

The Biannual News Magazine for 130,000 Alumni of IUPUI schools worldwide

IUPUI

Magazine

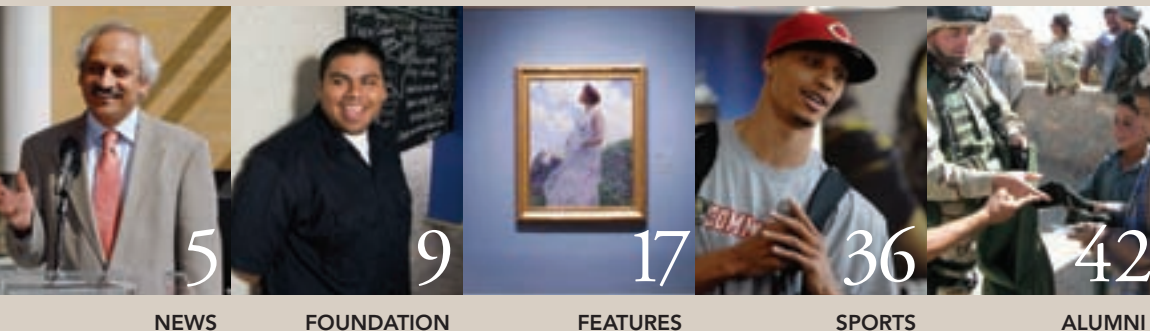
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
INDIANAPOLIS

SUMMER 2008
MAGAZINE.IUPUI.EDU



Stepping up
When the campus and
community work together,
impact is made

Contents



NEWS

FOUNDATION

FEATURES

SPORTS

ALUMNI

IUPUI FEATURES

17 THE ART OF CIVIC LIFE

A “dream job” in the nonprofit sector is making Melynne Klaus a key figure in the Indianapolis arts community.

21 A NEW WAY TO SOAR

Her philanthropic studies training is helping former Air Force jet pilot Katie Taylor find new ways to serve her community.

24 THE PASSION OF MUSEUM LIFE

The Indianapolis Museum of Art entertains thousands of visitors each year, but thanks to Anne Laker, it also offers lessons about our heritage and our passions.

28 THRILLER

The world of insurance policies couldn't hold back the imagination of Kevin Surface, whose political thriller *The Cuban Connection* has him dreaming dreams of future books and even Hollywood.

30 EDUCATION GETS PHYSICAL

Jennifer Anderson is using her exercise science degree to help future Hoosiers live healthier lives.

Welcome to *IUPUI Magazine*, the alumni publication celebrating the men and women whose careers and accomplishments highlight the best our campus has to offer. Once again, the Summer '08 issue features not only their stories and photos, but also their voices and personalities, thanks to the wonders of video interviews that add extra flavor to these stories. To experience those video presentations and other online highlights, visit the following Web site: <http://magazine.iupui.edu>.

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IUPUI MAGAZINE

TWO WORLD-RENOWNED UNIVERSITIES
ONE DYNAMIC CAMPUS

IUPUI Magazine is published for alumni of the schools of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. The IU Alumni Association, the Indiana University Foundation and the IUPUI Office of External Affairs support the magazine.

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Campus Life



Honoring our past

One of the iconic figures in campus history now has his name attached to one of IUPUI's most historic buildings.

Joseph T. Taylor, the first dean of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI and a key figure in the Indianapolis community, was honored this May when University College — the original university library — was renamed Joseph T. Taylor Hall.

The building will continue as the home of University College, IUPUI's portal for all entering students, as well as the campus's support system for student achievement. Taylor

Hall also will host IUPUI's new Multi-Cultural Center.

To Chancellor Charles Bantz, "it is fitting that his name be attached to one of our original buildings" since Taylor "was instrumental in implementing the merger that led to the establishment of IUPUI. Dr. Taylor was a pioneer at every stage of his academic career. He infused that 'can-do' spirit and ability to break new ground into the very core of what has made

IUPUI successful today."

Taylor was a professor of sociology in liberal arts from 1965-83. He was dean of the Indianapolis Regional Campus from 1967-70, then Liberal Arts from 1967-78. His passion for IUPUI's role as vital a part of Indianapolis life also is carried forward in the annual Joseph T. Taylor Symposium, an annual celebration exploring urban issues and a university's role in handling those issues. Taylor passed away in 2000.



Back into space

David A. Wolf, a 1982 graduate of the IU School of Medicine at IUPUI, is headed back into outer space.

Wolf, featured in a 2006 issue of *IUPUI Magazine*, will make his fourth trip into space for NASA (the National Aeronautics and Space Administration) in a 2009 mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

Wolf currently is the director of spacewalks for NASA, training fellow astronauts in EVAs (extravehicular activities) that he himself has experienced. The 2009 mission is expected to include several spacewalks, according to news reports about the flight.

International space stations are a familiar environment for the Indianapolis native; he spent 119 days aboard the Russian space station Mir in a 1997 mission. In a 2002 flight, he was part of a NASA crew that helped assemble the current ISS. His first NASA flight came in 1993 on a two-week life sciences research mission.



MOVIE MAGIC

Informatics grad animated about behind-the-scenes role with *Toy Story 3*

Movie magic sometimes works off the screen as well as on. Just ask 2008 IU School of Informatics graduate Frank Tai.

The 26-year-old native of Taiwan came to IUPUI in 2003 as an undergraduate art student, and on a class outing went to see the animated movie *The Incredibles*, a Pixar Animation Studios production.

"I knew right then that 3-D was what I wanted to do," says Tai. Just a few short years later, Tai earned his master's degree in Media Arts and Sciences, and headed for San Francisco to work as a Pixar animator on the upcoming movie *Toy Story 3*.

Talk about a dream come true. One day, you pick up your diploma; in a few short weeks, you plunge headfirst into the water with

an Academy Award-winning animation studio that typically dominates Hollywood box office figures.

"I couldn't believe it at first," says Tai. "To know that a company like Pixar has such confidence in my talent as an animator is just overwhelming."

Tai will serve as a technical director for Pixar's newly established in-residence internship program. He will spend nine months at the studio's San Francisco headquarters doing lighting, texturing, rigging and rendering work.

Tai believes that Informatics' Media Arts and Sciences program prepared him well for the challenges ahead, and credited mentors Clint Koch and Albert William of the school's faculty for their guidance.

"I drew inspiration from Professor Koch,

who has a passion for animation," Tai says. "Then, Professor William turned me on to 3-D stereoscopic techniques."

William believes that Tai deserves all the credit for his unique opportunity.

"He has a tremendous work ethic, a great artistic sense and is a very humble person," says William. "I hope other students will be inspired by the work he has done and follow in his footsteps."

To see more of Frank's work, visit his Web site at www.franktai.com/

(Story based on material from Neal Moore, director of community relations for the School of Informatics).



Finding her passion

For most IUPUI students, internships take them into downtown Indianapolis for a glimpse of the world of work. Kimberly Patterson's internship took her a bit further from the IUPUI campus — about 1,270 miles further.

The IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs graduate, who received her degree in environmental science and health, made the most of a chance to work last summer in the U.S. Public Health Service's Indian Health Service Division in New Mexico, near Santa Fe. Patterson's work with the Pueblo Indian tribe only strengthened her determination to work in the field of health care, preferably on an international scale.

She would "love to work in health care in Africa — that would be a dream come true" - but she didn't start out her college career headed in that direction. Patterson had to leave behind her first university (Northern Kentucky) and her first field at IUPUI (pre-pharmacy) to find her passion. Once she found environmental science and health, though, she knew she was on the right path.

Working face-to-face with people in need of a helping hand comes naturally to the Louisville native. Patterson was a big part of IUPUI's nationally recognized Sam H. Jones Community Service Scholarship program, and regularly volunteered for community projects to help children, the homeless and senior citizens living in nursing homes.

For Patterson, that commitment to community is a big part of why IUPUI is building a national reputation for excellence.

"You're going to school and at the same time helping the community," she says. "I feel connected, a sense of purpose. And not only are you making things better, you're meeting people and building relationships."



FAMED VISITORS

The IUPUI campus enjoyed visit from many notable figures during the 2007-08 school year, including the 2007-08 school year, including (top to bottom):

Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito (at Inlow Hall and the IU School of Law-Indianapolis); TV star Lisa Ling (at the Campus Center); and actor Sean Astin (with microphone in the Campus Center), who starred in the *Lord of the Rings* movies and in *Rudy*, and visited the campus as part of a political rally featuring Chelsea Clinton.





trip.iupui.edu

WORKING 'BETWEEN WORLDS'

Building bridges is a way of life for Elee Wood. As one of IUPUI's heralded public scholars, the researcher from the Schools of Liberal Arts and Education links the campus with the Indianapolis Children's Museum, using that facility's world-renowned reputation for excellence to train future teachers and excite the imaginations of future college students.

Her work is part of IUPUI's year-old TRIP program, an acronym for "turning research into practice." The TRIP initiative is an effort to take the knowledge and creativity of IUPUI students, faculty and researchers out of the laboratory and into the community.

Wood splits her time between IUPUI and the museum, using the exhibits to teach education students how to incorporate museum learning into school curricula, to capture the excitement of discovery for students they'll one day teach. And her research work gives the Children's Museum access to new ideas and approaches to the interactive learning that is at the heart of museum life.

Wood, a Minnesota native who volunteers with the Boys and Girls Club of Indianapolis, is used to working "between worlds," and loves it. "That's where the magic happens, where the excitement comes! When people work across disciplines, you see the world differently, connect ideas in different ways."



Roger Jarjoura
School of Public and Environmental Affairs



Glenda Westmoreland
School of Medicine



Joan Haase
School of Nursing



Ali Jafari
School of Informatics

News



HEALTHY PARTNERSHIPS

IUPUI part of new federal direction in medical research

IUPUI professor Anantha Shekhar will spearhead a new medical research institute expected to harness the power of higher education, business and government in a new research model funded by a \$25 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI), announced in May, is designed to combine the strengths of all three sectors and turn research findings into better patient care and business opportunities. The collaboration is the latest step to produce better health care and strengthen the economic impact of the life sciences in the state.

As part of the grant announcement, Shekhar was named the director of the CTSI; he also serves as the assistant vice president for life sciences for Indiana University and is a member of the psychiatry department in the IU School of Medicine on the IUPUI campus. IUPUI, IU and Purdue University are the core education representatives in the CTSI partnership.

The NIH grant is a five-year clinical and translational science award (CTSA), created to improve the process of turning laboratory discoveries into new medical treatments and products — the process called “translational research.”

The grant program is expected to bolster research partnerships between universities, between campuses and the business sector, and between schools and disciplines that develop new approaches

to better health practices.

Among the CTSI’s most likely community partners are Clarian Health, Eli Lilly and Co., BioCrossroads, Cook Group, Roche Diagnostics Corp., WellPoint Inc., the Indiana Economic Development Corp., the Indiana Department of Health and the Marion County Health Department.





Nancy Chism



Didier Gondola



Khaula Murtagha



Monroe Little Jr.



Richard Gundermant

Honors abound

International acclaim found several members of the IUPUI faculty during the 2007-08 school year, with three participating in the Fulbright Scholar program and another being named a Carnegie Scholar.

Nancy Chism of the IU School of Education at IUPUI spent part of the spring semester in Thailand lecturing and consulting with universities in that country as part of her Fulbright Scholar grant. As one of IUPUI's leading experts in faculty training and development, she worked with Thai colleges on promoting teaching and scholarship.

Two more IUPUI faculty have Fulbright Scholar trips pending. **Didier Gondola** of the IU School of Liberal Arts will return to his homeland in the Congo during the 2008-09 academic year to study the influence that movie portrayals of Buffalo Bill and other American cowboys might have had on creating a subculture among 1950s African youth, a group Gondola calls "tropical cowboys." Gondola is a member of the school's history department and African American and African Diaspora Studies program.

Gerard Magliocca of the IU School of Law-Indianapolis will travel to the Netherlands to hold the Fulbright-Dow Distinguished Chair at the Roosevelt Center for American Studies during the fall semester of the 2008-09 school year as part of the Fulbright Scholar program. Magliocca is the co-director of the school's Chinese law summer program and author of a book on President Andrew Jackson that was featured in an hour-long program on C-SPAN's "Book TV."

Edward Curtis of Liberal Arts has been chosen as a Carnegie Scholar and given a grant of roughly \$100,000 to study African American Muslim connections to foreign Muslims and Islamic institutions in Muslim countries.

Curtis, a member of the school's religious studies department and African American and African Diaspora Studies program, has given more than 100 public lectures and interviews since 2001 to educate the public about Muslims in America, in addition to writing books for general readers. His most recent book is *The Columbia Sourcebook of Muslims in the United States*.

Among other honors earned by IUPUI faculty during the 2007-08 school year, **Carmen Luca Sugawara** of the IU School of Social Work earned a Frank Turner Prize from the publishers of *International Social Work* for an article he co-wrote in 2006 ... **Khaula Murtagha**, the newly named associate vice chancellor for lifelong learning and the executive director of IUPUI's Community Learning Network, earned a 2008 Madame C. J. Walker "Outstanding Woman of the Year" award. The award is presented by the Center for Leadership Development ... **Monroe H. Little Jr.** of Liberal Arts and **David A. Suzuki** of the IU School of Medicine are this year's recipients of the Joseph Taylor Excellence in Diversity Awards at IUPUI. The awards are presented each year as part of the Taylor Symposium, named for the first dean of the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.

Five IUPUI faculty and administrators were honored this spring as part of Indiana University's annual Founders Day celebration. **Peter Roach** of the School of Medicine was named an IU Distinguished Professor, **Christine Leland** of the School of Education received a Frederic Bachman Lieber Memorial Award, and **Richard Gundermant** of Medicine and Liberal Arts earned a Herman Frederic Lieber Memorial Award. **H. Öner Yurtseven**, dean of the Purdue School of Engineering and Technology, received a John W. Ryan Award for Distinguished Contributions to International Programs and Studies, and **Karen Yoder** of the IU School of Dentistry received a Thomas Ehrlich Award for Excellence in Service Learning.



IUPUI Web site honored



James Brown, IU School of Journalism



Jason Eberl, IU School of Liberal Arts

IUPUI marketing soars online

IUPUI’s Office of Communication & Marketing is a big winner in this year’s 23rd Annual Admissions Advertising Awards, earning five awards — a “Best of Show,” two Gold awards, one Bronze and a Merit award — in the nation’s largest educational advertising competition.

IUPUI snagged a prestigious “Best of Show” award for its “Where IMPACT is Made” campaign. Among universities with enrollments of 20,000 or more students, IUPUI won a Gold award for the “IMPACT” campaign, a Bronze award for JagTV’s “The Spot” news-feature podcast, and a Merit award for health and life sciences podcasts.

IUPUI also is one of 16 universities to earn “Best of Show” awards in the national competition sponsored by the Admissions Marketing Report (AMR). The “IMPACT” campaign won the Gold award in the Total Advertising Package category.

For the second straight year, the IUPUI Web site (www.iupui.edu) took top honors in the AMR national competition. The redesigned site won the Gold Award in the Internet/Worldwide Web Site category, and replaced the IUPUI site that won the top AMR award a year ago.

IUPUI also won two awards in the New Media category: the Bronze Award for the JagTV “The Spot” podcasts and the Merit Award for the health and life sciences podcasts.

Other notes

The **Purdue School of Engineering & Technology** at IUPUI recently received a \$200,000 award from the Rolls-Royce Corporation to continue the design and testing of the next generation of aircraft engines, making them cleaner, more efficient and powerful ... the **IU School of Dentistry** received a second Delta Dental Foundation award this spring to help provide at-risk Hoosier children with preventive dental care ... A plan conceived by **Ian McIntosh**, IUPUI’s director of international partnerships, to simultaneously replenish forests in the Republic of Armenia and fight poverty in the former Soviet Union recently was named one of the “world’s best environmental projects” and earned the administrator an ENERGY GLOBE Award for Sustainability ... the National Science Foundation has given the **Purdue School of Science** and the **IU School of Medicine** at IUPUI a \$2.9 million grant to pair research graduate students with Indianapolis Public School teachers. The project aims to improve science education in grades K-12 and encourage students to pursue careers in math, science and medicine.

Faculty authors

If you write it, they will read ...

At least, that’s what three IUPUI faculty members who recently turned their skills and knowledge loose in the world of books hope will happen.

James Brown, the executive associate dean of the IU School of Journalism, collaborated with Rita Kohn on *Long Journey Home*, published by IU Press and featuring oral histories of contemporary Delaware Indians.

Ghost Tracks, by **Peter Hylton**, director of

the IUPUI Motorsports Program in the Purdue School of Engineering & Technology, looks at historic sports car racing tracks. Hylton’s book, published by Legacy Ink Publications, spotlights racing venues that are part of both America’s past and present fascination with speed, cars and racing.

Jason Eberl of the philosophy department in the IU School of Liberal Arts explores the stars for answers to the questions of humanity in *Battlestar Galactica and Philosophy: Knowledge Here Begins Out There*. The Blackwell Publishing

publication uses the acclaimed Sci-Fi Channel TV series to explore issues of humanity, science vs. faith, ethics and more.

For more about each book:

Long Journey Home

→ www.iupress.indiana.edu

Ghost Tracks

→ ghosttracks.wordpress.com

Battlestar Galactica and Philosophy:

Knowledge Here Begins Out There

→ www.blackwellpublishing.com

IUPUI PARTNERSHIPS

IUPUI aspires to greatness.
Citizens Gas is helping it get there.



Carey Lykins
President and Chief Executive Officer, Citizens Gas
IUPUI Alumnus—BS, Business, 1973; MBA, 1981

Investments in IUPUI are good business.

Support from Citizens Gas has led IUPUI to new vistas. Citizens Gas invested in IUPUI by stepping forward to endow minority dental scholarships. It was among the first to support the new Campus Center. And, it has contributed to campus arts, culture, diversity, and leadership programming. More resources mean more opportunities for IUPUI to have a positive impact on the Indianapolis community.

Citizens Gas and IUPUI: Partners in fueling the quality of life.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION

Your Generosity. IU's Future.

Foundation



Gene Tempel, Executive Director
The Center on Philanthropy

Giving spirit aids Center on Philanthropy

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University is world-renowned for its study of the field, but the impact of its work would be far more difficult to achieve if it didn't draw upon that same philanthropic spirit for support.

In the past two years, the center — based at IUPUI — has used major gifts from Lilly Endowment Inc. and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to expand its work building a sound knowledge base for the nonprofit world.

The gifts provide different kinds of support. The \$40 million Lilly Endowment grant provides day-to-day operational support: it frees the men and women in the center to do research, to teach young professionals who are building careers in philanthropy, and to work on projects with nonprofit organizations in Indianapolis and throughout the world.

Investment returns on the grant will generate about \$2 million annually, replacing a similar amount of annual operating support that the center received under a previous three-year grant from Lilly Endowment. The center will continue to secure private grants, contributions and university support, and to generate fees from contracts for services and other revenue-generating projects to fund the remainder of its \$12.7 million annual budget.

The Gates Foundation grant of \$750,000, on the other hand, supports one dynamic project: the Center on Philanthropy Panel Study (COPPS), a signature research effort that follows philanthropic behaviors of a core group of 8,000 families nationwide throughout their lives and

across generations.

The COPPS study provides nonprofit sector professionals, fund raisers, donors, policy makers and public officials with the most detailed information about giving and volunteer activities ever compiled.

The project, conducted in conjunction with the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research's Panel Study of Income Dynamics, provides an intriguing snapshot of how incomes, giving patterns and community service are intertwined, the role of family dynamics through generations, and the impact those elements have on the future of communities.

COPPS is the largest and most accurate study of charitable giving by U.S. households over time ever conducted. It is the only study that surveys giving and volunteering by the same households over time as families mature,

Foundation

face differing economic circumstances and challenges, and encounter changes in public policy, family size, health and other factors. It also provides the only data available that asks families extensively about their wealth and philanthropy, as well as income and other relevant factors.

“Both grants have special significance, in part because they provide matching opportunities that let other donors extend the impact of their gifts,” says Eugene R. Tempel, Executive Director of the Center on Philanthropy, adding that the grants “will encourage other funders and donors to support our efforts to ensure that nonprofits in central Indiana and beyond have the capacity and knowledge to strengthen communities, enhance human potential and meet vital needs.”

Gifts such as those from Lilly Endowment and the Gates Foundation give academic organizations like the Center on Philanthropy the freedom to work on projects that expand our base of knowledge and increase our understanding of how societies function. Understanding philanthropy and its impact is vital to civic leaders and public officials.



Curt Simic, head of the IU Alumni Association, Gene Tempel and Chancellor Charles Bantz welcomed a major gift from Lilly Endowment Inc. for the Center on Philanthropy. Such support helps students like Jaree Weeks (bottom photo, right) explore career options in academic programs in the world of philanthropy.

Construction update



(1) Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center

First phase of \$150 million, 405,000-square-foot facility

August 2008

(2) IU/Fairbanks Hall – The Clarian Education and Resource Center

Collaboration — Medicine; Nursing; Clarian Health

Research spaces

Clarian Education and Resource Center

\$44 million, six-story building; 182,000 square feet

30,000-square-foot, high-fidelity simulation center

Summer 2008

(3) Research III

254,000 square feet

Connected to Cancer Research Institute (Research I) and Research II

Winter/Spring 2009

(4) Riley Hospital for Children Simon Family Tower (shown above)

\$235 million, 10-story inpatient facility; 675,000 square feet

Part of a 10-year strategic plan

Includes a \$40 million gift from the Simon family

Partial patient opening in 2009; completion in 2013



Sam H. Jones
Community Service
Scholars

The Power of Community

In middle school, life began to unravel for Noé Barragan. His parents separated and later divorced. He and his four younger siblings, natives of the city of Izucar de Matamoros in Mexico, moved to Indianapolis after stays in Houston, Los Angeles and Chicago. His grade-point average (GPA) in his IPS school dropped to 1.0, and he was having problems adapting to the English language.

Worse, those problems created an even bigger concern: a brush with gang life that left him facing time in “juvie,” or juvenile hall.

Then, the power of community touched him. His church family and neighborhood friends nudged him back in the right direction. Bolstered by the support of others — some he barely knew — Barragan began turning his life around. He finished his career at Tech High School in Indianapolis as the class salutatorian, with a near-4.0 GPA. He enrolled at IUPUI and received a Sam H. Jones Community Service Scholarship, a program based on service and volunteerism.

The scholarship is a daily reminder to Noé of what even the smallest bit of help can mean.

“I was very lucky because after I got into

trouble, people gave me the help I needed. I learned a lot from that — I don’t get into trouble anymore,” the Kelley School of Business major says with a grin. “My family was very lucky. We got a lot of help from others — food, mattresses, rides to work, many things — and it makes a difference.”

At Tech, he plunged into community service projects of all types, a practice he continues.

“I see families in need every day near our home,” Noé says. “I know that if you help people, you help build a community.”

Finding the right balance between school-work and community service is no easy task, even for a well-organized 20-year-old student who hopes to be a business administrator or corporate accountant, and later — perhaps —

the owner of his own business.

But Noé is determined to do for others what once helped turn his life around.

“Back home in my neighborhood, many young people know me, know who I am and what I went through,” he says. “They can identify with me, because they face the same things I faced. They believe that ‘if he can do it, then I can, too.’ And I try to help them do that.”

Campus life at IUPUI has given Noé plenty of chances to reach out to others to offer help, collaboration or simply enjoy college careers. He is now the president of IUPUI’s Dos Cultures Hispanic Student Organization and vice-president of the Latino Student Association, both groups dedicated to increasing social, cultural and educational opportunities for students of all types at IUPUI.

The Jones Scholarship Program is named for the late Sam H. Jones, a dedicated public servant and chief executive officer of the Indianapolis Urban League for nearly four decades. Jones’ life is one that Noé admires.

“I try to spend as much time as I can spreading the word to high school students about the advantages of going to college,” he says. “They need to know the advantages of getting a college degree, the opportunities that it gives you!”

To learn more about the Sam H. Jones Community Service Scholarship Program, visit: csl.iupui.edu/cs/jones



... OUR BEST FOOT FORWARD

By Ric Burrous

IMPACT FROM THE HEART

As children, we're taught to "put our best foot forward" to achieve our life's goals.

This past winter, IUPUI basketball coach Ron Hunter went that old adage one better: he put two feet forward. And he did it for a worthy cause.

Hunter's simple act — removing his shoes and socks for one cold, wintry Indiana night, then coaching a Jaguar men's basketball game against Summit League rival Oakland — began as one man's idea to show people on the IUPUI campus and in the Indianapolis community what daily life is like for millions of children in the poorest regions of Africa and other continents.

And a nation — indeed, the world — took notice.



A CAUSE GONE GLOBAL

Hunter hoped his efforts would generate 40,000 pairs of new sneakers to support Samaritan's Feet, a U.S.-based non-profit organization dedicated to providing 10 million pairs of shoes for children over the next decade.

But by the time the clock in *The Jungle* hit 0:00 on that wintry night, Hunter's goal was a distant memory. By then, more than 125,000 pairs of shoes had been donated or pledged, with more on the way, thanks to an explosion of international media coverage combined with a healthy dose of human kindness.

The coach's heartfelt cause had gone global. And because Hunter — inspired by the life story and dreams of Samaritan's Feet founder Emmanuel "Manny" Ohonme — decided to do his part, the ripples roll onward.

The "barefoot coach" success story caught many by surprise. But not at IUPUI, where the passion to help others is a daily part of campus life. Officially, IUPUI calls it "civic engagement;" others call it public service or volunteerism. But by any terminology, it's about unleashing the talents and efforts of hundreds, even thousands, of students who "learn by doing." In the end, it's the embodiment of one of the world's oldest lessons: be a good neighbor.

Unusual notoriety

Hunter and his campus friends hoped his shoe drive would garner some local attention — newspapers, radio or area TV newscasts — to encourage donations. But his efforts quickly morphed into something quite unexpected: a cause that touched the hearts of millions of people across the country and around the world.

The IUPUI coach made multiple appearances on ESPN TV and radio shows, on the sports network's various Web sites, and in *ESPN the Magazine*. Hunter's story was in *Sports Illustrated*, both its print and web incarnations. He was in *The Sporting News*.

But the world of sports couldn't contain Hunter's cause: to change the world one foot — OK, two — at a time. Before long, the story was on CNN, on MSNBC, on the veritable alphabet soup of



networks and web systems that populate cyberspace. The "soles for souls" search resonated on news programs across the land and around the world; he even was chosen ABC-TV's "Person of the Week."

With each appearance, the story grew, and so did contributions of shoes and money. And each mention spotlighted the idea that a college campus can become a training ground for students, teaching them to think in terms of possibilities, not limitations.

Whether it's Hunter's shoe drive; health-related outreach efforts in Kenya, Mexico or Honduras; or building Indianapolis-area homes through Habitat for Humanity, civic engagement is a crucial element in IUPUI's commitment to be part of the Indianapolis community. And it takes many forms.

There are special events that raise funds, heighten awareness of causes or health challenges, or simply invigorate the city's cultural climate. There are volunteer projects that meet the short-term and long-term needs of people throughout Indianapolis. There are partnerships linking the campus with area governments, corporations and businesses, and civic groups.

Those connections make IUPUI part of the fabric of life in Indianapolis, and help the campus contribute to the future of people throughout the city and state, and — as Hunter's cause shows — beyond our borders.



Ron Hunter's coaching without shoes (upper left) is just one way IUPUI connects with its community. Students, faculty and staff help at food banks (above), through the Jagathon for Riley Hospital (lower left), on Habitat for Humanity construction sites (lower middle) and through summer camps for kids (below).

Ties that bind

In many respects, IUPUI is built to serve. The campus eagerly embraces its vision of a future built in tandem with the community.

The campus is home for the world-renowned Center on Philanthropy, which is training civic leaders of the present and assessing the impact philanthropy has on cities and communities throughout the world. IUPUI has built entire scholarship programs around service to the community, and even created the Center for Service Learning to oversee the use of volunteer opportunities as learning experiences.

IUPUI-based health schools like medicine, dentistry and nursing have long used neighborhood clinics as training ground for students, who help people now while honing their skills for the future. Through programs like nursing's Mom-Mobile and dentistry's Seal Mobile, that community support brings help to individual neighborhoods. The medical school's *Sound Medicine* program offers practical health tips to radio listeners. School of Law-Indianapolis students apply their newly learned skills by helping city residents with tax cases and basic legal issues.

In addition to such service-oriented infrastructure, IUPUI is actively involved in numerous special events that are traditional links between IUPUI and the community.

Events like the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and Outrun the Sun, which battle breast cancer and melanoma, respectively, are sponsored and hosted in part by IUPUI. Moreover, campus researchers have received funding through events such as those, enabling them to aggressively work toward cures and treatments that alleviate suffering. The Spirit & Place Civic Festival, born in the Polis Center (part of the IUPUI-based School of Liberal Arts), has become an annual part of the city's cultural foundation, building bridges between the arts, the humanities and religious groups.

Students create their own special activities, too. They organize and manage fund-raising events such as the Jagathon dance marathon and the Rock for Riley concert series, both of which benefit Riley Hospital for Children on the IUPUI campus.



Cover Story



Special events like the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure (left) are one of the ways IUPUI helps build a sense of community, as are the summer music camps (below) that help children explore a world of possibilities.



The IUPUI campus annually supports area food pantries through the Jam the Jaguars Bus food drive each Thanksgiving (bottom left); offers summer camps for children with dreams of careers in health care (bottom center); and offers a helping hand to prisoners trying to re-enter society through the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program (lower right); that help children explore a world of possibilities.

Passion to serve

Volunteerism is a big part of campus life at IUPUI. Students spend thousands of hours a year working in neighborhoods — food pantries, community centers, clinics, even individual homes — to connect with our neighbors and meet their needs. Each Thanksgiving season, the campus generates significant donations of food for area food pantries as part of the Jam the Jaguars Bus food drive. Projects like Habitat for Humanity and the Martin Luther King Jr. “Day of Service” are packed with smiling faces ready to roll up their sleeves and get to work.

The university also offers efforts like the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program and the Aftercare for Indiana through Mentoring

(AIM) program to tackle the problems faced by prisoners once they’ve left a life behind bars.

In Inside-Out, a collaboration between the School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) and Liberal Arts, college students take a class side-by-side with prisoners at Indiana’s Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility. It is designed to help the prisoners gain self-confidence as they re-enter society, and establish positive goals. AIM is a SPEA program in which IUPUI students mentor juvenile offenders, offering advice on jobs, health, education, social skills and money management.

Even summer camps hosted by IUPUI play a role in connecting city and campus. There are camps that revolve around sports, the life sciences, engineering and technology, the arts and more; but in the end, activities that once seemed to be little more than summer fun

have now become a spark that rekindles the love of discovery. The youngsters, guided by IUPUI faculty, staff and students, are reminded that learning can be their passion, and not just a parent’s dream.

Regardless of the path — events, research, partnerships or more — IUPUI’s ties to the city of Indianapolis and the state of Indiana are strong and growing. Civic engagement isn’t just what our students, faculty and staff do; it’s at the heart of who we are: people determined to use what we know, what we learn and what we teach to shape a brighter future for the community that is our home.

And when it’s done well, like a basketball coach’s barefoot walk through winter, it’s also more: it’s a life lesson about the impact that any of us — or better, all of us — can have on those who live across the street, across the country, or around the world.

Features



THE ART OF CIVIC LIFE

As an athlete, Melynn Klaus had the power — the power of a spike at a volleyball net, or the power to hurl a javelin a record distance for her Franklin & Marshall College track team. These days, she exercises a different sort of power: as director of the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation, she oversees grants that help shape the field of arts and culture throughout Indianapolis.

By Ric Burrous

Klaus' place as a key figure in one of the city's leading nonprofit organizations is "a dream job," one she believes she wouldn't have if it weren't for the dual masters degrees she earned from IUPUI in nonprofit management and public administration.

"Those programs, along with the Center on Philanthropy, opened my eyes to a world of possibilities," says the native-born East Coaster, who has found a new home in the Midwest with her husband, David, and their 6-month-old son Carter.

Major change in life

"My first job after graduating was at my alma mater, Franklin & Marshall, working in the development office and being an assistant coach in volleyball," Klaus says.

Features

She enjoyed the work — “I found that unlike a lot of people, I don’t mind asking for money if a project is worthwhile,” she laughs — but her life took a major turn when fellow F&M graduate Les Lenkowsky, a longtime faculty member at IUPUI and a major figure in the Center on Philanthropy, invited her to attend the center’s Summer Institute on Philanthropy and Voluntary Service.

“It’s a six-week program, and it was my first experience with IUPUI, with IU and with the Center on Philanthropy,” Klaus says. It didn’t take long before she realized that foundation work was the career path she wanted. “The seed had been planted, and when I got an unpaid internship with Christel House International, it was a perfect match!”

The organization, which runs several Christel House Learning Centers throughout the world, is a sister of the DeHaan Family Foundation.

By the following year, she was serving as a graduate assistant to Lenkowsky at the Summer Institute, and Indianapolis had gained its newest family. Before long, she was enrolled in the dual-degree program for philanthropy students at IUPUI: the master of public administration program in the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) and the master of arts program in the IU School of Liberal Arts.

Lenkowsky isn’t a bit surprised by Klaus’s success.

“Whatever she puts her mind to, she accomplishes,” he says. “When she came for her campus visit (to IUPUI), her mother was with her. By the time her visit was over, her mother wanted to attend, too!”

International opportunity

Internships like the one she enjoyed weren’t the only opportunities offered by the Center on Philanthropy to shape Klaus’s future.

She leaped at the chance to be one of the first four IUPUI participants in a study-



To hear more from Melynnne, go to magazine.iupui.edu

abroad opportunity in Bologna, Italy. And the outgoing ex-athlete with a quick smile and a big laugh left an impression on the locals, according to one of her Italian trip cohorts.

“She was engaged to David then, and I can tell you she left many Italian hearts broken,” says Ann Harris, now the donor relations manager for The Nature Conservancy in Indianapolis. “Our apartment was a one-mile walk from the center of town, and when we walked we would laugh so hard (and so loud) that people on the street would mock us.”

Roberta Knickerbocker Jagers, now the director of development for the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Foundation, also was part of that four-member class. And Jagers isn’t surprised that Klaus found her niche in nonprofit work related to the arts.

“She is always seeking to expand her knowledge and understanding of the world,”

“The things we learned about how history and culture play a role in nonprofit work, in public policy, in social or religious situations has been crucial.”

says Jagers. “She was so excited about being there, learning Italian ... and gaining a better understanding of the culture.”

Indeed, Klaus finds her Franklin & Marshall bachelor of arts degree in art history a useful tool in conjunction with the nonprofit training she received from SPEA, Liberal Arts and the Center on Philanthropy.

“I find myself using something I learned from each of them almost every day,” says Klaus. “The things we learned about how history and culture play a role in nonprofit work, in public policy, in social or religious situations has been crucial.”

As a practical matter, she loves the center’s proximity and lifelong ties to its graduates.

“It offers a wonderful array of conferences and publications that keep all of us in nonprofits up to speed with what is going on in the field,” she says. “So much is changing that we couldn’t stay in touch with new ideas and new approaches without the center’s help.”

Internship becomes job

Klaus spent nearly a year interning at Christel House, then two other stints as a graduate assistant for the organization.

Once her training in philanthropic studies at IUPUI and through the Center on Philanthropy was completed, she became the development officer for the Women’s Fund of Central Indiana, staying there for two years. The DeHaan organization kept an eye on her work, though, and when it sought a new director for the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation in May 2006, Klaus was the choice.

As director, Klaus oversees competitive grants, the Summer Youth Program Fund grants, board discretionary grants, sponsorship requests, multi-year grant monitoring, site visits and research, community and nonprofit organizational meetings, and much more.

The DeHaan Family Foundation’s focus on Indianapolis arts and culture is intentional; it’s intended to help give those of limited means

“So much of what we think of as philanthropy is charity ...” Klaus says. “But Christel’s belief is in the ‘inch-wide, mile-deep’ approach. She wants her organizations to break the cycle of poverty and help equip people through education, job training, nutritional support, health care and cultural development.”



Features

“One person cannot change a world or even a community alone,” she says. “But the power of philanthropy is that one doesn’t HAVE to do it alone.”

exposure to a world that would otherwise likely be out of reach. The foundation’s support not only helps throw open the doors to all, it also dovetails nicely with the city’s plans to become an arts-and-culture magnet for the state — and beyond.

The DeHaan family of organizations “is a small group of people who are very team-oriented,” Klaus says. “I’ve always felt like I’m valued there, and a trusted part of the team, even when I was an intern.”

It’s an approach she favors and a model that works well, whether in the Christel House Learning Centers in Indianapolis or in Mexico, India, South Africa and Venezuela.

Early start on community spirit

Getting involved in community activities was a tradition for Melynne and her family, the Stuffs.

“My parents were always behind-the-scenes philanthropists, and I was very involved in community work through my youth group and my church growing up,” she says.

Klaus grew up “wanting to be a police-woman or an astronaut — or a volleyball player,” she recalls with a chuckle. Mostly, “I knew I wanted to do good for others; I just wasn’t sure how.”

She came to Indianapolis “expecting to get an advanced education in philanthropy” and then “return to the East Coast,” she says. But



Klaus returns to the IUPUI campus and the Center on Philanthropy often, passing along her experiences – both as a student and a practicing philanthropist – to students who hope to follow in her footsteps.

fate — and the lure of Indiana’s capital city — intervened.

“David and I quickly fell in love with the city, with the arts and culture that are here, with the world of philanthropy that plays such a big role here, with everything,” she says. “It has all the benefits of a large city, but still has the friendly feel of a small town.”

The former college athlete stays active playing flag football and volleyball, though being with her son is her immediate priority. Her husband, a college basketball player, stays active as one of the practice players who works out against the Indiana Fever of the WNBA.

Different kind of philanthropy

Klaus is excited about the DeHaan organizational model for a different kind of philanthropy.

It’s one reason she admires her boss, Christel DeHaan, so deeply.

“So much of what we think of as philanthropy is charity — coats for people in winter, food for the hungry, and those needs have to

be met!” Klaus says. “But Christel’s belief is in the ‘inch-wide, mile-deep’ approach. She wants her organizations to break the cycle of poverty and help equip people through education, job training, nutritional support, health care and cultural development.”

Klaus calls it “strategic philanthropy... that is proactive rather than reactive,” she says.

She happily champions philanthropic causes throughout the community.

“Everyone’s life is touched in some way by philanthropy,” she says. “It could be a park or a hospital or an arts organization; we just don’t always define those things as ‘philanthropy in action.’ But we all practice it. When you help a neighbor carry in her groceries, or give a friend a ride to a community center, that’s philanthropy. And it makes our communities wonderful places to live.”

Of all the lessons she learned at IUPUI, there is one that resonates with her still.

“One person cannot change a world or even a community alone,” she says. “But the power of philanthropy is that one doesn’t HAVE to do it alone.” ✨

PHILANTHROPY

NEW WAY TO SOAR



For years, Katie Taylor spent her work life 40,000 feet above the earth, flying at speeds far past the speed of sound, serving her country by piloting a U.S. Air Force jet fighter. These days, she's found a new way to serve others, preparing for a career in public service by earning her executive master's degree in philanthropic studies from IUPUI this spring, and getting ready for a day when she'll help others face-to-face, side-by-side. *By Ric Burrous*

A CALL TO SERVE

Thanks to her course work and an internship at Indianapolis-based Christel House International, she's already plunged headfirst into efforts to help children both here and around the world. Her efforts and the friendships she's forged in just a couple of years confirmed what in her heart she already suspected: that philanthropy was going to be her new way to soar.

Born for service

As part of a military family — Taylor was born at the Air Force Academy and lived at Air Force bases around the world — she grew up with an abiding interest in serving others.

Taylor graduated from the Air Force Academy herself, became a fighter pilot and married another fighter pilot, Indianapolis native Scott Taylor. But after she and Scott ended their Air Force careers in 2006, Taylor wanted to find a new way to serve others. And she found it at IUPUI and the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

"I feel in my heart that I've been called to the service aspect of the nonprofit field," she says. "But it's such a diverse field — I had so much to learn, and IUPUI is by far the best place for that."

The philanthropic studies program and the Center on Philanthropy are so closely tied to the nonprofit sector in Indianapolis that internships and volunteer programs — the chance to meet real-world needs — abounded for Taylor and her fellow students.

"I was excited to get into the field," she says. "You can only learn so much in a classroom. The chance to touch the lives of others is so fulfilling."

Scott Taylor, who now flies for FedEx out of Indianapolis, shares his wife's passion for service.

"We moved to Indianapolis because Scott's family is here," she says. "But what keeps us here are the many opportunities we have found to help others. There are so many people who want to help; it's wonderful to be part of that type of community."

Their passion for helping people earned both Katie and Scott one of two statewide "Big Give" awards from WRTV-Channel 6 this winter, part of "Oprah's Big Give" project, headed by Oprah Winfrey. The Taylors conceived "Operation Heartland" to furnish and stock the new Moreau House created by Helping Homeless Veterans and Families of Indiana Inc. (HVAF). The facility will provide temporary housing for homeless vets, part of HVAF's support efforts.

Fascinated by her story

Les Lenkowsky, one of Taylor's mentors at IUPUI and in the Center on Philanthropy finds her story both fascinating and amazing.

"Katie wrote one of the most unforgettable applications for admission I have ever read," says Lenkowsky. "After describing her career in the Air Force, flying fighter jets, she said she was leaving the military ... but did not intend to abandon her career in public service."

What struck him was Taylor's innate understanding of what she wanted to achieve, and what it would take to reach her goals. She "hoped to get into our program in order to prepare herself to serve in a different way," Lenkowsky adds. "Then she recounted the enormous number of volunteer activities she was involved in while on active duty throughout the world. It left no doubt about her sincerity."

Her Christel House internship offered "marvelous opportunities" to make a difference in children's lives, something that resonates with Taylor. "I have a brother my parents adopted in Thailand who has special needs, and I know what the care and support of others can mean," she says.

One of her favorite tasks was the chance "to help bring three girls from our international learning centers to spend six weeks at Culver Academies," the nationally renowned lakeside residential academy for both boys and girls, located in northwest Indiana.

Two of the girls came to the U.S. from South Africa, while the third came from Mexico City.

"The girls loved it and had such a good time. To see the fruits of Christel House's labor, to see the impact on those girls' lives, was truly memorable for me."

Shared characteristics

Taylor sees interesting intersections between her past and future lives.

"As a pilot, you have to see the big picture, process lots of infor-



Katie and Scott Taylor enjoy walks through Eagle Creek Park when they're not finding ways to serve their community.

mation," she says. "And in the military, you have to work as part of a team — it can't be all about you!" In the world of public service, Taylor has found that seeing the "big picture" and being a team player also are inherently valuable skills.

What she has learned about the field of philanthropy convinces Taylor that she's in the right place at the right time of her life.

"When Scott and I first moved to Indy, we were driving along West Street and I saw a sign for the Center on Philanthropy," she says. "It seems like fate, since I wanted to get into that field, and I'd never heard about the Center before."

The philanthropic studies program's focus on the social, cultural, political and economic roles played by philanthropy and nonprofit organizations fascinated her. With her MA safely in hand, she's never regretted the decision.

"It has surpassed every expectation I had," Taylor says. "The professors were wonderful, the courses challenging and interesting, and my classmates — I can't tell you how much respect I have for my fellow students. I was to be a full-time student, which helped me finish the (three-year) program in 18 months; most of my classmates have to juggle work and family as well as the coursework and service — I don't know how they do it!"

One of her fellow students found Taylor's story just as compelling, and class discussions a true learning experience.

"Katie's experience as a pilot, her passion for learning and desire to improve the lives of others is natural, authentic and inspirational," says Amy Conrad Warner, who in addition to being a student serves as IUPUI's vice chancellor for external affairs. "She accepts new ideas as readily as she welcomes opposing views."

Personal interests

As dedicated as she is to her burgeoning career, Taylor makes time for other interests.

"My passion is to spend time with family," she says. "Our life went from always on the go to simple and sweet, and Scott and I love it that way! We delight in walks in Eagle Creek Park, we've become diehard Colts fans, and I have to admit I'm a closet NASCAR fan."

She also runs marathons — 17 at last count — many to raise money for worthwhile causes.

Taylor admits that marathons are "a fairly arduous process, but one you share with all the runners around you." She still recalls her first, while stationed in Okinawa, in which she saw a group of blind runners being led through the course by sighted runners. "I thought that was an amazing gift, to be able to share an experience with someone who might not otherwise be able to take part," she says.

The Taylors have even found a way to blend their aerial skills with their determination to help those around them. They are part of the Air Charity Network (formerly known as Angel Flight America), an organization of pilots who volunteer to fly children and adults in need of medical attention not available near their homes to hospitals and health-care facilities that can treat them. The flights are free to the families being transported; the costs are absorbed by the pilots themselves. The network flies in legs; from one pilot and plane to the next, then on to the next, and so forth to the treatment facility — then back.

For both Katie and Scott, it's a way to marry their passions: flying and service.

"It's wonderful to be part of something so important," she says. "You know you were able to help people at a critical time."

Taylor started flying at age 14, learning to soar the skies in gliders, something she still considers "the closest thing to pure flight."

But she's found that even life soaring among the clouds can't carry the human spirit as high as simply offering a helping hand. ✨



To hear more from Katie, go to magazine.iupui.edu

"It's such a diverse field — I had so much to learn, and IUPUI is by far the best place for that."

Features

The passion of museum life

By Ric Burrous

Where culture becomes experience

Anne Laker has always been creative, always loved to share the world she sees around her with others, whether it was her first writing “job,” covering sports for the Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School newspaper, or her girlhood dream career as a TV news anchorwoman.

“It’s a window to the social capital of our community,” she says. “The diversity of perspectives, the passion to exchange ideas and transform our city for the better are what make the festival unique, I think.”

But the IUPUI alumna, who earned her master’s degree in English from the IU School of Liberal Arts in 2002, hit the mother lode in her current career: Laker is the assistant director of education for public programs at the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) and daily finds herself immersed in new worlds that she helps museum visitors experience.

It’s a big job, considering that the IMA — founded in 1883 — is home to more than 50,000 works of art and is the fifth largest art museum in the United States.

“I’ve always loved museums, even when I was a child,” she says. “But I never really envisioned working for one. My job is to build learning experiences around the exhibits and collections we feature, to help round out each person’s understanding of what they are seeing.”

Since the collections and exhibits extend from ancient Chinese times to contemporary art, defining those “learning experiences” isn’t always easy, especially when budgets can be tight. “But we have access to some exceptional resources to help us learn about what’s being featured.”

In the case of the Roman Art from the Louvre collection displayed earlier this year at the IMA, Laker helped kick off the opening weekend in an unusual way.

“It so happened that our celebration occurred on the fall equinox,” she says. So she and IMA staffers hit the books, learned what ancient Romans did to celebrate that occasion, and recreated that experience through the “Festival of Apollo.” The event included exhibitions of falconry and archery, demonstrations of stone carving, golden wreaths for guests to wear on their heads, and more.

For IMA guests, the festival was a unique experience; for Laker, it was merely a test of her creativity.

Tested in Spirit & Place

Those creative skills were honed in part at IUPUI, first as a graduate student and later as an employee, serving as the manager of the Spirit & Place Festival for IUPUI’s The Polis Center, which launched the event — dedicated to drawing upon Indianapolis’ strengths in the arts, humanities and religion — in 1996 (see related story, page 27).

Taking that job was a bit ironic for Laker, whose first job after graduating summa cum laude from Mundelein College of Loyola University in Chicago was with the Indiana Humanities Council, where “one of the first things they had me do was ‘grunt’ work for this new community event called Spirit & Place,” she recalls with a smile. “I remember thinking then that it was a really unusual event.”

She took over the leadership of the then-5-year-old festival while pursuing her master’s degree, and helped push the annual two-week event to new heights.

“I really felt my biggest job with Spirit & Place was to increase the outreach and the partnerships that are such a big, unique part of the festival,” Laker says. She was successful in that effort; during her tenure, the number of civic organizations, congregations and community groups that participated in Spirit & Place Festival events climbed from less than three dozen to more than 100.

To Laker, Spirit & Place offers a unique glimpse of the city.

“It’s a window to the social capital of our community,” she says. “The diversity of perspectives, the passion to exchange ideas and transform our city for the better are what make the festival unique, I think.”

Besides the memories of her work with Spirit & Place from 2000-03, her time with the festival had a practical impact on her career, too.

“I left with a really fat Rolodex,” she laughs, before remembering that — since it was electronic — it wasn’t that “fat.” But she also “took relationships I will always treasure, and a sense of the power of collaboration that I know now can strengthen partnerships.”



Anne Laker (in the Richard D. Wood Formal Garden, above right) has found a home at the Indianapolis Museum of Art, surrounded by the beauty of one of largest art museums in the country.



Features

“I’ve always felt IUPUI is a great springboard,” she says. “There are so many opportunities, so many options. You can explore different paths, and you’re encouraged to do it!”

Thriving cultural community

Laker’s years at IUPUI, both as a student and with The Polis Center, helped expand her horizons in the city’s growing arts community.

“It’s a dynamic environment,” she says. “No matter what your taste — from avant-garde to traditional — the pie is getting bigger!”

That growth is vital for Indianapolis if it hopes to succeed as a Mecca for the arts, a goal established by former Mayor Bart Peterson in the city’s cultural tourism initiative.

The IMA is just part of “a rich environment” for museums, Laker points out.

The city “is a hotbed of museum activity” that caters to a variety of interests, she says. Among the choices: youth-focused activities at The Children’s Museum; a glimpse of our past at the Conner Prairie Living History Museum; the rich history of America’s westward expansion at the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art; the ever-changing kaleidoscope of exhibits on display at the Indiana State Museum; the evolution of the automobile and motorsports at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum; the intersection of art and sports at the IUPUI-based National Art Museum of Sport, and “so much more,” Laker adds.

That variety is important because art and culture connect with people in many different ways.

“People have a lot of reasons to come to a museum: solace, commu-

nion, socialization, entertainment and more,” Laker says. “We hope our visitors will find ways to engage with our exhibits for any — or all— of those reasons.”

One of the best things about her IMA job, she finds, is her ongoing ties back to IUPUI.

“The IMA partners frequently with IUPUI,” Laker says. “Last year, we had a project called ‘My Daily Constitution,’ featuring dialogues on the American constitution and its impact. It brought together the IMA, Herron, the Center for Service & Learning and the American Democracy Project — students really seemed to enjoy it and get a lot out of it.”

Other ties include Herron students working on space utilization with IMA people; an ongoing partnership with IUPUI’s Museum Studies program, directed by Elizabeth Kryder-Reid; and a project with IUPUI’s committee on African and African-American Studies for a film series in February.

Strengthened by connections

Those ties to her past keep Laker energized.

“I’ve always felt IUPUI is a great springboard,” she says. “There are so many opportunities, so many options. You can explore different paths, and you’re encouraged to do it!”

Laker’s own IUPUI career illustrates the point. She wanted a master’s in English, but she wanted to indulge her passions for film — she’s written movie reviews for NUVU Newsweekly, Indianapolis’ leading alternative newspaper — and museums. In Liberal Arts, she found all three, thanks to the school’s Film Studies and Museum Studies programs.

“I was able to connect a lot of the dots in my life here,” she says. “There is a good cohesiveness to liberal arts. I think the school did a good job of recognizing its students and creating a sense of community.”

Faculty members like Jane Schultz and Dennis Bingham helped refine her writing skill, as well, an important part of her career training.

“I’ve always loved writing,” Laker says. Whether it was writing sports in high school (she admits friends might be surprised at that, at least until they learned that her father was a high school coach) or indulging another passion — poetry — she loves the creative release she draws from writing.

Though she no longer does movie reviews, she still writes occasionally for NUVU.

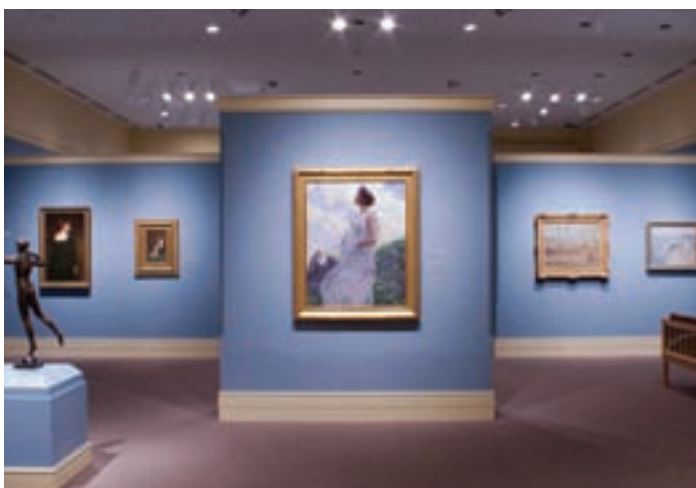
“I contribute articles on environmental issues, which I’m pretty zealous about — ask my family,” she laughs. “They just roll their eyes, then talk about something else!” ✨

For more on the Indianapolis Museum of Art, visit the IMA Web site at: www.imamuseum.org



To hear more from Anne, go to magazine.iupui.edu

“My job is to build learning experiences around the exhibits and collections we feature, to help round out each person’s understanding of what they are seeing.”



The beauty of the exhibits and collections featured at the Indianapolis Museum of Art fill many roles for visitors, including “solace, communion, socialization, entertainment and more,” according to Anne Laker.

Pam Hinkle in Clowes Hall, home of Spirit & Place’s annual Public Conversation



Can we talk? Spirit & Place makes its mark

When renowned authors Kurt Vonnegut and Dan Wakefield sat down with their good friend and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer John Updike on the Clowes Hall stage in the fall of 1996, they were simply “Thinking Out Loud about Indianapolis.”

It’s unlikely they expected more than a pleasant chat about the hometown of Indianapolis natives Vonnegut and Wakefield – shared with a few hundred city residents.

But that conversation launched the now-13-year-old Spirit & Place Civic Festival, a sprawling event spanning nearly three weeks and multiple central Indiana sites that attracts thousands of people from Indianapolis and beyond.

“There is nothing like it in the U.S.,” says Pam Hinkle, who has directed the past two festivals. “We have arts, religion and humanities, and it’s that collaboration that makes us unique.”

Spirit & Place was created by The Polis Center, a research organization in IUPUI’s School of Liberal Arts. Besides the three award-winning authors who helped launch the public conversation as the signature event of Spirit & Place, other renowned participants include fellow authors Jane Smiley and Andre Dubus III, Hoosier film producer-writer Angelo Pizzo (*Hoosiers*), Nobel Peace Prize winner Betty Williams, Sister Helen Prejean (whose story was portrayed in the Hollywood movie *Dead Man Walking*) and award-winning journalist A’Leia Bundles.

Spirit & Place’s numerous events are created by partnerships between organizations, and must be interactive, Hinkle says. “People are hungry to practice conversation, to have dialogue, and Spirit & Place gives them a place to learn about the experiences of others.”

For more about past festivals or the 2008 event (Nov. 1-16), visit www.spiritandplace.org.



From Robert Ludlum's Jason Bourne trilogy to Ken Follett's *Eye of the Needle*, Kevin Surface's love for fiction leans toward tales of espionage and intrigue.

But it's his passion for the first spy thriller to bear his own signature — called *The Cuban Connection* — that has the Indiana insurance salesman banking on persistence and hard work to pay off in terms of a Hollywood deal.

"We are getting the book out there," Surface says of the publicity work he and his wife have done under the encouraging eye of Kelly Mumm, a Borders bookstore district marketing manager. "We are doing all the things that we need to do to have one of two things happen ... get a film deal or a national contract."

Surface's book is the first of what he hopes will be a four-book series in the genre that has long fascinated him; indeed, he already is hard at work on the sequel. Kevin and his wife, Monica, are avid promoters of

the first novel, a 450-page story with a cast of spies, assassins, CIA and FBI agents, mobsters and revolutionaries that Surface brought to life at a desk in the basement office of the couple's south Indianapolis home.

"It starts out a little slow" as Surface introduces his characters, but "after that, it is a spine-tingling, what-will-happen-next" story, said a fan during a photo session at the Greenwood Borders.

The book was published in October 2006 under a print-on-demand contract with Author House in Bloomington. The book is available in both hardcover and an oversized paperback. Either edition retails for under \$30.

Surface has had numerous book signings, most local but as far away as St. Louis.

The novel's slick, royal blue cover features a map outline of Cuba and southern Florida within the crosshairs of a rifle scope, a reflection of its plot. The cover design, featured on

posters, business cards and postcards Surface financed for promotional purposes, is the work of Bart Heldman, a commercial artist and friend of the Surfaces.

Surface's historical thriller, set in Cuba and Miami, is often found in bookstores like Borders amid the works of other Hoosier authors and stories, such as *The LaSalle Street Murder* by Carol Sisson or *Hoosiers in Hollywood* by David C. Smith.

Mumm and Borders have been a "god-send," Surface says. "Once they saw our book and our (promotional) materials, they agreed to take it into their stores. We had our first book signing Jan 14, 2007, at Borders in Greenwood. We sold 66 books."

Surface, a 1981 IUPUI political science graduate, had expressed the urge to write a book for about a year when — on Thanksgiving Day 2001 — his wife challenged him to "stop talking and write." Monica, a 1982



IUPUI business graduate, came in that day, plopped a new laptop on the table in front of her husband, and said, “get started.”

Surface first tried a traditional approach to writing.

“Everyone says you should start off with an outline,” he says. “I tried it, but it didn’t work.”

So he replaced the outline approach with stacks of 3-by-5 cards on which he first crafted his characters’ profiles before turning to fleshing out the novel with its numerous subplots.

“At first it was a little harder than I thought it would be. But as I got to doing it, these things kept forming in my mind, these plots and these characters and how I was going to tie them all together,” he says.

He wrote the first third of the book on those 3-by-5s, but kept track of the plot twists chapter-by-chapter on regular notebook paper. “It was old-fashioned, but it served my purpose,” Surface says.

His political studies at IUPUI, including an international politics course taught by Professor Richard Fredland, proved invaluable in crafting a tale with references to the Bay of Pigs, Castro’s takeover of Cuba and Operation Peter Pan, Surface says.

Fredland, now retired, recalled the course curriculum. “We covered Castro in great detail,”

“A good fiction writer takes fiction-based characters and puts them into nonfiction settings ... and creates a scene so vivid that you can see it in your mind.”

Fredland says.

Both Fredland and Surface recall the student receiving a poor score on a paper in Fredland’s class.

“It was the only ‘D’ I ever got,” Surface says with a shake of his head. The professor returned the 50-page paper on the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, telling the student that he knew he could do better. The second version earned an A-minus.

“He has obviously overcome any writing deficiencies,” Fredland laughs. “It’s great, and shows what people can do,” the professor says, adding he planned to pick up a copy of the novel.

In writing the book, Surface heeded advice he once heard from an accomplished writer: “A

“It’s New Year’s Eve 1958, and Fidel Castro has mobilized his forces for the long-awaited overthrow of the Cuban government, precipitating a chain of events that will alter an eight-year-old boy’s life forever ...”

Amazon.com uses that text as a teaser for *The Cuban Connection*, written by IUPUI graduate Kevin Surface (at a book-signing event, upper right). Surface created his novel with the help of 3-x-5 cards (lower left) in recreating that long-ago, politically charged era.

good fiction writer takes fiction-based characters and puts them into nonfiction settings ... and creates a scene so vivid that you can see it in your mind.”

Her husband nailed that, Monica says.

“I was surprised, pleasantly surprised. I’ve read a lot of those kinds of books, also. I was surprised at how well he described the characters and the settings. He did a good job of really putting you there,” Monica says. “I didn’t think he had it in him. If you read the book, you can easily picture every move, from scene to scene.”

The entire process of writing and publishing a book has been a learning process, Surface says. Although both he and his wife felt the book was a “page-turner” they weren’t sure until a friend read the entire book over one weekend.

While Surface’s pride and passion in his first book are evident, he doesn’t take the credit for the creativity demonstrated in crafting a work of fiction.

“God blesses people with certain talents and he has blessed me with (this),” he says.

So now he is anxiously waiting for a film company to buy movie rights to *The Cuban Connection*, or a big-name publishing house to print the book and/or contract for sequels.

“The timing is (God’s) and not mine ... the Lord is trying to teach me patience,” Surface says. “And if you have something as good as we think the book is, then, in all humility, it is just a matter of time.” ★

Visit The Cuban Connection online: www.kevinsurface.com



IU School of Physical Education and Tourism Management graduate Jennifer Anderson works with youngsters at Howe Academy in Fit for Life, an exercise program that prepares middle-school students for a healthier lifestyle.

When education gets physical

By Ric Burrous

Her “office” is a converted garage area near the parking lot behind Thomas A. Howe Academy in downtown Indianapolis. It’s a space filled with weights, treadmills, stationary bikes — equipment needed for physical fitness training — and with one more thing: dreams.

And for Jennifer Anderson and the Fit for Life program that she directs, it’s home.

Fit for Life is a four-year-old program, launched by IUPUI in partnership with Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS), that aims to tackle the problems of obesity and low levels of physical activity through an after-school program of focused education and training.

Anderson majored in exercise science in earning her bachelor’s degree in 2003, adding a master’s in 2005, both from the IU School of Physical Education and Tourism Management (PETM) at IUPUI. Both degrees have proved handy in her role as the face of a program that might just shape the future health habits of a generation of IPS high school and middle school students from Howe Academy, George Washington Community and Northwest, the first three IPS schools to offer facilities — and students — to launch the fitness program.

It’s a career path she loves, but it wasn’t her first choice.

Focus shifted

“Originally, I wanted to get into physical therapy” in the IU School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Anderson says.

Things changed, though, when she met NiCole Keith, then a new faculty member in the School of Physical Education and Tourism Management.

“She was new to IUPUI and looking to establish a community-based program, and it sounded interesting to me,” says Anderson. “After talking with her, I decided to go to graduate school and get involved in the program, which

became Fit for Life.”

Fit for Life has several goals, Anderson says. First is education, to teach people how to live a healthy lifestyle. Second is a place to work out, to try different programs to see which fits them and produces the results each person wishes. At the same time, Anderson and others in the program want Fit for Life to be fun, too.

“Anytime you get people to have a good time, that’s a big benefit,” she says. “They realize there is more to exercising than what can look like hard work — there can be a payoff at the end.”

Program changed

Early planning targeted adult fitness, but organizers quickly realized it would be difficult to find outside funding. Shifting the focus to children from kindergarten through eighth grade “didn’t work either,” Anderson says. But when Fit for Life began working in high school and middle school settings, things clicked.

“Partly, it’s because of the concern over childhood obesity,” Anderson adds. “Parents worry about the long-term health of their chil-

“They realize there is more to training than what can look like hard work — there can be a payoff at the end.”



Jennifer Anderson is teaching middle schoolers how to live a healthier lifestyle.

To learn more about the program, visit www.fitforlife.com.

dren, and without the support from parents and neighbors — from the community, really — no program will work.”

When Fit for Life offered eventual access for community residents to the facilities and workout programs, the response became even more positive.

“A lot of people can’t afford the cost of a private gym,” she says. “That’s why Fit for Life is so great — a lot of people who wouldn’t be able to work out now have a place to get that kind of training and health information.”

People get into fitness for a variety of reasons, Anderson says — weight loss, strength, to train for a specific event or sport, a doctor’s orders, or simply because of their body image. The key, she adds, is getting started.

“Once they find out they can do this, it’s great,” she says. “It’s a great stress reliever — people start for a lot of reasons, but they keep doing it because they learn to love it!”

People train differently: some prefer solitary workouts; others like the social aspects of group workouts.

Features

“That’s part of what a good fitness instructor does,” Anderson says. “You have to find out what an individual likes, and how they’ll best do the work. You have to make sure a person’s needs are met. You have to know the person. It’s all about effort — if they don’t work at it, they won’t reach their goals.”

Personal growth

Being a part of Fit for Life has meant changes for the Granger, Ind., native, as well.

“Fit for Life has really helped me grow as a person,” Anderson says. “It’s been a challenge to set up and it’s a lot of work, but it’s really forced me to become more open and more forceful, to test myself.”

“I think I’m more patient than most people would be,” Anderson adds. “I have managed to find something I’m passionate about!”

That passion is clear — Anderson’s eyes light up and her hands come alive as she talks about Fit for Life — and comes from the program’s unique nature.

“Nobody has ever done a program quite like this,” she says. “We’re constantly making changes to make it better. It’s different every semester, and I enjoy talking to the IUPUI students who are entering the program. They’re starting an incredible experience.”

Keith has noticed the changes in Anderson through the life of the program.

“Although she was an excellent student, she never said a word — she was very shy,” says the faculty member. Much to Keith’s surprise, Anderson showed up in Keith’s office near the end of a semester, asking if the professor “knew of any programs that served the community to improve fitness. Months later, Jennifer and I sent the first group of (IUPUI) students to perform service learning activities at Cold Spring Elementary School. That was the beginning of Fit for Life.”

The development of the program pleases Keith, but “not nearly as much as Jennifer’s transformation. She has gone from a quiet, intelligent student to an individual capable of

“Fit for Life has really helped me grow as a person”

directing a program that promotes community health and fitness, and gives IUPUI students the opportunity to gain experience while meeting a tremendous community need.”

For Anderson, it’s those opportunities for IUPUI physical education students that make Fit for Life an exceptional internship opportunity.

“This is real-world experience,” she says. “In class, you practice on your classmates who know all the techniques you’re using. But in Fit for Life, you have a chance to make a real difference in people’s lives, to help shape their future.”

A big part of a trainer’s job is “myth-busting,” she laughs. “You won’t believe some of the things people think about physical fitness. They read something in a fitness magazine or online, and think it’s all true!”

Partnerships key

Fit for Life is built on partnerships: ties between IUPUI and IPS, links between PTEM and the Schools of Nursing and Medicine, plus IUPUI’s renowned Center for Service & Learning. And all those partnerships are vital, Anderson contends.

“Without Nursing faculty, we wouldn’t have even gotten started,” she says. “We wouldn’t have our community participants without help from Medicine. We couldn’t continue if it wasn’t for Service & Learning and the staff it helps fund. And we work closely with Wesco, a near Westside community organization. Through Wesco, we’re able to apply for funding to places that don’t ordinarily fund public institutions, plus they help us recruit participants. Partnerships are what we are;

without them, we couldn’t exist.”

Despite the burgeoning relationships, the future of Fit for Life isn’t carved in stone.

Part of the allure for IPS is that the district doesn’t have to part with its limited dollars, instead providing in-kind services (workout areas and equipment, personnel and students). But the PTEM is hesitant to guarantee long-term support without a similar commitment from the school system.

“Everyone realizes the value Fit for Life has,” sighs Anderson. “We’re really just starting, and we can see how the kids respond. But neither IPS nor the PTEM has a lot of money to spare, either. That’s why a big part of my job is to try to find other partners who see the value, who are willing to help us develop healthy habits in our children.”

Spreading the word has become part of Anderson’s mission, but it isn’t easy.

“A lot of people who might have resources to help us don’t know what we’re doing,” she says. “I’m only one person, and I can only talk to so many people.”

Despite the concerns, she believes the value of Fit for Life will draw the community support it deserves and needs to thrive.

“Indianapolis is a city that has really begun to focus on healthy living,” she says. “That’s one of the things I love so much about it — it has so many parks and other places to be active. All the playgrounds and trails make it a great place to have a healthy life! We just want to do our part.” ✨



To hear more from Jennifer, go to magazine.iupui.edu



The Center of Campus Life

IUPUI CAMPUS CENTER

DEDICATION • APRIL 9, 2008

INDIANA UNIVERSITY - PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS

Campus Center



A new era begins

Years of dreams have turned into months of reality — and the reality has more than lived up to the fondest hopes that IUPUI's new Campus Center would become the heart of student life.

Opened in January, the five-story center provides more than a quarter-million square feet of space for students to study, relax, eat and buy books, materials and apparel. It's also well suited for special events large and small. Student support offices call it home. Campus tours start and end there. And special events from concerts to pep rallies to political debates use a wide range of rooms and open spaces.

In little more than six months, the Campus Center already is living up to the praise IUPUI alumnus Carey Lykins (the president and CEO of Citizens Gas & Coke Utility) gave it during the April 9 dedication ceremonies when he called it a “shining beacon” of the campus.

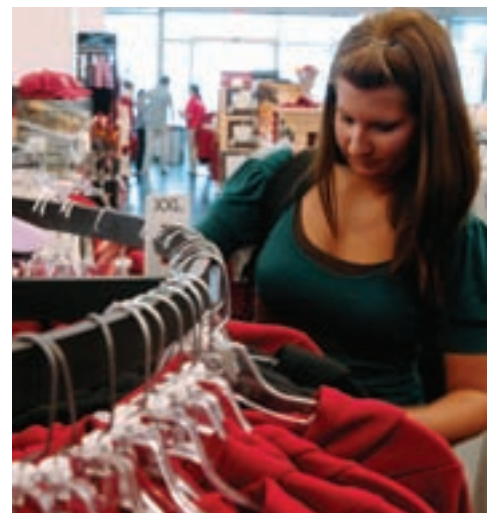




At the new campus center, you can: track IUPUI's past through the history wall (top left, opposite page); visit Starbucks (middle right); attend pep rallies, listen to music, get a book signed by an author; do an art class assignment; listen to Chelsea Clinton at a political rally (above left); visit IUPUI's Barnes and Noble Bookstore (right); or just hang out, read, study, eat or even sleep in the Campus Center's many unique spaces.

For more information about the Campus Center and ongoing activities, be sure to visit the Web site:

www.iupui.edu/~sldweb/campus-center/



Sports



SMALL KINDNESSES,

BIG
RETURNS



The direction of a life can turn on the smallest item, an act as simple as tying someone else's shoelaces.

For George Hill, one such small act of kindness — more than a decade ago, on a school playground, when he tied the laces of Jeremiah Chlumsky, a boy he barely knew — was significant. Hill's family built a friendship with Joseph and Rebecca Chlumsky, Jeremiah's parents. Hill found an additional strong adult role model to help him find his way in life. And eventually, the relationship blossomed into a dream trip for Hill, when the budding 13-year-old basketball player got a chance to attend a summer camp run by his idol, Michael Jordan, at the University of California Santa Barbara.

The Chlumskys paid his way to the camp and Joe drove him there, a three-day pilgrimage. And for young George, a die-hard Jordan fan, it was a magical moment. He'd brought his Jordan shoes, shirts and more with him, but when he got to the room he would share with two others, he found them wearing far more MJ gear than he had ever seen.

"I remember thinking, 'who are these guys?'" he chuckles.

The three quickly found themselves having fun, playing games well past lights-out. Then Hill recalls "someone knocking on the door." His roommates were closer to the door, checked out the visitor through a peephole, then fled the room. When Hill checked for himself, all he could

see was the back of a very tall man, who turned out to be his roommates' father: a guy named Jordan.

"It kinda explained why Michael and Jeffrey had so much Michael Jordan stuff," Hill laughs. After that, he admits, when lights out was called, "my head was on the pillow!"

Biggest thrill

That night wasn't Hill's only brush with the world's most famous pro athlete. He was named the camp's most valuable player, an achievement he still treasures. But his biggest thrill? That came when "Michael promised a new pair of Air Jordans to the first one who could hit two straight free throws."

What Jordan didn't tell the potential contestants was that they'd have to hit the shots



George Hill has been a popular figure among Jaguar fans and the IUPUI faithful since arriving on campus. Above left, he led a group of students in singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" at an Indianapolis Indians game this spring. Right, George and Jaguar teammate Billy Pettiford relax outside the new Campus Center.

"with him jumping up and down, all in your face," Hill laughs. The future Broad Ripple and IUPUI standout was the only player to turn the trick, but he had to "wait five months for the shoes to show up" because Jordan's new shoe line hadn't yet been released to the marketplace.

"It was worth the wait, though," Hill says with a sly smile, if only because — as with many of life's most worthwhile prizes — it was earned in trial by fire, in the heat of competition. And competition is something the 6-foot-2, 180-pound Hill knows well. Such challenges are "in my blood."

And late on the night of June 26, Hill's biggest challenge yet emerged, when he was the 26th pick in the first round of the 2008 NBA Draft, selected by the San Antonio Spurs.

Hearing his name called by NBA commissioner David Stern "felt good ... that I finally made it." Hill told *The Indianapolis Star* on draft night. "It was always my childhood dream."

He became the first IUPUI player — indeed, the first Summit League/Mid-Continent Conference player — ever picked by the world's top professional basketball league. And being the first American-born player selected in the first round by the four-time NBA champion Spurs helped ease the frustration of a 2007-08 Jaguar season that fell one game short of an NCAA tournament berth.

The loss left Hill with an empty feeling, despite a season that earned him Player of the Year honors in the league, first-team all-league

recognition, and nationwide mention for various All-America teams.

IUPUI choice a family matter

That Hill is at IUPUI at all is a matter of family. The son of a factory worker father and a mother who drives a Pike Township school bus "planned to go to Florida and play for the Gators, but my grandfather was passing away, and I thought during my senior year at Broad Ripple that if I went to IUPUI, he might get to come off life support long enough to see me play college ball."

That didn't happen, but the fact that "my family is here, and the city can get behind us" makes up — a bit — for the loss of his grandfather.

Basketball wasn't always his passion. As a kid, Hill played soccer, golf, chess and baseball, even flirted with hockey. "I had to try that," he laughs. "I wasn't much good, but at least I tried."

Soccer was his first love — "I played goalie, and I wasn't bad" — and he loved playing baseball at Broad Ripple, too. He did well on the diamond, too; in four years on the varsity, Hill started at shortstop, third base and center field. But when he started playing organized basketball leading up to sixth grade, Hill knew he'd found his path.

"I liked the game, but I didn't really get

AWARDS

2007-08

- Summit League Player of the Year
- Summit League all-conference first team
- Associated Press honorable mention
- All-American
- Second Team Mid-Major All-America

2005-06

- Mid-Continent Conference/Summit League all-conference first team

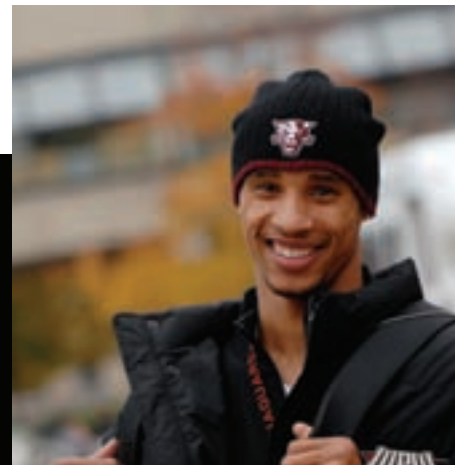


2004-05

- Mid-Continent Conference/Summit League All-Newcomer Team

VISIT THE JAGS ONLINE
www.iupuijags.com

Sports



serious about it until a kid I was playing beat me 21-0,” Hill recalls. “Nobody had ever beaten me like that in anything, so I knew I had to work at it.”

The work paid off, and quickly. “It felt natural right away,” he says, and by the time he finished high school, Hill had built an impressive resume.

As a senior, he led the basketball-mad state of Indiana in scoring, and though his Broad Ripple team struggled in the win-loss column, he provided one of the most dramatic moments in the state that season when he led the Rockets to a stunning state tournament upset of highly regarded Carmel on the Greyhounds’ own court, out-dueling future North Carolina star Josh McRoberts, now with the NBA’s Portland Trail Blazers. His body of work easily earned him a coveted spot on the Indiana All-Star team in its annual summer series with the Kentucky All-Stars.

Rough patch

Hill was an early success at IUPUI, earning All-Newcomer team honors in the Mid-Continent Conference as a freshman and first-team all-league status as a sophomore. But his dreams took a jolt early in his junior season.

In the second game of a November tournament at Ohio State, he broke his foot. He worked hard at rehabilitation throughout No-

vember and December, and came back for the Jaguars’ first three games after Christmas. But ongoing pain — and the potential for long-term injury — convinced both Hill and head coach Ron Hunter to take a medical redshirt season, giving Hill two more years of college eligibility.

“It was a long, rough season,” Hill sighs. “I have no words to describe it. I’ve never been through anything like that — it was so frustrating! I wanted to go out there so badly; whenever things would start to go a little wrong for the team, I’d see something that I could do to help. But I couldn’t.”

The layoff “humbled me a lot,” he admits. “But things happen for a reason. I need to be more mature out there, to be more vocal and more of a leader, instead of doing my own thing.”

He worked hard in the weight room, trying to get bigger, faster and stronger.

“And I spent a lot of time watching, trying to learn how to break down other players,” he says. “I started to look for the differences between me and the other guy; how can I do my job better.”

The improved mental aspect of his game helped IUPUI roll out the best season in school history, winning a record 26 games and compiling a 26-6 mark that earned the Jaguars the No. 19 spot in the Mid-Major Top 25, sponsored by The CollegeInsider.com.

Academic challenges

The general studies major may have easily handled the pressures of NCAA Division I athletics, but Hill admits that the academic demands of college were an eye opener.

“It was a big adjustment,” he says. “I had maybe one paper to write in my whole high school career. Here, I had one due the first day of classes. It’s just a different level.”

Still, despite the academic rigors, he liked college life.

“You’re more on your own,” he says. “At high school, at 4 p.m., things were over. At IUPUI, things like studying are just starting by that time.”

It helps that the Broad Ripple grad is, in the words of his head coach, the “king of Facebook,” one of the world’s leading online social networks and a familiar site to the slender basketball player, whose easy-going smile was a familiar sight to fellow IUPUI students across the campus.

When basketball is finally behind him — whenever that may happen — Hill wants to own his own sports facility, similar to the IUPUI-based National Institute for Fitness and Sport. “I’d like to come up with my own fitness program,” he says. “That would be sweet!”



Eyes on the future

Like the big “E” at the top of an ordinary eye chart, Sheri Levack knows what her future looks like. Armed with the diploma she received in May, she’s ready for the next phase of her academic life: optometry school at IU’s Bloomington campus.

Levack wants to work in brain imaging, most likely in a hospital setting. It’s her life’s goal, and goals are important to the Portage, Ind., native. After all, they’re the way she’s tracked her life as an IUPUI Jaguar women’s soccer standout for the past four seasons.

The slender senior knows the path isn’t easy.

“I’ve got a lot of work ahead of me, but that’s never been a problem for me,” she says with a determined smile. “I can’t wait!”

Youthful determination

That “can-do” attitude is typical for Levack, according to those who know her well. She has been one of the best students in the Purdue School of Science at IUPUI throughout her college career, though she admits to occasional moments of doubt.

“To be honest, I was VERY intimidated when I came first came to IUPUI,” she says. “I knew there were a lot of tough (academic) programs. I knew the medical school raised the bar for all our schools and students.”

But it didn’t take long to allay those concerns, thanks to IUPUI’s support system.

“Everybody was so helpful, from other students to my faculty and my advisors,” she says. “It wasn’t long before I was happy with tough classes — they really challenge you! And our faculty are really willing to help. They work hard to help their students succeed.”

And succeed Levack has: she earned academic all-conference honors from The Summit League (previously the Mid-Continent Conference) in all four of her years at IUPUI. She has been on the top-10 academic list for student-athletes every semester on campus, and has

been honored by *ESPN The Magazine* and the USA Academy Collegiate All-American Scholar program, as well.

Academics are key

Levack is a big part of IUPUI’s long-running academic success story. The women’s and men’s soccer programs both were honored by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America for team grade-point averages surpassing the 3.0 mark for 2006-07. IUPUI was the only school in The Summit League to earn the dual distinction.

“We all emphasize doing well,” Levack says. “To us, it’s simple; you’re putting in a lot of time anyway. Why not go for an ‘A’ in every class?”

She learned that lesson early at IUPUI.

“My first road trip, we were on the bus or in our hotel rooms, and the older players all flipped open their books or their laptops and started to study,” Levack recalls. “Reading, writing, talking about coursework — to me,

Sports



that obviously was how things are done.”

She helped pass that message to younger Jaguars, too, says women’s head coach Chris Johnson.

“A few years ago, we were flying west to play Southern Utah,” he recalls. “We played on Saturday, then caught an 11:59 p.m. flight from Las Vegas to Minneapolis for our next game. A lot of the players turned out their lights to catch some sleep. A few just relaxed, reading magazines. And there was Sheri, her light on and a chemistry book in her lap, doing homework the whole flight. The other girls noticed that, and it makes a difference when your best players set that kind of example.”

For the coach, Levack’s dedication was no surprise. “She’s very mature — way beyond her years,” Johnson says. “Her priorities have always been in order, and her teammates noticed that even when she was a freshman. They looked up to her right from the start.”

Levack comes by her work ethic honestly. Her father Ken, a brick mason for U.S. Steel, and mother Cindy, a teacher’s assistant in a Portage elementary school, instilled that diligence in their oldest daughter from an early age, along with the value of a good education.

Early days in soccer

Levack plunged into the world of soccer early in life, at age 8.

“My best friend was playing soccer already, and I decided that’s what I wanted to do, too,” she says. “I was a little tomboyish, and it was such a cool game to play.”

It was cool enough that even a series of injuries — a stress fracture to her vertebrae as a high school freshman; “more ankle injuries, sprains and strains than I can count”; and “a bunch of stitches” after a collision drove two of her teeth through her bottom lip — haven’t quenched that passion.

She started at the lowest level in the Portage area, but her talent quickly earned her a spot on a traveling team. Grass fields and 24-foot-by-8-foot nets have been part of her life ever since. And if she has her way, the love affair with the sport will continue.

“I am very interested in coaching,” Levack says. “I love the intensity. You step on a field and go for 90 minutes. If you have the ball, you control everyone and everything for those few moments — there’s no feeling quite like it! And I’d really like to share that feeling with girls who are just like I was.”

IUPUI a ‘good fit’

For the Portage native, IUPUI was “a good fit” for a host of reasons, some of them academic, others athletic — and still others geographic.

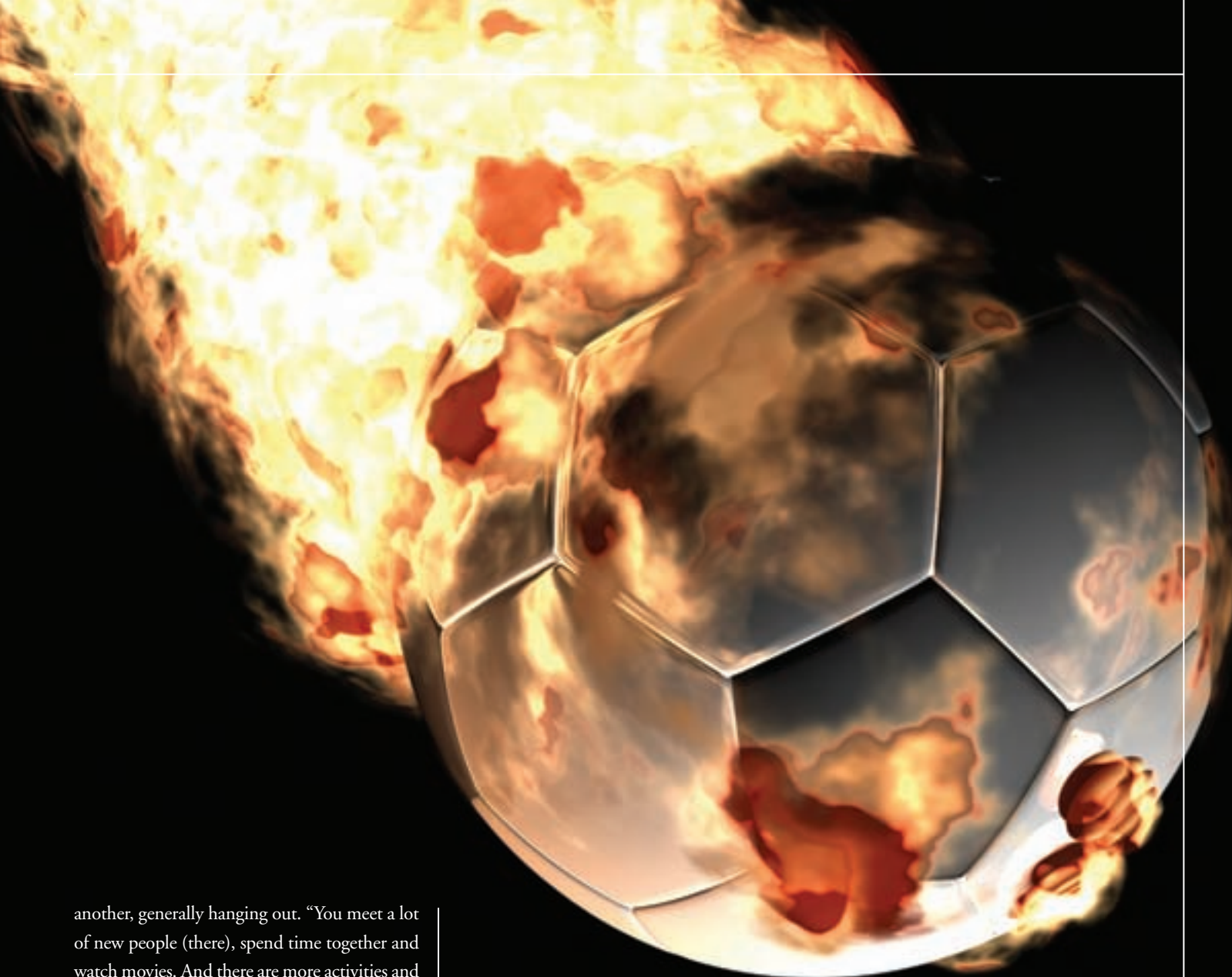
“I wasn’t looking for a place where I had to stay in a dorm — I wanted to do my own thing, play soccer, do the things I wanted to do on campus,” she says, adding with a laugh “it was just me and my George Foreman (grill).”

One of the pleasant surprises was the friendships she built with other IUPUI athletes.

“It’s like one big family,” Levack says. “You start out knowing you have something in common — you’re constantly training and preparing — and then you build other bonds around schools or programs, or interests you share. It was such a nice bonus for me — not something I really expected to happen.”

She also found the campus’s ever-expanding student life a great bonus.

“Movie nights are great,” Levack says, referring to the outdoor film fests that turn University Courtyard into an open-air “theater,” complete with the smell of popcorn and the sounds of college friends laughing, teasing one



another, generally hanging out. “You meet a lot of new people (there), spend time together and watch movies. And there are more activities and events all the time — people have been really creative in coming up with things to do.”

And, she admits with a laugh, the lure of big-city fun just a few blocks from the campus gives IUPUI students “wonderful options. I’m a HUGE fan of the canal,” she says. “I love walking and running along the water; in summer, I’m there every day! In fact, we trained as a team along it this year.”

Levack may hail from that part of Indiana nicknamed the “Region,” but she’s a confirmed Indy “native” now.

“It didn’t take long to fall in love with the city,” Levack says. “There’s so much going on, always something to do. Best of all, for me, it’s not that far from home. I’m close with my family, and they’ve been able to see me play most of my games.”

She pauses.

“But not so close that they can just ‘drop in’ unannounced,” she laughs.

Levack likes the city so much that when she’s finished with optometry school in Bloomington, she hopes to return to launch her professional career.

“It’s hard to imagine living anywhere else now,” she says.

Her pro-IUPUI enthusiasm proved contagious in the Levack household; younger sister Stacy just finished her first season on the Jaguars’ women’s soccer team as her sister’s IUPUI career wrapped up.

“I think a lot of people expect Stacy to be like me,” Levack laughs. “But we’re a lot different — she’s definitely her own person!”

AWARDS

Summit League/ Mid-Continent Conference

- Second Team All-Conference (2005 and 2007)
- Academic All-Conference (2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08)
- Mid-Continent Conference Commissioner’s List of Academic Excellence (2006, 2007, 2008)

ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American (District 5 second team)

USA Academy Collegiate All-American Scholar

Alumni



Catching Up With: Todd Schmidt

Even in the midst of war, the human spirit can make its mark.

Just ask Major Todd Schmidt, who now works in the Pentagon for the Secretary of Defense. Less than four years ago, in the distant mountains of Afghanistan, the 1996 political science graduate from the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI stepped “outside the box” and launched Operation Dreamseed, a project born from the generosity of the families and friends of American soldiers.

“In our down time, the company that I commanded received lots of letters and care packages from home,” Schmidt recalls. “We decided it would be nice to thank them, so we sent notes back. That generated even more letters and packages, which grew into this huge network.”

Schmidt and his troops were well aware of the precarious circumstances in which Afghan families — particularly school-age children — lived. So they asked families to contribute school supplies instead of food and gifts for U.S. soldiers.

“The response we got was amazing,” says Schmidt, who is still in awe of the support. “People gave so much. It really helped us break the ice with people in our region.”

The formula is simple: provide children with the education and tools they need, and it brings a smile to their faces. The smiles are contagious; the impact immeasurable.

During its short life Dreamseed has grown dramatically; an idea to help a village or two now spans the entire country, and has expanded into Iraq and Kosovo, as well.

Schmidt’s philanthropic efforts earned him the Military Outstanding Voluntary Service Medal and generated worldwide support. “People from all walks of life seem to understand the power of helping others” says Schmidt, who is both the founder and president of Dreamseed. “Our people come from across the political spectrum, too — we all just want to help!”

The support has helped Dreamseed grow beyond school supplies.

“We just finished an \$80,000 school rebuilding project in partnership with another philanthropic organization,” he adds.

Keeping up with the demands of the organization — managed in large part by a popular Web site (www.operationdreamseed.org) — isn’t easy, especially since Schmidt’s “day job” as a strategic planner for the assistant secretary of the Army keeps him busy, too.

Three Earn Hine Medallions

Retiring dean Nick Kellum, Marion County Superior Court Judge Gerald S. Zore and health-care expert Eric Tinsley are this year's recipients of the prestigious IUPUI Maynard K. Hine Medallion for service to the campus and its students.

Hine Medallions, sponsored by the IUPUI Alumni Council, honor "unique and significant impact" on IUPUI.

Kellum is stepping down after a record-setting tenure as dean of the IU School of Physical Education and Tourism, a 38-year run that saw major expansion of the oldest existing school preparing PE teachers in the country. Kellum also established IUPUI as a national power in women's softball in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), earning a place in the NAIA Hall of Fame.

Zore, a 1968 graduate of the IU School



Chancellor Charles Bantz (second from left) congratulates 2008 Maynard K. Hine Medallion recipients (from left) Nick Kellum, Eric Tinsley and Gerald S. Zore. The honors were announced at the annual Alumni Leaders' Dinner.

of Law-Indianapolis, is in his fifth term on the school's alumni association board of directors and also serves as the executive council representative for the school in the IU Alumni Association.

Tinsley is the vice president for process, technology and training at My Health Care Manager, an organization that helps seniors and their families manage the health-related complexities of older adult life. He was honored for his work in linking the Purdue School of Science to the community, including the school's involvement in Indiana's fledgling New Tech High Indiana initiative, in which high school students learn in the workplace and volunteers teach in the classroom.



For more on the IUPUI Alumni Leaders' Dinner and the Hine Medal program, visit the Web site:
alumni.iupui.edu/hinemedallion.html

For a list of past recipients of the Maynard K. Hine Award, go to:
alumni.iupui.edu/hinerecipients.html

During his military career, he has worked in the Secretary of Defense's office, and helped in the transition of responsibility from former Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to Robert Gates. "That was interesting," he laughs.

During his career, Schmidt has briefed White House staff members, served as an information operations coordinator in Afghanistan, and earned a Bronze Star, a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals and two Army Achievement Medals.

The IUPUI graduate loves his career and all that comes with it. But Dreamseed — the lives it has touched and the generosity it has unleashed — fills a special place in his heart.

"A lot of people 'get it,' I believe," says Schmidt. "The long-term solutions to the conflicts we now face in Iraq and Afghanistan are

better solved through empowerment, education and humanitarian assistance that provide for basic human security. When people feel secure, they feel at peace."

Visit Operation Dreamseed online:
www.operationdreamseed.org



Alumni



Victoria Wheeler, SAAC



Melissa Barb (left) and Le Hong, Student Foundation



Natalie Clayton, SOAR

Building a campus into a community

While new buildings reshape the campus, IUPUI students are building something even more dynamic: a growing sense of community. Organizations like the Student Foundation (SF), the Student Organization for Alumni Relations (SOAR) and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) are changing social and cultural life on campus, while bringing the Jaguar spirit to community service efforts throughout the city.

Student Foundation members, for example, “promote the Jaguars spirit and create an atmosphere where students feel like they belong to the campus,” says 2008 Kelley School of Business graduate Le Hong, an SF member throughout her IUPUI career.

Melissa Barb, a 2008 School of Physical Education and Tourism Management graduate

and a past SF president, says making connections is a big advantage.

“We host lots of campus events for civic leaders and we meet a lot of people we otherwise wouldn’t,” Barb says. “It’s great for networking!”

That’s also a major advantage to SOAR, says 2007-08 president Natalie Clayton.

“We volunteer for major campus events,” says Clayton, a major in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs. “You meet professionals who might one day give you a job — that’s such a great benefit!”

SAAC has a different focus: support fellow IUPUI athletes in the classroom and on the field, and build a positive image of IUPUI intercollegiate athletics.

“We’re the student voice in the athletic

department,” says SAAC president Victoria Wheeler, a School of Nursing major and a senior on this year’s women’s swimming and diving team. To encourage one another, the SAAC created the Jag Cup, in which IUPUI teams compete to “earn points for going to each other’s games, making academic achievement lists, community service projects, and more,” says Wheeler.

Social and career benefits are exciting, but SF, SAAC and SOAR students say service is a big part of what they do, whether it’s supporting Riley Hospital for Children, working with children or helping at city food banks.

“We’re passionate about what we do,” says Barb. “We put our heart and soul into everything we try. Each year, more students get involved, and it all builds IUPUI’s future.”

2008 Outstanding IUPUI Students Named

A pair of 2008 graduates from the IUPUI-based schools of Informatics and Engineering and Technology capped stellar college careers this spring when they were named the top female and male students at IUPUI for 2008.

Christopher Hardin of Informatics and Rachel Meyer of Engineering and Technology took home the “top male student” and “top female student” honors during IUPUI’s annual Top 100 Outstanding Student Recognition Dinner at the Westin Hotel in downtown Indianapolis.

The IUPUI Alumni Council and the Student Organization for Alumni Relations sponsor the event. The awards presented — including Top Male and Top Female, Top 10 Male and Top 10 Female and Top 100 students — recognize scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities, and civic and community service. Members of both the junior and senior classes are eligible for consideration.



Triumph

IUPUI Wins Purdue
Grand Prix

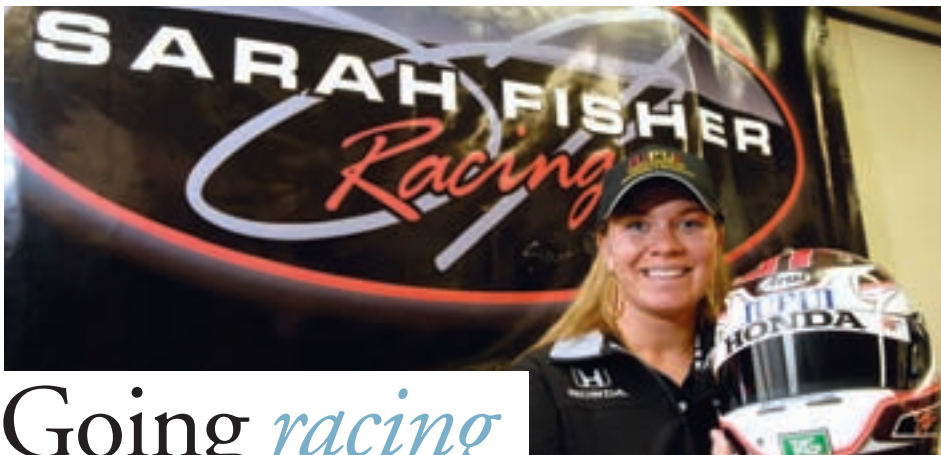


The IUPUI Motorsports Club found the tradition-laden Purdue Grand Prix a good place to make huge impact this spring. The club features many students who are part of the university's nationally known Motorsports Program.

Jon Laski, a mechanical engineering technology major, led much of the 51st annual Grand Prix and gave IUPUI its first-ever checkered flag in one of college life's best-known events.

Laski (No. 25 above) and fellow IUPUI driver Lynsey Tilton nearly staged a first-third finish before a late crash wiped out Tilton's hopes. She finished ninth despite getting tangled with a slower cart on lap 158 of 160 laps.

IUPUI students who were crew members for Laski and Tilton include: crew chiefs Herb Payton and Todd Wilson; plus Chris Proctor, Justin Penix, Casey Andis, Edgar Torres, Caitlin Siem, Brandon Hess, Kyle Doran, Eric Shirar, Brittney Redleman and Nick Hawes.



Going *racing*

Campus joins Sarah Fisher sponsorship team

IUPUI went racing on the world's biggest stage this spring when the IU School of Liberal Arts, the Purdue School of Engineering & Technology and the IUPUI administration joined the sponsorship team for Sarah Fisher and her Indianapolis-based racing team at the 2008 Indianapolis 500.

The sponsorship is symbolic of IUPUI's ties to major businesses and industries throughout Indianapolis and central Indiana — and auto racing is one of the city's highest-profile economic stars. IUPUI's four-year motorsports engineering program was approved this year for a 2008-09 launch.

Fisher has long-standing ties to the campus; she's often visited the campus to encourage students from engineering and other fields at IUPUI, and was one of the first students in the Engineering Butler Dual Degree program (linking IUPUI and the School of Engineering with Butler University).



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IUPUI welcomes Disney

The Disney Institute is bringing its renowned professional development program the "Disney Keys to Excellence" to IUPUI Sept. 11.

The one-day workshop will introduce participants to Disney success stories, management philosophies and behind-the-scenes operations that have made the Walt Disney World® Resort a benchmark for businesses around the world.

*For information or to register, call (877) 544-2384
or visit www.keysindy.com.*



The Herron Experience '08 ~ Art Couture

Herron School of Art & Design students and other artists turned fashion into art this spring at the Herron Experience '08 - Art Couture gala at Eskenazi Hall on the IUPUI campus. The event, expected to become an annual highlight of the campus calendar, spotlights the creativity and talent of the art-minded by spinning high fashion into wearable art. The celebration included music, a progressive dinner featuring some of the city's top restaurants, a runway show and dancing.

IUPUI

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