

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Readers, this is my last print edition as editor-in-chief of the Indiana Daily Student. Starting next semester, Izzy Myszak will take over my position and lead the IDS for the first semester of 2022.

This semester, like all semesters, the IDS set a goal of serving our community with the information it needs to know.

We shared many of the investigations we pride our-

selves on, including a woman's experience after she believes she was date raped drugged, the story of an IU student who died after taking a fentanyl-laced prescription pill and a look into a ministry at St. Paul's Catholic Church, one in which members of the LGBTQ community said is dangerous and makes them feel unwelcome. These, alongside many others, were made possible by this phe-

nomenal staff.

This semester included our ongoing coverage of an increase in reported sexual assaults on campus, totalling more than 30 across the IU community so far.

Now, the IDS continues to receive tips and report on instances of swastikas appearing across Bloomington and on campus.

This publication serves to inform our community first

and foremost. The issues we cover are complex, and at times evoke a strong reaction. Our coverage is hard to read at times — but it's the truth.

Both the IU and Bloomington community have plenty of issues that deserve your attention. The IDS will continue to do its best to be there to let you know the truth about what's happening in our university and our

city.

The IDS staff manages to cover the scale it does while every staff member balances a full class load at IU. Our staff this semester did a tremendous job. I can't thank them enough for the work they've done.

I can also say next semester's staff will only continue to do the great work we do here at the IDS.

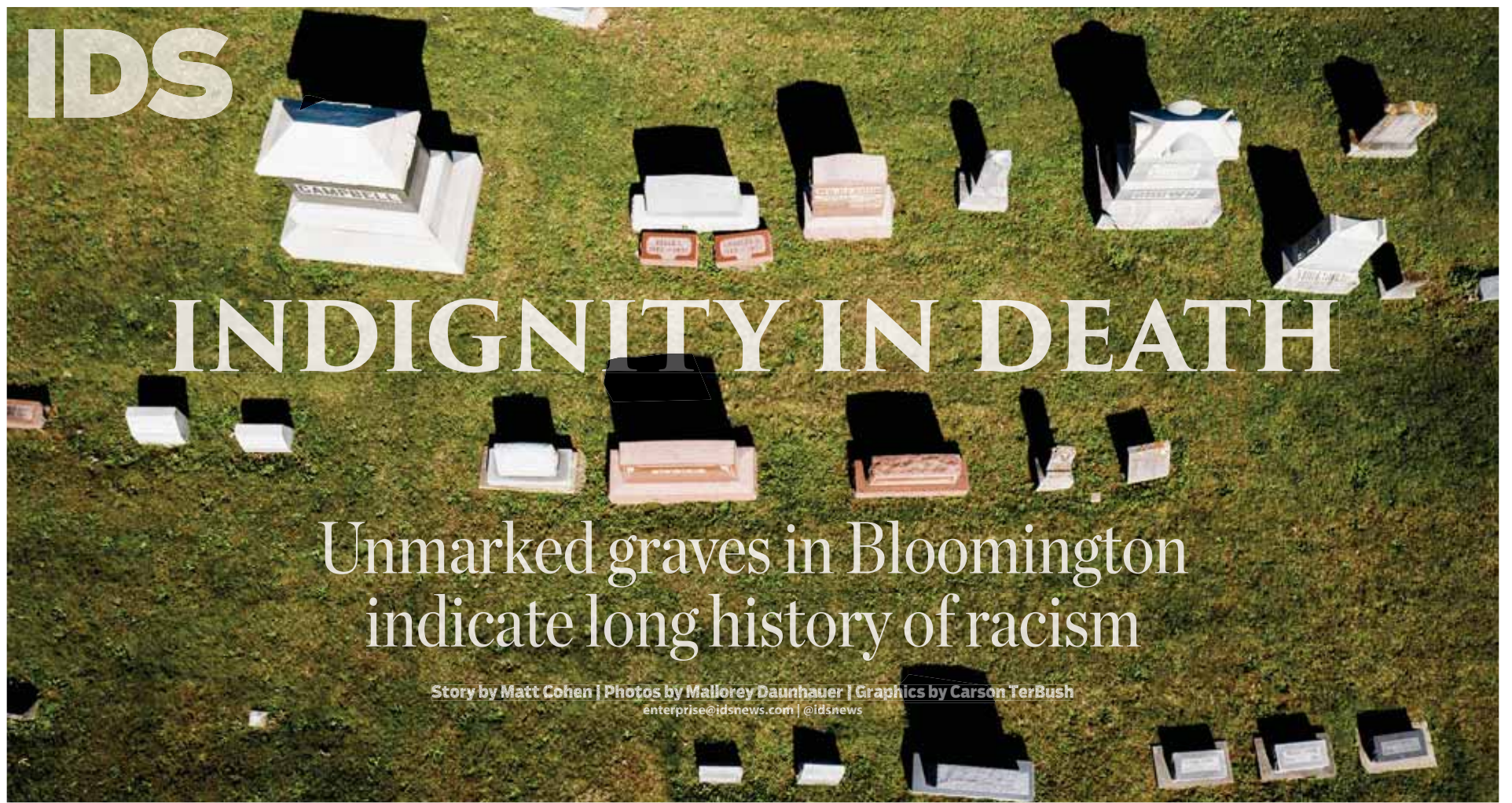
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newsletter, follow us on social media and continue to pick up our weekly newspaper on stands every Thursday to stay informed.

And, more importantly, thank you for reading the Indiana Daily Student.



Colin Kulpa,
Editor-in-chief



Story by Matt Cohen | Photos by Mallorey Daurhauer | Graphics by Carson TerBush
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She climbs the shallow hill of the cemetery, walking slowly and carrying fresh flowers. At Plot C43, she spreads a blanket and sits. She talks to her parents in front of their headstone. She talks to her grandfather, buried just a few feet to the left. As always, she tries to talk to her great-grandfather, Halson Vashon Eagleson Sr.

But Vivian Bridgwaters doesn't quite know where he rests beneath the ground.

H.V. Eagleson doesn't have a headstone at Rose Hill Cemetery. He's one of many members of the Eagleson family in C43 that aren't marked, said Bridgwaters, his great-granddaughter. Bridgwaters knows they're buried there. But without headstones, it's hard to know exactly who she's talking to sometimes.

Dignity in death isn't universal, but it should be, the living say. Dignity can be embodied in a headstone, a memorial to a life and a remembrance for the family members still here to think of them. But this common decency hasn't always been afforded to Black people like the Eaglesons. Disproportionately, minorities are buried without tomb-

stones in the United States. Many financial and racist barriers often prevent Black people from obtaining the headstone — the dignity — their families desire.

"When you have monuments, it speaks to the relevance of the person, of their life, of their contribution, their legacy," Bridgwaters said. "To have my great-grandfather's monument would speak to not just the Black community — which it would be uplifting for as well — but for Bloomington as a whole."

Face west from Plot C43 and only a few dozen yards away is a stone for a Negro League baseball star, recently added after 50 years without one. Turn to the east and there's a Black Revolutionary War veteran who went centuries without a headstone. They are some of the few who've finally had remembrance afforded to them.

Most cemeteries have unmarked graves. Some have dozens, others hundreds. Old cemeteries like Rose Hill have sold almost every plot, yet have large swaths of open space. The families of the dead know their loved ones are buried there — tucked away beneath the ground

without anything to remember their lives or their deaths.

Cemeteries are often crowded this time of year. The holiday season reunites families. It's a time for celebration and happiness. But it's a time for grieving, too.

And grieving is much harder when you know your loved one is buried with no marker.

No one knows exactly how many Black people are lying without a headstone across the country. It is a national problem, and in recent years many groups have found or dug up these unmarked graves.

In Tulsa, Oklahoma, over the last year, archeologists and forensic scientists have found a total of 35 graves at a mass grave site in the Black portion of an Oklahoma cemetery. It is believed those in the grave, who had been left unmarked, were killed in the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.

Some Black people were buried without a marker to be hidden. There is purposeful forgetting — an insidious form of racism, burying history without any recognition.

In southern Indiana, among the world's largest producers of limestone, headstones are an art form. There are obelisks and figurines and tree trunks to mark the dead. But limestone weathers quickly compared to other rocks. Many westward-facing stones are hard to read after decades of battering from east-bound winds.

When it first opened sometime between 1818 and 1820, Rose Hill Cemetery was just called the "Grave Yard" — the main cemetery in town. It's Bloomington's second oldest cemetery, and many of the town's most famous citizens are buried there. The names carved there first on headstones made of Indiana limestone now name the town's streets. Dodds, Sample and Ballantine. Atwater, Kirkwood and Rogers too.

The stories inside the cemetery detail the history of Bloomington and this nation, for better and worse. Bloomington's founders, all white men, were originally buried on Ninth Street. But when a Black man was later buried there, their families had the founders bodies moved to Rose Hill, local historian Tony Mitchell said. The stories date back to the Revolutionary War and Andrew Ferguson, one of a small number of Black men to fight in the Colonial army — who, unbeknownst to the founders' families, was already buried at Rose Hill when the white founders were moved there.

Despite all the different types of memorials, they all have a few things in common. They all have a birth date and a death date. And they all have a dash between those dates. That dash, Pastor Eddie Howard of Bloomington's Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, said, is the most important part of the stone. It's what that dash represented — a life, no matter how long or short, a life with memories all tied up in a little line.

Markers are memories, Howard said, and not everyone is so fortunate as to have anyone remember them.

"We don't keep memories alive for future generations," Howard said. "A headstone is important; it connects to a lot. Headstones are what gives them that life back. Without that, it's like they're lost."

ONLINE See the full story with multimedia: idsnews.com/graves

His own grandmother, buried in Alabama, didn't have a headstone. With no place to visit her, Howard said it was easy to forget the fact that she didn't have a marked grave. With no place to visit her, it was easy to forget his memories of her.

And when his family finally got her a stone, Howard remembers hearing stories about his grandmother he'd never heard before. The headstone brought back a lost life story.

But Howard didn't know how many families had loved ones missing headstones quite like his own. That fact brought tears to his eyes.

In the church's sanctuary, Howard strolled along the wall, pointing out the names on the stained glass. He hadn't always paid attention to just what those names meant. So it was a look of shock when suddenly, looking to the other side of the church, a newly familiar name was written in the window.

"H.V. Eagleson Sr."

The stained glass, in the back corner in one of Bloomington's oldest sanctuaries, is H.V.'s only current memorial.

The calendar sits on her small round coffee table next to a picture of her great-grandfather, open and waiting. It's been there for more than four years, turned to a page about H.V. Eagleson. It's a 2016 calendar and the photo shows the empty grass in Plot C43.

"During 2016, there are plans to place a monument for H.V. Eagleson in lot C43 of Rose Hill Cemetery where he and other Eaglesons are buried," a graphic over the photo reads.

There still isn't a headstone.

H.V. isn't a Bloomington native, but his history and his family's history permeate the makeup of this town.

SEE DIGNITY, PAGE 2



Above Vivian Bridgwaters, the great-granddaughter of H.V. Eagleson Sr., speaks about a family portrait Oct. 11, 2021, in her home in Bloomington. Eagleson's children made history at Indiana University by becoming the first Black IU athlete and the first Black IU female graduate. Eagleson Sr. himself was a prominent Black figure in the Bloomington community, owning his own barbershop in the heart of downtown. Bridgwaters has been speaking with the Monroe County Cemetery Committee since 2016 about getting a headstone for her great-grandfather.

Left H.V. Eagleson Sr.'s name appears in a stained-glass window Nov. 3, 2021, in the sanctuary of Bethel African American Episcopal Church in Bloomington. Eagleson was a prominent member of Bethel AME, and his son, Preston Eagleson, was a pastor at the church. Without a headstone, the stained glass piece is H.V.'s only memorial.

Right An Eagleson family headstone appears Nov. 5, 2021, in Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington. The Eagleson family patriarch, H.V. Eagleson Sr., does not have a headstone, but local group The Dignity Project is looking to change that.





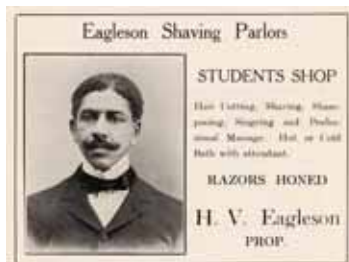
Members of the Monroe County Cemetery Committee work Sept. 18, 2021, in Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington. The committee members cleaned, located and replaced parts of headstones. The volunteer effort was led by Scott Emery, Monroe County Cemetery Committee Chair.

» DIGNITY

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There are conflicting records, but Bridgwaters believes H.V. was born in Keokuk, Iowa, in 1851 and raised in an orphanage until he was 14. He later moved across the Great Plains and Midwest before arriving in Chambersburg, Indiana. There, H.V. learned to be a barber and later moved his family to Bloomington in the early 1890s, where he opened his own shaving parlor and provided better educational opportunities for his children near Indiana University.

Five of H.V.'s six children attended IU. One of those was Bridgwaters' grandfather, Preston Eagleson, the first documented Black athlete at IU. Starting in 1893, he played on the football team. Preston became a beloved pastor at the AME church, and H.V. was ordained there before him. And that's why his name is in the



COURTESY OF IU ARCHIVES
H.V. Eagleson Sr. appears in an advertisement for his barbershop in the 1907 Arbutus yearbook. Jordan Avenue, named after a former eugenicist, will be renamed to Eagleson Avenue next year to honor Eagleson Sr. and his family.

sanctuary's stained glass window.

Elizabeth Eagleson Bridgwaters, Preston's daughter and Bridgwaters' mom, was the first Black woman elected in Monroe County, serving on the Monroe County School Board. Frances Marshall Eagleson — name-sake of IU's Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center — was the first Black woman to graduate from IU. She married Bridgwaters' uncle, Wilson



COURTESY OF IU ARCHIVES
Preston Eagleson, top right, poses with teammates for a photo in 1893. In November 1892, an article in the Crawfordsville Daily Journal said, "Egleson, the phenomenal colored player on the IU team, is but 16 years old and is a freshman. He will be celebrated when he graduates if he keeps improving."

Vashon Eagleson. Wilson became a football, basketball and baseball coach at North Carolina Central University, whose mascot is now the Eagles, named after the Eagleson family. Frances' and Wilson's son Wilson II became a Tuskegee Airman.

But it was H.V.'s barbershop — located back then near the intersection of Kirkwood and College Avenues — that first brought the family fame in town.

"I knew that we were a prominent family," Bridgwaters said. "But not a wealthy one."

H.V. didn't have the opportunity to pursue a job with higher wages than a barber. Prejudice over the color of his skin prevented him. He mostly cut white people's hair, Bridgwaters said. If he did cut a Black client's hair, white people would stop coming to the business.

H.V. would sometimes cut Black people's hair after the shop was closed, but he had to use different scissors. White people didn't want their hair cut with the same tools.

The money H.V. made at the barbershop was saved for an orphanage. H.V.'s lifelong goal was to open an orphanage after his own upbringing in one and help Black children in the Bloomington area get an educa-

tion. He opened his orphanage for Black children called Industrial City in Unionville, Indiana, in 1910.

H.V. died in 1921, beloved in Bloomington's Black community. But his family wasn't able to afford a headstone.

"You don't think of barbers as being wealthy people," Bridgwaters said. "But he was wealthy in terms of his influence in the Black community."

Racism meant prominence didn't equal remembrance. Bridgwaters always knew her great-grandfather didn't have a headstone. When she went with her mother, Bridgwaters didn't remember him ever having a stone. A 1976 Rose Hill record claims H.V. had a stone at that time, but if there was, it has since disappeared.

There are only three headstones in Plot C43, and they lay about 10 feet apart. One is an Eagleson stone, with four names on it, including Preston and Vashon Jr. Another is a Bridgwaters stone with three names, including Bridgwaters' mom Elizabeth Eagleson Bridgwaters and father Albert Louis Bridgwaters. And the final is a single, military-style stone for Walter V. Eagleson, another of H.V. Sr.'s sons.

"It was always something that I wanted to see happen," Bridgwaters said of getting a headstone. "I thought it was an issue. And I had left the calendar on my coffee table. Just as a reminder of something that I needed to follow up on and that I wanted to try and move forward."

She called the Monroe County Cemetery Committee director in 2016, trying to become involved in the effort to get H.V. a stone. The actual plans were unclear, but Bridgwaters was happy to at least know there was an intention to get a memorial.

Then, the committee director changed. The director has changed multiple times since 2016, and the plan kept getting pushed off. Then COVID-19 hit and the Eagleson memorial was not a priority until finally, in 2021, Scott Emery remembered the Eaglesons.

It was 9 a.m. and Scott Emery was an hour early, parked in his worn white Silverado. The truck bed was full of shovels and history books, epoxy and brushes. But those could wait for now. He walked around to check on the cemetery first. He wore hiking boots and a faded white Monroe County History Center T-shirt, pointing out each broken or sunken stone — and the ones you can only still see because of him.

It's his job to fix them. "I kept going, 'Somebody needs to do something about these,'" Emery said. "And then I realized I was somebody."

Emery is the chair of the Monroe County Cemetery Committee, a group of volunteers who take care of the county's cemeteries. On this Saturday morning, they were at Rose Hill, one of the group's first in-person meetings in months because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Their task that day was to en-

ter the Spencer Addition, the oldest section of the cemetery, and fix weathered and damaged headstones. Some stones had fallen over. Others had collected so much dirt and lichen that they needed to be cleaned. Others still had sunken into the ground from the weight of gravity and time.

Physical damage to stones can come from reckless lawnmowers or someone not carefully walking through the grounds. Other damage can come from theft and landscaping.

Kathy Kooontz, a volunteer, picked up a headstone and set it on a table. The name on the stone was difficult to read. Older stones like this one can't handle chemical cleaners, which risk damaging them more. So she used water and a brush to clean, brushing a memory back to life. Another volunteer dug up a sunken headstone and Emery filled the hole with new dirt and wood planks to keep the stone upright above ground.

Re-setting stones is a frequent task Emery finds in his cemetery clean-up outings every few months. He often finds more history in doing so. Emery said he's dug up Civil War artifacts and children's toys.

It's a never-ending task. Finish one round of cleaning and repairing the cemetery, and it will be right about time to start all over again. There are never enough volunteers available to handle the workload.

"I get paid in satisfaction," Emery said.

Emery joined the Committee in the 1990s and worked his way up over the last three decades to become its leader. He said an effort like the one to create headstones for unmarked graves is not common throughout the country — but it should be.

Many years on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Emery said he and other committee members would go to

SEE DIGNITY, PAGE 3

A brief tour of Rose Hill Cemetery

The total number of unmarked graves in the cemetery is unknown

Rose Hill Cemetery, known simply as "Grave Yard" at its inception around 1818, contains layers of local Bloomington history.

Many prominent Bloomington figures are laid to rest here, including past IU presidents, athletes and musicians.

It's difficult to estimate the number of unmarked graves in Rose Hill. But nearly every plot on the cemetery map has been sold. Most are six-person family plots, but they range from one to 12 people.

While cemetery records indicate who is buried in the cemetery, not all of these graves have headstones.

Finding the true total of unmarked graves would require scanning the area with expensive radar equipment to see where unmarked bodies are buried. So the exact number will likely remain uncertain for the foreseeable future.



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The oldest section of the cemetery, the Old Spencer Addition, probably has the most unmarked graves. Cemetery records show 851 burials and 779 headstones in the section, but many burials have gone unrecorded.

When looking at a bird's eye view, there are visibly fewer headstones to the rest of the cemetery, which indicates a higher proportion of graves could be unmarked.





Top left A man laughs inside the Black Market, a shop on Kirkwood Avenue that was a popular gathering place for Black students. On the night of Dec. 26, 1968, two men affiliated with the Ku Klux Klan threw firebombs into the Black Market, causing it to permanently close.

Bottom left IU graduate student Rollo Turner stands in front of the Black Market, which he helped create to provide a space where Black students could feel a sense of belonging, in 1968.

Top right George Taliaferro, right, is shown Dec. 15, 1945. Taliaferro was an IU running back who helped to integrate Bloomington restaurants and theaters.

Bottom right A group of IU students sit together at the Gables Restaurant, now BuffaLouie's, in December, 1941. Bloomington restaurants denied Black customers until four years later.



» DIGNITY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Rose Hill to look for names of those they know are dead and buried there but who may not have headstones. Emery found many large expanses of what he called "prime location" with just grass and no headstone. But he knew the ground beneath him wasn't empty.

Through those searches through the cemetery, the committee found George Shively's unmarked grave. He became the group's first fundraising project to purchase a headstone — giving dignity in death for someone who had it withheld.

They call themselves The Dignity Project. The living, working to give memorials to the dead.

Rose Hill's records report everyone buried there since 1897 and can help narrow down where a person without a headstone might be buried, but without headstones, there's still uncertainty. There might be one headstone in that area, but 20 people beneath the ground, invisible to anyone walking past.

Methods like ground-penetrating radar can reveal exactly where a person is buried. But that is costly, and out of the committee's budget.

The Dignity Project relies on families to reach out to them requesting a memorial for their loved one. There are so many unmarked graves, and by nature they are difficult to find.

So after years of the project getting pushed down the road, Emery was glad to get a call from Bridgwaters about H.V.'s grave. He checked the Eagleson family plot and saw the few stones there. But his eyes were drawn more to the open grass without anything to mark the bodies.

Headstones are expensive, often costing more than \$10,000. Replacing them is a challenge and requires a large effort, often beyond what the small groups of volunteers can handle.

It's difficult to dig up these histories, to mark the missing lives. They'll never attend to every unmarked grave. There are too many of them. But Emery and his group of dignity seekers see that as their own duty.

"It's a privilege that should be afforded to anybody," Emery said of the dignity a memorial brings. "And it shouldn't be limited by anything."

slave catchers lived on the square then too, looking for carts and wagons that might be hiding slaves. Mitchell said those catchers often included IU students.

"Indiana is not a Southern state," Bridgwaters said. "But it hangs right on the border."

Bridgwaters said when she was in high school in the 1960s, she remembers it took a strong uprising from Bloomington's Black community to convince the town's mayor to prevent a KKK march planned to take place in town.

In 1922, white IU students affiliated with the KKK kidnapped Halson V. Eagleson Jr., attempting to prevent him from becoming the first Black person to earn an "I" letter for the marching band. Eagleson was found and the capturers were tried by an all-white jury, but never charged. Eagleson would later receive the "I."

AUDIO Listen to our podcast series about racism in Bloomington: spoti.fi/3Z1SDC3

Bridgwaters was still in high school in 1968. On Dec. 26 of that year, two local men with ties to the KKK firebombed the Black Market, a shop located in what is now People's Park. Bridgwaters went to the Market often. There were clothes, jewelry, soaps, oils and books that represented Black culture, Bridgwaters said.

"It was just another punch in the gut," Bridgwaters said of the bombing. "You feel like some acknowledgment of your culture and how you view the world is being accepted in your hometown, only to find that there is racism that was still so deep that they couldn't even allow that one little market, that one little place, where we could gather and buy things that expressed our heritage in terms of the African piece of it, that that had to be destroyed. Even that couldn't survive."

When Mitchell first moved to Bloomington in 1979, she went back home to Indianapolis every weekend because she felt so uncomfortable living here as a Black woman. In 1983, Bloomington police officers

killed Denver Smith, a Black IU student and football player, by shooting him four times.

Mitchell's husband worked with the state police and was stationed in Bloomington. Mitchell worked there too, and she remembers being called the N-word every night.

Mitchell is a researcher now, focusing on finding and telling Black stories in Bloomington and Indiana. She participates in plays with Resilience Productions, a local theater group she co-founded, showcasing unknown or un-celebrated Black contributions in Indiana. That interest came after she said a white man who worked with her at the police told her Black people hadn't done anything for America. She wanted to prove him wrong.

And she has seen racism still prevalent in Bloomington.

In 2019, Bloomington community members found KKK flyers around town. Around the same time, it was discovered a vendor at the Bloomington Farmer's Market had strong white supremacist ties. On July 4, 2020, former Bloomington resident Vauhxx Booker was pinned to a tree near Lake Monroe by two white men. The men can be heard saying they would "get a noose" in a video of the altercation. The attack garnered national headlines at the peak of Black Lives Matter protests and made Booker a prominent voice in the area.

Now, over a year later, Booker has been charged by a special prosecutor with felony assault and criminal trespassing. The case is ongoing.

Mitchell said Bloomington still is not always an inclusive and accepting town of minorities. That's why it made her angry to learn about all the unmarked graves in Monroe County, especially for a family like the Eaglesons.

"The history book is America's photo album," Mitchell said. "How would you feel if you weren't in your family's photo album?"

He parked his blue Ford near the gravesite, pulled out his walking stick and his greasy brown paper bag from Hinkle's. He was looking for his lunch buddy.

The living who love this place

have more friends among the dead than those still alive with them. At least that's what Tony Mitchell says.

Tony often eats lunch at Rose Hill, and typically, he's not sure if he's eating alone. He unwraps his Hinkle's cheeseburger and crinkle fries to have a conversation with a stone. J.B. Crafton's stone, that is. He sits next to J.B., or maybe it's better to say he's sitting on him. J.B.'s body isn't there; he died on the Titanic. His body is somewhere at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean.

"J.B. let's eat, you don't mind do you?" Tony says.

He chomps on his burger and sips his Diet Coke, his walking stick leaning against J.B.'s grave.

"How'd that ticket work out for ya," he jokes.

Tony's best friends are dead. But he didn't know most of them when they were alive anyway, despite his family tracing Bloomington roots

VIDEO Watch videos made for this story: bit.ly/dignity-project-vids

back to the 1820s. He's come to meet them all through years of strolling through the cemetery on days off. He works with Boy Scouts, too, and is fascinated by Bloomington and its history. Ask him any Bloomington trivia question: What statue is atop the Monroe County courthouse? Tony knows — it's a fish, by the way.

One final sip on his Diet Coke and Tony stands up to begin the tour. He gets up and turns to the east, checking his compass as he walks along the headstones. Tony stops at 39 degrees north, -86 degrees west, and looks down at Andrew Ferguson. His stone is flat along the ground.

"Andrew Ferguson, Capt. Harris' VA Militia, Revolutionary War, 1765 1855"

Ferguson was one of roughly 5,000 Black soldiers in the Continental army. He was wounded in the head by General Charles Cornwallis' troops near Guilford, North Carolina. Ferguson spent months recovering in Virginia, where he was born, before spending the last few decades of his life in Bloomington.

He didn't get a headstone until

around 150 years after his death.

No one really knows why. There is not much documented history on Ferguson other than census records, according to a Herald-Times report in 2008.

Tony turns around and leads the way back to the Ford, passing the Eagleson plot on the way. He's shown the cemeteries' oldest portions, but he finishes the tour on four wheels. He drives onto the pavement and hums "Say, Has Anybody Seen my Sweet Gypsy Rose" by Tony Orlando & Dawn. The truck winds through the cemetery and stops on a curve next to a gravestone.

The face of George Shively, printed on his headstone, stares back at him.

Shively was one of the greatest Negro League baseball players of all time and in the Hall of Fame. For decades, he didn't have a headstone either. Negro League players did not make the same salaries as their white counterparts playing Major League Baseball and despite far outperforming scores of white athletes, Shively and his family weren't able to afford a headstone.

More than 50 years after Shively's death in 1962, a page in the History Center's yearly calendar planned to feature Shively's athletic achievements. But before it printed, Emery went around Bloomington's cemeteries looking for headstones of the athletes mentioned in the calendar, and there was no trace of Shively. The calendar ultimately stated that Shively did not have a stone, prompting Bloomington residents to fundraise to purchase a proper memorial.

Money came in quickly, and by April 2015, there was a ceremony to unveil the headstone attended by over 100 people at Plot C23, no more than 75 yards from H.V.'s unmarked grave. At the ceremony, the attendees held hands and sang "We Shall Overcome."

Tony kept driving, slowly, windows rolled down so he could point to the different sites. He stopped at Hoagy Carmichael's gravesite and even briefly pointed out his own family members buried in Rose Hill.

The tour was over then. He drove back to the main gates and waved goodbye to his friends.

SEE DIGNITY, PAGE 4

Today, Bloomington is a small blue town in deep red southern Indiana. Many view Bloomington as a progressive college town, but not everyone feels welcome here.

In 1945, Black students in Bloomington couldn't live in dorms or eat at any restaurant around campus. George Taliaferro, an IU running back who became the first Black player drafted to the NFL, helped begin integrating restaurants here when he asked then-IU President Herman B Wells for help. Wells planned to get lunch with Taliaferro at the Gables restaurant, now BuffaLouie's. At first, the Gables refused, but Wells said he'd ban all students from Bloomington restaurants in response. The Gables relented.

For centuries, Bloomington's Black residents have not felt safe. It's a town that brands itself as liberal while reckoning with a deep history of violent racism, Elizabeth Mitchell, a Bloomington historian, said.

Until the last year, there was both a street and building in Bloomington named after former IU President David Starr Jordan, infamous for his belief in and support of eugenics.

"Nothing has changed for a person of color in America," Mitchell said. "The same problems that we had years ago, we are still addressing those problems today."

That goes back to before the Civil War, when Bloomington was a stop on the Underground Railroad. But



Tony Mitchell eats lunch Sept. 17, 2021, in Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington. Mitchell sat on the gravesite of J.B. Crafton, a man lost on the Titanic, to enjoy a burger from Hinkle's. Mitchell has been going to Hinkle's since he was a child and always gets the same order.

Graduate workers submit cards, call for election

By Wei Wang
daviwang@iu.edu | @WeiWangDavid23

Members of the Indiana Graduate Workers Coalition-United Electrical Workers submitted a letter to the Office of the Board of Trustees Dec. 10, formally requesting IU to hold a union election.

According to an IGWC-UE press release, 1,584 graduate workers have signed union cards with the coalition indicating they favor holding a union election, representing more than 60% of the approximately 2,500 graduate workers at IU.

An IU human resources policy requires 30% of a staff unit to petition in favor of a union election before such an election is held, well under the percentage of graduate workers who have submitted the union cards.

"The day after Starbucks workers made history by forming the first union at that company, graduate workers at IU are also making history," IGWC-UE spokesperson Cole Nelson said in the release. "We will have a union here. It's time

for annual raises and to end the fees once and for all."

IU spokesperson Chuck Carney said in an email to the Indiana Daily Student that the university will review the coalition's submissions to follow up in the future.

IGWC-UE's requests include increased wages, an end to mandatory and international fees, improved benefits, an external grievance procedure and fairness for international students, according to the release.

The IGWC rallied more than 800 IU graduate students to withhold paying their mandatory fees in the past spring semester. On May 1, the coalition voted to end the fee strike and begin organizing a union, according to its website. The move came after then-Provost Lauren Robel wrote a letter to the coalition rejecting some of its key claims, arguing that doctoral student workers do not earn a living wage and that since graduate workers are students, they should pay mandatory fees.

During the past summer, the IGWC decided to



ETHAN LEVY | IDS
Indiana Graduate Workers Coalition-United Electrical Workers members Pat Wall and Rachel Epplin stand outside the Office of the Board of Trustees on Dec. 10, 2021, at Franklin Hall. A majority of IU's graduate workers submitted union cards petitioning for a union vote.

affiliate with the national labor union United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America to gain union recognition at IU, according to the coalition's website.

IGWC-UE members

and IU graduate students Pat Wall and Rachel Epplin delivered the letter to the Office of the Board of Trustees in Franklin Hall along with a digital copy of the union cards that had been signed by IU's gradu-

ate workers dating back to May of this year.

Wall said the coalition's letter to the Board of Trustees calls on the IU administration to decide before Feb. 1, 2022, when to formally organize a union

vote. He said he hopes the graduate workers will have a union contract in 2022 after the union is established.

IGWC-UE member and IU doctoral student Sam Smucker, who was also present at the letter submission event, said the submission is a big step toward graduate students gaining a stronger voice at IU.

"The university doesn't prioritize us, and it hasn't been prioritizing graduate education," he said. "And our goal now is to make sure that grad employee voices are heard every year, all the time."

Smucker said more than 100 members of the coalition held tabling events and helped form organizing committees in their academic departments during the fall semester to reach as many people as possible.

"You can see the elation here with people and how excited they are because they've worked so hard," he said. "We've got to have a say. We've got to have a seat at the table to get our needs heard and to make graduate education accessible to anybody and everybody."

Holiday season may be downsized by supply chain issues

By Ryan Costello
ryacoste@iu.edu | @RP_Costello

IU experts say supply chain issues affecting retail stores this holiday season could cause constraints on the gifts given.

John Talbott, director for the Center for Education and Research in Retail at the Kelley School of Business, said he believes these issues have existed since before the pandemic. He said retailers across the U.S. have been challenged by tariffs on product imports the last three to four years.

The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened supply chain woes due to worker shortages, Talbott said. He said these shortages have made it difficult for companies to produce enough products to meet consumer demands.

Sales on Black Friday and Cyber Monday were already affected by these issues, Talbott said. He said sales on Black Friday were down overall compared to



ILLUSTRATION BY JACK DONNELLY

last year, but Cyber Monday sales were higher than 2020, although still lower than pre-pandemic numbers.

Talbott said big retailers with heavy online presences also did well during the Thanksgiving week, but they did not reach pre-pandemic sales levels.

Buying gift cards from local, smaller stores is one solution for consumers, Talbott said. These stores are more likely to be hit by a lack of supply.

"For smaller retailers, it is a way to capture demand and prevent business from

going somewhere else," he said about gift card sales.

Consumers have grown used to instant gratification when they want to purchase a product, Talbott said. He said with the issues retailers are facing, it might be better for consumers to lower their expectations.

essentially allows you to do just that."

Kent Kerko, an operations and decision technologies lecturer at Kelley, said the pandemic has led to more irregularities in consumer demand, making it difficult for retailers to gauge consumers' behavior.

Retailers are encouraging consumers to order earlier to ensure they get their demanded products, Kerko said. He said one category consumers may want to lock down sooner rather than later is electronics because of a global microchip shortage, which impacts products from gaming consoles to automobiles.

Finding products like electronics might be difficult for consumers, so they may need to substitute the product for a different brand, Kerko said.

"It is all about businesses and consumers being flexible and proactive," he said. "This way consumers can find something similar to what they hoped to buy."

Mohan Tatikonda, a supply chain management professor at the Kelley School of Business at IU-Purdue University Indianapolis, said retailers' supply chains were not set up to withstand the disruptions caused by the pandemic. Tatikonda said these disruptions are caused by a mismatch between supply and demand.

This mismatch is caused by the limited amount of supply and the number of workers available, Tatikonda said.

Ordering early and ahead of time is one way to combat this effect, Tatikonda said. He said those who wait to purchase will find straight-forward answers on retailers' websites about the availability of the products they desire.

Consumers may have to rely on substitutes like gift cards if they are not able to obtain their first product choice, Tatikonda said.

"If you can't get something now, maybe you will wait," he said. "A gift card

IU recognizes Juneteenth as official holiday



KAMARON FARMER | IDS
Students walk past Sample Gates during the first day of classes Aug. 23, 2021. IU President Pamela Whitten announced the university will recognize and begin celebrating Juneteenth as an official university holiday for the first time in 2022 in her weekly blog post Tuesday.

By Carter DeJong
cadejong@iu.edu | @DeJong_carter

IU President Pamela Whitten announced the university will recognize and begin celebrating Juneteenth as an official university holiday for the first time in 2022 in her

weekly blog post Tuesday.

Whitten said in the blog post this serves as an opportunity to acknowledge our past and look forward to a more inclusive future. This change is a step towards achieving IU's diversity initiative, focusing on diversity, equity

and inclusion, she said.

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated holiday commemorating the emancipation of African American slaves in 1865. The holiday marks the day federal troops arrived June 19 in Galveston, Texas, to assume

control and ensure the freedom of slaves within the state, according to History.com.

In honor of the holiday, IU offices will close annually June 20 and will be a paid holiday for university staff and faculty members.

IU Health requests assistance from National Guard



JAMES BROSHER | IDS
The Indiana University Regional Academic Health Center is pictured from the air Oct. 27, 2021, in Bloomington. IU Health has requested the assistance of the Indiana National Guard amid rising COVID-19 hospitalizations, according to a statement from IU Health.

By Cameron Garber
garberc@iu.edu | @garber_cameron

IU Health has requested the assistance of the Indiana National Guard amid rising COVID-19 hospitalizations, according to a statement from IU Health Thursday.

"The demand and strain on Indiana University Health's team members, nurses and providers has never been greater," the statement read. "IU Health will leverage all available resources and enlist members of Indiana's National Guard, in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Health, to assist in areas of critical need."

COVID-19 cases are on the

rise in Indiana, according to the Indiana State Department of Health's COVID-19 dashboard. The dashboard recorded 2,755 new hospitalizations from COVID-19 on Dec. 7, the highest number of hospitalizations since Jan. 7.

The National Guard is assisting at all IU Health hospitals in the South Central region, according to the statement. The National Guard teams consist of six members: two clinical members to assist with treating patients and four non-clinical members to assist with administrative and logistical duties. All members of the National Guard are fully vaccinated, according to the statement.

Monroe Co. classified as orange level advisory

By Cameron Garber
garberc@iu.edu | @garber_cameron

Monroe County is classified as an orange advisory level for COVID-19, according to the Indiana State Department of Health's COVID-19 dashboard. Monroe County reported 90 new positive cases of COVID-19 Dec.

1, according to the dashboard. This is the highest single day increase since January 2021.

The ISDH classifies Monroe County at an orange advisory level, the second-highest advisory level out of the four offered by the state. An orange advisory level signifies medium to high community

spread, according to the ISDH website.

Cases are surging across Indiana. Nearly 3,000 new COVID-19 hospitalizations were reported Thursday, the most hospitalizations since Jan. 4, according to the dashboard. Monroe County Health Administrator Penny Caudill said 99% of hospitalizations in

Monroe County are unvaccinated individuals during a board of commissioners meeting last week.

Every county in Indiana is classified as either an orange or red advisory level, except for Crawford County, which is classified as a yellow advisory level showing moderate community spread.

Diversifying greek life is a work in progress

By Sara Molina
molinas@iu.edu

Greek life is popular at most colleges despite its historically racist past. At IU, greek life is working on becoming more diverse and inclusive in order to break down systemic racism.

As one out of about 10 women of color in her sorority of roughly 160 women, IU senior and Sigma Kappa member Serena Patel said she sees a need for change when it comes to diversity efforts and awareness in greek life.

"I've had a really great experience with it," Patel said. "I just think that implementing diversity and inclusion is difficult when the majority of women are white, so they can't understand what it's like to be discriminated by."

Patel is not alone in this opinion, Teen Vogue writer Anna Tingley wrote about greek life's historically white past in conjunction with women of color's experiences at various universities. Tingley said these women are facing microaggressions rather than

blatant racism.

Often times, the media only headlines obvious and extreme counts of racism, such as blackface, cultural appropriation and hazing rituals that might be bigoted. Meanwhile, smaller exclusionary acts are what actually unveils the racism in greek life, Tingley said.

Patel said she believes her sorority is inclusive and is grateful for how her sorority's president handles situations that may be offensive to some. Even still, she has had her share of experiences with subtle prejudices, but none with malicious intent she said. Some members of the sorority have even expressed the willingness to change.

"They are very, very well receptive of it and they're very understanding," she said. "That's really the most key thing"

The willingness to change is very important when it comes to being inclusive of people of color in majority white sororities. Having the want to understand and be

an advocate for all sisters is something these women aspire to do. As a person of color, being involved in greek life at a predominately white institution should provide support and guidance. Therefore, it is vital to know the history of a sorority and those in it.

Quinn Larkin, IU sophomore and Theta Phi Alpha member, said she strives to learn what people of color in sororities go through from her perspective as a white woman. Recognizing microaggressive behaviors, Larkin said she would call them out but not speak over her sisters of color.

"I totally would shut them down immediately," Larkin said. "But if someone else in the room has personally faced it, I feel like that's their place not mine. I don't want to put my words in their mouth because I haven't experienced the same things as they have."

Larkin said it is important to advocate for people of color from her place of privilege so they would not feel alone in facing their problems. Understanding and learning about

cultural differences is important as a white person.

"It shouldn't be someone trying to fight for their own rights in a sorority when they should be supported," Larkin said. "If there's an issue going on or something that they face that needs to be talked about and addressed, I want to be there to listen and learn from it."

Larkin does her best to advocate for marginalized groups to uplift all of her sisters. Sisterhood is important in every sorority.

Kennedy Nash is a member of Delta Sigma Theta at IU, a predominantly Black sorority founded at Howard University. Appreciative of her sorority, she said it focuses on sisterhood, scholarship and service.

"I love my sorority," Nash said. "Sisterhood is very important to us. We have a big community of many educated Black women."

Being part of a diverse sorority has given Nash a smaller safe community in a predominantly white institution,



ILLUSTRATION BY LAWREN ELDERKIN

she said. Nash said educating white sororities is important, but she also advocates increasing consequences for displaying acts of racism and microaggressions.

"Education is a very big thing," she said. "I do personally feel as though when there are issues, they don't have the correct consequences and that's why it continues."

Patel said the committee at IU is a great resource but agrees it is difficult to teach white people about something they will never feel. The lack of women of color in so-

rorities also makes it more difficult to explain personal experiences to white women.

Patel said being a woman of color in a predominantly white sorority is not always easy, but ultimately it offers important opportunities to educate others.

"These women don't know what it's like and I can't penalize them for that," Patel said. "If you're in an environment that the women are willing to learn, then that's really great. Being a minority in a sorority offers the opportunity for us to teach a lot."

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Dr. Josh Chapman

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Reexamining a classic: IU Ballet tackles caricature in ‘The Nutcracker’ through conversation, education



By **Nadia Scharf**
njscharf@iu.edu | @nadiaascharf

For one minute and one second of “The Nutcracker,” flutes soar, pointe shoes crack against gray marley floors and violin strings thrum underneath it all. But these 61 seconds — 134 measures — have launched petitions, enraged viewers and become a point of contention every holiday season.

Since its premiere in Russia in 1892, “The Nutcracker” has featured “Chinese Tea,” a piece that has often leaned on stereotypical depictions of Chinese culture. With many still debating over what’s acceptable, often directors and choreographers must decide for themselves how to approach the issue.

“The Nutcracker’ is our only stronghold on American holiday culture,” IU ballet department chair Sarah Wroth said. “We want to keep it inclusive of as many fans and believers as we can.”

IU Ballet presented its annual production of “The Nutcracker” Dec. 2-5. This is the last year that the production will use director and choreographer Michael Vernon’s original choreography before it’s completely reworked.

“We’ve had people go through the pre-college program and have grown up with this ballet,” Ruth Connelly, a sophomore ballet major, said. “And, now that they’re starting to trickle out, it’s like, ‘a new generation is coming, so let’s make something new.’”

For one more year, students and faculty are working to make sure every student feels welcome as they dance in IU’s production of the most performed ballet worldwide.

* * *

The “Chinese Tea” divertissement — a word for short dance within the larger ballet — doesn’t contain many elements that could be flagged as a caricature. The dancers bow at the waist in the beginning, which is unlike classical ballet, and their hands are flexed, which is a variation on a common gesture where one finger is held up.

Connelly said she feels cultural elements are being erased from the choreography out of fear of falling into caricature, and choreographers are leaning away from portraying any Chinese culture in fear of being called out.

“Our culture has transitioned in such a crazy way from when it was created to now,” Connelly said. “With all the hate crimes and things like that, people are trying to steer clear by not touching

it because they’re afraid they’ll be wrong.”

Connelly, who was born in China and adopted into an American family, wanted to follow up on a department meeting at the beginning of the year where faculty had mentioned wanting to discuss diversity issues. They’d said another meeting would occur in a few weeks, but it never happened.

Zoe Gallagher had also been worried. Gallagher is a sophomore ballet student who was cast, among other roles, in the “Chinese Tea” divertissement. After watching past years’ choreography, she said she felt uncomfortable with the idea of dancing it onstage. So she went to Wroth’s office after class the next day.

The choreography has changed from what it was in the video Gallagher had watched. Vernon inherited the production in 2007, including sets and costumes, from previous performances of “The Nutcracker” when he took over as director. He fit his choreography to what the university already had, Wroth said.

The music and often the choreography used for “Chinese Tea” contains elements of orientalism, Wroth said, and portrays clear cultural themes often passed over when companies are considering re-choreographing. The traditionalist Western lens by which we view these themes can lead to stereotyping, she said.

“We as dancers so often just do,” Wroth said. “We’re doing it for the audience. We’re doing it for the choreographer. We don’t think about why or how as often.”

Wroth said she wanted to make sure students feel they can voice their thoughts and be heard by faculty. So, in response to Connelly’s concern, a conference on portraying diversity began to take shape.

“My main point throughout this entire talk is to make sure there’s a way for them to include diversity without wiping it out and to include the new, evolved ways of diversity,” Connelly said.

And before Gallagher’s first “Chinese Tea” rehearsal began, the professor running the rehearsal sat the dancers down to discuss how to perform the dance sensitively.

“I think that ‘The Nutcracker’ is definitely getting a new look, and I think part of it is just the times we live in,” Vernon said. “I’m really glad that ballet has come into the present.”

* * *

“The Nutcracker” has always struggled with cultural portrayals, particularly those affecting the

Chinese community. In choreography worldwide, chopsticks stab through ballet buns. Dancers shuffle, rather than walk, onstage. One finger sticks up, or two are held up together. It’s a caricature that, in the past, has come into question, particularly after the post-pandemic rise in anti-Asian sentiment.

IU Ballet has already made several recent changes in order to stay relevant, Wroth said.

Vernon has made slight changes to the piece, but has never made large changes. He maintains that he would have fully re-choreographed the piece a long time ago if he believed it could be considered offensive. Vernon’s original choreography debuted in 2007, nearly 15 years ago.

Often mimicking Chinese traditional dress with silk embroidery and painted makeup, caricatures are common in costuming. IU’s possible changes to “The Nutcracker” have been limited by their budget because the production is set to be reworked.

Many productions’ costumes allude to stereotypical depictions of Chinese people, including references to rice farmer’s or railroad worker’s apparel. IU’s Chinese divertissement features tutus as an attempt to avoid these issues, Vernon said. While the faculty has said the costumes aren’t ideal, Gallagher and Connelly said it’s something that will have to stick around for another year.

“They hear us, and they never make us feel uncomfortable,” Connelly said. “They want to work with us, but we don’t see change happen because it’s just not accessible to them. They can’t just flip a switch.”

Connelly still holds to her concerns about how sometimes, rather than adjusting choreography to celebrate Chinese culture, cultural elements were simply erased. One such moment occurs in “The Nutcracker” finale. The dancers in “Chinese Tea” now stand in a standard ballet position, though the Spanish and Arabian dancers pose in character.

“It’s such a small, little detail that I noticed,” Connelly said. “But to me, I thought, ‘Why did you take out that part, out of all the things?’”

During the 2020-21 school year, the program brought in teachers and lecturers from a variety of backgrounds over Zoom to talk about the future of equitable ballet, Gallagher said. These guest faculty members included directors of primarily Black ballet companies, the artistic director of Boston Ballet and the founders of Final Bow for Yellowface. Final Bow for Yellowface began as a petition started

by Georgina Pazzoguini, a former New York City Ballet soloist, and Phil Chan, an arts administrator and educator, who wanted to take a stand against stereotypical depictions of Asians and Asian Americans in ballet.

According to Final Bow’s website, the continued use of traditional depictions of Asian culture prevents Asian American dancers from being seen as nuanced individuals. The website provides educational resources focusing on Asian portrayals in “The Nutcracker.”

While she related to the speakers, Connelly said she felt the faculty used Final Bow to justify a uniform change. Both students noted the change, from pink ballet tights to skin-colored ones, as drastic and abrupt. The change was eventually dropped.

* * *

Nearly every company has its own version of “The Nutcracker” and it’s always recognizable, though the plot may differ slightly. While other shows come and go, “The Nutcracker” is performed every holiday season like clockwork.

“The Nutcracker” is popular, and it sells tickets, according to the New York Times. In a 2017 survey of ballet companies done by Dance/USA, “The Nutcracker” ticket sales represented \$51 million, which correlates to 48% of total season revenue. Ticket prices have nearly doubled. The New York City Ballet’s production of “The Nutcracker” attracts more than 100,000 people annually.

It’s shaped American ballet as a whole, according to the Wilson Center. Now, according to the New York Times, “The Nutcracker” is normally the most important ballet companies put on.

* * *

This year, IU Ballet is holding a conference within the department after students, such as Connelly, voiced their concerns. She hopes it’ll open a dialogue and she said she wants to make sure it starts real change.

“Once I’m gone in two or three years, no one’s going to say, ‘Oh, let’s call her up!’” Connelly said. “I want to see, once I’m gone, how they’re going to progress.”

Wroth said she had spoken with Sachet Watson, the Jacobs School of Music diversity and inclusion coordinator, about how to implement changes.

After more than 15 years, this is the last year of Vernon’s original production. Next year, IU Ballet as-

sociate professor Sasha Janes will take over, completely reworking the storyline, costuming and choreography. It’s unknown exactly how this will affect the “Chinese Tea” dance, but Wroth said Janes is changing the context of the divertissement.

“There’s absolutely ways to re-contextualize these ballets where you take the story and change the way it’s been told,” Wroth said. “You preserve the music, and you preserve what’s good, and you shift what doesn’t have a place now.”

A recent New York Times article showcases different ways ballet companies are reworking the controversial section. Though solutions range from a “Green Tea Cricket” to a ribbon dance, the message stays the same: There’s been a shift in what’s acceptable to dance onstage.

“It’s one simple word: respect,” Ma Cong, resident choreographer at Tulsa Ballet, told the Times. “It’s truly important to have respect for all cultures and to be as authentic as possible.”

Across the nation, ballet companies are making changes that encourage diversity. Many companies promote diversity initiatives. Organizations, such as Final Bow for Yellowface and Brown Girls Do Ballet, have garnered widespread support. However, some companies still put performers in blackface for shows such as “La Bayadere” and “Petrushka.”

Connelly said, looking forward, she wants to help the department with their ideas and to make sure they have input from people of color.

“I want to see where they’re at and just let them know where we’re at so we can start to work together because, obviously, they’re the ones in power,” she said. “They have a vision of where they want their department to be.”

Gallagher said “The Nutcracker” will be beautiful not only because it’s been two years since IU has performed it but because it’s Vernon’s retiring performance. She said she’s incredibly thankful to be a part of it.

“Rome wasn’t built in a day — the ballet world won’t change in a day,” Gallagher said. “Right now, it’s about doing the best with what we have and doing the best we can. I think everybody’s committed to doing that.”

IZZY MYSZAK | IDS
A young girl playing Clara holds up a Nutcracker during a dress rehearsal Nov. 29, 2021, in the Musical Arts Center. There are approximately 30 children cast in the show, IU Ballet department chair Sarah Wroth said.

JARED'S JOURNAL

America is exceptionally violent

Jared Quigg (he/him) is a sophomore studying journalism and political science.

America is an incredibly violent nation. The end.

I guess I should elaborate. Kyle Rittenhouse killed two men last year at 17. One of his initial charges was that he was a minor in possession of a deadly weapon. This charge, before even being considered by a jury, was thrown out on a technicality in the law about length of barrels. Rittenhouse walks free.

"But that's just one guy!" you say. OK. Four students were killed and seven others were injured in a school shooting on Nov. 30 in Michigan. There have been 30 other school shootings this year at time of writing.

NPR reports that America has far more gun deaths than other developed nations like Canada, the U.K. and Japan. Nearly 40,000 Americans died from a firearm related death in 2019, according to USAFacts. Almost 24,000 of those deaths were suicides. These numbers have been climbing for decades but little is being done.

The U.S. had more than 600 mass shootings in 2020. Even a pandemic couldn't stop us!

Our country has a gun problem. It has had a gun problem. Countless other writers have exhausted the subject. Why write about it now when nothing ever seems to change?

Because of the polls, dear reader! Last month, a new Gallup poll showed support for stricter gun control laws are at their lowest since 2014. Just over half of Ameri-



ILLUSTRATION BY DONYA COLLINS

cans are in favor of tighter gun restrictions.

And clearly unsatisfied with our own problems at home, we must spread our proclivity for violence abroad. Earlier this week, a bipartisan effort was made in the U.S. Senate to block further arms sales to Saudi Arabia on account of their atrocities against Yemen. Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders and Rand Paul, of all people, led this effort.

But the Biden administration, which promised to end American support for offensive operations in Yemen, opposed this bipartisan effort, which then failed. Our president is a blood-thirsty liar, and our Congress is no better.

Is there anything we can do? Well, an easy thing to do would be to stop selling weapons to Saudi Arabia. But even then, we would still have our own problems at

home.

Indiana's gun laws are particularly nonsensical. Nearly 45% of adults in Indiana own at least one firearm, according to CBS News. I've lived in Indiana my entire life. I'm not sure 45% of Indiana adults should have driver's licenses, let alone firearms.

Speaking of licenses: You don't need an owner's license to use firearms in Indiana. You also don't need

a state permit to possess a rifle, shotgun or handgun.

And you've gotta hand it to the Republicans running our state — they get things done! Last July, Indiana Republicans passed legislation waiving lifetime handgun licensing fees. Just 24 hours later, more than 7,000 Hoosiers applied for a free permit. Dear God. Indiana couldn't use better schools or healthcare. No! Indiana needs guns.

Indiana is an open-carry state, meaning if you have a license for a handgun, for example, you can visibly carry it on your person in most public places. I don't know about you, but it terrifies me when people with guns on their waist walk into a Kroger.

But it gets worse. Indiana is a "Stand Your Ground" state, meaning it's legal to shoot someone if you feel that you, your property or someone else is being threatened. Many other states' self-defense laws stress a "duty to retreat," if possible, rather than resorting to violence. But why de-escalate things? It's not like we only get one life and the definition of "feeling threatened" is very loose or anything.

It's not all hopeless, I suppose. Indiana does have "Red Flag" laws, which allow police to seize firearms from "dangerous and mentally ill persons." But this isn't enough.

We need stricter gun control nationwide. The polls say we're growing apathetic, so we must raise our voices now more than ever. It shouldn't be normal for someone to openly have a gun on them in a Kroger. If we feel threatened, we should at least try to avoid killing other people. And we should make it harder, not easier, to buy guns. We must repeal these nonsensical gun laws.

No more dead students. No more mass murders. No more arms sales. America's gun laws are dangerous and impractical — it's a good thing we can change them.

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THE VALADEZ VIEW

Stacey Abrams's 2022 candidacy for governor brings hope

Elizabeth Valadez (she/her) is a freshman studying English and political science.

For my birthday in 2020, all I wanted was to have the means (a form of identification and transportation) to get to the polls and vote. I was a first-time voter and had only turned 18 less than two weeks prior to Election Day.

To a lot of my peers, voting didn't seem to matter. But I was thrilled to check that presidential box and vote for someone who could possibly become the first African American, Asian American and female vice president.

And now, Georgia voters have a similar election ahead with a second chance to make Democrat Stacey Abrams its first Black female governor. This hopeful possibility, in light of the shift in political attitudes in recent years, could set a new precedent for Georgia and Indiana alike.

Abrams ran in Georgia's gubernatorial election in 2018, which ultimately and unfortunately resulted in her loss. Still, she fought a hard battle against current Republican governor Brian Kemp, even with the knowledge that she'd lose due to "an erosion of our democracy."

Abrams fell short of Kemp by 1.4%, but Kemp could be the one falling short of Abrams next year for a

couple of reasons.

In 2018, Kemp received the vote of about 90% of rural voters. However, former President Donald Trump endorsed Kemp during the 2018 election. Once the governor expressed his opposition to Trump's call for recounts in Georgia in the 2020 presidential election, Kemp's endorsement from Trump ceased to exist.

This makes white Republican support next year possibly difficult to achieve since Trump is currently trying to reshape the Republican party to support himself. Just this week, Trump declared that Kemp cannot win because "the MAGA base" will simply "never vote for him." Kemp's lack of support for Trump's irresponsible demands may cost him a majority of rural voters.

Beyond this, there is a possibility of a split Republican vote in 2022 with a new candidate running against Kemp — former-Sen. David Perdue, R-Ga. Perdue has the support of Trump because he is a member of the Republican party that has not yet disagreed with him.

But what does all of this Republican infighting mean for Abrams? Though Georgia has recently been considered a swing state, instability amid Abrams's opposing party could put her a leg up. The victories of Sen. Jon Ossoff, D-Ga and Sen. Rev. Raphael Warnock, D-Ga also

put the prospect of future Democratic wins in an optimistic light.

Although this Democratic optimism is detached from our state, Georgia's gubernatorial race could have implications for a typically red Indiana.

One of Abrams's goals is to help local Black communities prosper. While Indiana's population is 9.9% Black or African American compared to Georgia's 32.6%, Indiana can still learn from her grassroots campaign.

Abrams's official statement for her candidacy has an underlying sense of unity and subsequent victory in the idea of "We are one Georgia." Though 92% of the Republican party in Indiana is white, and blue votes come from more diverse areas like Indianapolis, the state has the capacity to become a swing or possibly blue state in the future, however distant that may be.

The willingness to not give up that is evident in Abrams's campaign in the midst of loss brings hope to those who are ready for a future that is not defined by "zip code, background or access to power."

This same message can translate a few states north to Indiana if we are willing to learn, grow and act in a more optimistic and community-driven way.

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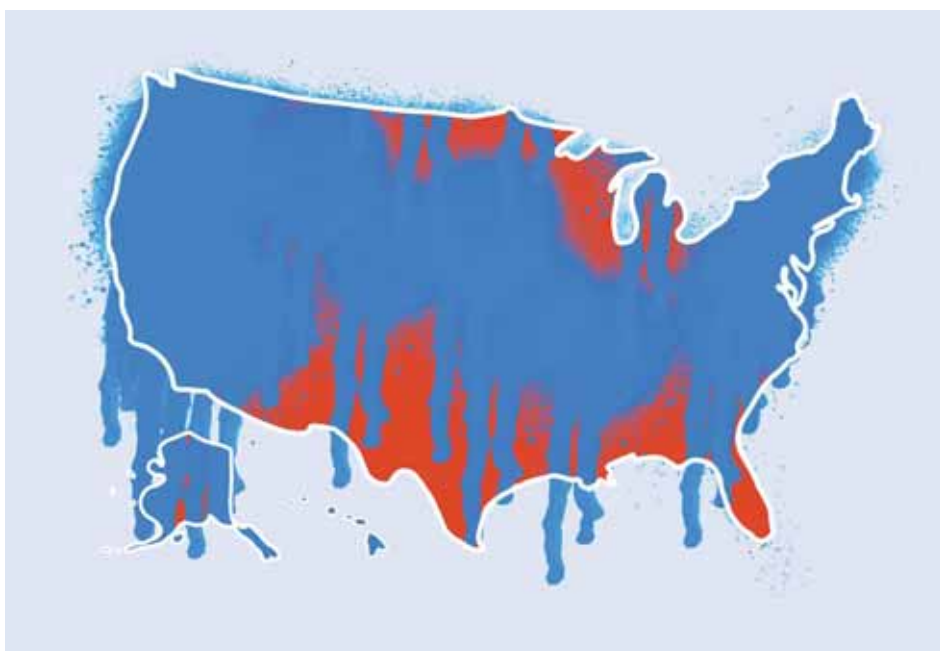


ILLUSTRATION BY MELODY REYES

JAWING WITH JOHN

We should delete social media

John Hultquist (he/him) is a sophomore studying community health with a double minor in urban planning and community development and nutrition.

This week, I took the initiative to do my own college 2021 version of logging off like Lush. I deleted Snapchat, an app we have all had at our disposal since 2011. In the last couple of days, I have experienced the world more and spent significantly less time on my phone.

Lush, a cosmetic retail company, announced it is "logging off until social media is safe for all." This included a discontinuation of Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and TikTok on Nov. 26, 2021. The company has a list of reasons in its social media policy for why it finds social media unsafe including loss of control in communication and media malpractice.

I am concerned that older, more stable and recent iterations of social media have led to increasing mental health issues among other complications, including time management. Having said that, I implemented my log off.

"You are crazy!" and "What is wrong with you?" were among the brash and somewhat sarcastic responses I got minutes after I sent my fellow Snapchatters on my friends list my phone number.

The stark reality is if people truly want to connect with me, it was not going to happen by way of the hundreds of Snapchats I was sending weekly of either half of my face, my forehead or some pose where I was just emphasizing my "effort of staying in touch" with someone. Additionally, those Snapchats were consuming many minutes and provided an opportunity for procrastination when I could be doing other productive activities.

Seeing Lush, a large company of more than 900 stores worldwide, take this initiative hopefully incentivizes others that need convincing to join the effort.

My favorite reason for Lush dropping social media, among the many it provided, is its wish for platforms to be less manipulative, dragging us into the self-centered and all-about-me community. Social media is addicting.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY JENNY BUTLER

As consumers of large companies like Meta and Snap Inc., we buy into exactly what technology developers expect for us: to grasp onto addiction, overuse it and buy in that social media is exceptional.

People use apps such as Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and TikTok and do not realize the harmful effects they have on human behaviors and perceptions. According to a study done at the Pew Research Center, an astounding 42% of U.S. teens feel anxious when they do not have their cell phone.

It appears kids are experiencing fear of missing out, or FOMO. As Gen Z, millennials and other age groups in Bloomington strap to their phones, we need to encourage each other to see the world beyond the screen.

LinkedIn's mission is to "connect the world's professionals to make them more productive and successful." The IU Kelley School of Business might encourage connections on LinkedIn, but the real connection lies within our ability to network in real life.

Consider why you might be on Instagram, Facebook or any other social media platform. Is it because you genuinely had an amazing time and want the world to know, or do you use it as a place to set aside memories you hope to hold onto for life? Next, consider what gains you get from sharing, posting or sending files on these apps. The benefits, if any, are likely few and only because you admire the validation received from these interactions.

Instagram and Facebook have both begun testing different practices of the "like" feature. While these features

give the user more control of their posts, the theory is flawed. Vox reporter Rebecca Jennings said, "no matter how much Instagram would like to be viewed as a place users feel good about visiting, its entire existence is predicated on reminding people that other people are having more fun than they are."

The idea of hiding the amount of likes on a post or anticipation of why someone may have left us on read on Snapchat can leave us feeling emotionally exhausted. People are caught up with showing off their best self.

I would have a different perspective if I was closer to the people that posted this content. Some Instagram accounts, unfortunately mine included, have more than 1,000 followers. I will be the first to admit that I am not close to many of those people.

Alternatives to social media are endless. If you know me, you will often find me on the west side of Herman B Wells Library in the learning commons. Throughout the library and all IU buildings, there are activity boards asking for people to get involved. Consider spending the time making an effort cultivating new friendships or making a real difference in the lives of others.

The next world leaders will not come about as a result of a social media post or online presence. Future leaders will emerge as a result of participation in worthwhile causes through the dedication of time being enriched by the diversity of ideas within and outside our community.

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FOOTBALL

Walt Bell ready for opportunity with Indiana

By Luke Christopher Norton
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The first few conversations between Indiana football head coach Tom Allen and new offensive coordinator Walt Bell were just the two getting to know each other's personalities.

Unlike Nick Sheridan, Bell's predecessor, Allen had never been on the same staff as Bell. Allen knew Bell in the same way he knew Kalen DeBoer prior to hiring him for the same position in 2019 — coaching against him.

work under Allen because of who he is as a person.

"To work for a guy who's accomplished a lot of things that people didn't think he could do at the time and to also have the chance to work with an unbelievable human being — those two things are what excites me about being here," Bell said.

From there, the two spoke about Bell's new role with the staff. As the team's former defensive coordinator, most of Allen's work focuses on that side of the ball.

Bell, whose previous position was head coach at the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he went 2-23 in three seasons, said he understands the value of having great assistants and hopes he can provide that for Allen.

"Hopefully I can help score points, help do the job and do it in a way that satisfies him in the way that he wants the program run," Bell said.

When it comes to attacking defenses, Bell said his

first priority is effectively running the football. In 2016, when Bell was at Maryland, running back Ty Johnson led the Big Ten in rushing yards per attempt with 9.1.

Indiana's running backs room fluctuated throughout the 2021 season, with two scholarship running backs entering the transfer portal and starter Stephen Carr suffering a season-ending injury against Michigan on Nov. 6.

Carr is now out of eligibility, leaving Indiana without a scholarship running back. Indiana added rising-senior running back Shaun Shivers as a transfer from Auburn University on Saturday and rising-senior running back Josh Henderson from the University of North Carolina.

Bell's running scheme is a mixture of quarterback-driven plays and plays within his system, he said. He also looks for matchups and how the offensive line plays against each type of defense.

"Where are your better players?" Bell said. "How can you create matchups? Where can we dent the defense?"

Bell's second priority is



IU ATHLETICS

New Indiana football offensive coordinator Walt Bell speaks at his introductory press conference on Dec. 12, 2021. Bell said his first priority for the offense is running the football.

creating a quick, efficient and well-protected passing game for quarterbacks.

Quarterback play can be measured on a scale, Bell said. If a quarterback is a better passer, they don't need to use their athleticism in the run game as much. If they can't distribute the ball well as a passer, they'll need to be

a dynamic athlete.

Bell said his ideal quarterback would be an excellent passer who can extend plays and boost the offense on third downs and in the red zone.

"What are their winnable tools, and what can we do as an offense to make sure we're asking that young man to do what he does well?" Bell said.

Bell is entering a program that has an established culture of love and acceptance. His new boss's "LEO" mantra is everywhere. It's a culture Bell believes in, and one for which he's excited to contribute.

"I feel like I'm in the right place at the right time with the right guy," Bell said.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Indiana dominates Ohio State behind Holmes' 30 points

By Matt Sebree
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No. 10 Indiana women's basketball jumped out to an early lead and never trailed Sunday on its way to an 86-66 win over No. 20 Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio.

Junior forward Mackenzie Holmes scored the first 6 points of the game on her way to finishing with a career-high of 30 points on the night. In the process, she became the 30th player in program history to score 1,000 points.

Holmes said she didn't

go into the game focused on reaching the benchmark, she just wanted to focus on helping her team win. She also credited her teammates for helping her get the milestone.

"I just was myself out there, I didn't want to think about it too much or overthink anything," Holmes said.

The Hoosiers scored 56 points in the paint, largely thanks to Holmes' offense, and they held the Buckeyes to 18 paint points, largely thanks to Holmes' defense.

While Holmes led the way Sunday, she credited her guards for her sustained success as a Hoosier.

"Most of every point I get is off of a pass from our guards and I believe I have the best guards in the country on my team," Holmes said. "They're always looking for me and they're just great teammates and selfless and at the end of the day I just want to win, and that's the most important to me."

The Hoosiers have struggled at the beginning of recent games, forcing them to fight

back in order to compete, but on Sunday they came out focused and controlled the game from the start.

Holmes said the team doesn't specifically concentrate on how they start each game, they just focus on the specific game plan for each team separately.

"We just need to be us every time we come out on the court — know our game plans, know where we're going to have advantages, know where we're going to have to disadvantages and just play off of that and be confident

in what we do," Holmes said.

Indiana held Ohio State scoreless for more than five minutes to start the game and built a quick 10-0 lead, never giving it up. Indiana's defense never allowed Ohio State to build momentum, forcing 17 turnovers and holding Ohio State to 36% shooting on the night.

Head coach Teri Moren said getting a conference win over a ranked team on the road is important for building momentum and competing later in the season. She said teams that are tested

and win on the road tend to succeed more often in the postseason.

"I hope that this is a sign for what we can expect from our group when we go away from Assembly Hall, away from Hoosier nation, that we can still lock-in and have the energy that we need in order to win games on the road," Moren said.

Indiana has a break for this upcoming finals week and will play next at 1 p.m. Dec. 19 against Western Michigan University in Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall.

Horoscope

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 7 — Collaborate for shared gain. Compromise is required.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8 — Have fun with family and friends. Avoid complications and keep things simple.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is an 8 — You're especially clever. Words get farther than actions now.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7 — Slow the physical action to focus on health and communication.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 7 — Clean messes at home. Tempers could spark.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is an 8 — Discuss lucrative possibilities. Wheel and deal.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Today is a 9 — You've got the confidence to advance a personal project.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 7 — Strategize with your team. Don't push ahead until obstacles clear.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Today is a 6 — Settle into peaceful privacy. Consider options and adjust plans.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7 — Reconsider your professional priorities. Reach a turning point.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 7 — Enjoy a restful pause in your journey. Avoid traffic or stress.

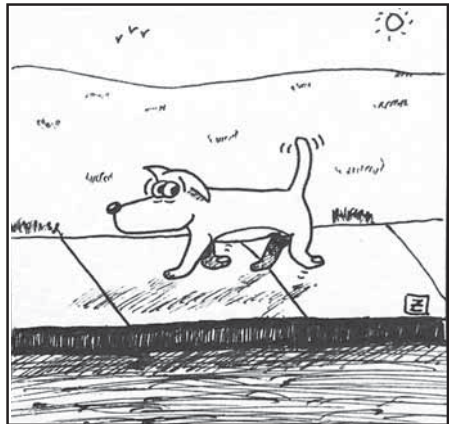
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is an 8 — Research for best quality and value before purchasing.

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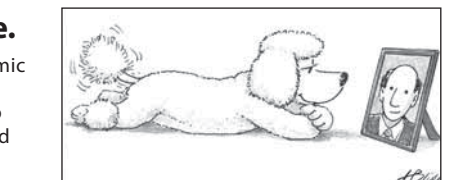
BLISS HARRY BLISS UNDER THE RUG JONATHON ZAPP Crossword L.A. Times Daily Crossword



"Did you get the promotion? You did, didn't you?!"



Yes, it was still there. Ever illusive, it mocked Paul with each wag.



Publish your comic on this page. The IDS is accepting applications for student comic strips for the spring 2022 semester.

su do ku

Difficulty Rating: [Progress bar]

3x3 grid with numbers 1-9 for the 'su do ku' puzzle.

How to play: Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9, without repeating a number in any one row, column or 3x3 grid.

Answer to previous puzzle

Grid with answers to the previous puzzle.

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Crossword grid for L.A. Times Daily Crossword.

- 10 "She's a Lady" songwriter
11 British WWII gun
12 Put on
14 "Who ___?": "Join the club!"
18 NBA commissioner Silver
23 Bring up
24 First killer whale to perform with a human
25 Accords
26 For dieters, in ads
27 Coffee asset
29 They may be manicured
30 Steaming
31 Beasts of burden
33 Ran into
34 Half a sawbuck
35 Zugspitze, e.g.
39 Manipulative sort
40 Olympics fencing event
43 Ice cream purchase
46 Parts of cloverleaves
48 Yokum cartoonist
49 Irving Berlin's "Blue ___"
51 Signs of crowd displeasure
52 Online biz
53 Deceptions
54 Goddess usually depicted holding an ank
55 Food package amt.
56 Bizet's "Habanera," e.g.
59 Diligence
60 Comedy club hit
61 Stately trees
63 Bit

ACROSS

- 1 First name in old horror films
5 They're earned at U's
9 Serious wound
13 Suit, so to speak
14 Artist Matisse
15 Start to freeze?
16 ___ fail
17 Polished orator?
19 Like C's, in some cases
20 One way to go to a party
21 Steak ___
22 Indication that the coffee is ready?
25 One in a large octet
28 Southernmost of the Southeast's Sea Islands
32 Main line
33 Palindromic title
36 Skiff movers
37 Corp. money manager
38 Regret the choice of wall paint color?
41 Is, once
42 "___ Shanter": Burns poem
44 Dance movement
45 Bridge along the Arno
47 Golf lesson topic

- 49 Becomes aware of
50 Carol Burnett, at the end of an episode?
54 Like some online purchases
57 Small case
58 Field unit
62 1996 Demi Moore film ... and a hint to how four puzzle answers were created
64 Post
65 Cry of success
66 Sign of early spring
67 Senior ___
68 Errors, say
69 PC connections
70 Gels

DOWN

- 1 Half a sex-ed metaphor, with "the"
2 Trade show
3 Floral necklaces
4 Explanation
5 Financial statement items
6 China's Zhou ___
7 System of shorthand
8 Warm the bench
9 Probe that visited Jupiter

Answer to previous puzzle

Grid with answers to the previous crossword puzzle.

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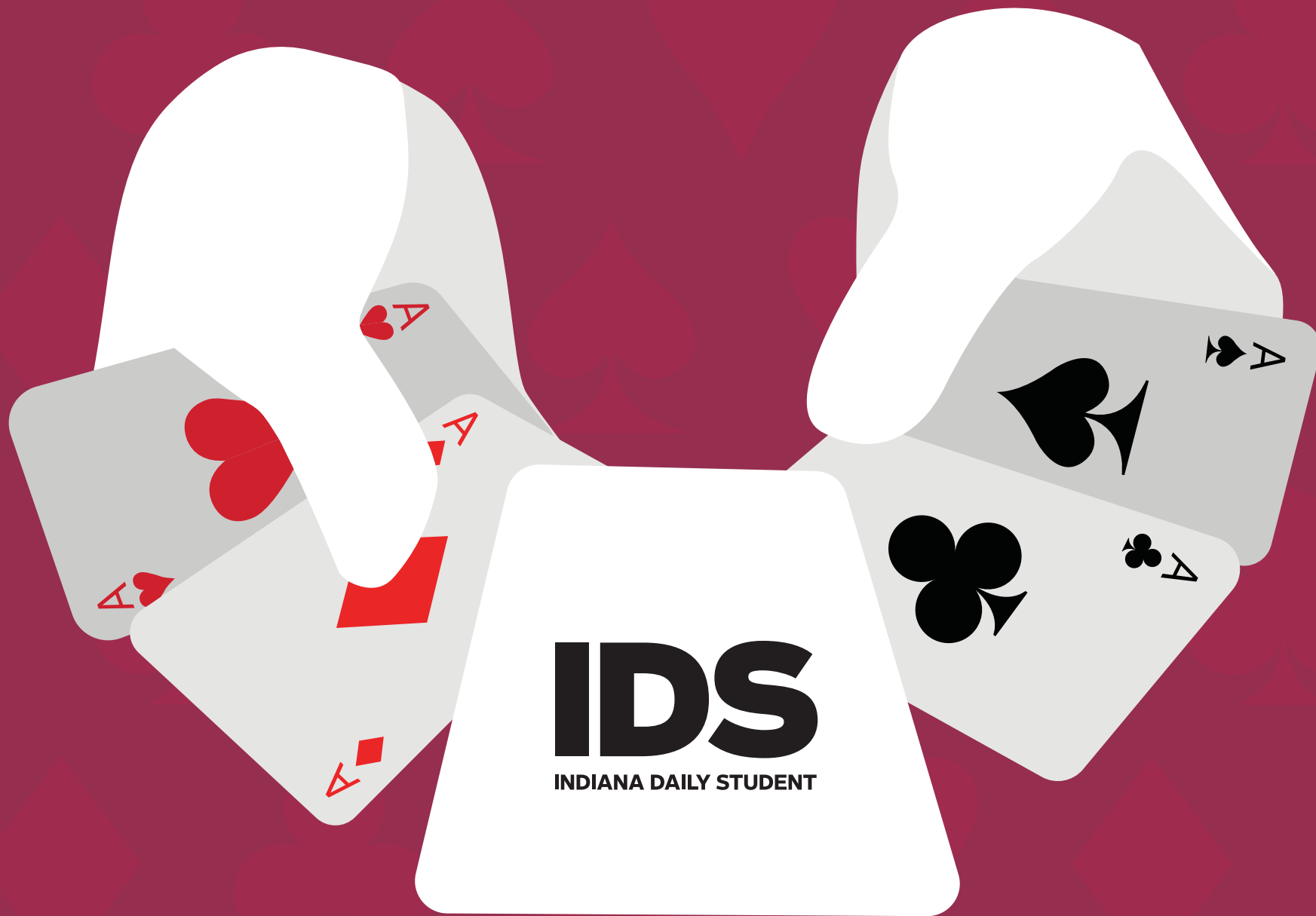
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