

## The Spot - September 26

September 26, 2007

IUPUI hosts Jena 6 Rally, United Way Day of Caring, Jaguar Sports

### Duration

5:44

## Transcript

[ K. Christopher ] Hi. This is September 26th edition of IUPUI's The Spot. I'm Kaitlyn Christopher. This past Friday was the United Way Day of Caring, and over 420 volunteers from IUPUI signed up to make an impact on our community. Students, staff, and faculty spent their day at a variety of service sites. One of which included Rebuild the Wall, which focuses their work on stabilizing low-income families by renovating vacant inner city properties and giving them the opportunity for homeownership. The Spot spoke with Brad Evans, the construction foreman, about the project.

[ B. Evans ] We are working right now in Martindale-Brightwood [neighborhood]. We are based in Reagan park at 23rd and Guilford and work within about a 6-block radius of our office there at 23rd and Guilford. We are a not-for-profit based in a neighborhood in town. What we are trying to do is stabilize that neighborhood by acquiring abandoned properties and rehabilitating them for sale to very low income family. We use a lot of volunteers to demolish the home and get them ready for the rehabilitation process. IUPUI's been very good to us and we'll probably have around 400 to 500 people from IUPUI this year.

[ K. Christopher ] IUPUI soccer player Chris Wey talked about what volunteering meant to him.

[ C. Wey ] Well, I'm on the IUPUI men's soccer team and we like to give back to the community as often as possible. Among all the athletes in the IUPUI program, we have a little competition called the "Jag Cup" and it's to see which team in the athletic department can accumulate the most points by attending games, doing community service, that kind of thing. We've been the winners the last three years since the Jag Cup started, so we'd like to keep that going so we get as many guys as we can out here and give back.

[ K. Christopher ] IUPUI's partnership with the United Way continues and currently has the goal of raising \$410,000. Learn how you can contribute at [iupui.edu/unitedway](http://iupui.edu/unitedway) College students from Louisiana to Indianapolis rallied in support of the Jena 6 this past Thursday. Six black teens from Jena, Louisiana are at the center of a beating case which is drawing national attention. Students from IUPUI and other local universities took part in a local protest for equal justice while gathering money for the defense of the students as well as thousands of signatures for a petition that will be sent to Louisiana's governor. The Spot spoke with Dominic Dorsey, the president of the Black Student Union.

[ D. Dorsey ] The main goals behind it, logistically, we had letters and petitions of support that went to the governor of Louisiana, Governor Blanco, as well as the district attorney, Reed Walters, from Louisiana letting them know that we are paying attention to the Jim Crowe justice in Jena. We also were fortunate enough to raise money for the Jena 6 defense fund. We had donations collected at the BSU tables. We also had a variety of speakers from the local community, as far as the hundred black men, the NAACP, the Indiana African-American Democratic Caucus. We had several community leaders, civic-minded individuals, that came out and had something to say about the Jena 6, something about the situation and gave us some empowering words to let us know that we had some control over what's going on and that we could make a difference. You can go to [colorofchange.org/jena](http://colorofchange.org/jena). Download the petition, sign the petition. Give a phone call to the governor. The phone number is real - you can call her and talk to her. Let her know we aren't going to stand for this type of thing. And make a stand and do something that's going to have a positive effect, a ripple effect, so that, for years to come, we won't have to deal with this kind of imbalanced justice system, this kind of racism.

[ K. Christopher ] The first annual Jag Jaunt walkathon to raise money for women's athletic scholarships happened last Saturday. Check out some of the activity from the event.

[ A. Cook ] Events like this help fundraise money for athletes like me and give me the opportunity to come here and participate in my chosen sport, which is basketball, and get a good college education. So it's really important to get out and support events like this. It gives female athletes the opportunity to go to school and participate in the sports they love, and there's nothing better than that.

[ K. Christopher ] For all the fans of Jaguar sports, "The Jungle" is in the process of going through major changes! With the addition of new seating in the athletics gym, you have the opportunity to create a name for the new student section. Just go to the website and make your suggestion. Entries will be accepted until October 1st. And speaking of athletics, the women's volleyball team opened their conference season this weekend, taking on North Dakota State in the Jungle. The jags lost both matches to the conference newcomers. This Friday, the 28th, be sure to check out the women's soccer team as they take on Oakland University in Kuntz stadium. That's the spot for this week. Check out the new episode starting each Wednesday on our podcast at [jagtv.iupui.edu](http://jagtv.iupui.edu). See you later!