

Nancy Vendrely
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The person profiled in the following release may be a good subject for your Couples column. She is Jane Weaver from Fort Wayne and a graduate of Snider High School. She is visiting in Fort Wayne through April, and her local phone number is 260/485-1423.

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**Fort Wayne native and surgeon in Ecuador
named Bertram Award recipient during basketball tournament**

Dr. Jane M. Weaver, a native of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and 1989 graduate of the University of Southern Indiana (USI), received the Great Lakes Valley Conference's Charles Bertram Award at the league's post-season basketball tournament this past weekend in Evansville, Indiana.

Dr. Weaver, a member of the USI Screaming Eagles women's basketball team from 1985 to 1988, graduated summa cum laude. She earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Indiana University School of Medicine, and she completed a five-year residency in general surgery at the University of Louisville.

Following her surgical residency at Louisville, Dr. Weaver became interested in mission work. She is now a full-time missionary with HCJB World Radio and is completing her rural year of medicine. She spent six months taking care of both the local Ecuadorian population as well as members of the various Indian groups that live in the eastern jungles.

Once she completes her residency requirement and acquires her Ecuadorian license, she will be able to work in the mission's healthcare facilities. One of her priorities will be the clinic at San Lorenzo, Ecuador, located on the coast of the northern part of the country, approximately eight to 10 miles from the Columbian border.

At the GLVC Tournament the conference's Student-Athletic Action Committee presented Dr. Weaver with a check for \$700 to help with the mission work.

For more information about Dr. Weaver's work in Ecuador, click the Latin American Missions Board, Inc. Web site at <http://www.LAMBonline.org>.

The Dr. Charles Bertram Alumni Award of Distinction was created to honor the memory of Charlie Bertram for his many contributions to the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC). Dr. Bertram was on the USI faculty in math education. He served as the faculty athletic representative for over 20

years and helped found the GLVC in 1979. It was decided this award should recognize the personal and professional achievements of former GLVC student athletes. While this award certainly factors in academic excellence, athletic ability, character, and leadership while the individuals participated in intercollegiate sports, it really puts a premium on the person's personal and professional achievements following graduation, and/or contributions back to sports at various levels.

We have photos of the ceremony and a head shot of Jane Weaver and would be willing to send the digital files to you if you decide to use this idea for a column. I'm available to help with any questions you may have about the award or Dr. Weaver. My access numbers and e-mail address are listed below. Thanks for your consideration of this story.

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