

THE IUPUI SAGAMORE

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NEWS ■ ENTERTAINMENT ■ SPORTS ■ VIEWPOINTS

STATE TRENDS

Young female inmate number rising

■ Girls now commit more violent crimes, are fastest-growing group of prisoners.

By Jenny Montgomery
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Young women are quickly becoming the largest group of inmates in Indiana correctional facilities. And sources say that may be attributed to the fact that girls are committing more violent crimes than ever.

U.S. Census reports reflect that 176 juvenile females were incarcerated in 1990. A decade later, that number had jumped to 314 — an increase of 78 percent.

The rise in the number of young women committing crimes and being imprisoned may not be attributable to a simple increase in population of that age group. Census records further indicate

Locked up

Total Indiana County inmate population at the first of the year since 1998

	Jan '99	Jan '00	Jan '01	Change
Adult females	1,369	1,238	1,209	-30.6%
Adult males	18,856	18,073	17,909	-10.7%
Juvenile females	319	276	250	-20.7%
Juvenile males	1,063	841	834	-24.4%

Sagamore illustration/Matthew Davis; source: The Indiana Department of Corrections

that the portion of the population 18 and younger increased only 7.5 percent in that 10-year period, a number disproportionate with the jump in juvenile female inmate populations.

Pam Pattison, spokesperson for the Indiana Department of Corrections, said the profile of the

young female juvenile offender is changing to include more violent offenses.

"The trend used to be that females were being committed for status offenses, such as truancy ... but now they're committing more violent crimes," Pattison said. Pattison said 17.2 percent of

incarcerated female juveniles were imprisoned in 1996 for committing offenses against another person. That number had increased to 25 percent within four years.

Kris Mayfield, superintendent for Fort Wayne Juvenile Correctional

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Web sources
■ Further information can be found on the Web sites for the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Residents remember freshman

■ Students in Ball Memorial Hall saddened by loss of young man who killed himself.

By Warren Sobat
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

A large grapevine wreath rests on a stand inside the entrance to Ball Memorial Hall, with a sign that reads "In memory of Ronald 'Ivan' Thorsen." Beside the wreath sits a small basket filled with tiny silk flowers.

A note encourages passers-by to place a flower on the wreath in memory of the IUPUI student who committed suicide April 20.

To the shock of those who knew him, Thorsen, a freshman who lived at Ball Hall, took his own life with a 45-caliber handgun.

Tralicia Powell, Ball Hall residence director, said counselors were available on site until April 23 to help the residents with the grieving process. Students can still get help at Campus Counseling Services, Powell added.

A pre-arranged cookout to celebrate the end of the school year became an impromptu opportunity for residents to come together last week and share their thoughts about the previous week's tragedy.

Powell said she saw many of the students at the cookout with small silk flowers in their hands.

"One student came to me and told me this is exactly what we needed," Powell said.

As the semester winds down to finals, residents are left having to deal with their grief and the realities of school responsibilities.

Joe Holt, a student who shared the same floor as Thorsen, said that most of the residents have accepted the loss but were trying to put it aside until after finals. "Our main concern, as a floor, is to get the job done," Holt said.

Powell said flowers would be sent by the Resident Housing Association, on behalf of the residents, to Thorsen's funeral services still pending in Michigan. Thorsen, 19, was a native of Colleyville, Texas.

112TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Key lawmaker drops support for privacy bill

■ Rep. Mark Krizan says he has been told governor would sign measure designed to exempt legislators from Indiana's public access provisions.

By Warren Sobat
VIEWPOINTS EDITOR

As a key supporter pulls his endorsement, 11th-hour controversy plagues legislation designed to exempt state legislators from public access. What's more, the General Assembly was up against a deadline April 29 to send all measures to the governor's desk.

Following his appointment last week to a conference committee reviewing House Bill 1083, Rep. Mark Krizan, D-Bloomington, removed himself as a co-author of the measure. He says changes were made to the bill that significantly altered the bill's original purpose, which was to exclude lawmakers' e-mails from public review.

"I signed on when this was a limited bill," Krizan said, referring to the House legislation that would now exempt all work produced by the General Assembly from open records laws.

Krizan, who helped write Indiana's public access laws, said he could no longer support the bill because it now included "all public records."

Last week, when The Sagamore contacted the bill's author, Rep. Duane Chene, D-Portage, he

See KRUZAN, Page 3

RACE FOR THE CURE

Pledge event draws thousands



More than 25,000 people participated in the annual Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Race for the Cure festivities on the IUPUI campus April 21. The annual event helped to raise a projected \$200,000 for breast cancer awareness and research. With a team of nearly 800, IUPUI had

the largest team in the school and university division. One quarter of funds raised will go to the Komen Foundation. The other 75 percent will be donated to local agencies, including those at IUPUI, that promote awareness of breast cancer, treat the disease, or provide a community service.

Sagamore photos left/Al. Brown; below/Patricia Kurylow



STUDENT SURVEY

Having class at Cable affects learning

■ Informal poll shows student dissatisfaction with notorious aging academic building.

By Adam Costes
STAFF WRITER

The aging Mary Cable building has served its purpose, and now many people would like to see it succumb to the fury of a wrecking ball.

In an informal survey conducted by The Sagamore, 80 percent of students polled rated the condition of Mary Cable's classrooms as poor, and the same percentage said they would like to see the building torn down.

Students complain about the building's lack of air conditioning and its noisy heating system that at times makes a loud knocking sound.

In the survey, students were asked

to rate the extent to which a noisy heating system would affect their ability to learn. 75 percent said a noisy heater would greatly affect their learning ability. Slightly fewer students, 60 percent, said the lack of air conditioning would affect their ability to learn significantly.

"Even prisons have air conditioning," said junior Heather Bezaury.

Bezaury joins the 90 percent of students surveyed who say the Mary Cable building is not an adequate facility as it stands now.

Robert Martin, vice chancellor for administration and finance, agrees. He says the former elementary school building is "hardly one adaptable for

higher education. There is no central air conditioning, and there are tight capacity margins for electrical services," Martin said.

For those reasons and for the building's age, Martin says it would be too costly to rehabilitate it.

Martin's views on Mary Cable are supported by other administrators and faculty members. Jonas Bjork, associate professor at the School of Journalism, has taught many classes in Mary Cable, and he is ready to see its tired walls come crashing down.

"Nothing surprises me about this building," he says. "I'd like to see them tear it down."

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THIS WEEK

SPORTS
PAGE 5

■ Softball standout looking for mark.

ENTERTAINMENT
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■ New James Bond film included in summer movie preview.

VIEWPOINTS
PAGE 9

■ How state could use to have more effect on education.

A note from the editors

■ Web site to carry stories not in print edition; will contain coverage during the summer.

As this is the last print edition of *The Sagamore* until Fall 2001, the editorial board would like to take this opportunity to remind readers that the newspaper's Web site will be updated during the summer semester.

Among other stories, Sagamore reporters plan to provide coverage of the trial of Desmond Lottis, who is charged with killing an IUPUI student in February 2000. Also, because many from the IUPUI community attend the annual Indy Jazz Fest, the newspaper also will provide regular reports with photographs of this nationally-recognized musical event.

On another note, editors encourage readers to log on to the newspaper's Web site this week as it carries additional, Web-exclusive stories not seen in this print edition. In particular, the newspaper will provide online reports this week on the fate of Indiana's budget bill, which could greatly impact the financial state of this university.

The *Sagamore* also will monitor the progress of a General Assembly measure that seeks to make private the records of government officials. Thank you.

J.M. Brown,
managing editor

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH Drumming up donations

■ IUPUI organized block party to collect instruments for middle school.

By Heather Allen
News Editor

They could be Indiana's next big musicians, but 40 area middle school band students do not have instruments to develop their talents.

Musicians, administrators and students at IUPUI teamed up for a block party April 24 in front of the Mary Cable building to collect musical instruments for George Washington Middle School. Live music was provided by professors Jack

that really discourages kids from joining because if there are not enough instruments and they have to share, then they just don't feel like it."

Gilfofy, professor at the School of Music, donated an autographed drum from the 1950s, which he played during his childhood.

"It is what they call a parade drum, a marching drum," Gilfofy said. "And I am not planning on doing anymore marching."

"The IPS school system is not doing a very good job of funding the arts," Gilfofy said. George Washington Middle School was formerly the



Sagamore photo/Warren Sobel
Jack Gilfofy (right), Monika Herzog, and three members of the local musicians union played at a block party on campus April 24.

better academically."

"It certainly kept me out of trouble," Gilfofy said. "I had no time to get into strangeness."

Junior music minor Jarrett Hill said, "With sports, you're on a team, but in a band you feel like you're in a family."

Ross also donated her first clarinet to the students, which she played in middle school.

Three instruments were collected during the block party; however, others called after-

ward to find out where to donate.

Sophomore Jennifer Skipworth said she is going to get the instruments out of her attic and give them to the students.

"They are just sitting in the attic," Skipworth said. "I love music, and I believe everyone should be able to learn how to play an instrument."

Cable

Continued from Page 1

Emily Wren, director of Campus Facility Services, said an engineering study revealed it would be cheaper to demolish the building than to attempt renovation.

The biggest concern Wren has about Mary Cable are its lack of air conditioning on the main floor, poor heating system, an absence of an elevator, and its concrete floors.

One student polled listed asbestos as a main concern, saying it should not be in the building.

This comment was not brought to the attention of administrators nor were they asked to comment.

Other students targeted more minor things about the building such as its uncomfortable desks, its location on the far end of campus, and its general appearance.

Students will get their wish to see Mary Cable torn down

when the university gets money for a new building.

Martin says plans are in the works for a new 60 thousand square-foot facility that will house several academic departments.

It is up to state legislators to decide whether IUPUI will receive the necessary funding to go ahead with its plans to build.

According to Martin, university has put in a request for funding to the state Legislature for the 2001 to 2003 period.

He says if IUPUI receives the funding on time, Mary Cable will be demolished when the new building is complete, which could be as soon as 2003.

If funding is not received, IUPUI will have to wait until the next request period, which is 2003 to 2005.

Even if funding would be secured then, Mary Cable would be in use until the end of construction on the new building, which Martin estimates to be 2005.

"Nothing surprises me about this building. I'd like to see them tear it down."

Jonas Bjork,
professor in the
School of Journalism



Sagamore photo/Heather Allen
Jack Gilfofy (right) presents a signed childhood drum to Eileen Champagne, middle school principal, to give to her students.

all these young musicians and no instruments, so they have kids literally sitting there watching because they don't have any instruments to play," said Pam Ross, special events coordinator for the School of Music.

According to Eileen Champagne, principal of the middle school, the children need about 50 instruments.

"We are hoping to expand our music program," Champagne said. "We would have more than that if we had instruments."

"Most kids really love music," Champagne said. "But

with George Washington Middle School as part of the community outreach grant," said David Fredricks, grant manager at the Office of Neighborhood Resources. "The principle of the school asked us to help them get some instruments."

Studies have shown that children who are involved in music programs do better in school.

"The band program teaches skills like discipline and leadership," Ross said. "Kids who participate are proven to be

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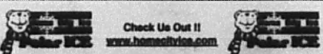
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Parking staffer says the sky is the limit

■ Young parking enforcement officer refuses to let disability prevent him from having a very fulfilling life.

By Jeff Savage
STAFF WRITER

People have always seen Joe A. Goins II as a bit different.

In high school, they thought one of his legs was longer than the other. He walked differently than they did. And he still does, as he walks through IUPUI parking lots enforcing the rules. "If you couldn't tell, I walk a little different," Goins said. "Most people assume that if I'm handicapped physically, that means I'm handicapped mentally, and the assumption that I'm mentally handicapped is a little bit disturbing to me because I have no limitations on myself."

Goins, 26, was born two-and-a-half months premature. And on several occasions, his brain couldn't receive any oxygen because he had trouble breathing. Doctors diagnosed Goins as having a mild form of cerebral palsy, a condition that affects a person's muscles and joints.

"I'm lucky," Goins said. "There are other people with this affliction that aren't as well off as me. They don't have any motor skills."

"Subsequently, they're wheelchair-bound for life," he continued. "So I feel myself very fortunate, which is why I don't consider myself handicapped, because, compared to those people, I'm not. And there's basically nothing I can-

not do if I set my mind to it. "I might have to do it a little differently than other people, but I can do it." His father, also named Joe, reflecting on his son's characteristics, noted that his son has a determination to overcome any obstacles.

"He doesn't know when he should leave stuff alone," the father said. "He has the impression he can do anything, and he needs to stop overextending himself."

But that's not all. "He has this gift of gab," the elder Goins said, with a laugh. "He's very personable, and he'll talk about anything to anyone."

The proud father has worked at IUPUI for 21 years and currently serves as business officer for engineering and maintenance at Campus Facility Services. His wife, Wanda, has worked on campus for 14 years and now serves as senior administrative assistant for Counseling and Psychological Services.

The younger Goins began attending IUPUI the fall after he was graduated from Decatur Central High School in 1992. He's had various jobs on campus, including working as a clerk in the registrar's office

and mentoring in mathematics at University College.

Recently, he applied for and earned an enforcement officer's position in Parking Services. His workday starts at 7 a.m., when he sometimes is stationed at the parking lot near Bush Stadium for security purposes he said.

A co-worker then relieves him around 9 a.m. Afterward, with three other enforcers, he patrols the other parking lots either on foot, in an electric cart, or in an enforcement vehicle. One of his jobs, he said, is to look for illegally parked vehicles.

"I don't look at it as writing tickets to be the bad guy," he said. "I write tickets to help people out. If I'm not writing tickets for people parked illegally, then everybody would be parked everywhere, and there wouldn't be any parking on campus."

Aside from working on campus, he also serves as a licensed referee for baseball and basketball games. He supervises games at the junior high and freshman levels for the Indiana High School Athletic Association.

"I'm not quite at the varsity level for an

umpire, but hopefully, in a couple of years down the road, I'll be there," he said.

He plans to take classes again in Fall 2001 as a junior, and someday fulfill his ambition to be a high school guidance counselor by earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in secondary education. Goins lives with his parents and two of his three sisters on their farm in Decatur Township, where they raise sheep.

"We have a large amount of lambs born on the property at our farm, and it takes time," he said. "Usually twice a day, sometimes once a day, we farm, helping feed, making sure all of them are healthy, and getting ready for the show season this summer."

The family participates in sheep shows at the county and state fairs, where they compare their sheep to others and compete for ribbons and for prizes, which can range from \$10 to \$100. "It's something you have to grow up with to have an interest in," Goins said. "You just can't jump into it and get excited about it."

Jumping into the Parking Service job last December, Goins demonstrated his love for the outdoors.

"I enjoy being outside, working on the farm with the sheep," he said. "You know, it really makes me an outdoors person. Being outside where the sun is, and not being in an office, was another thing that was really attractive."

"I certainly didn't take the job to be the main guy on campus who writes everybody tickets and then tows their car," he said. "That certainly wasn't fixed in my mind."

Gift

Continued from Page 1

disease may complicate the transplant.

"There is a chance that this disease could attack the new kidney," Sarah said. "That is what I am scared of."

Ronald Filo, professor of surgery and director of transplant surgery at IU Medical Center, said the operation has a 90 percent success rate. "By the time they get renal disease, a significant amount of similar auto immune diseases tend to burn themselves out," Filo said.

Filo also said the medicine given to prevent possible organ rejection during surgery tends to block the recurrence of the disease.

"According to Filo, IU

Medical Center performs more than 100 kidney transplants every year.

Egan said he has been afraid Sarah's body would reject his kidney, but that fear did not affect his decision to give it to her.

"There was no question in my mind that I would give it to her," Egan said.

"I am very grateful," Sarah said. "I don't know how to describe it, because I can't donate anything back to him. It is such a great thing to do."

Egan and his parents were tested as possible donors in January, after Sarah had started dialysis.

All were matches; however, their parents had had high blood pressure in the past, which ruled them out.

Egan finished one of his classes early and dropped the

"Her optimism really encourages me and keeps me going."

Estacia Medlen, Student Foundation, about Sarah Dargatz

other three because they included group projects that would have required him to attend the final weeks of school, when he would still be in the hospital.

"It will take two months of not being able to lift over five pounds, and doctors would prefer that I didn't travel," Egan said.

Sarah also finished her classes early, and says she is excited to return to school full-time in the fall and assume her new position as president of the IUPUI

Student Foundation.

"People say it is hard to make connections at IUPUI," Sarah said. "I don't know what I would have done if I hadn't had the support at IUPUI."

Estacia Medlen, director of the IUPUI Student Foundation says she has been inspired by Sarah's tenacity. "She is amazing," Medlen said. "She takes the things that would strike down anybody else and just deals with it."

Medlen, who has known Sarah for three years, says Sarah takes that same attitude with her schoolwork and the Student Foundation.

"If she hits a bump, she doesn't panic," Medlen said. "Her optimism really encourages me and keeps me going."

Kruzan

Continued from Page 1

said he was not aware of Kruzan's recent change of heart.

Kruzan did confirm, however, that he is still on the conference committee debating the Senate amendments to the bill. When asked about the progress of the legislation in committee, Kruzan told *The Sagamore*, "There will be no agreement on this bill."

Also appointed to the conference committee were Rep. Bruce Munson, R-Muncie, and Sens. James Merrit Jr., R-Indianapolis, and Larry Lutz, D-Evansville.

Kruzan's pullout, however, will pose little resistance to the momentum carrying this bill through the capitol.

With a stalemate in conference, Cheney said he would most likely pull his dissent and give concu-

rence to the amended legislation.

From there it will go to the desk of Gov. Frank O'Bannon, also a Democrat, to await his action.

Reports from O'Bannon's office during the past few weeks have claimed he would veto this bill.

In a surprising twist, however, Kruzan told *The Sagamore* that O'Bannon staffers have led him to believe the governor would sign this legislation into law.

Steve Key, president of the Hoosier State Press Association said, "That would be unfortunate."

Key was present when editors from around the state met with O'Bannon April 18, when the governor, Key says, made it clear that if the bill is a step backward for public access, he would not sign it.

Thad Nation, press secretary for O'Bannon, said "the governor wants to meet with legislators before deciding whether to sign it."

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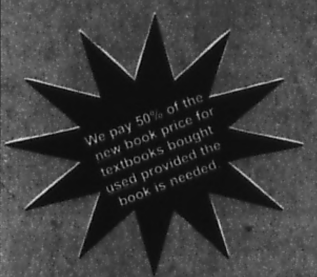


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Youth

Continued from Page 1

Facility, said girls also are participating in traditionally male criminal behavior, such as gang activity.

"It does appear to be a nationwide trend... where the boys are starting to level off, the girls are starting to be committed at a higher rate," she said.

Girls convicted of a violent offense serve a minimum of one year at the Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility. So as young women are committing violent crimes more frequently, they are serving longer sentences. This may account for part of the growth in young female inmate populations, Pattison said.

State prison records reflect that the adult female population has grown, too. But, as of January 2001, women accounted for only 7.3 percent of adult inmates, whereas young women composed roughly 23 percent of the juvenile inmate population. Additionally, since 1998, the young female inmate population has grown 73 percent.

R. Dean Wright, professor of sociology for Drake University and chair of the Iowa Criminal and Juvenile Justice Advisory Council, suggested different explanations in sentencing may explain why young female offenders outnumber their adult counterparts.

"Girls are incarcerated more often than boys for lesser crimes or acts of delinquency," Wright wrote in an e-mail to The Sagamore. "There is an

image that girls should not do bad things, and when they do, we punish them."

Wright said boys tend to be given second and third chances before being sentenced, while girls are sentenced earlier.

Early sentencing allows rehabilitators to work with young women sooner, Mayfield said, which may explain why the adult female inmate population is growing at a slower rate than juvenile female inmates. But Bill Barton, professor of social work at IUPUI, said the disparity in sentencing for young men and women is not only unfair, but may actually elicit criminal behavior in young women.

Mayfield oversees a minimum-security facility that houses girls committed for non-violent offenses. The inmates are not high-risk, Mayfield said, but rather "high-need."

Specifically, many incoming female juvenile offenders have a history of family difficulties and sexual abuse suffered at the hands of family members or acquaintances.

According to Bureau of Justice Statistics, in 1998, women aged 16 to 24 experienced the highest per capita rate of intimate violence—19.6 attacks per 1000 women.

Wright said, "while there probably is a significant link between victimization and criminal behavior, it is difficult to examine due to lack of hard data. Research on the subject, however, has become a priority in recent years."

Beth Richie, associate professor of criminal justice and gender and women's studies for the University of Illinois-Chicago, contributed to a September 2000 report by the

U.S. Department of Justice.

Since then, she has continued researching the effects of sexual assault on young women and how it may contribute to their potential to commit crimes.

Richie said intimate assault has a different effect on a victim than does assault by a stranger. But she said she has not yet determined the implications of those differences, and added that there is not yet evidence of increasing occurrence of sexual assault against young women today.

Both Richie and Mayfield said it is also important for female inmates, regardless of age, to have contact with their children. History has demonstrated that children of incarcerated mothers are much more likely to become criminals themselves.

Barton said children of incarcerated

parents are five times more likely to eventually come into contact with juvenile or adult correctional programs.

The effects of being one of those children "can be almost like post-traumatic stress syndrome," he said.

Richie said "it's better for kids" to maintain relationships with their incarcerated mothers. "Unfortunately, most correctional facilities don't do much to support that," she said. "We've always got a couple of girls here who are parents," Mayfield said.

She and her staff recognize the importance of fostering these relationships, often placing mother and child in a supervised setting in which parenting skills can be developed.

Mayfield said she hopes her facility's efforts can "break the cycle" of crime among women.

HERRON SENIOR SHOW

Display to run through May 13

Story and Photo By
Paulina Kurylonek
PHOTO EDITOR

Herron School of Art's annual senior show opened April 25. The work of 50 students will be on display at the main Herron Gallery, 1701 N. Pennsylvania Ave., and at the Ceramics and Sculpture Gallery, 1350 Stadium Drive through May 13. The opening was a success for many seniors, as potential buyers were recognizing their works.

The Friends of Herron honored Marty Sharp with the Best of Show award, and Jeff Dalton and Mandy Jared for outstanding achievements.



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IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE THIS JUNE

Anchor of pitching staff compiling strong career numbers

■ Junior on pace to leave a lasting mark on IUPUI softball record book.

By Ed Holdaway
SPORTS EDITOR

Many have tried, but failed. In her third season at IUPUI, Megan Fultz is again the ace of the pitching staff. During her three seasons on board, five other pitchers have tried to complement her on the mound.

Only one lasted more than one season thus far, while many have fallen by the wayside.

That has pushed the load onto Fultz' underhanded delivery to log the majority of the innings, and she has been true to the task.

During her career, Fultz has pitched nearly half the Jaguars' innings, and tallied 36 of the team's 64 wins.

Along with those 36 wins have come 38 losses, but IUPUI head coach Julie Bias can't overemphasize Fultz' importance.

"She's been our No. 1 pitcher the last three years," Bias

said. "She is the go-to person on this team."

Not bad for a player that was recruited as an infielder.

"I didn't come in as a pitcher," Fultz said. "I pitched almost every game in high school, but I came in expecting to play more infield."

But one reason for her ability to log extensive innings on the hill is simple.

"You find in softball the best athletes are pitchers," Bias said. "Megan is an athlete."

Not only is she an athlete, but Fultz has become a leader and a student of the game.

"She has helped me tremendously," freshman pitcher Amanda Ballard said. "She lets you know what you need to do to be successful."

"She's become a smarter pitcher," Bias said. "She was good when she was a freshman, but she and Julie Wooten really work well together. They know how to set batters up and how to strike opponents out."

"They both have learned how to play the game."

Wooten, a junior who took over the primary catching

duties this season, has been on the field for all 36 of Fultz' wins. Both are battle tested and believe in one another.

"I have a lot of confidence in Megan," Wooten said. "I've seen her get the job done, and she's a pleasure to catch."

As the numbers continue to pile up, more people are beginning to take notice, including Fultz herself.

"I'm not too familiar with my career numbers, but I've kept an eye on my numbers this season," Fultz said.

Her 2.79 Mid-Continent Conference earned run average currently stands tenth in the league while her 102 punchouts puts her in second place.

While her 174 innings are good enough for third in the Mid-Con, Fultz is known to take the ball even when she's hurting or tired.

"I've learned to work through it," Fultz said of an array of injuries that have plagued her while at IUPUI. "It wears on you, but I love the pressure - I love having it on my shoulders."

Despite all the numbers the

offense puts up, the team recognizes that games are won and lost through pitching.

"Pitching is the biggest part of the game," Wooten said.

Although the Jaguars are currently on the outside looking in at the Mid-Con Tourney race, it remains the ultimate goal of the team this season.

"Megan is the key to our success over the next eight to 10 games," Bias said. "And we want to make it to the Mid-Con Tourney."

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Jr.	2.86	12-15	34	27	17	174.0	27	106	4	0
Tot.	2.94	36-38	88	74	50	464.2	135	266	11	2

■ Fultz currently stands at third in career innings pitched, third in career strikeouts, fourth in career complete games, tied for fifth in career shutouts, and she tossed the 14th no-hitter in IUPUI softball history on Mar. 3 of this season, when she knocked off Morehead State, 8-1.

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ENTERTAINMENT

THE IUPUI SAGAMORE • MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2001 • PAGE 6

■ Every summer Hollywood unleashes its most hyped, expensive and glossy productions with the intention of paying for the rest of the year's smaller, more edgy films. This year is no different, with *Planet of the Apes*, *A.I.*, *Pearl Harbor* and *The Mummy Returns* vying for top box office spot.

By Jon Knipp
STAFF WRITER

The weather outside may have locals confused as to just what season it is, but Hollywood

knows exactly when summer will begin this year—May 4. On that day, movie screens all over town will be filled with the sights and sounds of Stephen Sommers sequel *The Mummy Returns*.

But if one were to define a summer movie as a celluloid event chock full of big stars, loud noises and special effects, then one would have to assume summer will actually kick off a week earlier with Sly Stallone and Renny Harlin's fast-cars-driving-in-circles flick *Driven*. Or perhaps this film doesn't really qualify because Sly just isn't as big a star as he once was, and there hasn't really been a racing picture that felt like a true event since Elvis Presley made *Speedway*.

Still, there are a lot of reasons to look forward to this year's slate of summer blockbuster wannabes. Many of the



Courtesy Warner Brothers
Haley Joel Osment stars with Jude Law in Spielberg's Kubrick-inspired *A.I.*

pictures are in the hands of filmmakers skilled in the art, craft and business of putting sweaty butts into air-condi-

tioned auditoriums. Regardless of what sort of explosive drive Hollywood forces on moviegoers, any summer with a Tim Burton movie pending is a summer worth enduring. Here is a brief sampling of what audiences can look forward to, or, for that matter, live in fear of, after the last final is handed in.

A.I. Love him or loath him, Steven Spielberg is the foremost practitioner of summer-movie magic. He did, after all, invent the genre with *Jaws*.

skills of special effects and make up artists on a film with built-in, brand name recognition.

And then there's the director, Tim Burton, and the cast, which features Mark Wahlberg in the Charlton Heston role and Tim Roth in Roddy McDowell's.

Any self-respecting movie buff ought to be first in line for this one, just to see what these bloody badoons do to the classic original.

Pearl Harbor

Michael Bay, who made the end of the world so loud and



Courtesy 20th Century Fox

Crazy, raging mad apes hunt down humans in Tim Burton's remake of the brilliant 1968 primate classic.

SUMMER MOVIE meltdown

His adaptation/re-working of Stanley Kubrick's pet project, based on the enigmatic short story "Super Toys Last All Summer Long," is shrouded in so much secrecy, the Internet is practically erupting with rumors and speculation. The director's fans and detractors will be lining up June 29 to solidify the opinions they already have about this gigantic production.

Planet of the Apes In the category of unnecessary remakes, like the absurd project *Rollerball*, there is this film. On the surface, it seems like just another excuse to hone the

tedious with *Armageddon*, unveils his *Titanic* by-the-way-of *Saving Private Ryan* romantic war epic just in time for Memorial Day weekend.

On the positive side, there's the beguiling presence of one of Hollywood's up-and-coming hotties, Kate Beckinsale. On the negative side, there's everything else, especially leading man/stick-figure Ben Affleck. Ben would do just fine if he never left Kevin Smith's side again.

Sequels galore

After *The Mummy Returns*, featuring a buzzed about performance from a recent Julliard Drama School grad named The Rock, audi-

ences will be treated to a number of achingly familiar titles. Eddie Murphy talks to badgers and stink beetles about the socio-political allegory behind all the fart jokes in his recent movies in *Dr. Doolittle 2*.

Steven Spielberg tightens his grip on your wallet with the Joe Johnston (*The Rocketeer*) directed *Jurassic Park III*. The Wayans Brothers won't just be flogging a dead horse with *Scary Movie 2*, they'll be stabbing it repeatedly and stringing it up from a tree.

Finally, August will see the release of both *American Pie 2* (suspend your disbelief, because those nutty kids actually got into college!) and *Rush Hour 2* (as if diplomatic relations couldn't get any worse, we send Chris Tucker to China!).

Still, every summer sees the release of a few pictures that provokes curiosity and possi-



Courtesy Paramount
Jolie stars as Lara Croft in Paramount's *Tomb Raider*.

bly brain activity.

HOther releases are a few up coming releases that promise something interesting, or at least different.

Moulin Rouge

A splashy, colorful musical set in 19th-century France with Ewan McGregor and Nicole Kidman. Directed by Baz Luhrmann, the man behind *William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet*.

Tomb Raider

Really, the only thing interesting about this film is the

unnaturally elegant physicality of Angelina Jolie.

Made

A mob comedy from some of the guys who brought us *Swingers*.

Jay and Silent Bob

Strike Back

Writer/director/comic book enthusiast Kevin Smith kisses off his comic twosome by having them travel to the Left Coast with the intention of disrupting a movie set. Weren't they doing that in all of Smith's other films?

Osmosis Jones

If Robert Rodriguez can set aside the blood and guts of his past films to make the jiffy-pop family hit *Spy Kids*, can the Farrelly Brothers forsake mucus and semen for cross-generational appeal in this live-action/animated picture?

Considering that much of the cartoon antics take place inside Bill Murray's body, chances are they won't have to.

Ghost World

From the director of the great freak-show documentary *Crumb* comes this adaptation of Daniel Clowes' masterful underground comic book.

If it's anything like the source material, it'll be mournful, bleak and oddly touching—the perfect tonic after *Pearl Harbor*.

See more movie reviews online at www.sagamore.iupui.edu.

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Gray hits Indy and proves why masses love him

By Scott Estes
STAFF WRITER

It is a good time to be David Gray.

After three unnoticed albums, his "White Ladder" was released last year, and seemed destined to go similarly unrecognized.

Despite being one of Dave Matthews' favorite artists, Gray made no headway in the United States for about a year.

Then a funny thing happened. The wonderful album took off in a big way with the hit "Babylon."

So Gray has hit the road again, becoming an "overnight success" after many years of toiling away in obscurity. He is also touting the release of "Lost Songs 95-98," a collection of work done before the "White Ladder" album.

As if to affirm just how far Gray has come, his April 16 show at Indianapolis' Murat Egyptian Room sold out.

The most rapturous crowd in recent Indy memory greeted Gray like he was the Second Coming, surprising and surreal considering Gray's very recent rise to prominence.

The music that has brought Gray fame is simple and sparse, with acoustic guitars accentuated by classy synthesizers and soft drums. It sounds like it was produced by a raver with a fantastic head for melody tweaked simple folk tunes. The mix is effective and, judging by the varied crowd present at the show, has a broad appeal.

Gray's 100-minute set featured nearly all of the "White Ladder" tracks as well as several new songs.

Gray is an engaging performer with a pleasant demeanor. He even bobs his head in a manner similar to Paul McCartney. His songs are also lightened up a bit in the transition to the stage with the addition of a more solid backbeat and less somber delivery.

Gray and his band sounded great, with "Babylon" a predictable highlight. "Please Forgive Me" took a surprising techno turn at the end, proving that Gray has some interesting tastes of his own.

The set might have been tightened by featuring fewer of the nice, but untasted new songs, and cutting the bizarre cover of Led Zeppelin's "Black Dog." Nevertheless the per-



Sagamore photo/Sean Kelly
David Gray stands front and center with his guitar at the Egyptian Room.

formance was satisfying, largely because Gray's voice sounds just as good live as on record.

Nina Gordon opened the show in spectacular fashion. "Formerly a member of the great Veruca Salt, Gordon is now supporting her solo debut 'Tonight and the Rest of My Life,' one of 2000's very best

records.

Her 40-minute set featured most of the highlights from that album, as well as two classic Veruca Salt tunes, "Seether" and "Volcano Girls."

Gordon's voice was in fine form and her backing band provided solid support. The hit title track from her album was a highlight, as well as the fantastic "2003," with its perfect pop chorus.

Unfortunately, the audience was not at this show to see Gordon, and her sound is quite different from Gray's. Her hard but catchy guitar rock did not connect well with most in attendance. Her time would be better served opening for a more similar artist where her brilliant sound would not seem so incongruous.

Gray chose the perfect moment to take his show on the road, with his new album "Lost Songs 95-98," making the impressive "White Ladder" sound sparse in comparison. It is an incredibly low-key and melancholy affair, but the songs have a simple beauty all their own.

The album is largely just Gray and his acoustic guitar, with some piano, bass, and light drums carefully thrown in for color.

The results are effective, but do not have as much potential for broad appeal as his "White Ladder" material. Highlights include album opener "Flame Turns Blue" and "A Clean Pair of Eyes." In short, this album is a quiet little gem, with Gray's distinctive voice never sounding better.

Indianapolis music scene claws its way out of premature grave

By Tanzania Cannon
STAFF WRITER

Local music has begun to shine once again in Indianapolis, after spending several years behind the clouds of the pop culture clubs that managed to push the live music scene to the city's outskirts.

Bands like Sideral, Social Apathy and LMNO are pulling fans of all ages back into the live music nightlife.

On April 13 these bands stepped out to make the night come alive.

Sideral opened the show for Social Apathy at the Emerson Theater.

Sideral, a four-piece rock 'n' roll band that originated in Sheridan, Ind., illuminated the stage with "boy-band" good looks. Looks are deceiving, however. These boys are any-

thing but a poppy marketing tool.

Sideral's opened with newest single "Pretentious" offering a depth of instrumentation from bass player Justin Keller, drummer Andrew Wall, and lead guitar player Ben Sutton. Lead singer Brad Greeman put his guitar down and put all of his effort into wailing the opening lyric, "pretentious."

The band then dropped down a notch into a sexy groove, accentuated by Wall's syncopated licks on the drums. The song's tool-like phrasing exhibits Greeman's vast vocal range. He is not afraid to jump into falsetto, or roar like Rob Zombie.

As a complete package the group is impressive. The band has been together for only two years and they are tight. These guys know their instruments.

Social Apathy took the stage after Sideral, and the room

seemed to change color.

As Sideral's shorthair boys in red and green T-shirts moved off stage, they were replaced by their opposites.

Members of Social Apathy, cloaked in black, plugged in their guitars, relinquished a loud constant drive of music and began to throw their long hair around. When the band hair around. When the band hair around. When the band hair around.

Aggression, the crowd went crazy. Sideral's giggly fans were replaced by a mob of people dressed in black. The crowd of head-bangers and soon-to-be full-time goopies turned the dance floor into a mosh pit. They plummeted into each other while practicing the ritualistic slam dancing that goes along with the band's driving force.

Social Apathy is William Dezarm on vocals and bass, IUPUI student PJ Taft on lead guitar and James Dezarm on

drums.

Apathy is an exciting band, to say the least.

Producing lyrics that are deafeningly loud and scary along with forceful drum sounds, the band continually made its presence unmistakably known. The surprise was the underlying groove that decorated the song.

The groove, offered by Taft, is not often associated with heavy metal music. But this band makes the crowd get up and get their groove on.

Not far from the Emerson is The Ritz, and in the same night, LMNO was at work on yet another hungry local crowd.

LMNO surfaced from the bland ocean of reality onto the stage at The Ritz in a spaceship. Jimi Hendrix might drive today if he were still alive.

Lead singer Ivan Jackson brought his crew up for air, and the band took off in a

sprint with "Run For It Marty."

Jackson, the lead vocalist and keyboard player for LMNO, looks more like a mad scientist than a front man.

He hovers in front of his keyboard mixing acoustic ingredients into potions of sound that he feeds the audience.

Bassist Tim Fuller kept hips moving in the audience, while drummer Matt Van Kersen dove into the drums and the floor dropped from beneath, giving listeners no choice but to remain in physical full force. His drums are fast, yet rhythmic.

If lead guitarist Ben Justus were riding shotgun with Hendrix in his spaceship, the legend would be satisfied. Justus presents unselfish rhythms and melodies.

Jackson is the narrator for LMNO's tales, but the whole band tells the story.

The members enter and exit

every tune with confidence. The current lineup has existed only for six months, but they sound like they have been playing together a lot longer.

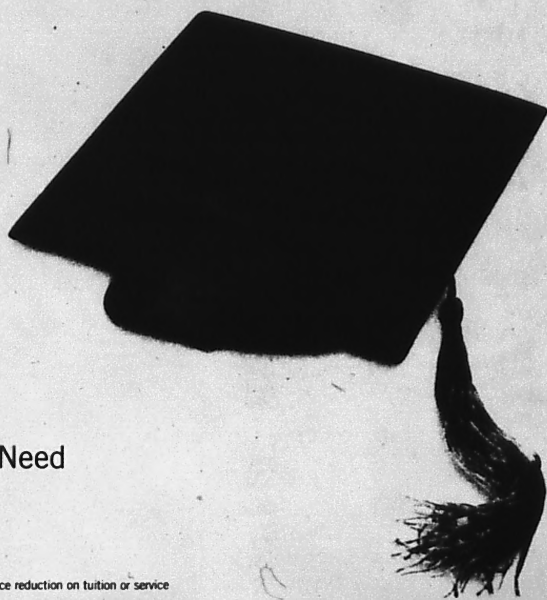
The young band's music is consuming, and audiences might leave the show just as exhausted as the performers.

LMNO will perform May 3 at Birdy's, 2171 E. 71st St. More information about LMNO is available at www.lmnomusic.com.

With the help of manager Mike Boyle, an IUPUI student, Sideral has been plugging away at clubs in Indianapolis.

The Band's next show is May 4 at Moe & Johnny's at 54th Street and College Avenue. More information about Sideral is available at www.sideral.tk.com.

More information about Social Apathy is available at <http://apathy2.tripod.com>.



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■ With *A Knight's Tale*, writer/director Brian Helgeland takes a stab at an experimental period piece with admirable, but severely flawed results.



Courtesy Columbia Pictures
Heath Ledger (Left) and Paul Bettany unite to catapult Ledger's knight to fame and fortune.

Valiant Tale fails

By **Damian Belliveau**
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

From the first moments of *A Knight's Tale*, when a medieval crowd chants and claps their hands to Queen's "We Will Rock You," any intelligent, or at least discerning, viewer knows there are going to be problems, big problems.

This, ladies and gentlemen, is not Baz Luhrmann's genius interpretation of William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, which starred Leonardo Di Caprio and Claire Danes in a post-modern Verona.

It is not *Gladiator* with a hip soundtrack (as if *Gladiator* needed something else to make it annoying).

And contrary to the trend pimps in *Josie and the Gypsies*, Heath Ledger is not the new Matt Damon.

"I wanted to do something different," producer Todd Black said. And Black's intentions are admirable, especially in play-it-safe Hollywood. But when doing something different producers should not trust their money in the hands of untested, underdeveloped and inadequate directors.

Brian Helgeland, who co-wrote the Academy Award winning screenplay for *L.A. Confidential*, is, while a very apt writer, not suited for directing.

His visual sense is shoddy, often putting the camera in the least interesting place to capture the action and frequently milking scenes to the point where they lose all credibility and simply become cheesy fluff.

In one particular scene Ledger and his romantic interest, the boring Shannyn Sossamon, play out a romantic tug-o-war in a cathedral, each one baiting the other to come closer, only to urge the other to move further back, in what the director admits to having envisioned as a sort of dance.

The result, with the entire scene played out in long shot, is

devoid of emotion because the audience is positioned so far away. It lacks any narrative drive because the couple's romantic interest doesn't really have any narrative relevance. The colors in the frame look like they ought to be rich, but appear dull and flat. And this is just a single scene, the entire movie plays out the same way — almost.

How much influence Helgeland and Black had in casting is difficult to determine, but the director did comment that he wrote the part of Chaucer for the absolutely magnificent Paul Bettany.

Bettany, whose most powerful role may be in last year's British release *Gangster No. 1*, contributes one of the few interesting performances to the film, along with Rufus Sewell (*Dark City*) and, at times, Ledger. The actors are the only reason to venture out to the multiplex and pay good, hard-earned money for admittance to *A Knight's Tale*.

While the story itself is passable, even interesting on several levels, the execution nullifies any impact the experimental format might allow.

One can see how in the hands of someone more visually driven, *A Knight's Tale* might have come together in really interesting ways.

But with Helgeland helming the project, the result is a number of scenes that are memorable only because the cast does such a fantastic job animating the interestingly written characters.

Frequently one sits in anxious tension waiting for the flamboyant, verse-spouting Bettany to return to the screen, or the scowling Sewell to narrow his swampy green eyes.

Unfortunately, the movie is not theirs alone, and the audience is forced to suffer through a number of passages and situations that will make many eyes roll and voices moan in tortured contempt, wishing they had gone to see some other summer blockbuster that actually would "rock them," as this one vainly suggests it will.



Courtesy Columbia
Bettany explodes as Chaucer.

CINCO DE MAYO

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Freddy Got Fingered, Dave Matthews Band and Our Lady Peace reviews available on The Sagamore Web site.

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HOT MUSIC EVENTS

This summer has a little something for nearly everybody who loves music. From the hardest rock to the fluffiest pop, only the pickiest listener will be unable to find a way to spend their hard-earned cash, either in doors or outdoors during this sure-to-be stifling hot, sunny season.



Courtesy TVT Records
Guided By Voices takes a closer look.

■ **Guided By Voices** with Spoon
May 9, Birdy's Bar & Grill

Indie legends Guided By Voices brings its fantastic brand of beer-soaked rock to Indy. The band is supporting its newest release, the critically acclaimed "Isolation Drifts."

■ **U2 with PJ Harvey**
May 10, Conesco Fieldhouse

U2's "Elevation" tour just might be the concert event of the summer. The band has received many deserved accolades for its incredible "All That You Can't Leave Behind" album. The theatrics of previous tours have been toned down, leaving the emphasis on the music this time. Opening the show is the great PJ Harvey, whose recent album is a near classic in its own right.

■ **Glen Phillips/Peter Stuart**
May 13, Birdy's Bar & Grill

Formerly a member of the great Toad the Wet Sprocket, Glen Phillips headlines a show of artists now out on their own. Peter Stuart, the former lead singer of Dog's Eye View, is the opener.

■ **Oasis, Black Crowes and Spacehog**
June 1, Verizon Wireless Music Center

This is another strong contender for top show of the summer. All three of the bands feature great sibling rivalries. If the acts can avoid killing each other, the show should be incendiary.

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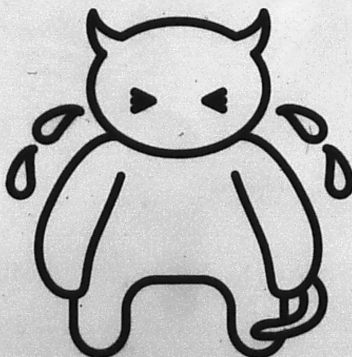
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STAFF EDITORIAL

Indy flicks

■ Pop-culture suffers heartland values.

Indianapolis desperately needs an independent, art oriented movie theater in the immediate downtown area. The second run, smoke-and-eat-while-you-watch-a-movie spot Hollywood Bar and Filmworks does not cut it.

The Circle City has seen a recent increase in the number of art film theaters. It jumped from a pathetic one, with the northside's General Cinema Castlestone Arts, to a staggering two when Ron Keedy opened his South Keystone Arts Cinema in an area of the south side that does not lend itself to easy travel from anywhere but the south side.

This is no good.

With the vast number of domestic independent films, foreign fare, and at plain experimental cinema available throughout the world, there is no reason why a city the size of Indianapolis should not have a proper independent cinema downtown.

Indianapolis is fast becoming a major base for national and international gatherings, evidence of this exists less than five minutes from IUPUI's campus in the form of the ever-expanding convention center. It makes sense to open an independent cinema where out-of-towners and foreigners can go to a movie that isn't a product of conservative Hollywood.

But it is no surprise that Indianapolis residents like their comfort tendencies, even when it means sacrificing a rich culture.

Indianapolis may be the exception. In most major cities across the globe film is considered an art form as valid as any of the classical arts. When people travel to different cities, they often like, if not totally expect, to have the opportunity to check out a smart, progressive film made by an actual film artist rather than boring product distributed by a major Hollywood studio.

If Indianapolis' downtown had no other venues for entertainment, maybe fighting for a more progressive movie house would be a pointless endeavor. However, the Indianapolis Repertory Theater is located less than a two-minute walk from the convention center. The Eiteljorg museum, the Indianapolis Zoo, the IMAX 3-D movie theater, which is currently having another art museum attached to it, and the Consco Fieldhouse all exist within walking distance of any downtown hotel. The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, which conveniently sits right on the Circle, actually occupies the space of a gorgeous old movie palace.

There is not a single, solitary movie theater downtown where one can go and see such internationally acclaimed films like last year's *Pollock*, *Requiem for a Dream* or *Before Night Falls*—all films that received Academy Awards.

This year's highly praised *Memento* isn't slated to play anywhere downtown, and when the award season comes around again, countless clueless Hoosiers are going to be scratching their heads wondering what the big deal is all about.

It is a sad, sad thing when one of the greatest art forms on the planet is ghettoized and reduced to being an exception rather than a rule.

But as Indianapolis' culture becomes increasingly diverse and more informed, and art conscious folk begin to populate the downtown area, maybe, hopefully, some brave soul in the city will make a zealous attempt to bring great, forward-thinking cinema to this growing Midwestern hub.

Staff Editorial

The staff editorial expresses the opinion of the majority of the editorial board, which includes all of the section editors. Viewpoints expressed within the staff editorial are not necessarily the opinion of every individual staff member.

Awards and honors

ACPI/Adobe Design of the Year 1999; National Pacemaker; 1992-93, 1995; ACP "Best of Show," 1st: 1992, 1997, 2nd: 1994; NSAP/ACF All American: 1989-91 Silver Crown Winner; 1992; ICA Division I Newspaper of the Year: 1995-92, 1997 2nd: 1995-96, 1998

Letters to the editor submission policy

Readers may submit letters of any length and on any topic, but preference will be given to those less than 350 words related to the IUPUI community. Letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number, and must be dated and signed. Addresses and phone numbers will not be printed. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

The IUPUI Sagamore reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and brevity. Those deemed potentially libelous, obscene, inflammatory or in poor taste will be rejected. Mail or bring type written letters to: The IUPUI Sagamore - Letters to the Editor, 425 University Blvd. CA 001G, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

THE IUPUI SAGAMORE

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Children of Mid-East crisis

■ Youth may be hardest hit by Israeli/Palestinian conflict.

The current war in Israel took another gruesome turn a few weeks ago with the death of a 10-month-old baby girl.

Little Shalavet Pass was murdered in Hebron by a Palestinian sniper as her mother held her in her arms. With the death of Shalavet the world bore witness to the realities of the situation—no Israelis no matter how young or old are targets.

This was not the first child casualty of the uprising. In October 2000, three siblings riding the bus on the way to school were dismembered as a result of a Palestinian roadside bomb. A few weeks ago a Palestinian suicide bomber killed two Israeli teenagers as they waited for a ride to school. And just the other day a one-year-old baby boy was critically wounded in a terrorist attack. Shrapnel remains lodged in his head.

Other Israeli children while not wounded physically have been traumatized by the violence. David Bodein of Efrat, a small village in Israel, has a daughter who cannot fall asleep at night because of the constant gunshots loudly echoing off the mountains of her village. She fears that the next bullet will be aimed at her. Other children wake up from nightmares or have regressed to bedwetting or sleeping with their parents. Whatever the case,

these young lives have been disrupted.

On the other side of the conflict are the Palestinian children. These children are programmed like robots by the Palestinian propaganda machine to sacrifice their lives for the cause. When a Palestinian is killed while resisting, the Palestinian leadership views this as a victory in evading world sympathy in their favor.

The vast majority of the media has helped shape world opinion by creating a David (Palestinians) vs. Goliath (Israel) story line in which the Palestinians are seen as victims. Palestinian rioters have been dubbed protestors, as if their demonstrations have been peace marches. The media coverage only entices Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and the Palestinians to continue to send their children to die in front of the cameras.

At a recent rally, Palestinian children attached pretend explosives to their bodies and marched in the streets chanting how they would be willing to die as martyrs in suicide bombing attacks. At the same time, two Israeli families buried their dead children. As long as the Palestinians prepare their next generation to continue down a path of violence, the nightmares for Israeli children will not cease.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Josh Hanton

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

GUEST COMMENTARY

African police corruption

■ Reforms in African governments may curb charges of intimidation.

Police corruption, at various levels, is a reality in every country and society. In Africa, however, it seems to be the norm. Very few people complain about it anymore, in part because everybody, in one way or another, benefits from it.

It is not uncommon to see policemen randomly stop cars in Africa in much the same way it happens here. Unlike in the United States, however, these stops are not to check the driver's registration, license and insurance; the main reason is to ask the person to "do something." The police are basically asking for bribes or tips. While this sounds outrageous, it is amazing how it is now part of the culture. Most people have some extra money with them in case they get stopped. The worst part of this is that people, especially taxi drivers, drive illegally knowing that all they need is to "do something."

When cars are stopped, very few reports go to the police station, since many folks are charged more than the law allows. In many cases the fine is an open debate between the police officer and the driver. Depending on the gravity of the offense, and how apologetic the driver is, fines can range anywhere from \$20 to \$100. Most of the time that money goes straight into the police officer's own pocket.

This shameful practice is rampant all over the continent, and nobody fights it.

The Nigerian government wants to combine the carrot and the stick to solve that problem. Nigeria is the first country in Africa to take an official action to fight this undisguised and disgusting

reality. In a statement made to the public on March 14, the federal government of Nigeria disclosed plans to counter police corruption, first by punishing officers caught soliciting bribes from citizens, but also by addressing the real issue—improvement of the welfare of police officers—in this case the Nigeria Police Force. According to Stephen Obi Akigbo, Minister of Police Affairs in Nigeria, the main purpose of this plan is "to make the force more effective by boosting its morale and checking corruption."

Improving the welfare of the police in most parts of Africa is long overdue. Their pay is minimal, between \$150 and \$300 a month depending on the country and the experience. Although the cost of living in Africa is not very high, it is still a low wage for a head of household. Many observers think corruption is maintained by low wages.

Festus Obiaku a student from Nigeria thinks more money is not the solution. "The African, especially Nigerian, mentality will try to get the best of both worlds or test the limits and learn from first hand experience. This will take a year or two before it becomes effective," he said.

There needs to be a change of mindset in Africa for anything like that to be successful, but we have to salute the Nigerian government for taking the step.

Even if it does not give the expected results, it certainly is a step in the right direction, and a good example for other countries to follow.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Blame the real perpetrators

■ As Columbine parents sue manufacturers, columnist says violent video games are not at fault for society's ills.

Super Mario and his friends may have to go back into the plumbing business.

The entire video game world is on trial after the families of the victims of the Columbine massacre filed a \$5 billion lawsuit against 25 video game companies, including Nintendo, AOL-Time Warner and Atari. The motion was filed in U.S. District court last week, nearly two years after the incident that led to the deaths of 12 students and one teacher at Columbine High School in eastern central Colorado.

Some families claim the manufacturers and distributors of the video games are responsible for the deaths of the students as Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, who have been charged in the massacre. Those bringing the suit claim the video game "Doom" was a huge culprit that influenced Harris and Klebold to perform their destructive rampage, which left a deep scar in the psyche of a suburban town.

The lawyer who filed the lawsuit said it was not for monetary gain, but "seeks literally to change the marketing and distribution of these super-violent video games" that can get kids addicted and turn them "into monster killers."

It is not surprising video games are the next group to be blamed for the increase in youth violence. School violence awareness groups have already waged campaigns against the music, television and film companies for the crimes of people with disturbing behavior.

This is not the first time video games have been on trial. Another lawsuit was filed after Michael Carneal killed three Heath High School students in Paducah, Ky., in 1997. The case was dismissed last April when a federal judge said video games are not subject to product liability laws.

The statement from the lawyer oversimplifies the issue of school violence. The multibillion-dollar video game industry could be blamed for a multitude of things, like creating the arguably violent "Pokémon" and the "Fifth Element" video game, but I doubt if it creates monster killers.

I love to play sports video games like "College Football" or almost any baseball game, but I cannot blame any of those games for my lack of a career in professional sports. I do play games like "GoldenEye" and other shoot-out games that spurt out more blood than any war film, but I know it is fake.

I knew that video games were not real, even as far back as when I played "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles." I didn't think I was a ninja in a half-shell. And when I played "Duck Hunt" on the old Nintendo, I didn't have a craving to go out and kill every mallard I could find.

Although I cannot understand the grief of the families or the sense of loss felt at Columbine, I do know that, when it comes to death, there is no way to bring back loved ones regardless of how much we want to see them again. Video games already have a rating system that allows parents to determine if they are appropriate for their children, as long as parents monitor the actions of their kids and do not allow them to play violent video games.

All parties directly involved in the incident are either dead or have been convicted and sent to prison. Much to the chagrin of gun lovers, the Colorado Legislature passed a law requiring background checks at gun shows.

I agree that persons responsible for the act should be punished to the fullest extent of the law, and that gun enthusiasts should have to pass a background check at a gun show instead of being a kid in a semi-automatic candy shop.

Time and time again I bring up the parental accountability of the real monsters of school shootings. The victims' families also ended a \$2.6 million settlement from the two families. If the lawsuit is successful, then it will send the message that everything else in the world is responsible for their actions, except for the principle people related to the issues. I would be more concerned about all of the problems coming out of Jefferson County and the fact a search warrant for the Klebold home was inches away from being performed but never happened.

GUEST COMMENTARY

Marcelo Duran

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE
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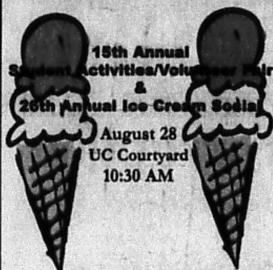
JOIN THE Traveler's Society

Attention all Masons and Eastern Stars of all affiliations! There is a new organization called the Traveler's Society and we will be hosting events for the upcoming year. We need your help!

Contact Michelle Blackwell (President) at mblack@iupui.edu

- or -

Tonell Broaders (Secretary) at tbroaders@iupui.edu



Other upcoming Fall Welcome Fest events:

- **International Fair**
August 24 - 4:30 pm - UC 115
- **Student Employment/Internship Fair**
August 29 - Noon - UC Courtyard
- **Movie in the Courtyard**
August 30 - 9 pm - UC Courtyard
- **International Club Coffee Hour**
August 31 - 4:30 pm
- **United Way Day of Caring**
September 15 - 8 am

April 16-20 what's happening this week

■ Campus Crusade for Christ

There will be no Prime Time meeting this week but be sure and join us next semester with Prime Time returns to Wednesday afternoons at 4 p.m. in the University Library's Lilly Auditorium (UL 0130). Email jellie.krueger@iucm.org for more information.

■ Newman Club Sunday Mass

The Newman Club will hold Mass and a religious and spiritual worship every Sunday from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the St. Mary Child Center located at 901 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St.

■ Newman Club Final Exam Break

Join the Newman Club and escape from finals on Tuesday, May 1 on the first floor of University College from 4-7:30 p.m. Free sandwiches, soft drinks, chips, and cookies.

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English Club End of Year Party

● Blockparty
4102 Claire Dr. - Indianapolis
Clearwater Crossing
May 6 - 7 p.m.

The party will consist of a team building course which includes soccerball, basketball shoot-out, alpine races, 3-D puzzle solver, motorcycle races, and the Daytona cars.

Five teams will be assembled consisting of the English Department staff, faculty, and students.

Sign up at the English Club bulletin board on the second floor of Cavanaugh Hall.

ATTENTION:

Undergraduate Clubs and Organizations

Organization renewal forms for 2001-2002 are now being accepted. If your members have elected officers since Spring Break, please submit a renewal form to Student Life and Diversity Programs before the end of the semester.

Renewal forms are available from Student Life and Diversity Programs, UC 002 or can be downloaded from www.sls.iupui.edu/sldp/fora.



Racial Justice Study Circles

Student Life and Diversity Programs and the YWCA are looking for students, faculty, and staff interested in talking about race and racism this summer. Trained facilitators help to provide an environment for individuals to talk openly and honestly about race through the use of study circles.

By the end of this experience the group could create a program or another initiative that meets an area of need. Four diverse groups of students, faculty, and staff have gone through this experience since its inception.

The Study Circles meet once a week over a duration of 6 weeks. Participants must attend all sessions.

For further information or to reserve a space in this program contact Patty Alvarez (palvarez@iupui.edu).



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This page is a paid advertisement. All advertisements and information for this page must be submitted through the Office of Student Life and Diversity Programs, located in the basement of University College (UC002).

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

