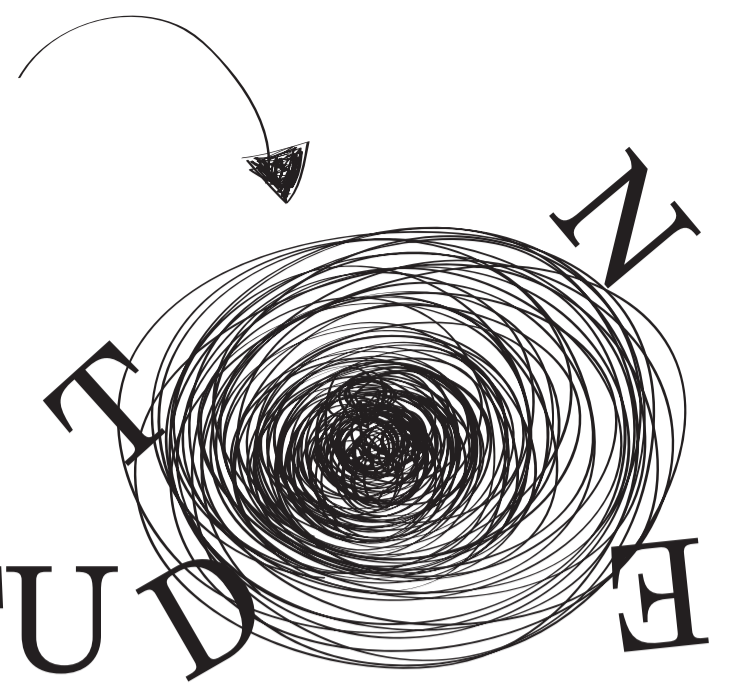


YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT HERE
(IN A BLACK HOLE)



One IU professor thinks so. See why on page 2.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2010

INDIANA DAILY STUDENT

VOLUME 143 • ISSUE 71

www.idsnews.com

FREE • 12 PAGES

All Access improves purchasing flexibility

RPS program creates pre-pay option for students

BY BAILEY LOOSEMORE
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Residential Programs and Services added a new meal purchasing option this year.

The All Access Plan will allow students to pre-pay for money to be put in their Campus Access accounts.

Students can choose a plan from \$400 to \$1,400 and will receive half of the amount each semester. Payment for the plan will be billed directly to the student's bursar account.

"Students can say 'I know I'm going to use my Campus

Access card on a regular basis, and I want to set my initial money to \$800,'" said Patrick Connor, executive director for RPS. "You can go in and select the All Access Plan, and it will bill \$400 for each semester. The thing that's different than Campus Access is that it's not going to be available for you to use 'til the start of the school year."

The idea for the program

came about as a response to the 2008 Student VOICE Project conducted by IU President Michael McRobbie. The report worked with students to determine which areas of campus could be improved, and dining services was one of them.

"There's always confusion about the meal plan," Connor said. "We came up with this solution for the 2010-11 school

year. We hope it has a positive impact on the campus and makes the way residents have better access to food on campus. We'll continue to strive and look for better ways to do that."

IUSA Chief of Staff Neil Kelty said IUSA thinks the new program is an excellent idea.

"It's nice to have an ID card to spend money all over town," he said. "Things like Kroger

will be more likely to pick up Campus Access."

A main part of the All Access Plan is the cooperation between RPS and the Indiana Memorial Union Dining Services, as well as the building's Director's Office, Connor said.

"It's a better way for students to identify in advance a way to

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ALEX FARRIS | IDS

Brantley Goodrich draws a baseball on Katie Sexton's cheek Tuesday at the temporary tattoo table at a summer reading program carnival in the Monroe County Public Library. The Friends of the Library are only \$3,600 short of their \$25,000 goal for this year's Campaign for Excellence.

MCPL campaign nears final goal

BY JAKE NEW
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Children, balloon animals and carnival games filled the Monroe County Public Library on Tuesday in honor of another successful year for its summer reading program.

Though this party was for the kids, the library might soon have its own reason for celebration: The Friends of the Library are about \$3,600 away from meeting their Campaign for Excellence fundraising goal.

The fundraising effort is the first time the library has asked for private support from individual donors.

It was created earlier this year in response to rising costs, MCPL director Sara Laughlin said.

"The library's needs are increasing, but funding is getting tighter," she said. "We're feeling pressure from the economic downturn."

After consulting with financial experts in the community, the nonprofit organization Friends of the Library took on

the challenge of orchestrating the campaign.

The group already raises approximately \$100,000 annually through its bookstore but hopes to raise an additional — and much needed — \$25,000 through the new campaign, Friends co-chair Becky Hrisomalos said.

"Costs always go up, but tax rates don't always do the same," she said. "We don't want to cut things. This campaign is for the whole city and its children. My own children became the adults they are because of the library, and we want everyone to have that opportunity."

Laughlin said contributors have three options when donating. Donations can go primarily toward funding immediate needs of the library's children's programs, be placed in the children's programs endowment for future use or be used wherever the library needs it most.

The third and most popular option allows the money to be

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE 5

Hot enough to...well...

Wednesday's heat index cracked **110 DEGREES**, and the thick, muggy day went on record as the **HOTTEST DAY** of the year. So, the IDS staff wondered: Could it possibly be hot enough to **FRY AN EGG** outside? We decided to find out. We broke the egg outside on the blacktop in **DIRECT SUNLIGHT** at 4 p.m. and monitored the egg for 2 hours. In that time, it went from gooey mess to hardened, **SORT-OF-FRIED** egg.



PHOTOS BY ALEX FARRIS

After two hours in triple-digit heat, the yolk of the egg had hardened into a solid mass and much of the white had evaporated.

Indiana State Fair features popular performers, classic carnival fare

BY KRISTEN KNUTH
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With a diverse group of entertainers and cultural exhibits and a variety of livestock shows, this summer's Indiana State Fair will offer something for everyone.

Kaley Bontrager, a sophomore at Purdue University, has participated in 10 showings at the state level with both pigs and sheep, and this year she is participating as a worker in the cattle barn.

Bontrager said her favorite feature of the fair is definitely the agriculture.

"The agricultural element is

probably the part most people understand the least but definitely the best part for me — especially events like the Grand Drive where they show breed champions," she said. "It's amazing and overwhelming."

KEEPING THE TRADITION ALIVE

For more than 150 years, the state fair has celebrated Indiana culture, with specific emphasis on agriculture.

"The fair is really about celebrating agriculture and Indiana's agricultural roots," said Andy Klotz, publicity and media relations manager for the Indiana State Fair Commission.

"We do that every year, and this year will be no different."

The fair will feature livestock judging and competitions at the Pepsi Coliseum, as well as the 4-H Sale of Champions, where youth will present their award-winning stock and raise money to put toward their education.

"Pioneer Village is another place where we really show off the history of agriculture," Klotz said. "And we've really added to that recently."

This year's village will include a walk-through display of antique farms and artifacts, with volunteer agriculturists explaining and illustrating classic farming techniques and practices.

The village will also feature an antique tractor/truck show.

To top off the agriculture theme, this year has also been coined the "Year of Pigs" to honor Indiana's pork industry. Special attractions include the "Three Little Pigs Playland," and events such as a "Year of Pigs"-themed cake competition and a celebrity hog-calling contest are set to occur.

TURN UP THE SOUND

This year's diverse lineup of bandstand entertainment promises to attract a variety of music lovers, with Rascal Flatts, KISS and Keith Urban on the concert schedule.

"We are excited about every entertainer we've got," Klotz said. "We've got every genre of music you can imagine. This is the best lineup we've ever put together."

Other scheduled performers include rapper Drake, Disney Channel star Selena Gomez and country favorites Sugarland with Little Big Town.

And for those looking for a bargain, Klotz said there are a number of free concerts as well. Artists include American Idol finalist Bucky Covington and 1980s pop-rock sensation Rick Springfield, known for his 1981 single "Jessie's Girl."

MORE INFO

The 17-day affair will kick off Aug. 6 and continue through Aug. 22 at 1202 E. 38th St. in Indianapolis. General admission is \$8 per person, and children 5 and younger are free. For more information, visit www.in.gov/statefair. Concert tickets are available at the Indiana Fairgrounds Box Office, 317-927-7601, or at Ticketmaster.

THE JAPANESE INFLUENCE

One new exhibit at this year's state fair is the "Bridges to Japan" exhibition, a collaborative

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