's exactly what we're seeing."

BIO-CHEM continued from Pg. 1

of it this time." Saylor said that only one course would be added because the other classes are already in place.

The new course, Survey of Physical Chemistry, will be implemented next fall.

"We will just need to offer more sections," Saylor said. "We will do that as the numbers demand, as the enrollment increases."

Opportunities abound for students who choose this degree.

"The primary opportunity for most of our students is pre-professional pro-

grams, pre-med, pre-pharmacy, pre-dental. Those are going to be a large majority of our students that are going to want that program," Saylor said. "The other opportunities would be working for pharmaceutical companies that actually manufacture new medicines: Eli Lilly, Mead Johnson, Bristol-Myers, Bayer."

Students also have the opportunity to receive internships.

"We have a good relationship with both Bristol-Myers and Mead John-

son," Saylor said. "We'll work on developing relationships with people like Eli Lilly to see if we can get students for maybe a semester to work up by Indianapolis."

The biochemistry field is also growing outside of USI.

"It's a major that really there's a growing need for within the state of biopharmaceutical industry and so on," Gordon said.

CALENDAR continued from Pg. 1

The spring semester was shortened to match the fall.

Students will also be starting the fall semester a week early.

According to Posler, the new calendar is more typi-

cal of other Indiana universities.

"The length of our semesters are now very much similar to other universities," Posler said.

"We're really excited," said Hope Fussner, current

SGA president. "I think they used all of our input for it. I think it's good overall for all involved."

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Consolidation not worth the trouble

By **JOSH BOARD**
Staff writer

In recent months, there has been a lot of talk about merging the Evansville and Vanderburgh County governments, which is also known as consolidation.

Consolidation could affect USI in several different ways. It could mean a change in the law enforcement which would come out to USI during emergencies, and it could also lead to increased tuition rates for students.

In a recent meeting, the consolidation committee voted that the Sheriff would appoint the Chief of Police under a consolidated government.

This is an unbelievably terrible way to do it, which would end up costing the city more money than it would save.

The County Sheriff's and the Evansville Police Department are completely divided on this issue.

Both departments believe they should be the ones to take over law enforcement responsibilities

for the whole county. But who is right?

This decision would have major money implications for the university and its students.

Under the Sheriff's control, property taxes should not have to rise as much because each individual Sheriff pays into a large retirement fund which is self sustaining and pays for the benefits of retired Sheriff's.

However, the city of Evansville pays for the retirement of its police officers and if EPD would take over law enforcement, then they would need more bodies on the streets and when they reach retirement age, the city would have to pay the bill.

This would have to mean an increase in property taxes throughout the entire county, including USI.

If the university would have to pay more to the city in property taxes, then it is very likely that tuition rates would increase for students.

While these things are true, consolidation is still

a good idea. Having two independent governments, which essentially perform the same tasks, is redundant and time consuming.

But it is only if consolidation is performed in the correct way would it end up saving the city money.

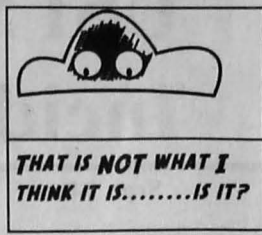
As the situation currently stands, the county would still have two independent law enforcement agencies and it would only serve to create a larger rift between the two departments.

If this is the plan the consolidation committee is planning to move forward with, then consolidation plans should be halted and brought up again at a later time when it has better ideas.

The entire purpose of consolidation is to save the city money, which would ultimately save the taxpayers money as well.

But if they are not willing to take a stand and make the difficult choices, then the proposed consolidation will be a miserable failure and it will end up costing everyone more money.

A CLOUDED MIND

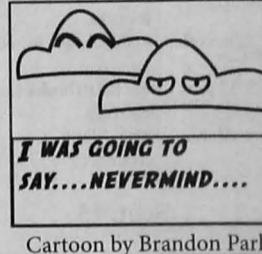


THAT IS NOT WHAT I THINK IT IS.....IS IT?



YOU HAVE TO SEE THIS...!!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT...IT..LOOKS LIKE A...



A PEN! TRAFFIC CONE!

I WAS GOING TO SAY....NEVERMIND....

Cartoon by Brandon Parks

'Reach' for Halo

By **JUSTIN LAW**
Online editor

It's September 14, six o'clock and I find myself walking around Wal-Mart with a friend. Two words are running through our minds: "Halo: Reach."

The game wasn't going to be released until midnight but we wanted to get there early.

We were the first two people in line and waited for six hours, a small line formed behind us, before we saw any sign that our endeavor would pay off.

Boxes were wheeled out of the back in carts, plenty to go around.

There were multiple copies of the regular game as well as the Limited Edition, but they only had four of the Legendary Editions.

All of the games bought that night, regardless of the version purchased, came with a poster and a hat.

I bought the Legendary Edition, which came with a statue of the Noble team, Dr. Halsey's journal, an instrumental character in the game and various other props.

Twenty dollar gift cards were given out to those who bought the game too.

My friend bought the Legendary Edition also, which only left two of those.

We both picked up strategy guides and then headed out the door.

"Halo: Reach" has been one of the best Halo games yet.

The campaign mode has an intense storyline that keeps you in the game and wanting more.

The controls have been changed slightly, but I find that it makes the game easier to control.

In the beginning you also get to choose your Spartan armor, make it any

color you want and, like in previous games, choose your emblem.

Forge is back with all its glory, but I think the best mode is Firefight. Firefight is a great way to earn higher ranks and take on endless waves of Covenant.

Overall the game was well worth the money and the six hour wait in line.

It has proven to be a challenge that conditionally exercises the mind and provides a great escape from homework when you need a break.

The game also ends with the storyline coming full circle, back to where "Halo: Combat Evolved" began several years ago.

It was a good feeling to see all of the pieces fall together in the end and complete the story once and for all.

Campus residents ignored

By **MAGEN NAIL**
Staff writer

There is no doubt that USI is growing.

To accommodate all the students, we've been building new buildings and renovating the old ones, except for the dorms and apartments.

Many of our students live on campus and they aren't getting what they paid for.

They paid to live on campus while going to school here, so why are they being given the short stick?

We have one well built "arm" on campus while the other one is thin and pale and hidden behind our "back." That's not right in any sense of the word.

USI has always tried to modernize the outdated equipment and places on the main campus.

In the apartments, students have had to use

stoves and ovens that are at least a decade and a half old and are falling apart.

The plumbing is constantly clogging, and only the oldest apartments have that wonderful device called a dishwasher.

I remember when I was living there.

I was afraid to cook on my stove or oven because more than once it burned my pot and pans and at least two of the burners were fully broken and couldn't be fixed.

Students pay a lot to live on campus. Can't they at least get some equipment that was made after 1995?

Now it's an obvious fact that we don't have enough room for the students living on campus.

They've had to send some of them to live over in Eagle Village because there were no more rooms at all.

This problem has been building for a few years,

so why didn't USI start to remedy it before it got this bad?

These kids rely on USI to provide them with a place to live. Now most students face the uncertainty of having a place to stay.

A lot of the students are not from Evansville, so if campus doesn't provide for them, then they really have no place to go and their ability to go to school here is in question.

USI loves to make its campus more beautiful and accessible to its students, but that only seems to count with the main campus where potential students tour and see if they want to enroll here.

Come on people, lets strengthen that skin and bone "arm" so that we can present a strong image overall, not a lopsided one.

A fond farewell

By **JOSH PIETROWSKI**

It's that time, folks. And while I did not think that "that time" would come this soon, I am forced to accept it in all of its sobering reality.

It is my saddening duty to inform you all that I have stepped down as Opinion editor, due to conflicts between this opportunity and a new full time job I have taken on campus.

I have a full understanding of these complications and at this point it is clear to see that no one is at fault. It's simply, just, "that time."

I have immensely enjoyed serving the student body of this university as Opinion editor for the past year.

I have had a great opportunity to express my views to a large part of our campus and community, and have considered it pure joy to have been met with your

opposing viewpoints.

It serves a great encouragement to me that so many of you have taken the high road, deciding to leave your lips unsealed.

If there is one small nugget of opinion worthy matter that I can leave you with, it is this: something that I wish I would have realized this time last year, when I began writing for the news and opinion pages of The Shield was the value of positivity, or keeping a "P.M.A." (Positive Mental Attitude) as 80s hardcore punk band Bad Brains called it.

I began writing and living my life in a manner that was based in pure negative emotion this time last year, simply because it was easier.

It's easy to get pissed off. It's easy to call people out. It's so easy to write people off as being wrong or ill-minded.

What's hard is finding

something good within their mistake, something redeemable about their position no matter how wrong, ignorant or frustrating it may be.

And as I have said, it saddens me to go, so quickly that.

But one of the great things about all of those "that time" moments in our lives is that they provide not only excitement for what's next and the opportunities that lie ahead, but also a chance to look back on what we did during and gave to "that time".

So I wish you all a pleasant year, a wonderful career here at a college I have grown to be so proud of and love so much, and finally, a life full of "those times" and opportunities to examine the footprints you have left and the trails still unmarked on the dog-eared maps of your lives.

Feel the need to speak up?

Need to voice your opinion?

Do so by writing a letter to your editor at shield@usi.edu

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

New study says youth hearing loss is overestimated

By CONOR SHINE
Minnesota Daily, U. Minnesota via UWIRE

Hearing loss among youth caused by loud noises like headphones or live music concerts is not as prevalent as previous research suggests, according to a new study by University of Minnesota researchers.

The study comes to a different conclusion than a similar one published in the Journal of the American Medical Association last month. The JAMA study estimated 19.5 percent of 12- to 19-year-olds

in the United States have some sort of hearing loss.

The university study, led by researchers Bert Schlauch and Edward Carney, found that much of the reported hearing loss in the JAMA study and others could be attributed to false positives during research.

"The methods we use are really good for identifying significant hearing losses," Schlauch said. "This early evidence of a hearing loss due to noise exposure involves high frequencies where we have less accuracy and we're looking for a very small change."

Similar studies have not accounted for possible false positives, which has led to the reporting of inflated rates of hearing loss among youth, said Schlauch, professor in the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences.

One study, published in the journal Pediatrics, estimated 15 percent of 12- to 19-year-olds had hearing loss, but Schlauch's study suggested up to two-thirds of those cases could be a result of false positives.

Schlauch and Carney's recent study came as a result of on-going research

involving the university marching band.

The two found about 15 percent of band members had hearing loss but after averaging multiple hearing tests, more than half of the apparent cases disappeared, Schlauch said.

This suggested false positives and led the researchers to look into other studies.

Even moderate hearing loss can have a serious impact on education, Schlauch said, so it's important that researchers develop accurate ways to determine when a hearing loss is present.

By understanding what things are more likely to cause hearing loss, people will be better able to protect their hearing, he said.

"People have different susceptibility to hearing loss due to noise exposure, so it's important that we identify the right causes [of hearing loss] so people can focus on prevention," Schlauch said.

Studies have shown hearing is generally better in the present than it was 40 years ago, which Schlauch attributed in part to greater knowledge about hearing loss.

Wearing headphones,

hearing gunfire and working in noisy, industrial environments can all be causes of hearing loss, and Schlauch warned that prolonged exposure can still have negative long-term effects, even if they aren't apparent during childhood.

"This is an important issue and I don't want to make people think that it's not important that they protect their hearing from intense sounds," Schlauch said. "It's just that I think the percentages that have been reported — what was it, one in five? — that's a much larger number than is actually the case."

Indiana U. maintains lowest 'average net price' among Big Ten universities

By BAILEY LOOSEMORE
Indiana Daily Student, Indiana U. via UWIRE

Indiana U.-Bloomington has the lowest average net price for in-state undergraduate students of any public Big Ten university, according to recently released information from the U.S. Department of Education.

"Average net price" is a term for the amount that in-state undergraduate students actually pay — after financial aid — for tuition, room, board and living expenses.

Though many people have not heard this term before, the U.S. Department of Education is making an effort to keep students informed of universities' average net prices through its new College Navigator website.

In addition to having the

lowest average net price, the website's data shows that students at IU pay less than their peers at other Big Ten universities.

IU has achieved the lowest net price by holding down tuition prices and making significantly more money available for grants and scholarships to Hoosier students, said Neil Theobald, vice president and chief financial officer at IU.

IU's average net price for 2008-09 was \$10,367, almost \$4,700 per year less than the average out-of-pocket cost to attend other public Big Ten universities, according to the site.

This difference in price saves the average Indiana family more than \$18,000 for the four years compared to residents of other Big Ten universities.

"I have no doubt we'll be No. 1 in these rankings

again next year and the year after that," Theobald said. "No other university is working more aggressively than we are at IU Bloomington to maximize financial aid for in-state students."

In 2008-09, the total cost of attendance at IU was calculated at \$19,307, which includes tuition, room, board, books and miscellaneous expenses, and the average amount of grants awarded to in-state students was \$8,940.

That left the average family paying \$10,367 in out-of-pocket costs.

IU is not the only university in Indiana with a low average net price, however.

Purdue's average was reported at \$10,620. The highest average price reported was Penn State at \$19,056.

Column: Being informed is crucial for young people

By GRACE MALLOY
The Daily Campus, U. Connecticut via UWIRE

What reality show is Snooki from? Which celebrity shaved her head during a breakdown? What scandal was Tiger Woods involved in this past summer?

Chances are most people 15-25 could answer those questions without pause.

But ask them who John Boehner is, or what is the power-sharing arrangement the Obama administration is encouraging for Iraq, and the response will likely be, "Uhhh..."

Young people are increasingly uninformed when it comes to politics and the influential people in government who affect us.

Instead, we focus our attention on "entertainment news," and mistake it for actual news.

Part of the reason for this is that large news networks, like CNN, often have extensive coverage of entertainment news — the Tiger Woods scandal, the deaths of celebrities like Michael Jackson and Anna Nicole Smith and the incarcerations of Lindsay Lohan and Paris Hilton.

Many of us trust networks like CNN for quality, relevant news, but that is not what is always being presented.

This is not to say that it's wrong to get our fill of entertainment news or watch reality TV (even I'm curious if Snooki and Sammi

are friends again).

Entertainment news is like junk food, as professor Marcel Dufresne said in my Journalism Ethics class.

Junk food has its place, but your entire diet shouldn't consist of it. It's important to balance it with healthy food.

In other words, if we are going to watch reality TV and keep up with our favorite stars, we need to make sure to balance that with actual news.

We have a responsibility to educate ourselves, to seek out information and to be aware of the issues that impact us.

This means picking up a newspaper when we see it outside of the dining hall. It means watching the news during non-prime-time hours, or perhaps even better, a publicly funded station (e.g. local channels 10 and 11) on a regular or semi-regular basis.

Why is this so crucial? As voting citizens, it is our right and responsibility to make sure that those leading us are doing so fairly and openly, and that issues are being handled the best way.

If we aren't keeping an eye on what is happening locally, nationally and globally, then what is the point of living in a democracy? The freedom of the press has become underappreciated, we need to take advantage of it more.

Also, while the phrase "we are the future" is cliché, it is true. It is our generation that will influence

the next few decades.

Our economy is in a dangerous state, the country has been involved in two major wars and there is heated debate over global climate change. We need to be informed of these and other matters in order to ensure that we are properly prepared to deal with them when they fall into our laps.

In addition to simply paying attention to the news, it is important to look at all sides of an issue.

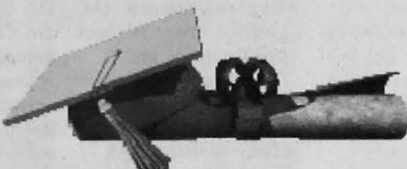
How can you expect to speak intelligently about current events and politics if the only information you are getting is one-sided? Being well-rounded allows for informed opinions and make educated decisions.

So, in the spirit of being up-to-date, I will answer the questions posed earlier.

John Boehner is the House Republican leader and, according to The New York Times, said he would agree to lower taxes for families earning less than \$250,000, but then quickly took back the statement.

The power-sharing arrangement for Iraq, again according to The New York Times, is one in which the current Prime Minister would keep his position but with less authority.

Pay attention to these stories, these are the ones that really matter. When reading the news, you attain a greater knowledge of what's happening and also gain the tools needed to be an effective, contributing citizen.



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Breaching the language barrier

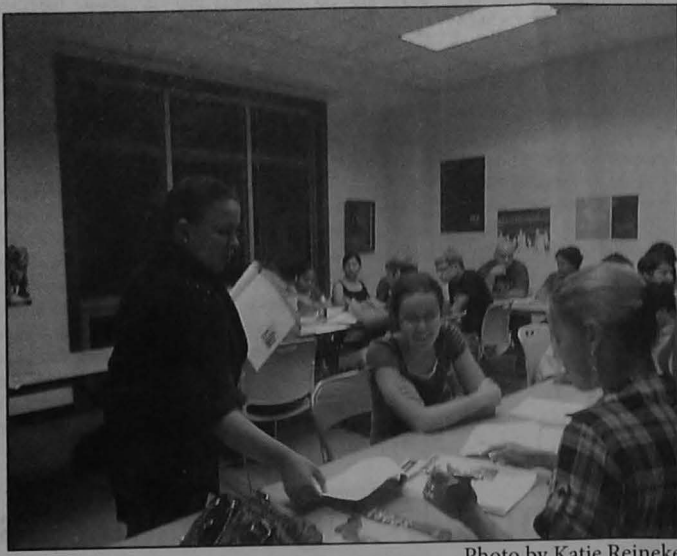


Photo by Katie Reineke

Claudia Peña (left) instructs ESL student Vera Stokebrand (right) during Monday night's advanced class. Tori Daugherty is a Spanish and Pre-occupational therapy Major and tutors at ESL.

By **KATIE REINEKE**
Student life editor

USI students and the Tri-state's Hispanic community are learning from each other through EDUCA's ESL (English as a Second Language), a program slowly gaining popularity in the area.

For four years, Spanish majors and minors have been helping tutor local citizens whose second language is English.

USI junior and Spanish Major Matt Tapp has been in the program as a tutor for four years and feels that EDUCA's ESL is a great program for local Hispanics to learn enough English to learn the basics of English.

"It feels awesome being able to help people in their day-to-day life," Tapp said.

USI students meet twice a week to help EDUCA

students with grammar and conversational skills. EDUCA offers one basic class and one advanced class for varying degrees of comprehension.

USI student Claudia Pena began as an intern and continues to help with the program. Pena said that as the program continues to grow they will eventually include an intermediate course.

ESL currently has 70 members and is expected to keep growing. Pena said that the rise in attendance is mostly due to word of mouth.

"The classes are growing so fast, they are beginning to get too crowded," Pena said, and they may have to find a larger facility to accommodate the growth.

Inez Mendez, a student of ESL, earned citizenship to the US through the program.

"I learned much more English. I can speak and understand the language much better," Mendez said.

A day care is also provided for the students and tutors with children. It is free of charge and open to all ages.

"The day care is a great program not only for the ESL students but for the tutors with children as well," Tapp said.

It is a way for children of both ethnicities to experience a different language and culture at a young age.

Classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church of our Redeemer. Any student interested in participating in the program can contact the Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

Ryan Howe contributed to this story.

DOCUMENTARY Continued from Pg. 5

were told that parents were complaining of simple questions such as if friendships crossed race.

The superintendent wanted all the interviews, with both student and teachers, to be censored.

The interviews went on unsupervised thanks to the principle who gave Saltzman and Aquino permission to do so.

When the documentary premiered at the CHS, about 1000 people attended.

After watching the film, Saltzman and Aquino were told that the film was very good and fair to the com-

munity. The superintendent, however, was very quiet and disclosed, not having much to say about the film.

Saltzman wanted to create this documentary because of the experience he had in civil rights work.

He was curious to see if racism had changed or if it was still the same today.

What he discovered was that racism and prejudice is still an issue in the United States.

Director of the Multicultural Center Pamela Hopson believed the film would have a positive impact on USI.

"I think there was an awakening with the film. It was only a couple of years ago," Hopson said. "We would like to think we made progress but the film shows that we still have a lot of work to do."

Michael Slavkin, professor of teacher education, really enjoyed the question and answer conversation at the end of the film.

"I thought everything was brilliant. Especially the conversation afterwards. It challenged the audience to see who they really are and what challenges individuals have in the Tri-state," Slavkin said.

'Easy A' not another teen movie

By **ADAM POULISSE**
Staff writer

The Toronto Film Festival usually showcases artsy, strong dramas during its run that will usually be hot topics during the awards season.

Oddly, this year, one of the movies screened was a teenage sex comedy.

But since the film was "Easy A," a well-made, razor-sharp and very funny teenage sex comedy, I can see why.

The film is the first starring role for Emma Stone, who's IMDB (Internet Movie Database) is full of supporting roles.

The best way to describe her is the girl from "Superbad," the older sister in "Zombieland," and the nerdy chick from "The House Bunny."

In "Easy A," Stone plays Olive Penderghast, a well-rounded teenager who accidentally gets the rumor mill starting that she had sex with a gentleman from a local community college.

After the rumor mill starts, the kids in her school that have absolutely no shot of getting laid (alongside a gay guy that wants people to think he is straight), begin paying her to, as she describes, "fake-rock their world."

Olive, gaining plenty of recognition and money by riding the rumor, is condemned by the school's most devout Christian

(Amanda Bynes). She then sews a red A on all of her shirts, an idea she got from studying "The Scarlet Letter" in one of her classes.

But how long can this business of hers, built on lies, go on?

Teen comedies are either great or they suck. There is no happy medium.

We get "Clueless," and then we get "John Tucker Must Die." Some teen movies, such as "Clueless" and "Mean Girls" stand the test of time by perfectly emulating their respective decade.

Despite the decade only being nine months old, I believe "Easy A" will stand the test of time.

The plot could have caved under the weight of its premise, but what brings it home is the strength of its characters, brought to life by strong performances from Stanley Tucci as a dad, Thomas Haden Church as Olive's teacher, Lisa Kudrow as his wife and the school counselor, Malcolm McDowell as the school principal, and the aforementioned Stone and Bynes.

I have been out of school for just over three years, and this is a high school movie that is not just for high schoolers.

The jokes are not obvious, cheap gags. There was some thought that went into this.

The writer, Bert V.

Royal, used to do casting for "The Dave Chapelle Show."

He should have written for that show too. Maybe then it would have been funny.

To make a teen comedy work and stand the test of time, it has to be low on the cliques that cause the audience to roll their eyes.

"Easy A" manages to side step almost all of the possible cliques for teen sex comedies.

Like most of the eighties teen movies, there is a little musical number at the end that is an homage to movies like "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" and "The Breakfast Club," where the cast danced for no apparent reason.

Here, it's done in a way that is an homage, yet doesn't call attention to how cutesy it is.

This is the first movie that dealt with the rumors of high school in a forthright way.

It is the fuel of the plot and the main character which makes it refreshing.

I don't go into movies like this with the highest of expectations, but with Toronto hosting it during its festival, and the rave reviews it was getting, I had a feeling this would be something different.

It was. It's definitely the best teen film of the decade. So far.



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USI launches suicide prevention campaign for September

By ERIN GILLIANGHAM
Staff writer

The USI Counseling Center has launched an all-out Suicide Prevention Campaign across campus that will last throughout September in the hope that students will become more aware of this increasing epidemic.

Coinciding with Suicide Prevention Week, which occurred the week of Sept. 5 through 11, the campaign officially kicked off Sept. 8 at the Student Involvement Fair.

Multi-colored Awareness beads were offered to students as part of a Beads with Meaning Campaign.

This was a way for them to show support or a connection to suicide prevention; Gold meant showing support for the cause, Green represented personal struggle with a mental

health issue and Purple as a personal loss of a loved one to suicide.

Abby Lewellyn, a sophomore English major, thought the beads were a great way to spread awareness.

"I really like the beads idea," Lewellyn said. "People are going to ask about what they mean."

Planning for the campaign began last May after the counseling center received a grant from the Intercollegiate Action Network, partnered with Mental Health America, Indiana.

Leslie Smith, assistant director of the university's Counseling Center and creator of the campaign, believes suicide is a vital issue affecting many college students.

"Over the last few years, I've noticed an increase of students coming in with

thoughts of suicide, or that their roommates are experiencing thoughts of suicide," Smith said.

Smith went on to say that last year alone, there were "49 suicides in Vanderburgh county in 2009."

Over the last month, the Counseling Center has sponsored events along with the Beads with Meaning Campaign, such as a wristlet giveaway, and a Counseling Center open house.

Plans for the rest of the month include Take a Screening Days on Sept 20 through 22 and 24, where the Counseling Center will be encouraging walk-ins for students.

On Sept. 28, there will be a presentation by Vanderburgh County Coroner Annie Groves at 6 p.m. in Mitchell Auditorium.

Groves will be talking about the incidence and

effects suicide has in the community.

Later on this month, the counseling center staff will undergo QPR training to become certified to teach suicide prevention training in the USI community.

QPR, which stands for Question, Persuade and Refer, is an online suicide prevention/crisis intervention course offered by the QPR Institute.

Eventually, the staff wants to go out into the community and give students and faculty the opportunity to learn this life-saving technique.

Smith hopes this campaign will get students talking about suicide, which is often portrayed as a taboo subject.

"We're trying to get people talking about the subject," Smith said. "Awareness makes you realize what to look for

if you, your roommates or friends are having issues."

Tiffany Price, a senior English and creative writing major, agrees that suicide and other mental health issues need to be talked about.

"I think a lot of the vast population deal with it. It's caused by so many things. It's nothing to be ashamed of," Price said.

Nick Schlatter, a freshman actuarial sciences major, concurred.

"I think it's good they're doing it," Schlatter said. "If students are aware of it, then they can take steps to prevent it."

The Counseling Center plans to have a different mental health awareness theme each month throughout the school year. Next month's theme will be depression awareness.

Aaron Bickwermer, a fourth year communica-

tion studies major think the campaign is very encouraging.

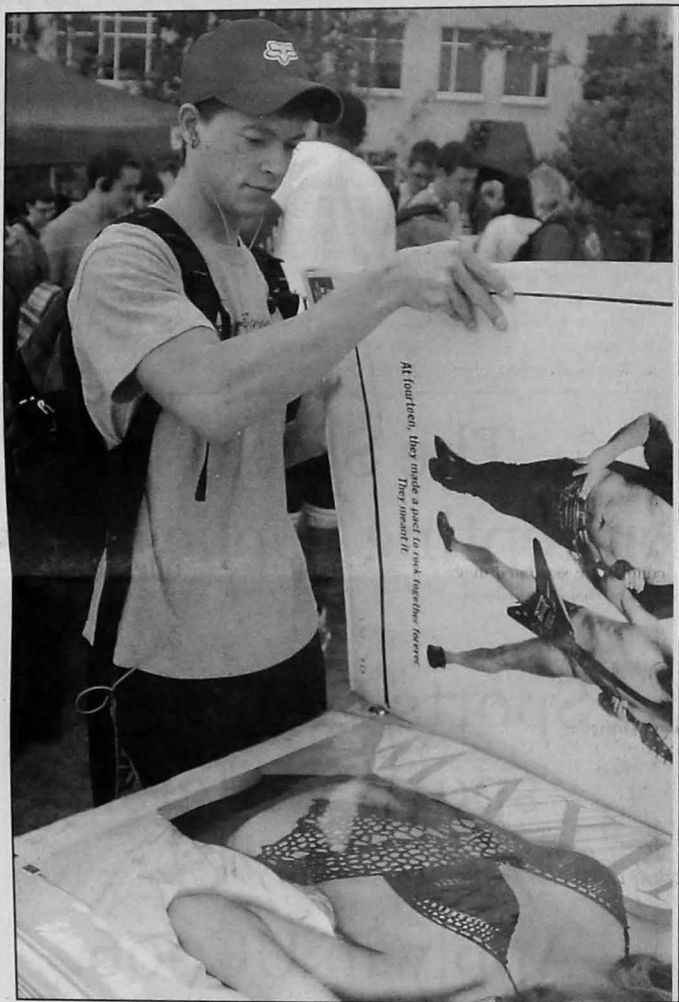
"It shows that kids don't have to be alone," Bickwermer said. "It shows people are out there willing to listen."

Smith explained there are many different treatment options and resources for someone who may be struggling with a mental health issue.

"You need to be able to offer someone as many options as possible," Smith said. "What works with someone may not work for somebody else."

The Counseling Center located in the Orr Center 1051, offers a variety of support and help for students, including personal counseling, disability resources, substance abuse help and testing services.

Appointments can be made at 464-1867.



Photos by Jimmy Pyles

Right: Students looking through the hundreds of posters on sale last week in the Quad. The sale was sponsored by APB.

Above: Sophomore JJ Johnson flips through a folder of posters last Thursday.



Spectrum ready to begin Safe Zone training

By KRISTAN ROBERTSON
Special to The Shield

USI's Spectrum is working on making members of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) community feel more comfortable on campus.

Spectrum, USI's gay-straight alliance on campus, has been approved to do Safe Zone training for students and organizations on October 23 in Carter Hall D from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Safe Zone training is designed to raise awareness and broaden understanding of colleagues and students to help provide a safe environment for the LGBT community.

"Spectrum is a great organization because it not only highlights the GLBT community within USI but it seeks to connect all types of people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity," said Crystal Steltenpohl, an active member and straight ally to Spectrum. "Safe Zone is an awesome program that offers training for people to create a safe zone to discuss their issues without fear of being judged."

Everyone is welcome to join, but the training will

be especially useful for resident assistants, student leaders and those planning to go into clinical psychology, social work or a related field, Steltenpohl said.

It's a workshop session run by Stephanie Young, assistant professor of communication studies, and Amie McKibban, assistant professor of psychology, President of Spectrum Jazmyn Gideon said.

They've put together a workshop that teaches terminology and how to deter homophobia and heterosexism.

"I think it's important to facilitate a welcoming environment, because the Tri State isn't always the most open and welcoming community," said Jeff Appel, a straight ally in Spectrum. "There needs to be places and people who can make the LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and allies) community feel relaxed, safe and appreciated."

The workshop will help raise awareness for the issues the LGBT community are faced with and make the LGBT students feel safer at the same time.

Eventually, Spectrum hopes they will be able to offer Safe Zone training

to faculty as well, Gideon said.

"I believe this can benefit campus immensely. LGBT issues seem to be almost nonexistent on campus and I think part of that is due to the fear of being 'out' on a relatively conservative campus," Gideon said.

The training will also teach participants the skills needed to become an ally, or straight supporter.

"In the past I don't think that the straight part of USI's gay-straight alliance has been emphasized enough," Gideon said. "When all of these students interact together it makes people feel more comfortable and open and gives a different perspective on previous stereotypes."

In addition to the training, there will also be a free breakfast provided to everyone who attends. Everyone is welcome to attend, but the seats are limited to 75.

For more information on Spectrum, visit usispectrum.com or search USI Spectrum on Facebook.

Meetings are held weekly at 9 p.m. in the Rice Library room 12.

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Paul Saltzman presents at USI

Relate: Long Distance Relationships

By OLIVIA ZAZZETTI Staff Writer

The USI core speaker series invited Paul Saltzman, director/producer, and Patricia Aquino, co-producer, to USI to present their documentary on Charleston High School's (CHS) first integrated prom in 2008.

CHS in Mississippi threw two proms every year, one for white people and one for black people. Although

the school was integrated, proms were not.

When Morgan Freeman, the speaker to the high school students, offered to pay for a prom where African American and white people joined together, most students were supportive of it.

Some of the parents were a different story. A lot of them were fine with the idea, but others were furious. The parents who were against the prom wouldn't let their children go to the

mixed prom and went as far as providing a separate prom for strictly white students.

Some students attended both proms, while others just went to one or the other.

The integrated prom ended up being a success, even though parents and other school members expected it to be violent.

Throughout the night, the only fight that broke out was in the white only prom.

"I think the film really showed that racism only provides anger," junior John Lemons said. "Racism can only breed with violence and negativity."

Integrated proms have continued on at CHS for the last two years, although the white only proms have continued also.

One section of the film was done in graphic novel format. This format was needed because the parents and the students against integrating proms refused to be interviewed.

Within 24 hours of filming, Saltzman and Aquino



By BROOKE O'SHIELDS Staff columnist

Long distance relationships are about commitment.

Committing to another person takes time and effort and we can all agree that relationships take work; they do not just work themselves out.

Askmen.com suggests to their readers in long distant relationships to "agree on an end with your partner."

Honestly, who wants to plan an ending to a relationship? There are ways to make a long distance relationship work. Partners just have to work on it.

Here are a few ideas on how to keep a long distance relationship fresh.

Trust is relative to the success of long distance relationships. Time away from a partner allows people to live individually and couples do need space away from each other from time to time.

Believe it or not this is healthy. Partners just have to make the best of it.

Strive toward compromise and self sacrifice in the relationship.

The individual space may cause tension and jealousy. That is normal, but not necessary. When couples are separated they tend to change by becoming friends with new people and exploring interests.

This should not offend partners because they can-

not expect their significant other to stop living while they are apart.

Couples should take this as an opportunity to learn about their partner's new interests. Most likely, both partners are experiencing the same feelings about the other changing.

The focus of the relationship should not be on what the partner is doing when the other is not around.

Keep the focus on making the relationship fresh and fun. When most people think of long distance relationships, they picture multiple hour phone conversations.

Thankfully, these days that is not the only way to keep a long distance relationship interesting.

According to James Griffin, a writer for Askmen.com, "During long distance relationships you'll want to go ahead and physically schedule communication time on your calendar."

Drew Wheeler, a freshman at USI, is six hours away from her boyfriend Andrew, who attends Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne.

"I'd rather him be closer, but it gives me something to look forward to when he comes to see me," Wheeler said.

People are busy during the workweek; therefore long phone conversations are not ideal.

Instead, send them a short e-mail a few times a week with a funny joke or something cute such as ten reasons why you love them.

Wheeler and her boyfriend enjoy sending each other poems and song lyrics via text message.

Skype is a wonderful way for couples to com-

municate, but do not just sit there and talk.

Spice up the conversation with a game of Truth or Dare in your lingerie.

Create a sexy calendar or slide show and present it to your loved one while you are skyping.

That will definitely capture their attention!

Writing letters is romantic for both men and women.

Send out a love letter on a specific date every month of the year. Letters are personal and really capture people's emotions.

Send a care package or a gift with the letter. Receiving a gift from a long distance boyfriend or girlfriend is exciting and greatly appreciated.

Keep in mind that e-mails and text messages can be misleading. Content and tone that is misinterpreted may cause problems in the relationship.

Steer away from that problem. Make sure messages and letters are clear.

Wheeler advises people in a long distance relationship not to keep secrets and be creative with surprises.

Make the best out of your relationship, long distant or not. Have fun, stay sexy and keep it classy!

With Love,
Brooke

E-mail
bnoshields@mail.usi.edu
with your relationship question and she'll try to have an answer next week.

“We would like to think we made progress but the film shows that we still have a lot of work to do.”

-Paul Saltzman

See page 6 DOCUMENTARY

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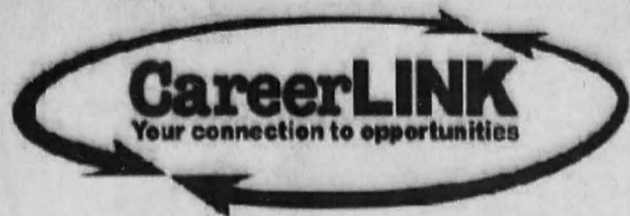
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POLLING

continued from Pg. 1



Photo by Visual Editor Jimmy Pyles

Political Science Society Advisor Oana Armeanu speaks to the County Commissioners.

rently is at West Terrace. PSS brought a resolution of support from the Faculty Senate, as well as a letter from USI President Linda Bennett giving PSS the support of USI administration.

Several people went to the meeting to voice their support of moving the polling station.

These included student voters, a representative of voters that live in the precinct but not on the USI campus, and PSS advisor Oana Armeanu.

"There is strong support," Armeanu said. "I believe that it is important to let their voice to be heard."

PSS has been pushing a voter registration drive

for on-campus residents and has gathered 901 signatures, and plans on continuing to register students.

"We think it is going to have a drastic impact on voter turnout," Siepierski said. "Now we have our say."

The County Commissioners voted to move the polling place to USI with

two voting yes and one abstention.

"It will generally be more convenient for all involved," Siepierski said. "We knew the law was on our side, common sense was on our side."

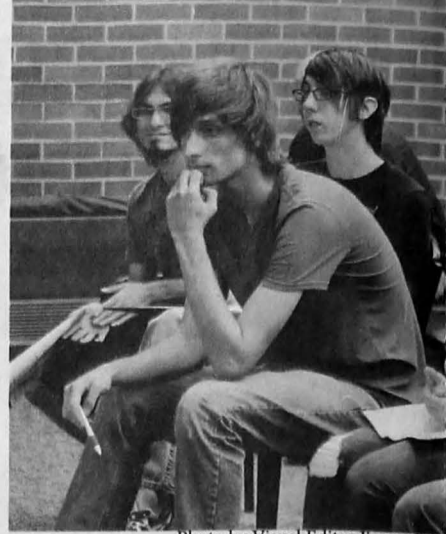


Photo by Visual Editor Jimmy Pyles

Members of the Political Science Society await the decision of the County Commissioners regarding the move of the 8th district polling place from West Terrace Elementary to the Housing and Resident Life building at USI.

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CASH and SAVER work together. Interest from CASH and ATM fee refunds are deposited directly into your interest bearing SAVER account. To qualify on both accounts, just do the following things with your CASH account each monthly interest cycle: make a minimum of 10 debit card purchases; have one direct deposit or one ACH auto debit or one online bill pay; receive monthly statements, and access your account online.



Friends you can bank on.

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of 9/1/2010. Minimum to open account is \$100 for Kasasa Cash and Kasasa Saver. Rate tiers are as follows: Kasasa Cash rate tiers are as follows: 3.01% APY applies to balances of \$0.01 - \$25,000 and 0.25% APY applies to balances over \$25,000 as long as qualifications are met each qualification cycle. 0.10% applies to all balances if qualifications are not met. All balances will earn 3.01% - 0.25% on all balances as long as qualifications are met. Kasasa Saver rate tiers are as follows: 1.00% APY applies to balances of \$0.01 - \$50,000 and 0.25% APY applies to balances over \$50,000 as long as qualifications are met each qualification cycle on your companion Kasasa Cash Account. 0.10% APY applies to all balances if qualifications are not met on your companion Kasasa Cash Account. All balances will earn 1.00% - 0.25% on all balances as long as qualifications are met.

