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news magazine  
for 140,000  
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# IUPUI

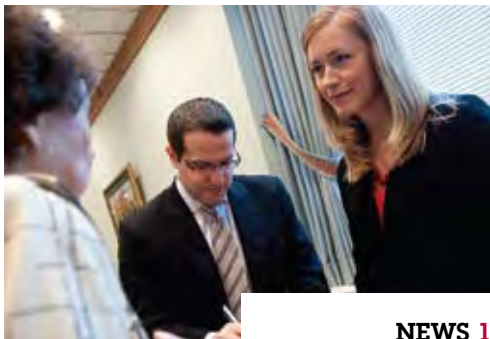
**MAGAZINE**

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
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INDIANAPOLIS

## Enjoying a healthy life

IUPUI-trained professionals  
in a wide range of health-care  
fields help Hoosiers live  
richer, happier lives.

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WINTER 2010



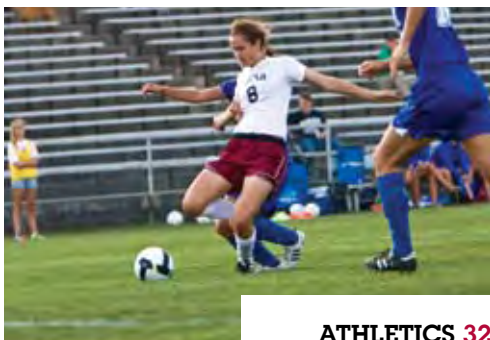
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Welcome to *IUPUI Magazine*, the alumni publication celebrating the men and women whose careers and accomplishments highlight the impact our campus has on our world. Share their success stories in these pages, and in some instances via videos at: [magazine.iupui.edu](http://magazine.iupui.edu).

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## IUPUI ranks among U.S. leaders

IUPUI continues to move up in a variety of national and regional rankings, in both *U.S. News and World Report* and *Forbes* magazines.

The campus ranked seventh among “national universities to watch” this year, up from 14th in the same grouping last year. And IUPUI is among 77 colleges and universities singled out by *U.S. News* for “striking improvements or innovations” in the magazine’s 2010 “America’s Best College Rankings.”

IUPUI also was named to the top campuses in the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities’ annual “Best College and University Civic Partnerships” rankings.

The university ranked eighth in the latest *Forbes* magazine rankings of “America’s Best Colleges in the Midwest.” The magazine’s evaluations were done in conjunction with the Center for College Affordability and Productivity and based on the quality of education, along with students’ experiences and achievements.

**For more on these rankings, visit the following Web sites:**

- > [magazine.iupui.edu/news1](http://magazine.iupui.edu/news1)
- > [magazine.iupui.edu/news2](http://magazine.iupui.edu/news2)
- > [magazine.iupui.edu/news3](http://magazine.iupui.edu/news3)



Graduates from IUPUI schools make their marks on people’s lives and health every day, from Navy and Marine personnel and their families to disadvantaged children, from role models for a healthier lifestyle to private companies making medical treatments available to victims of disease. And for countless other graduates — past and future — IUPUI helps hone the skills that will mean life-saving and life-changing moments for generations to come.



IU School of Medicine pediatrics experts Aaron Carroll and Rachel Vreeman turned medical myths into the entertaining — and informative — book *Don't Swallow Your Gum!* For more information about the two faculty members and their expertise, visit [medicine.iu.edu](http://medicine.iu.edu) and search by their names.



# MYTH-BUSTING, MEDICAL STYLE

At first glance, Rachel Vreeman and Aaron Carroll look like just what they are: polished, talented, up-and-coming IU School of Medicine faculty members, eager to impart knowledge to both students and fellow faculty across the IUPUI campus.

But then you notice a twinkle in Carroll's eye, and maybe the hint of a smile on Vreeman's face. And you realize why the two pediatrics faculty members — co-authors of the popular 2009 book *Don't Swallow Your Gum!* — have enjoyed such public success for their myth-busting efforts undercutting Grandma's old medical bromides.

After all, you don't wind up on *Good Morning America*, the *CBS Evening News*, *USA Today*, *Newsweek* or *The New York Times* without shaking up the status quo a bit.

Their book was meant to debunk a lot of what they found to be "medical misinformation" — concepts so common in 21st century folklore that they've "just been accepted as true," according to Vreeman.

While the tone of the book is light-hearted, Carroll and Vreeman actually teamed up on some heavy-duty research to identify common misconceptions.

"A lot of doctors believe in some of these myths," they say. In fact, they freely admit that they "were surprised by what our research showed" in busting some of the myths.

"The one that surprised me most was that sugar doesn't make kids hyper," he adds with a grin. "Even after we show people the research, a lot of parents and even doctors aren't buying it!"

Some of the other maxims they tackle:

- You only use 10 percent of your brain;
- Men think about sex every seven seconds;
- Eating turkey can make you sleepy;
- You can chew gum instead of brushing your teeth; and
- Every mom's favorite: you should wait an hour after eating before going swimming.



"The first thing that surprised us was that people have done some amazing studies," Vreeman says. And Carroll quickly adds with a laugh "the second is you wonder why anybody would volunteer for these studies."

Both were surprised at the universality of some of the myths.

"It's amazing how little the stories change from country to country, continent to continent," Vreeman says with a shake of her head. "No wonder it takes forever to beat these things to death!"

It might also explain why they've been interviewed by media on six continents, and why their book has been published in several languages — though the "myths" in one country's edition might not make it into another country's version, Carroll points out.

The book has been such a success that — in true Hollywood style — a sequel is a real possibility.

"We keep finding new things to tackle," Carroll laughs.

There has been one downside, at least for him: the t-shirt he wore for the back cover of the book has led to some merciless teasing by colleagues. "Never wearing that for another photo," he says firmly.

But for both, there has been one big upside: it's bridged a gap with their "toughest" critics: family.

"It's really nice that our families say they now have some of our research they can understand," Carroll laughs.

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**For more about the book, visit:**

> [dontswallowyourgum.com](http://dontswallowyourgum.com)



## Digital Shakespeare

Shakespeare may be dead for 400 years — nearly 400, give or take a few — but the renowned English author is about to enter the digital age. And he'll do it at IUPUI.

Oxford University Press has launched a project to create *The New Oxford Shakespeare*, an entirely new print and digital edition of the complete works of the English playwright.

Terri Bourus, English professor, Equity actor and member of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI faculty, is part of the international team heading up the project. She'll serve as one of three general editors, along with counterparts Gary Taylor of Florida State University and John Jowett, the deputy director of the Shakespeare Institute at the University of Birmingham.

Rather than favoring a single early book, *The New Oxford Shakespeare* will make careful use of all the surviving original documents, offering readers more choices than any previous edition. With the click of a computer key, readers can choose text featuring Shakespearean spelling or modern spelling; a print or digital presentation; and alternative early versions of some works, among other options. *The New Oxford Shakespeare* will provide a wealth of new, reliable material for students and an essential compilation of editorial and textual research for scholars.



Elizabeth Gilbert (right);  
(below, from top to  
bottom) Bill McKibben;  
Don Tapscott; and  
Chancellor Bantz  
with Tavis Smiley.



## VISITORS ADD FLAVOR TO CAMPUS CALENDAR

Renowned authors, a celebrated TV and radio show host, an award-winning medical expert and an Olympic gold medalist took turns in the IUPUI visitors' spotlight this fall.

Among the authors who spoke about their works were:

**Elizabeth Gilbert**, author of *Eat, Pray, Love*; **Bill McKibben**, author of *Deep Economy*; and **Don Tapscott**, author of *Wikinomics: How Mass Collaboration Changes Everything* and the new book *Grown Up Digital: How the Net Generation is Changing the World*.

Gilbert was featured at the second annual Efroymson Lectures on International Art, Culture and Heritage, sponsored by the department of tourism, conventions and event management.

McKibben, the featured author in this year's IUPUI Common Theme program, discussed sustainability, a green economy and healthy communities in his visit, which was part of the 2009 Spirit & Place civic festival.

Tapscott is an information technology expert whose appearance focused on the changes technology is making in American society and throughout the world.

Radio and television personality **Tavis Smiley** — an IU graduate — was one of the featured guests this fall at the IU Neal-Marshall Alumni Club reunion, held at University Place. Smiley is the host of the late-night *Tavis Smiley* program on TV and public radio's *Tavis Smiley Show*, and was the first person to simultaneously host talk shows on both PBS and National Public Radio.

The medical expert was **Bert O'Malley**, the 2009 Steven C. Beering Award recipient this fall for the IU School of Medicine. O'Malley, the 2008 National Medal of Science winner, is the director of the Baylor Center for Reproductive Biology and an internationally renowned expert in the field of molecular and cellular biology. The Beering Award is named for the former dean of the medical school and president of Purdue University, and its honor roll includes past Nobel Prize recipients.

**Billy Mills**, the 1964 Olympic gold medalist in the 10,000-meter race, gave the 4th annual Semler Lecture on Leadership this fall. Mills is a member of the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) tribe and currently serves as the national spokesperson for Running Strong for American Indian Youths.

**William C. Rhoden** of the *New York Times* and **Stephen A. Smith** of MSNBC were among the panelists on hand for the IUPUI-based National Journalism Center's "From the Press Box to the Locker Room: The Diversity Divide" symposium this fall. The event focused on problems national media must deal with in including minorities among its ranks.

## ENROLLMENT HITS NEW PEAK

IUPUI enrollment hit a new record high this fall with 30,383 students. The number of credit hours taken also set a new record with a 2.7-percent jump, up to 340,153.5 hours. Enrollments of African-American and Hispanic students increased 4.3 and 8.8 percent, respectively, with the enrollment of Hispanic students setting a new record.

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**For more details on enrollment, see:**

> [magazine.iupui.edu/news4](http://magazine.iupui.edu/news4)

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## STUDENTS' BOOK CAPTURES NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY

An IUPUI anthropology class project turned into something more special this year when 13 students used their research work to create the new book *Eastside Story: Portrait of a Neighborhood on the Suburban Frontier*.

The book turned interviews, oral histories, memories, old photos and other memorabilia from local residents of the Community Heights neighborhood (on Indianapolis's east side) into an interesting perspective on the changing nature of an urban neighborhood through several generations of residents.

Students did more than 40 interviews for the book, which was produced with the help of the Community Heights Neighborhood Organization.

Chapters dealt with a wide range of topics from the neighborhood's past, from the Stir-In Restaurant (from the early 1950s) to Justus Homes, the company that built many of the original and distinctive brick bungalows, beginning in the post-war period when the community was under development.

The community-campus partnership included the help of Neighborhood Alliance Press (a division of Doulos Christou Press), which published *Eastside Story*. The project gained momentum from a series of grants from organizations such as the Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center, the Solution Center at IUPUI and The Justus Companies, Inc.



## IN THIS SECTION

Celebrating research's new era

\$60M grant boosts medical school physician research

Foundation gift backs new school

People notes

Voters OK Wishard move

The magic of math and music



# CELEBRATING RESEARCH'S NEW ERA

IUPUI's newest and largest research facility got a fitting launch this fall with the dedication of Joseph E. Walther Hall.

The new crown jewel of the campus's research facilities is located in the heart of the three-building complex along Walnut Street, just north of the People Mover.

The building will play a vital role in the research future of the campus and the IU School of Medicine. It's the home of the Stark Neurosciences Research Institute and other key centers of inquiry into adult and pediatric cancers, immunological challenges, neurological diseases, genetic disorders, blood-related cancers and diseases, and other medical concerns.

The building features nearly 240,000 square feet of space for research teams, including nearly 120 laboratories. As the largest research building in Indiana University's statewide system, Walther Hall dramatically expands IUPUI's research capabilities in the health and life sciences, cementing the campus's pivotal role in the state's ongoing effort to become a magnet for health-related businesses and industries.

IU President Michael McRobbie led the dedication ceremonies for Walther Hall, named for the Indianapolis physician who created the Walther Cancer Foundation. Besides McRobbie, other dignitaries on hand for the celebration included Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard and IUPUI Chancellor Charles R. Bantz.

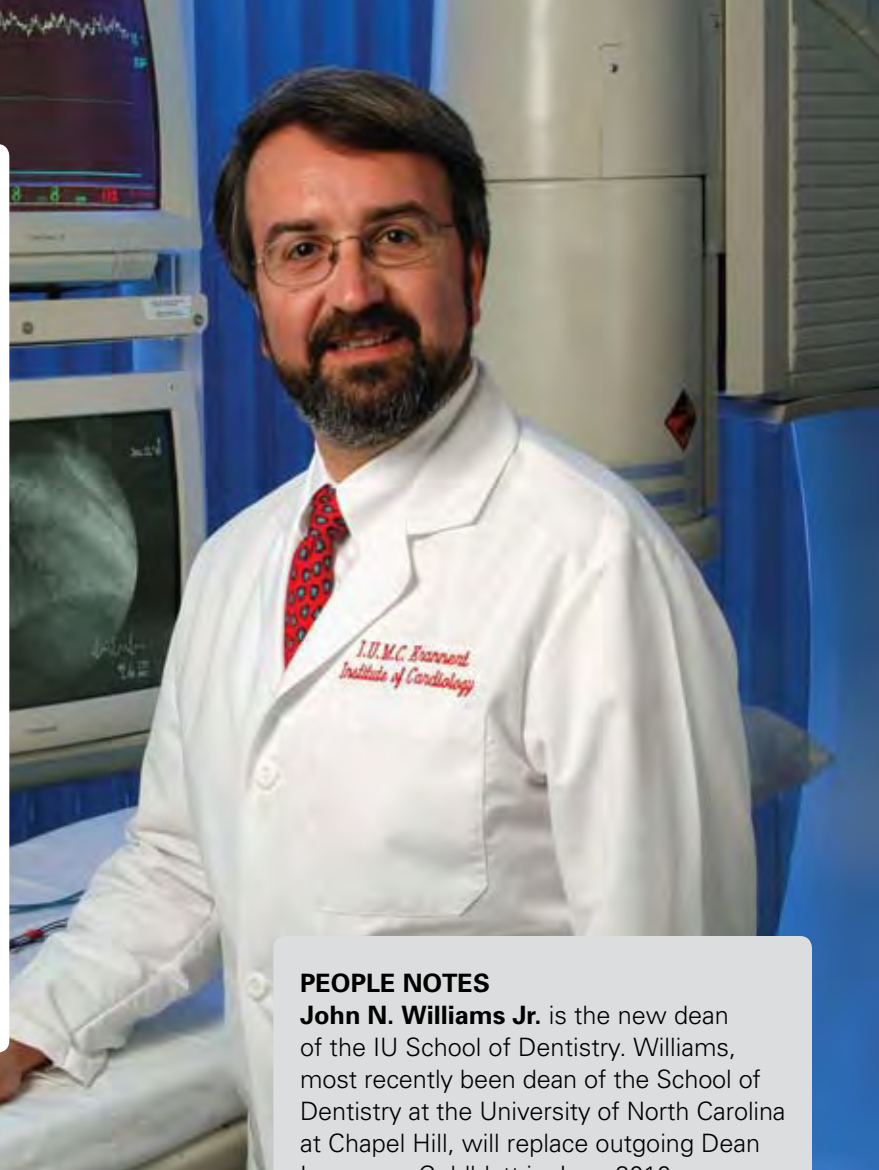


## \$60M grant boosts medical school physician research

Physician researchers like Keith March (right) at the IU School of Medicine will have \$60 million in new resources for projects that shape the future of health care in Indiana and beyond, thanks to a grant from Lilly Endowment announced in December.

The grant will launch the Indiana Physician Scientist Initiative, headed by David Wilkes, the executive associate dean for research affairs for the IUPUI-based medical school. The initiative will promote the development of important scientific discoveries in the laboratory, determine how those discoveries could improve human health, then help turn them into new products and treatments that benefit patients and produce new businesses and jobs — a process known as translational research.

The grant is a strategic addition to the foundation's previous investments in university research programs, including the Indiana Genomics Initiative (INGEN), funded by \$155 million in grants from the Endowment in 2000 and 2003. In addition to expanding biomedical research, the INGEN funds were a catalyst for the development of life sciences economic investments more broadly in Indiana. Those included the creation of BioCrossroads, which provides funding and support to life sciences businesses and markets the state's life sciences economy.



## Foundation gift backs new school

The Eli Lilly and Company Foundation helped get IU's new School of Public Health off to a fast start this past fall with a \$1 million gift. The new school will have a dual base of operations; part will call IU's Bloomington campus home, while IUPUI will serve as the home of the remainder of the school's efforts.

IU announced the new school earlier this academic year to support city and state programs aimed at improving the health of Hoosiers. At IUPUI, for instance, the public health school will work closely with the IU Melvin and Bren Simon Cancer Center and the Clinical Translational Sciences Institute, addressing the need for both clinical care and research to meet Indiana's overall goals.

The Lilly Foundation gift will provide the School of Public Health with start-up funds to recruit faculty and support students who plan to build careers in health care.

**For more details on the Lilly gift and the School of Public Health, visit the Web site:**

> [magazine.iupui.edu/news5](http://magazine.iupui.edu/news5)

### PEOPLE NOTES

**John N. Williams Jr.** is the new dean of the IU School of Dentistry. Williams, most recently been dean of the School of Dentistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will replace outgoing Dean Lawrence Goldblatt in June 2010 ...

**Ian McIntosh**, IUPUI's director of international partnerships, recently was named a 2010 Rotary World Peace Fellow ...

History professor **Edward Curtis** of the IU School of Liberal Arts was named to *Publishers' Weekly's* "Best Books of 2009" list for his book, *Muslims in America: A Short History* ...

**Terry Baumer** is the new executive associate dean for the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI, replacing the interim appointee, Eric Wright ... **G. Marie Swanson** is the new associate vice chancellor for public health at IUPUI. Her appointment is part of the establishment of the new School of Public Health on the IUPUI and Bloomington campuses ... **Una Okonkwo Osili** is the new director of research for the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, based at IUPUI. She will continue to serve on the Liberal Arts faculty, as well.





## Voters OK Wishard move

Change is coming to the west end of the IUPUI campus.

Marion County voters launched the move of Wishard Memorial Hospital from its current home north of University Hospital to a new home next to the Roudebush Veterans Administration Medical Center. Demolition work and utility rerouting has begun at the former Indiana State Board of Health building and the former Larue Carter Memorial Hospital site. Construction of Wishard's parking garage will begin in March 2010. The new hospital could come on line as early as December 2013.

Among the existing buildings that would be razed as part of the project: the Board of Health Building, the Psychiatric Research building and the Campus Facility Services building. IUPUI will gain control of the current Wishard site once the new hospital is open.

The new Wishard will feature a hospital with more than 300 beds, an outpatient building, a power plant, a parking garage and a medical education and research facility. The state-of-the-art facilities will continue Wishard's role as a premier teaching hospital for IUPUI's medical students and faculty.





# GREAT *RESOURCE*

Lenore Tedesco lives water conservation. As associate professor in the Department of Earth Sciences and director of the Center for Earth and Environmental Science at IUPUI, Lenore has developed ways to identify and eliminate contaminants in our water resources. An internationally respected advocate for water quality and sustainability, Lenore's work has been applied throughout Indiana and as far as Germany, France, and Australia.

Private support helps IU scientists extend their reach into important areas of ecological concern, improving the quality of vital natural resources.

Think what your gift could do.  
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# The **MAGIC** of math and music

For most people, the sheet music of a symphony by Bach or Beethoven is as indecipherable as a four-page mathematical proof or a world-changing algorithm.

But for Tyler Foxworthy, music and math are twin passions, each expressing something from deep within. One captures the beauty and grace of a piece of classical music written centuries ago, the other is a key capable of unlocking some of the mysteries of the universe.

He is at ease in both worlds.

To Foxworthy, a senior in the Purdue School of Science at IUPUI, music and mathematics are inextricably linked.

"They both follow laws of order and symmetry," says Foxworthy, who performs with musical groups ranging from small ensembles to symphony orchestras. "Everything meshes together. You learn to play music by breaking it into smaller pieces, learning one before moving on to the next, until you have learned the whole piece. It's the same as you do in math — you break a problem down into its smaller parts, solving one at a time."

That's a lesson he teaches his young violin and piano students, usually ages 6 to 10. "My job with them isn't so much teaching them the notes as teaching them how to count internally," he says. And he's noticed that the students that show the most musical talent often are good math students — just as he was.



## Unusual path

The Southport High School graduate from the south side of Indianapolis broke his college career into pieces, too. Thanks to IUPUI's 25-year-old SPAN program (officially, Special Programs for Academic Nurturing), Foxworthy graduated high school in 2008 with two years of college already under his belt. He could have graduated next spring with his math major, but plans to extend his stay by a year in order to earn a degree in IUPUI's demanding biomedical engineering program, as well as the degree in applied mathematics.

"SPAN is a great program," says Foxworthy. "It challenged me while I was still in high school, and helped me come to IUPUI prepared. When I have a kid, I definitely plan to have them take advantage of SPAN or a program just like it."

He also became a Bepko Scholar, one of several IUPUI scholarship programs for high-ability students who exemplify the campus's academic mission. Named for Chancellor Emeritus Gerald L. Bepko, the program supports both undergraduate and graduate students, and is one of the cornerstones of IUPUI's Honors College, a new initiative launched this year.

Bepko scholars participate in numerous service learning and civic engagement projects, have access to study-abroad opportunities, and are regularly involved in exciting research projects throughout their undergraduate careers.

*Tyler Foxworthy excels at both music and mathematics. Whether he is playing his violin at performance level, or applying his skills at advanced math in research experiments (far right), the School of Science student is making his mark.*

## Plunged into research

Foxworthy, for example, has two research projects in which he is involved. The first, with Dr. Raymond Chin (of Science's math department), is pursuing a better strategy for solving non-linear equations; if achieved, it would have implications for such health and life sciences programs as biochemical interactions, or drug interactions.

The second, with Dr. Ernesto Levy of the School of Medicine's rheumatology division, was created by Foxworthy himself. It involves using a simple digital camera from multiple vantage points on a 360-degree axis to build a three-dimensional image of that part of the patient's body being examined, using statistical and geometric methods in an algorithm Foxworthy is writing.

"The basic method of the algorithm is similar to the way a sculptor cuts away at a 3-D block of marble. In this case the marble exists inside the computer, and each image that is taken is inputted into the algorithm to decide what parts of that 3-D marble needs to be 'chipped away,'" Foxworthy says.

After all the images are run through the algorithm, "the volume of the body part will emerge," he adds.

The idea came in part from a typical child's learning experience with "stereo vision. You hold up a finger in front of your eyes, then cover one and then the other, giving you 'different' looks at the same finger," Foxworthy says. "If this (software) works, doctors could help patients avoid delays and maybe even expensive imaging, right there in the doctor's office."

Chin finds Foxworthy a natural researcher.

"Tyler has an unquenchable desire for learning, and he is unafraid to venture ahead and to anticipate what is to come," says Chin. "He always has questions when confronted with an assigned problem, an admirable trait in a researcher."

## Always on the go

The IUPUI senior packs a lot into his time: high-level classes in math and biomedical engineering, the two research jobs, his musical classes and his own practice and performing.

"I keep my piano right outside my office," he says with a smile. "When I need a break, I go play — it's a great stress release, and really clears things out for me."

But as much as he loves music — "I listen to a ton of Bach" when he has free time — Foxworthy knows that music isn't his career path.

"I'd like to keep playing, perhaps in a quartet or a chamber ensemble, but I know my career is going to be related to math," he says. "I'm interested in all kinds of applied mathematics options, in research in the life sciences or in math modeling. It's an exciting field that has all kinds of options that intrigue me!"

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**For more on the SPAN program, visit:**

> [uc.iupui.edu/span/](http://uc.iupui.edu/span/)



## IN THIS SECTION

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The power of a smile /// Jeff Dalin

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Big 'loser' finds happy endings /// Jennette Fulda

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Operating on a grand scale /// Vice Admiral Adam Robinson

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Hollywood comes to Kansas /// Mary and Steve Pruitt

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# FAMILY MATTERS

Like a lot of kids, Steve Freeland grew up wanting to get into the “family business.” And since his father was first a family physician, in Batesville, Ind., and later an obstetrician and gynecologist in Indianapolis, that meant medical school.

But after one year at the University of Evansville, he left school and spent the next few years working at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. Within a few years, Freeland found himself married and divorced, the father of a young daughter Lisa — and far from his boyhood plan.

So he enrolled in IUPUI and the pre-med curriculum in the School of Science as a returning student, embarking on his old dream path and following “the traditional IUPUI experience, working full-time and going to classes the rest of the time.”

Freeland earned his degree in chemistry and biology, but his bid to enter the IU School of Medicine at IUPUI was turned down. And that’s when he discovered that family concerns sometimes trump “family business.”

**By Ric Burrous**



Freeland has to stay up to date to ensure that CCG radiologists have top-flight equipment.

"I had other med school opportunities, but it would have meant uprooting and leaving Lisa while I attended medical school in another state, and I needed to be a dad first," he recalls. Since he had risen through the ranks at St. Vincent throughout his IUPUI years, he opted to stay with the administrative side of health care. By the early 2000s, Freeland's skills had made him the choice for a new career path: chief executive officer of the Indianapolis-based Cancer Care Group ("CCG"), an oncology company owned by radiation oncologists and one of the largest such privately held groups in the nation.

### **Family is touchstone**

The job can be a whirlwind. Among Freeland's tasks: negotiations or planning sessions with CCG doctors; negotiating contracts with health insurance companies; or working with executives at any of over 25 area hospitals that the company serves. Others include meeting with radiation oncology equipment representatives to stay on the industry's cutting edge; traveling to Washington D.C. to meet

with congressmen on health-care issues; traveling to conferences or meetings from coast to coast; or even planning spin-offs of new companies that CCG has developed.

But for Freeland, family is still the foundation. Now remarried to a former nurse, Jan, he stays in close touch with Lisa — at 32, a stay-at-home mother of three in New Hampshire — and enjoys the exploits of 14-year-old daughter Stephanie, a Zionsville student and a budding equestrienne with Olympic dreams in mind.

"I don't know where her passion for horses comes from," he laughs. "It certainly didn't come from me, but we took her for a pony ride at the zoo when she was 3 years old, and it grew on her."

Freeland may not understand Stephanie's affinity for horses, but he does understand the driving force of passion.

"I admire anyone with that kind of passion, and I'll do anything I can to encourage it," he says. "It's special to see someone so excited about what they are so passionate about."

Freeland and twin brother Scott, a pharmacist and 35-year employee

at St. Vincent's, grew up in a family with five children, all adopted.

"We get teased all the time because we both wound up at St. Vincent's, because our wives are named Jane and Jan, and because they both are — or were — nurses," he laughs.

### **Pivotal role**

Freeland is convinced that his IUPUI education played a pivotal role in his life.

"What I learned most at IUPUI was the commitment required and the discipline of learning," he says. "That's what moved me up the ladder at every job I've had and what I find myself using every day."

During the 1980s, he was one of thousands of IUPUI students who spent much of their class time on the old 38th Street campus, across from the Indiana State Fairgrounds. They occasionally felt that "our lives revolved around the bus schedule that shuttled us between campuses. But that was all any of us knew, so it was no big deal," he laughs.

He "fell in love with IUPUI" largely due to the "passion and creativity" he found





One of Freeland's greatest skills is his knowledge of the operational side of health care, including knowing the people in the field.

amongst the faculty. "You could tell they knew their stuff, and loved teaching it to others," Freeland says. "That's something that impresses students who have been out in the world a bit and know how often those feelings are missing."

But Freeland also drew inspiration from his fellow older students. "They brought such a desire for learning to class," he says. "They knew what they wanted and were determined to get it." It took him seven years to get his degree, sometimes going full-time, others part-time, "but it was what I both needed and wanted."

Once Freeland knew medical school wasn't in the cards, he wasn't sure where to go. "What do you do with biology and chemistry degrees when your only goal is going to medical school?" he says. He decided to augment his business background with an MBA, which he used to climb the ladder at St. Vincent and ultimately CCG.

It intrigues him that academic lessons he learned nearly a quarter-century ago — both processes and language — now serve him well. "It's ironic that all the knowledge I thought I'd never need again now winds up being a key to doing my job at CCG," he chuckles. "I'm not lost in the clinical aspects of the business, and I understand the medical language as a second language."

However, Freeland's primary focus is on the business of managing the company and its business performance — a perfect fit for someone who aspired to be a physician and now thrives in the health-care profession as a senior executive.

Determination and people skills are his primary tools. "I'm a real people person,"

he says. "It's easy for me to talk to strangers, either one-on-one or in large groups. And I've never been afraid to put in overtime to get done what I needed to do."

Those skills, plus his familiarity with hospital operations, were key reasons CCG sought him out when the organization was looking for new leadership. "They reached out to me because of my hands-on experience working with physician groups and hospitals," Freeland says. At the interview, he quickly realized that his desires matched up well with the company's need for a new direction.

"I don't know that I could find a job that fits me quite so well. It's the most challenging job I've ever had, and it draws on every ounce of knowledge and experience that I have. But it's also the most rewarding."

## "What I learned most at IUPUI was the discipline of learning."



Steve Freeland

### Future is bright

Freeland is reconnecting with the School of Science these days, serving on its board of advisors and helping plan its future. At his first meeting, he ran into Dr. Erv Boschmann, "my first IUPUI chemistry professor and a man who made such a great impression on me when I was a student. To be able to talk to him after all this time was a great honor — and it felt like an incredible flashback!"

One of his biggest goals is to inject the school's strategic plan with one of his favorite maxims: a "BHAG," or a "big, hairy, audacious goal. A 'BHAG' is a goal that is so bold that if you can just figure out how to make it happen, it will be a game-changer," he laughs.



One of the Science grad's greatest joys is watching his daughter shape her award-winning skills as an equestrienne.

"The future is so bright for the School of Science — there are terrific people here, and great programs," Freeland says. "But it's more than that. The future also is bright for IUPUI, because of what it offers its students and its community."

Freeland believes his own story is a prime example.

"My experiences at IUPUI prepared me for my future in ways I never realized until much later," Freeland says. "The bar was set much higher for students — even in my time there — than I thought it would be. But it trained me to be who — and what — I am today."



# THE POWER OF A SMILE

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**"Smiling is infectious, you catch it like the flu.  
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too."**

**— Poet Karen McLendon-Laumann**

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## **Jeff Dalin knows the power of a smile.**

As a St. Louis dentist and graduate of the IU School of Dentistry (DDS '80), he sees it every day — indeed, his daily goal is to enhance that power.

But nearly a decade ago, he realized that the impact of a smile was lost on many youngsters whose families were unable to provide proper dental checkups and treatment. Dalin and fellow dentist B. Ray Storm came up with the notion of a one-day clinic offering free dental care to families in need, and called it Give Kids a Smile (GKAS).

**By Ric Burrous**





Dentists across the nation have made Give Kids a Smile a powerful tool to improving the lives of less fortunate children.

Little did they know what they had started. In the past eight years, the GKAS program has provided the equivalent of \$2.7 million in dental care to nearly 8,000 boys and girls in Dalin's home state of Missouri. More than that, the program has spread like that "infectious smile," traveling across the nation and around the world. Just one year after Dalin and Storm's idea was born, the American Dental Association incorporated it into National Children's Dental Access Day. Small wonder that Lawrence Goldblatt, dean of the IUPUI-based dental school, called the program "one of the most visible and positive faces of American dentistry" last spring when introducing Dalin as the school's 2009 commencement speaker.

### A passion for caring

The growth of Give Kids a Smile requires a lot of Dalin's time and energy, but also has made one of his greatest passions a tremendous success story.

"It gives me chills to think that millions of children have received care they normally would never have had," Dalin says. "They will be able to eat and sleep better, have better self-esteem, do better at school and not be in pain any longer."

The program offers a lot of firsts: first dental visit, first toothbrush, even the first toothpaste so kids won't have to share with brothers or sisters. And "we are teaching them information about dental care they will be able to use for a lifetime," Dalin adds.

While Dalin is thrilled with the growth of GKAS, he isn't surprised.

"Dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants get very involved with our patients," he explains. "You feel this commitment to serve others, a connection with your patients."

It isn't just dental professionals, either. GKAS is a collaboration of lay people, school nurses and charitable organizations, corporate partners and many more, all working toward one dream: for kids to realize their potential.

GKAS has come a long way since 2002, when Dalin and Storm launched the program in a borrowed dental office slated for demolition. It now includes facilities such as the St. Louis University Center for Advanced Dental Education, where 60 chairs are available for that city's two-day clinics.

The program has built spin-offs, too. Tiny Smiles was born when GKAS dentists noticed that the 5- and 6-year-olds they were seeing already had major problems; the spin-off treats children



Dalin (center) chats with School of Dentistry Dean Lawrence Goldblatt (right) before the school's 2009 commencement exercises. Dalin delivered the commencement address.

from infancy to age 5. And when follow-up care became an issue, St. Louis launched the Smile Factory, where dentists could donate free care to complete work either started or identified in GKAS clinics.

### Other benefits

Besides quality dental care for disadvantaged kids, GKAS has other benefits, too. It builds relationships between dental professionals and ties between dental practices and the business community. And it promotes volunteerism and community involvement, while building awareness of the impact good oral health has on a child's development.

But all that pales in comparison to the effect a GKAS visit can have on a child. To Dalin, one story captures the essence of the program.

"There was a middle-school age girl who was always getting in trouble at school," Dalin says. "She was disheveled in appearance, not doing well in school, always in the principal's office, and so on. She was brought to one of our clinics, ended up having a root canal done, an extraction and some restorative work.

"She came to school the next week all cleaned up, with a much happier disposition," he adds. "She started doing better at her school work and no longer was getting into fights with classmates. It seems she had been in constant pain and nothing was being done for it. Once we took care of these problems, things improved for her in every aspect of her life."



Dalin (far left) enjoys working with children who ordinarily don't have access to oral health care. The national Give Kids a Smile program (near left) involves thousands of dentists, hygienists and dental assistants and provides millions of dollars of care for children in need, but the smiles (above) are worth it all.





For Jeff Dalin, the moments dentists spend with children who benefit from the GKAS program make all the training and all the work worthwhile.

**Good advice pays off**

The St. Louis native comes by his love of dentistry naturally — he’s following a family tradition. His father was a dentist who counseled his son to choose IU’s dental school. Dalin followed his father’s advice, and has never looked back.

“After all, many of the giants in the field of dentistry were teaching at this school,” Dalin recalls. The training was demanding, but the school “prepared me to be an outstanding practitioner.” Through the years, seeing fellow dentists trained by other schools has reinforced his belief that the IUPUI-based school was a vital step in his personal development.

“I loved the IUPUI campus,” Dalin recalls. “It was mostly a medical center campus at that time, and a very impressive one at that. To this day, I still tell everyone that IUSD is the best dental school in the country. My father was right on with his recommendation.”

He found Indianapolis “a great city to live in and very easy to enjoy. After all, I am from a similar midwestern city. My four years there flew by!”

Like many alumni, he’s amazed by the changes he sees.

“Both the city and IUPUI have gone through so many changes, and all have been great,” Dalin says. “IUPUI is more diverse now, not strictly a medical center.”

You can almost hear the smiles of a former student and Indy resident when he says “we did not have so many outstanding restaurants and entertainment choices back when I was living there. The city is a great place to visit. I wish I had more time to get back there more often.”

Dalin stays in touch with fellow members of the class of ‘80 as much as time allows, and pitches in at alumni events whenever he can. Being asked to deliver last spring’s commencement address was something he considers “one of the highlights of my career.”

“It gives me chills to think that millions of children have received care they normally would never have had.”



Jeff Dalin

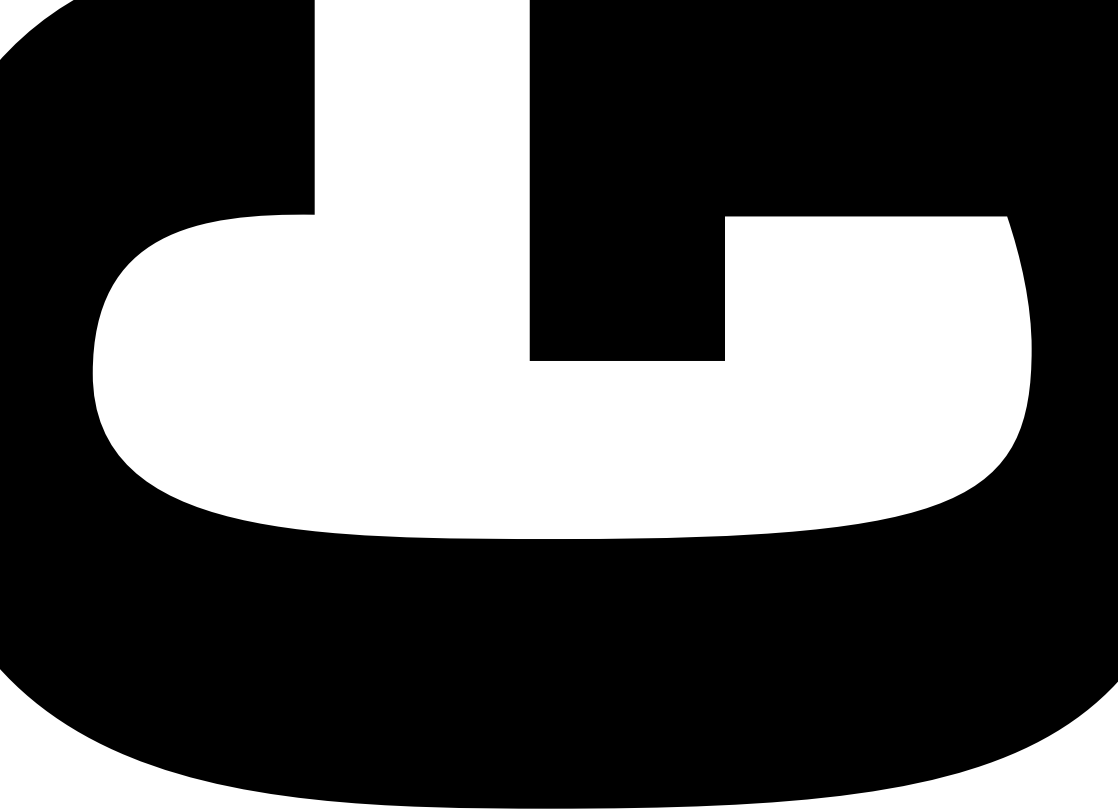
**Family life**

His work keeps him on the go and doesn’t leave “a lot of extra free time,” he admits. But Dalin and his family enjoy traveling. He is a fan of St. Louis-area sports teams, and likes working with computers, plus “whatever else I can manage to squeeze in.”

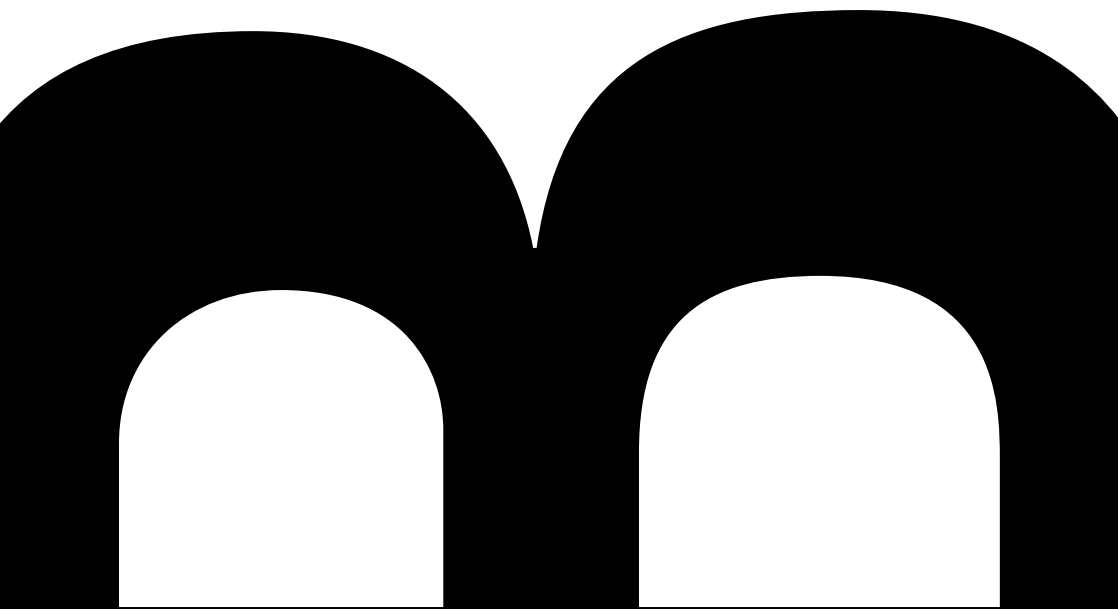
He and his wife Debbie have a daughter graduating from the University of Illinois, a son in his freshman year at Bradley University, and a high school sophomore son “who seems to show an interest in dentistry” and — who knows? — might even follow the family tradition to IUSD.

It may be nearly three decades since he completed his degree work at the school, but his enthusiasm hasn’t waned.

“I love dentistry, and along with a great private practice, I’ve found many different ways to express this passion,” he says. One of his great joys is writing about the field, in magazines and dentistry-related Web sites. For Dalin, enjoying his work mandates sharing that love. “If I can get others to enjoy dentistry as much as I do, then I feel I am doing something important for the profession.”



## BIG 'LOSER' FINDS HAPPY ENDINGS



By Diane Brown







Jennette Fulda's "first, full, gung-ho" effort to lose weight has had more than one happy ending.

Not only is she experiencing the best health of her life, she has published what *Shape* magazine calls a "touching, funny, and sincere" memoir, and she has a second book slated to hit bookstores in fall 2010.

An online diary that the 2003 IUPUI School of Informatics graduate originally kept to chronicle her journey to lose half her weight led to the first book, *Half-Assed: A Weight-Loss Memoir*.

"It was in January 2005 when everybody was making New Year's resolutions that I decided to try to finally lose weight ... I was having some serious health problems and I realized that this was something I needed to attack," says Fulda, who at that time weighed about 380 pounds.

Over the next two years, the Indiana native lost 190 pounds the hard way — eating sensibly and exercising.



For an added measure of accountability, the now freelance Web designer and writer shared her progress online.

"I originally kept the blog just for myself. I didn't tell anyone about it until after about eight or nine months," she says. "After the blog became popular, a few readers suggested I should write a book, so when the opportunity arose, I took it."

### Pathway to IUPUI

Years earlier, Fulda transferred from the University of Kentucky to IUPUI in order to earn a degree in media arts and science, and a certificate in applied computer science. She chose IUPUI because Informatics was "one of the few schools in the country at that time that had a media arts program that was targeted at teaching design and also teaching the computer science aspects that were important to really merge together to be a good Web designer."

Using skills learned under Dan Baldwin and others at IUPUI, she illustrated her weight-loss blog entries at [pastaqueen.com](http://pastaqueen.com) with pictures that viewers click and drag for 360-degree, 3D photos of Fulda at 11 different weights.

The blog would eventually draw 50,000 viewers a month, including an editor of Seal Press, a division of what was then Avalon Publishing.

"She contacted me and we talked back and forth. I eventually put together a book proposal and they offered me a contract," Fulda says.

*Half-Assed: A Weight Loss Memoir* retails for about \$16. The cover is a picture of Jennette standing entirely inside just one of the legs of the pants she wore when she was at her heaviest. She describes the pants as "a pair of size 28 Lane Bryant slacks that probably got stretched out to a size 30 or 32."

The book's title "is kind of a tongue-in-cheek ... the thing with that title is that I couldn't necessarily say it on morning

"It's important to stay positive and also to realize (weight loss) is a long-term thing ... It really is a lifelong thing."

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### Jennette Fulda

television shows. So there was always this kind of dance around the title when I was promoting the book," she explains.

Her book promotions included appearances on CBS's *The Early Show*, NBC's *The Today Show* and other TV shows, plus interviews for the *Wall Street Journal*, along with *Glamour* and *Shape* magazines.

One blog entry that continues to attract e-mail is a post about her inaccurate self-image. Located at [pastaqueen.com/halfofme/archives/2004/08/inaccurate\\_self.html](http://pastaqueen.com/halfofme/archives/2004/08/inaccurate_self.html), it describes Fulda being shocked after looking in a mirror and seeing how large she had become.

In response to that entry, a reader named Alicia commented: "Oh my god! I'm at a loss for words right now ... this is me to a tee, as everyone else has said. I have tried and failed at least four or five times in the past two years. I'm now up to 190, and I'm only 5-foot-3. This past year, I didn't realize how big I was until my boyfriend bought a scale 'for himself.' I've gained 50 pounds in the past 7 years and that's just unacceptable to me. I hope your candidness and personal drive can give me the strength to succeed as well. Thank You!"

### Started own company

In between writing books, Fulda continues to build the company she started in early 2009 after working as a Web designer for a downtown Indianapolis Web design firm and *The Indianapolis Star* newspaper.

Her company, "Make My Blog Pretty," specializes in blog web design, and serves a niche market of "stay-at-home moms willing to spend some money on making their blogs prettier," the southside Indianapolis resident says.

Fulda believes that while reality make-over shows such as *The Biggest Loser* can inspire people, fans can become disappointed when they don't lose weight as quickly as people on the shows.

"It's important to stay positive and also to realize (weight loss) is a long-term thing ... It really is a lifelong thing," Fulda says. "Set up accountability. Find a support group. Keep trying."

To help maintain her weight loss, Fulda has run in about eight races of 5K or more, including an Indianapolis Half-Marathon.

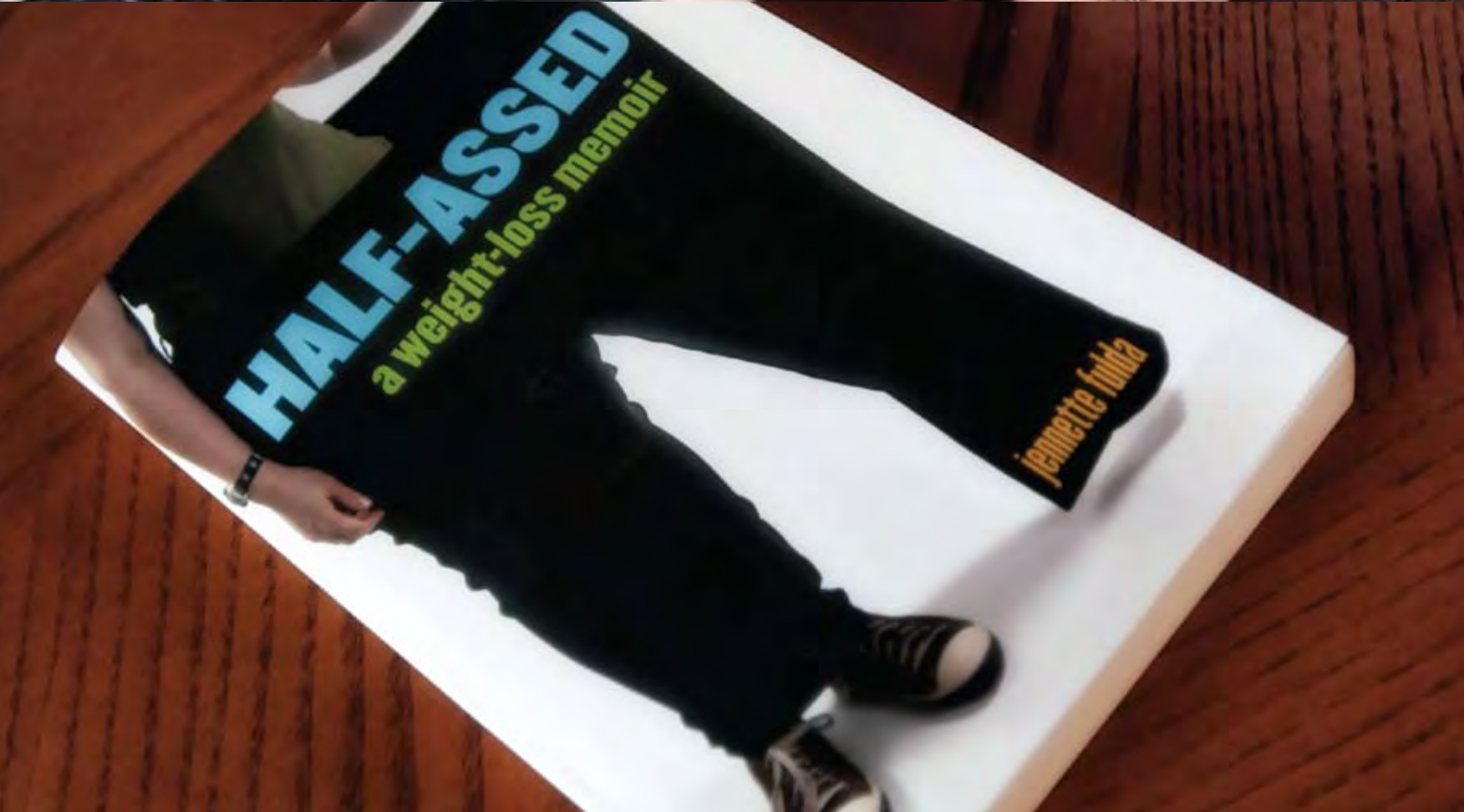
She has, however, experienced a small setback. After maintaining her weight at 180 pounds for about a year, she developed the chronic headache that has ruled her life for the past year or so. Medications to treat the headaches caused her to gain about 30 to 35 pounds.

"It is so ironic, I am literally in the best health of my life, and I got this disease or illness that I have had to deal with," she says.

But therein lies another happy ending: her battle against the headache is the subject of her upcoming book, which Simon & Schuster will publish in fall 2010. It's tentatively titled *Chocolate, Vicodin, and Other Failed Cures for the Headache That Wouldn't Go Away*.

"It deals with the maze of things I had to go through to find a solution to my illness," Fulda says.





# OPERATING

## ON A GRAND SCALE

### Caring for the Navy's health

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One day, Adam Robinson might find himself visiting a U.S. medical station in Asia; the next day, it might be an Expeditionary Medical Facility in Afghanistan. A couple of days after that, he might wind up advising his boss at the Pentagon. He might even find himself answering weighty questions in the hallowed halls of the United States Congress.

Welcome to life as the Surgeon General of the United States Navy, a post now filled by Vice Admiral Adam Robinson, a 1976 graduate of the IU School of Medicine.

Robinson actually fills two roles. As Surgeon General, he is the chief medical advisor to the Chief of Naval Operations

(CNO) in the Pentagon. As the chief of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, he is responsible for nearly 60,000 employees, a \$3 billion budget and world-wide impact not only on Navy and Marine Corps personnel and their families, but on people of other lands helped during the Navy's humanitarian missions.

All that means Robinson — trained as a surgeon — operates in a far different theater these days. His operating room is the entire Navy health-care system; his patients are all the Navy's patients. But his goal remains the same: to provide the best possible care.

"At the end of the day, medicine is always a contact sport," says the Louisville native. "The science and art of medicine is what all of us physicians have to come to grips with, to help people through very troubled times of their lives. We can't always cure, but we *can* always care."

By Ric Burrous





School of Medicine graduate Adam Robinson, now surgeon general of the Navy, was the featured speaker at last spring's Top 100 Outstanding Students Recognition Dinner.

### **Variety of challenges**

Robinson uses an enterprise style of management with his staff to develop policies that improve physical and mental health, establish healthier environments and confront pending health issues that "make sure we're doing everything we can to meet the needs of our patients and our families," he says.

His regular Pentagon meetings with the CNO help build the framework for a massive health-care system that tackles challenges ranging from medical operations in combat theaters like Afghanistan and Iraq to family health issues for infants and school-age children of Navy and Marine personnel.

The vice admiral says people often are surprised by the Navy's role in U.S. war efforts, especially in desert or mountainous settings. But they are just as intrigued by another, often overlooked facet of the Navy's mission: humanitarian service, including medical and other health-related efforts.

"We play an integral role in our country's relief efforts," says Robinson. The Navy has numerous ships whose primary mission is human assistance and disaster relief, and that's no accident — it's "a strategic imperative."

The military might of America's armed forces — "hard power" for short — is well known. But the humanitarian efforts — called "soft power" — are perhaps even more vital.

"Soft power wins the hearts and minds of people in the long term," the vice admiral says. The trick, he adds, is striking the right balance of hard and soft power.

## Key goals, major impact

Robinson had several clear goals in mind when he became surgeon general. During his rise through the ranks, he's been part of a "major shift" in Navy health-care policy, from a physician-centered operation to a patient-oriented focus.

"That's been a vital change," he says. It gives officers and enlisted personnel greater confidence in the quality of care they and their families receive, and has made the medical command a partner in health and wellness efforts for families.

Robinson also is determined to reward professionalism among his ranks, to retain quality workers and to continually improve the service's health care.

Enhancing the career prospects of all medical personnel rewards their commitment, improves morale and is a powerful recruiting tool for the next generation of caregivers.

That focus is vital in an organization that depends upon long-term commitments.

"The Navy is a family-centered operation," Robinson says, pointing to the old service maxim that "you recruit an individual but you retain a family."

"If the family isn't happy, your people won't stay in the military," the surgeon general says. "We have to make sure we keep families involved in everything we do."

## Family background

Family has always played a pivotal role in Robinson's life. His father was a doctor and a role model for young Adam Robinson; the impact his father's medical practice had on their community left a lasting impression.

At first, the youngster wanted to follow in his father's footsteps, but after a while Robinson realized that that goal "was because of him, not because of me."

So Robinson enrolled at Indiana University's Bloomington campus and "went into arts and sciences, which was good for me." But by the time he had earned his B.A. in political science, Robinson had another — though familiar — revelation: "I wanted to do medicine. It was what I was called to do."

So he moved to Indianapolis, enrolled in the IU School of Medicine and the new

IUPUI student pursued his new dream: to become a surgeon.

"The field is geared to a person's personality," Robinson chuckles, and "surgery fit my needs."

Even now, when his "scalpel" is more apt to fix a budget line than a patient's problem, he occasionally finds himself longing for the familiar.

"I miss it, for a lot of reasons," he says. "You always miss the things you've mastered. I'd become successful doing it, so stopping was difficult. But at the same time, I was able to provide help in another area, and that's important, too."

Medical commands have provided Robinson with a wealth of experiences.

"Because of the Navy, I've become a commanding officer," he says. "I've had relationships with so many people. I've led humanitarian efforts in Haiti, led an overseas hospital in Asia, and been in charge of missions in locations all over the world."

Such opportunities were "part of the reason I stayed in the Navy past my initial commitment," Robinson adds. "I realized what I was doing couldn't be duplicated on the civilian side."

Personal relationships are always at the heart of a successful medical practice; they matter to Robinson, even in an organization as large and far-flung as the U.S. Navy.

"There is no way you can serve that closely with men and women, enlisted and officers, and *not* form close relationships," he says. "You're together with people for years — it makes for a really close community!"

Robinson did enjoy one perk of his job, one near and dear to anyone born and raised in Louisville: the first Saturday in May, Kentucky Derby Day.

"I got to go to the Derby two years ago and had a grand time! I'd been to Churchill Downs before, but never on Derby Day," he laughs. "I had to leave Louisville, spend 30 years in the Navy traveling the world before I got to see the race!"



One of Robinson's many tasks includes taking part in hearings and meetings, sometimes in Washington, D.C. in the halls of Congress, other times around the world (above). He also oversees numerous humanitarian missions (left) for victims of storms, earthquakes and other events that threaten lives, and offer the U.S. Navy an opportunity to make an impact.





Robinson (top photo, far left) takes part in many special ceremonies, some requiring dress whites, others (directly above) featuring celebrities like Bill Cosby (far right, beside Robinson). But leaving people with a smile — especially young children (left) — gives Navy personnel the sense of a job well done.

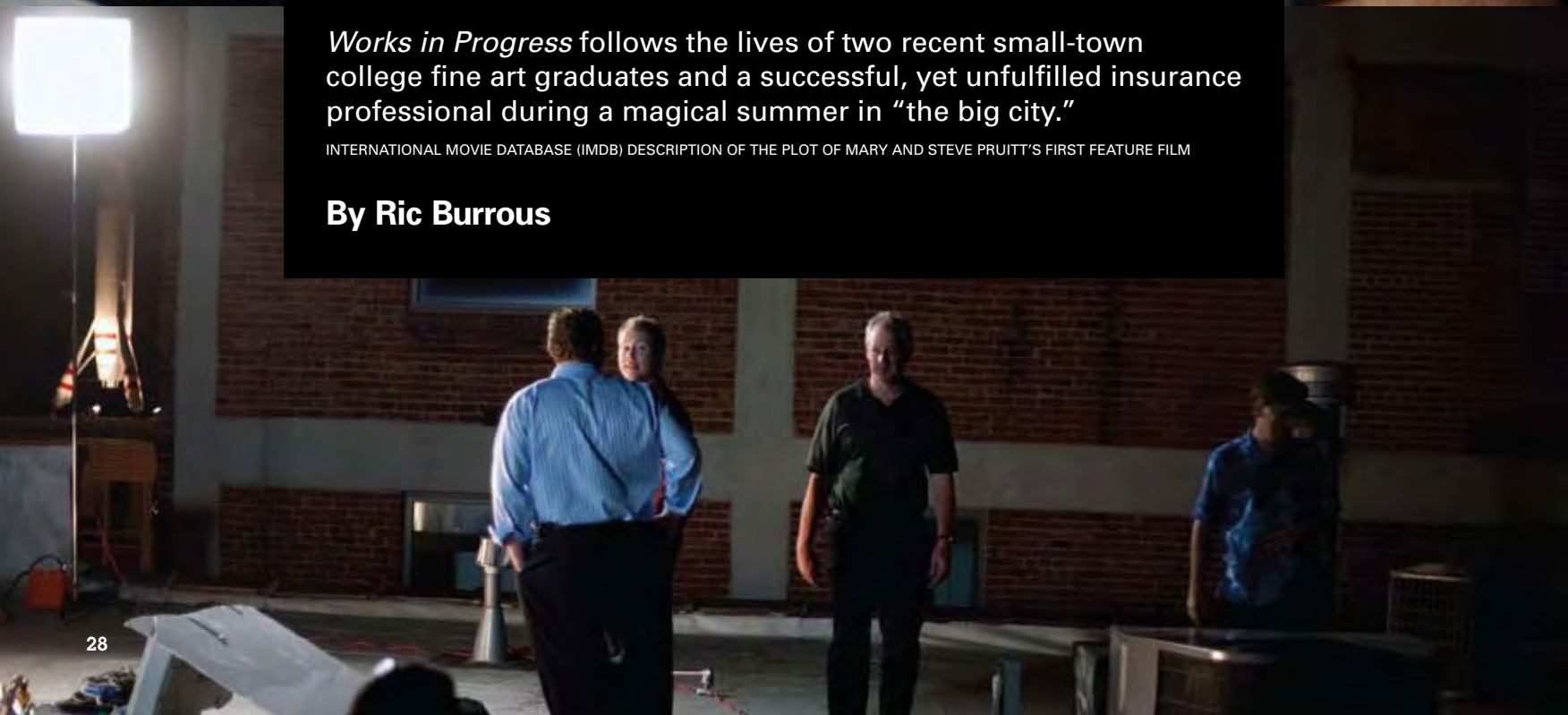


# Hollywood comes to Kansas

*Works in Progress* follows the lives of two recent small-town college fine art graduates and a successful, yet unfulfilled insurance professional during a magical summer in “the big city.”

INTERNATIONAL MOVIE DATABASE (IMDB) DESCRIPTION OF THE PLOT OF MARY AND STEVE PRUITT'S FIRST FEATURE FILM

**By Ric Burrous**





## Moviemaking, family style

Put the words “Kansas” and “Hollywood” in the same sentence, and a movie buff is likely to begin quoting Dorothy’s famed *Wizard of Oz* line to Toto: “I’ve a feeling we’re not in Kansas any more.”

But for Mary and Steve Pruitt, the Kansas-and-movies connection conjures up another image: the launching pad for the couple’s own movie career, a romantic comedy called *Works In Progress* that is roughly equal parts creative quest, labor of love and crucible.

“Making any low-budget independent movie with high production values is an endurance race,” says Steve, who in his day job is the Arvin Gottlieb/Missouri Endowed Chair of Business Economics and Finance at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). “It’s an emotional minefield, hurdles at every single turn.”

But the two — Mary, a Cincinnati native and 1994 IUPUI graduate with a degree in general studies; and Steve, a Speedway native and a former professor in the School of Business at IUPUI (before it was called Kelley) — have learned how to “survive to thrive” during the nearly 30 years they’ve been married. And they’ve grown to love the moviemaking process so much that they already are at work on a second film.

### Multiple roles

Steve produced and directed the movie, while Mary wrote most of the script (with contributions from her husband) and served as the executive producer — among other things. In fact, most of the hardy crew performed multiple tasks in front of and behind the camera.

The Pruitts even tapped an unusual source for movie extras: their church, the Christ Community Church in Leawood, Kan. Their two daughters — 27-year-old Becky and 23-year-old Barri — appear, but don’t have speaking roles. Even the family dog — an English cocker spaniel named Abbey — got drafted to play an extra. No word yet on whether Abbey’s got an agent.

Becky, a national merit scholar and magna cum laude graduate of Wheaton College in Chicago, is the director of high school ministries at Christ Community Church in Leawood, Kan. Barri graduated from Wheaton with a psychology degree last spring and began pursuing a master’s degree in environmental science at Taylor University in Upland, Ind., this fall.

The stress of the movie process took a physical toll on both husband and wife.

“I lost 27 pounds last summer during shooting, and Mary lost 14,” says Steve. “It can be that rough. The crew was almost never in air conditioning, and it can be utterly miserable, as it was for most of the summer. But then you see the footage and hear others say ‘Wow! It’s a real movie.’ That’s when it’s worth it.”



In scenes like the two above from *Works in Progress*, a company of first-time actors brought Mary and Steve Pruitt’s vision to life.



Mary Pruitt (above, right) checks out one of the sets before a scene is filmed. The general studies graduate got her “Alfred Hitchcock moment” when she played one of the guests at an arts party. On the opposite page (top), Steve Pruitt checks out what the camera is capturing; (bottom) the crew — also first-timers in the world of film — prepare for a pivotal scene atop a Kansas City rooftop.

Kevin Harlan, a friend from church who is the film's chief editor, admits with a laugh that everyone "wondered if it would ever end. It's such a huge collaboration, and we all thought that maybe Steve and Mary both have a bit of the same insanity running through their veins."

But once Harlan saw the movie evolving, he was convinced. "A good feature film has to be built around a really good story, and Mary and Steve came up with a terrific script," Harlan says.

### Creative outlet

Neither Pruitt would have predicted a leap into the movie business during their early years together. Mary earned her General Studies degree (BGS '94) as a non-traditional student, attending classes and raising their school-age daughters, all the while being part of a "faculty family" at IUPUI.

But as they moved to Steve's new job at UMKC, they realized they needed to indulge their shared passion for creativity.

Steve had played in a variety of rock bands through the years and written music along the way, but it wasn't enough.

"I've been creating since I was a little kid. And Mary was apparently born to help me with my obsessions," Steve says with a laugh. "There is no finer art form than cinema — it is the one that incorporates almost all of the others," he adds. "So I decided that since I was too old to learn how to paint, I'd make a movie!"

David Greusel, a renowned architect and close family friend — not to mention part of the *Works In Progress* crew — remembers the day he heard about the project.

"Steve announced it in my basement," Greusel says. "At that point, he hadn't made so much as a three-minute music video, (so) this struck me as a pretty audacious claim." But they did make a video of Steve's song *Midlife*, and the movie idea gained steam.

That video was shot with a "professional video camera, which produces gorgeous high-definition footage," according to Greusel. But it wasn't enough: Steve wound up getting not one but two RED ONE digital cinema cameras, a camera

so advanced it has its own name. You can almost hear Greusel's chuckle as he explains "this is typical for Steve — get rid of a video camera that is used all over the world on professional assignments in order to acquire a bleeding-edge, game-changing camera that is revolutionizing the film industry!"

The movie dream wasn't Steve's alone. Mary "was busy writing — and rewriting — the screenplay" that evolved into *Works*, Greusel adds. And she found that writing suits her well.

"I believe everyone was born to create," she says. "Writing has helped me be more aware of the present, of my surroundings, of the people with whom I share this earth. I love the opportunity to share something I've learned with others. It is one more way to connect with people."

That said, making *Works In Progress* was anything but easy.

"I consider myself fortunate to have been a part of this," she says, "but making a full-length feature film — when you've never even made a (movie) short before — has one wicked learning curve!"

Mary also dealt with the bank on financing, served as the make-up artist, helped pick locations, worked on props, set the production schedule and provided "hourly sustenance for the cast and crew," according to her husband.

They both vividly recall shooting scenes "guerilla style" in and around Kansas City, without the usual Hollywood luxury of closing down streets or parks or neighborhoods. For *Works*, the call for "action" meant working around real life.

### Festival game plan

Their focus now is on entering *Works In Progress* in the various film festivals across North America. The Pruitts submitted their film to the biggest festival of all, Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival last month, but weren't one of the 16 U.S. fictional films chosen.

They knew getting into Sundance getting into Sundance were long — over 9,000 entries were submitted for 120 available slots. "And we knew they prefer edgier themes," Steve says. "But it was great just to submit."



Leading man Greg Brostrom (top, right) tells his cinematic grandfather (Doug Dowell) of his plans to move to Kansas City for an arts career; (below), Steve and Mary discuss filming options with the villain of the movie, Frederick Kane.

"Making any low-budget independent movie with high production values is an endurance race."

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Steve Pruitt





The crew prepares to film a "traveling scene" on the way to K.C. (above); below, leading lady Christina Blodgett bids Brostrom good night after one of their first dates.



"Our film is a G-rated romantic comedy, and not usually the type of film Sundance prefers," he says. But hope springs eternal, and to Mary, entering is worthwhile.

"Steve thinks he's being realistic, but I say a realist is just a pessimist in denial," laughs Mary. "It's true, our film may not be edgy enough for Sundance, but regardless of what they think of the script or the theme, it *IS* beautifully shot."

One festival they are determined to enter is one near and dear to their hearts: Indianapolis's own Heartland Film Festival. "That one fits our film to a T, and it would be terrific to be entered in Indy," says Steve.

The demands of collaborating on a movie have caused some stressful moments, but it's also given each of them insights into the other that even 28 years of marriage haven't offered.

Mary, for instance, marvels at her husband's directing abilities.

"Steve sees the film, already shot, scene by scene, in his mind's eye," she says.

"It is amazing to watch him work with the director of photography to flesh out the shots. To see him bring ideas that we wrote come to life is special."

Steve admits feeling a bit of intimidation turning Mary's relationships and characters into three-dimensional people. "Mary has an uncanny way of capturing moments — in a conversation, say, or a quiet moment — and turning them into insights into why people do the things they do," he says.

They're already at work on their next cinematic collaboration, *Terminal*, which they are already writing and expect to start shooting in September.

"We are just about done with the first draft of the script, but the lessons we learned in making *Works In Progress* mean that the first draft of *Terminal* will be a whole lot more 'finished' than the 10th draft of *Works*," Steve says.

"After *Terminal*, I want to make a movie about making our first movie," adds Mary. "It would be a comedy, for sure. I believe being able to laugh at

Though the Pruitts laugh about the stresses of preparing a movie concept for life on the big screen, their own relationship has maintained the elements they tried to capture for the romantic comedy in *Works in Progress*.

yourself is a prerequisite for life. The beautiful thing about working with others is this: if you don't know your shortcomings before a project, you'll surely be aware of them afterward!"

As far as they are concerned, no "shortcomings" will spoil their debut movie: after all, any romantic comedy worth its salt ends up with the guy and the girl together — especially if there's a second film in the offing.

**For more on *Works in Progress*, visit the movie's page in the International Movie Database at:**

> [imdb.com/title/tt1276482](http://imdb.com/title/tt1276482)

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# ***RUNNING TOWARD THE FUTURE***

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It's 6 a.m. on a bright summer morning. The grass is still damp with morning dew, but in the air there's a strong hint of the heat to come.

Jennie Jamicich dons her lightweight apparel and running shoes. Heat or not, early hour or not, the slender, dark-haired IUPUI senior heads off for her daily workout, a jaunt of 10-or-so miles.



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**Injury opens  
new door**





Ah, the life of a cross country runner. They call it “building a base,” a foundation for the competitive miles they will run when the season begins in the fall.

“Who in their right mind wants to get up at 6 a.m. in the middle of summer?” asks the four-year IUPUI cross country letter winner with a chuckle. “We’re a different breed of people. Let’s face it: you’ve got to be a little odd to want to go out and run 10 miles.”

But off Jamicich goes, her iPod establishing a beat that might feature Taylor Swift, or Green Day, or other genres from “country to rap to oldies to Disney music.”

“I’ve got to have my music,” smiles Jamicich.

### Injury changes routine

From middle school until last summer, such runs were a daily routine for Jamicich, a psychology major in the Purdue School of Science at IUPUI and a core member of the Jaguars women’s cross country squad.

But an injury interrupted that flow this past summer. Suddenly, Jamicich couldn’t train as she had since discovering the sport entering her freshman year at Munster High School in northwest Indiana, better known as the Region.

Instead, her routine involved regular visits to physical therapy (PT), as she tried to get ready for her final varsity season. It wasn’t her first brush with PT. “I broke my toe in the sectional my senior year at Munster, and naturally, I was depressed,” says Jamicich. “But the therapy helped me through it.”

Her IUPUI head coach, Joni Sanders, was impressed with Jamicich’s determination to get back in action. “Jennie was determined to train harder than ever, and when the leg problems came up, it was especially difficult,” Sanders says. “But she has such a strong work ethic that I wasn’t surprised she made it back. Heck, I had to slow her down sometimes, which I know didn’t make her happy!”

Jamicich turned her therapy sessions into learning opportunities while she recovered. “I found myself not only getting therapy, but watching what was going on around me,” she says. “I realized I wanted to help other people the way I’d been helped.”

She noticed how the therapists worked and interacted with patients.

“A lot of people need help, and it’s up to the therapist to work with each person to figure out how best to get them back on track,” says Jamicich. That collaboration is one of the field’s bigger attractions for the Munster High School graduate.

Jamicich, the lone senior on this year’s cross country team, has been accepted into IUPUI’s graduate school program for physical therapy, which thrills her “because it’s a great program, tough to get into,” she says, but also because “I love it here. I have so many friends, I love how I can walk around downtown, and even though there are a lot of students at IUPUI, it feels like a small, close-knit campus.”

### Academics first

The path from northern Indiana to IUPUI was pretty simple for Jamicich.

“My high school coach’s daughter Amanda (Shike) ran here,” she says. “Through her, I met the coach, saw the campus and fell in love with it. And I knew Amanda would be here, so it was a great place for me.”

Jamicich quickly fit into life on campus. She was the team’s most valuable runner as a freshman, and began compiling an impressive list of academic honors, too. She’s earned Summit League all-conference academic recognition in each of her first three years and IUPUI’s Academic Advisor’s List all six semesters on campus. Twice, she’s earned the prestigious Summit League Commissioner’s List of Academic Excellence honor.

“Academics have always been the most important thing to me and to my parents,” says Jamicich, the second of four children. She credits much of her classroom achievements to the organizational skills she inherited from her father John, an electrical engineer with Commonwealth Edison. Her mother Kim is a court reporter.

“I think I’m the most organized person ever,” says Jamicich, admitting that friends and teammates tease her about her discipline. “They all say ‘we need to study with you — all your notes are in order!’ But if you’re a college athlete, you *have* to manage your time well.”

She also admits that she is “really, REALLY competitive. I was in every sport” growing up, and for a long time wanted to play basketball. But fate intervened.

“I first ran track my eighth grade year just to get into shape for basketball,” she says. “Then my junior high coach told me I should run cross country to get in even better shape, so I did.”

Her first brush with the sport was underwhelming, Jamicich says.

“I begged my dad to let me quit after day two,” she laughs. “I was not happy about running that much!” But her father pushed her back into action and before long, Jamicich found herself running well; shortly after that, she began to realize that “I could go further running than I could in basketball.”

Cross country “fits my personality,” she says. “When I’m training for something — a race or a season — I have a goal, and that’s what motivates me!”

Sanders understands that motivation. Jamicich “reminds me of myself — we’re both into studying the sport, the statistics and the strategy of cross country,” the coach says.

“She really stepped up as my right-hand girl last year when I took over the program,” Sanders adds. “Jennie spent time with our recruits, telling them about our program, but even more about the campus and all the opportunities students have here. She has been a great ambassador for both our team and IUPUI.”





# Jaguars women's soccer enjoys historic championship season

Coach **Chris Johnson** and the Jaguars women's soccer team enjoyed a banner 2009 campaign, shattering school records for victories (17-5-0), sharing the Summit League regular-season championship and capturing its first league tournament title.

A championship game win over South Dakota State earned the Jaguars the program's first NCAA Tournament bid and added the women's soccer team to the list of IUPUI programs to earn NCAA tourney berths, along with men's basketball, men's soccer, women's tennis and men's golf. The team fell to state rival Notre Dame in the first round of the NCAA.

Sophomore **Alicia Brock** was voted the Summit's Offensive Player of the Year, while senior **Stephanie Hoffman** was the Defensive Player of the Year. Johnson won Coach of the Year honors for the third time in his career.

The team also learned that it earned an NSCAA Team Academic Award for its team grade-point average of 3.19 during the 2008-09 season. It's the fourth time in Johnson's tenure that the team has been so honored.

IUPUI's other fall programs also excelled this season. The women's volleyball team finished 20-10 (a school record for victories) and earned a berth in the Summit League tournament, led by **Danielle Goodnight**, voted the Setter of the Year in the conference. The men's soccer team also qualified for post-season play, using a late-season four-game win streak to earn a spot in the Summit League tourney.



### Weigman earns elite national honor

Jaguars men's soccer player **Eric Weigman** was voted to the Lowe's Senior CLASS All-America Second Team for the 2009 season. Weigman excelled in the criteria for Lowe's CLASS (Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School) recognition, which includes classroom and competitive performance, character and community ties.

### IUPUI and NCAA host

IUPUI will join Butler and the Horizon League as official hosts of NCAA basketball championship events beginning in 2013 at a Division I men's basketball regional at Lucas Oil Stadium. The two universities will support NCAA men's and women's sub-regionals, regionals and Final Fours through 2039, the duration of the NCAA's agreement with the city of Indianapolis.



### COACH HONORED FOR VOLUNTEER WORK

IUPUI men's basketball coach **Ron Hunter** (left with a young fan) was honored recently as the "Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year" for his efforts to raise and distribute 10 million pairs of shoes to disadvantaged children around the world.

The Indiana chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals honored Hunter's collaboration with Samaritan's Feet, which already has delivered shoes to children in Africa, South and Central America, and in the United States, as well.

For more about the athletics program:  
> [iupuijags.com](http://iupuijags.com)





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# You gotta Regatta

New tradition SOARs on downtown canal

Nearly 200 students, alumni, faculty and staff got wet and wild this past September in the inaugural IUPUI Regatta on Indy's Downtown Canal.

The canoe race on the canal drew entries from nearly 50 teams of four paddlers each, and the action was at times fierce, funny and frenzied, but always "fan-tastic" for team members, well-wishers and numerous other fans who enjoyed the action under the bright sun and blue skies of a glorious Indian summer day.

The first-year event, run by students from SOAR (the Student Organization for Alumni Relations), exceeded even the fondest hopes of Stefan Davis, the executive director of IUPUI's Office of Alumni Relations, SOAR's parent organization.

"It was such an all-encompassing event for a student organization to put together — I'm just amazed at how well things went," Davis says. "What was especially exciting was how many relationships SOAR was able to build across the campus to make the day a good time for everyone."

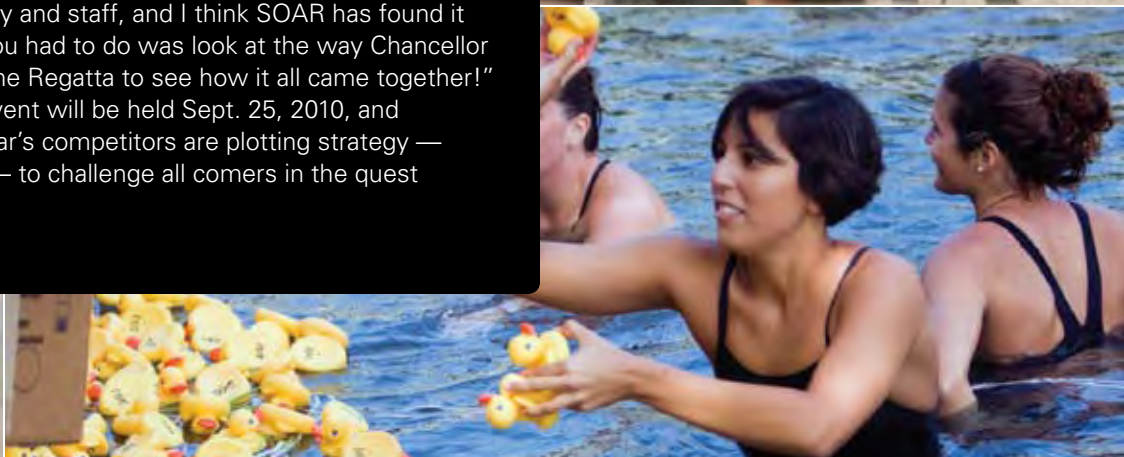
Laughter, good-natured competition and more than a few trips into the drink accompanied the six qualifying heats and the finals that eventually settled the final standings. The top three finishers were GBD (first place), the Jaguars Champions (second) and BUPUI (third).

The action left many paddlers shaking their heads at the level of skill it takes the tandem oarsmen (and oarswomen) to keep their boats on the straight and narrow. It also left many vowing to "practice like crazy" before next year's event in order to move up the ranks of top finishers.

Davis believes the event can become a model for other SOAR-run and student-organized events at IUPUI, continuing to fuel the growth in campus life.

"We've been looking for a signature event to bring together alumni, students, faculty and staff, and I think SOAR has found it for us," he says. "All you had to do was look at the way Chancellor (Charles) Bantz felt at the Regatta to see how it all came together!"

The second annual event will be held Sept. 25, 2010, and already many of last year's competitors are plotting strategy — and practice sessions — to challenge all comers in the quest for the top prize.









# SUNDAY ON THE SIDELINES

Through the week, six young women work hard in IUPUI classrooms preparing themselves for careers in professions ranging from the law to nursing, from teaching to dentistry, from physical therapy to tourism.

Then comes Sunday. Game Day. TV's bright lights, more than 60,000 Hoosiers roaring with enthusiasm as the same six women join with their fellow Indianapolis Colts cheerleaders to make each Lucas Oil home game a special event.

For Abbey, Ashley, Kim, LeAndra, Sarah and Travasha, cheering for the Colts extends a career they have loved for much of their lives, and makes the hours of practice, personal appearances and game days worthwhile.

Being a Colts cheerleader makes them part of a very special team, one that brightens the lives of the fans packed into Lucas Oil and hundreds of thousands more who follow the team on TV.

They love continuing their cheerleading careers, roles they have relished for much of their lives, through high school and on into college. It may take long hours of practice, plus a significant amount of time making personal appearances on behalf of the team and the cheerleading corps, but for the six, it's time well spent. They know that career demands await them when diplomas are handed out and stadium lights go dark.

Abbey, from the southern Indiana town of Ferdinand, plans to be a dental hygienist once she completes training in the IU School of Dentistry. Ashley, an Avon native, wants to be a nurse, probably in pediatrics, once she graduates from the IU School of Nursing.

Kim grew up in Indianapolis and attended IU Bloomington before transferring to IUPUI. She wants to become a preschool teacher when she leaves the IU School of Education. LeAndra, who is from Kokomo, hopes to become a physical therapist when she finishes up in the IU School of Physical Education and Tourism Management.

Sarah, from Indianapolis, is in her second year of law school in the IU School of Law-Indianapolis, and has two internships with career options, one in family law, the other in sports and entertainment law. Travasha, a native of Texas, is planning for a career in event planning, though she may explore the possibility of an entertainment career once she graduates from the School of Physical Education and Tourism Management.

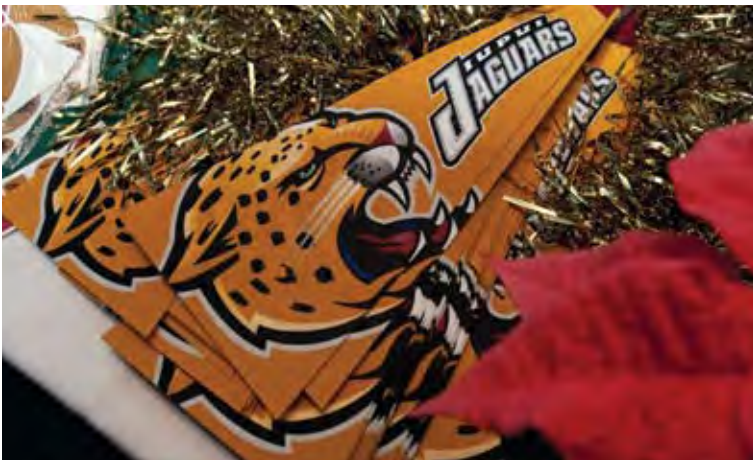
IUPUI's voices in Lucas Oil: Opposite page, Travasha. This page — Kim (top); Ashley, LeAndra and Sarah (left to right, middle); and Abbey (bottom).



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**For more  
about the Colts  
cheerleaders:  
> [colts.com](http://colts.com)**





The Indianapolis Children's Museum once again proved an able stand-in for a winter wonderland for an IUPUI Alumni Relations tradition: Holiday Night. The Children's Museum's festive holiday décor (right) brought smiles of joy (top photo and third photo down) plus a familiar red-capped, white-bearded face to cap the evening's fun.





### SUMMER CAMP, SUMMER LEARNING

Think of it as “summer camp for the family.”

Camp Brosius, one of IU’s most picturesque assets, offers a wide range of vacation activities on the shore of Elkhart Lake in Wisconsin.

Brosius offers water sports, golf, fishing, tennis, hiking and more, for IU alumni, faculty and friends. But the camp also is an academic opportunity for students in IUPUI’s School of Physical Education and Tourism Management. As camp counselors, they field-test what they’ve learned in class.

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**For more details, visit the Camp Brosius Web site at:**

> [campbrosius.com](http://campbrosius.com)

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### ALUMNI: GET RE-CONNECTED

IUPUI alumni intrigued by re-connecting with the campus have a new way to do just that: volunteer to be part of the new Jaguar Alumni Group (JAGs) to help attract the best and brightest prospective college students to IUPUI.

The program, a joint operation of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Alumni Relations, will put alumni in touch with prospective students to talk about the campus, academic opportunities and more. They’ll interact with those prospects individually (through email, chats or letters) and at events such as college fairs.

“Alumni are the best resource for prospective students” to learn about all things IUPUI, says Melissa Seibert, the JAGs coordinator. Those interested in becoming part of JAGs can reach her via telephone (317-274-7596) or email ([mseibert@iupui.edu](mailto:mseibert@iupui.edu)).





INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
PURDUE UNIVERSITY  
INDIANAPOLIS

**Office of Alumni Relations**

850 West Michigan Street, Suite 241  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

WHERE **IMPACT** IS MADE

## Renowned Soprano Delights Anniversary Audience

Angela M. Brown, an Indiana University graduate from the Jacobs School of Music who has entertained opera fans around the world throughout her singing career, made one of the major events of IUPUI's 40th anniversary celebration a night to remember in September with her performance at the Madame C. J. Walker Theatre.

Brown blended an intriguing mix of musical genres — from opera to gospel — during her performance.

The award-winning singer also entertained Indianapolis-area school children with a separate concert that same week, also at the historic Walker Theatre.

Brown has performed with the Metropolitan Opera, leading U. S. companies from San Francisco to Philadelphia, and with international companies from France, Spain and New Zealand.

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**For more on Indianapolis's own opera sensation,  
visit Angela at:**

> [jejartists.com](http://jejartists.com)

> [angelambrown.com](http://angelambrown.com)

