Professor’s son receives United Way lift

For many individuals benefiting from the United Way, a small step can be a great stride, and William Seyler is proof of that.

At 14 months, William, the son of Dr. Jeff Seyler, associate professor of chemistry, and his wife Traci, was diagnosed with an unclassified genetic disorder that resulted in both physical and mental disabilities.

Following diagnosis, the toddler began receiving free physical, speech, and occupational therapy at The Rehabilitation Center, which receives funding from the United Way.

About four months later, William began to walk.

“I don’t know if you can put it into words. I know we could not have taken him as far as they have. We just don’t have the training and the time,” Dr. Seyler said.

William participated in therapy at The Rehabilitation Center three days each week until he turned 4 and became a student in the center’s preschool program in addition to attending regular therapy sessions. Since he was verbally delayed, the center staff even taught William sign language.

“My wife suggests it’s very possible he might not have even been able to walk until much later than he did (without therapy at The Rehabilitation Center). The ability to even hold a pencil was a challenge for him, and it still is,” Seyler said.

“He also had, and still has, tactile sensitivity that they worked on. He would not even want to play with shaving cream because of the feel of it. And his speech, he still has a long way to go with his speech. He’s still in speech therapy, but unfortunately it’s not through The Rehab Center.”

The therapy team at the center also worked with William’s parents, showing them how to practice different skills with the youngster at home.

William began talking at age 3. Fragmented conversational speech came later, around the time he completed the center’s preschool program at age 5.

William, now 9, attends the Marion Day Program for children with special needs.

Dr. Seyler said the family could not have afforded to provide private services for William on the scale The Rehabilitation Center offered at no cost.

The Seylers also have three daughters, Angela, 18, a freshman majoring in science education at USI; Jessica, 14; and Rebekah, 7. The family resides in Evansville.

In addition to supporting a variety of organizations dedicated to helping people with disabilities, United Way dollars also benefit a wide range of agencies touching many areas, including adult literacy, after school programs, mental health services, child protection services, community outreach and support, domestic violence shelters, family care and education, health services, transitional housing, food kitchens, and emergency assistance.

USI United Way Campaign October 20-24

USI's United Way Campus Campaign officially kicks off Monday, October 20, and coordinators will begin distributing campaign materials and pledge cards to full-time, benefit-eligible University employees Friday, October 17.

United Way of Southwestern Indiana helps fund more than 40 agencies in Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Spencer counties dedicated to protecting children from abuse, providing positive activities for teens, enabling the elderly and disabled to remain independent, and helping families stay self-sufficient. To view a list of the Evansville area’s United Way agencies online, visit www.unitedwayswi.org/agencies.htm.

Contributions may be made with convenient payroll deductions, with cash, or by check. Cash and check contributions should not be sent through campus mail. Employees may return their pledge forms to their campaign coordinators or deliver them to Human Resources.

Completed pledge cards must be returned to the appropriate coordinator or to Human Resources by Friday, October 24, to be eligible for incentive prize drawings.

Unless otherwise specified by the donor, contributions will benefit agencies in Vanderburgh, Warrick, and Spencer counties.

Any employee who does not receive a United Way pledge form may obtain one by contacting Human Resources.

Lecture to consider the homoerotic essay

A new member of the foreign language faculty will present “Considerations Around the Homoerotic Essay in Latin America,” a lecture in the Liberal Arts Colloquium, at 3:30 p.m. October 31 in Kleymeyer Hall in the Liberal Arts Center.

Formerly of Phoenix, Ariz., Dr. Mikel Imaz, assistant professor of Spanish, now resides in Evansville. He earned a Ph.D. in 2003 from Arizona State University, where he worked as a Spanish teaching assistant. He also holds a B.A. from Universidad de Deusto in Spain.

Imaz is a member of the Modern Language Association and was recognized by Arizona State with a Ubiquity Award for the Most Outstanding Dissertation.

His colloquium presentation will focus on the works of various Latin American authors who have contributed to the establishment of a theoretical discourse about homoeroticism in Latin America.

The program will begin with discussion of Argentines Nestor Perlongher and Juan Jose Sebreli, and Chilean Pedro Lemebel. Imaz will explore the importance of Perlongher’s anthropological account of the male homosexual prostitute in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Sebreli’s Historia secreta de los homosexuales en Buenos Aires is a historical retrospective of the social and historical conditions of the homosexual population in Buenos Aires across much of its history.
While dealing with contemporary Chilean society, Pedro Lemebel’s chronicles examine the struggles of the homoeotropic subject, both during and after the Pinochet dictatorship.

The program’s focus will then shift to Colombian Jaime M anrique and his groundbreaking essay, “Eminent Maricones,” in which he discusses the importance of such figures as Federico García Lorca (Spain), Manuel Puig (Argentina), and Reinaldo Arenas (Cuba) in creating a respectable gay tradition in Hispanic literature.

The colloquium is a free lecture series featuring faculty research in the School of Liberal Arts.

**Vectren hosting leadership conference**

The Office of Student Development Programs will offer its Corporate Leadership Conference November 7-8 with Vectren Energy serving as host.

The free event is open to any USI student, and participation will be limited to the first 70 registrants. Faculty are encouraged to invite students to attend.

Participating in the conference provides an introduction to the leadership philosophy of a local corporation as well as opportunities to experience a corporate-style leadership/workshop and network with other students.

Events November 7 will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. in Carter Hall. Activities November 8 will be held from about 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wagner Building in downtown Evansville.

The registration deadline is October 29. Information and online registration are available at www.usi.edu/leadership/corporate.asp. Registration also is available by calling the Office of Student Development Programs, 812/465-7167.

**Children’s Center welcomes Young Explorer**

In recognition of its high-quality services, the USI Children’s Center has received a Young Explorer computer-learning center through a grant sponsored by IBM and the United Way.

IBM and The Little Tikes Co. created the Young Explorer as an all-in-one computing solution for early childhood centers, preschools, elementary schools, libraries, and other settings where young children learn and play together.

“The Children’s Center receives wonderful support from the University, but most of our technology is used equipment. What a wonderful experience to have a computer that is brand new and loaded with a variety of software to enhance the children’s learning,” said Pam Buschkill, center coordinator.

“The children can work on math, science, and literacy skills that support their daily classroom activities. The computer is a great resource for independent learning as well as a wonderful social experience when two or more children work together.”

A first-of-its-kind, all-inclusive unit for children ages 3 to 7, the Young Explorer has an approximate value of $2,400. It combines leading-edge technology from IBM with durable, creative furniture design from Little Tikes and award-winning educational software from IBM’s Edmark subsidiary.

The learning center’s network-ready computer is equipped with multimedia features, an internal CD-ROM, 14-inch monitor, and integrated speakers. The package also includes customer service and support.

**State court to convene on campus**

The Indiana Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in the case of Kevin L. McCarty v. State of Indiana at 2 p.m. October 28 in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center.

A three-judge panel will be on the USI campus as part of an effort to bring the judicial system closer to the people it serves. The panel will include judges Melissa S. Mattingly-May (Evansville) and Michael Carr L. Darden (Indianapolis), and Chief Judge Sanford M. Brook (South Bend).

The case is summarized as follows: “Kevin McCarty entered a plea of guilty to two counts of child molesting, then petitioned for post-conviction relief. He argues he had ineffective assistance of counsel at his sentencing hearing because his attorney did not inform the sentencing judge that McCarty was mentally impaired, had himself been molested as a child, and had a troubled family background. His petition was denied and he appeals.”

It will be argued by appellant’s attorney Lisa M almer Johnson, deputy public defender of Indianapolis, and appellee’s attorney Richard C. Webster, deputy attorney general of Indianapolis.

Each side will be given 30 minutes to argue its case. The judges will ask questions during the presentation, take the arguments under advisement, and issue an opinion in the near future.

Due to the “Code of Judicial Conduct,” the judges will not be able to answer any specific questions about the case but can respond to general inquiries about the legal system. The judges also will be available for photographs before or after the oral arguments.

The Indiana Court of Appeals consists of 15 judges appointed by the governor to serve in Indianapolis. A appeals are assigned to rotating panels of three judges. Each panel has statewide jurisdiction.

**Names in the news**

**Congratulations**

Penny White, senior administrative associate in Advancement, and husband Randy are the parents of a daughter, Hope Elizabeth, born October 9. She arrived weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces, and measuring 21.5 inches.

**Welcome**

Ava R. Demps ’02 has accepted the position of benefits supervisor in Human Resources. The Evansville resident previously worked as a Human Resources representative at USI, executive director of the Organization for a New Evansville, and director of Mission of Grace Lutheran. She holds a B.S. in management from USI.

Adam R. Durbin has accepted the position of computer maintenance technician in the Computer Center. The Evansville resident previously worked as a PC support specialist for the City of Henderson, Ky., and as helpdesk supervisor for University of Evansville. He is a magna cum laude Honors Program graduate of UE, where he earned a B.S. in business administration, management and finance.

Dr. Stephen B. Shanklin, Martin, Tenn., has accepted the position of visiting assistant professor of accounting. He previously worked as a visiting professor of accounting and international business at University of Tennessee at Martin, assistant professor of accounting and Lambuth University in Tennessee,
adjunct instructor of accounting at Washington University-St. Louis, and adjunct instructor of accounting at St. Louis University, where he earned a Ph.D. He also holds an M.B.A. and B.S. from University of Tennessee and a B.S.B.A. from Murray State University. Shanklin was named Lambuth University’s Educator of the Year in 2002 and received the University of Tennessee at Martin School of Business Outstanding Teacher Award in 2003. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Tennessee Society of CPAs, and the West Tennessee Society of CPAs.

Barbara J. Williams '01 has accepted the position of instructor in occupational therapy. A resident of Poseyville, Ind., she previously worked as an adjunct faculty member in the USI Occupational Therapy Program and as an occupational therapist at HealthSouth Rehab Hospital. She is a doctoral candidate in occupational therapy at NovaSoutheastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and anticipates receiving her degree in 2004. She holds an M.S. in occupational therapy from Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., and a B.S. in occupational therapy from USI.

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to the family of Roberta Edgerson, retired custodial worker, whose husband Joel “Joe” Edgerson, 63, Evansville, died October 13.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, October 17, at Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church, where services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 18. Mason Bros. Memorial Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

FYI

Disability rap

USI’s celebration of CommUNITY Month will include a Disability Culture Rap with Julie Payne, director of Residence Life, and Laurie Berry, associate director of Residence Life, Wednesday, October 22. The free event, sponsored by the Multicultural Center, will be presented from noon to 1 p.m. in Carter Hall. The public is invited.

Wheels West/Eagle Gran Prix

USI’s inaugural “Wheels West,” a car, truck, and motorcycle show, will be held Saturday, October 18, in conjunction with the Eagle Gran Prix bicycle races.

The car, truck, and motorcycle show will take place in Lot C, located at the corner of University Boulevard and Bennett Lane. Registration ($15 or $10 for students) will be from 9 a.m. until noon, and awards will be presented at 2 p.m. The award classes are classics, customs, imports, cruisers, and sport bikes.

The Eagle Gran Prix bicycle races for USI men, women, and co-ed teams will begin at 12:15 p.m. in front of the Recreation and Fitness Center on University Boulevard. For information, call 812/465-1136.

Trick-or-treat

Newman and Governors residence halls will host a Safe Trick-or-Treat Extravaganza for area children from 6 to 8 p.m. October 31. The event will feature door-to-door trick-or-treating, carnival fun, and a mildly spooky haunted house.

Donations of candy or other individually wrapped goodies are needed. Donations may be delivered to the Residence Life Center. Call Tracy Shadowens, area coordinator, 812/468-2675, to arrange for pick up.

Biology series

The Department of Biology’s Fall Seminar Series will feature Dr. Brian Metscher, assistant professor of evolutionary developmental biology, at 2:30 p.m. Friday, October 24, in Room 1101 of the Education Center.

“Evolution: The Fish Still Say Yes!” will be the topic of his free presentation. Refreshments will be served before the program.

Art workshops

The Department of Art, Music, and Theatre will conduct a six-week Saturday Art Workshop for children ages 6 to 14 on the USI campus. Workshop participants will be divided into four age groups: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, and 12-14. Each group will be limited to 20 children.

USI elementary education and art education students will provide the workshop instruction with direct supervision by art education faculty. Dr. Joseph Uduehi, assistant professor of art education, is coordinating the workshop, which will be held six Saturdays, October 18-October 22, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Technology Center.

The registration fee is $30 per child. For information or registration, call Kathi Thurston, senior program assistant in Continuing Education, 812/465-1274.

Environmental panel

A panel discussion about local environmental issues and area air pollution will be presented at 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 21, in Room 2108 of the Education Center.

The free event is part of the celebration of National Chemistry Week sponsored by the USI Student Affiliate Chapter of the American Chemical Society and the society’s Indiana-Kentucky Border Section.

Retiree news

University Notes encourages USI retirees to submit information about themselves for publication in the newsletter. Retiree news might include reports of recent travel, volunteer work, hobbies, recent photos (not portrait photos), or other updates to share with the USI community.

To submit information, send it via e-mail to Libby L. Keeling, associate editor, or mail it to Keeling in care of USI News and Information Services, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712.

Healthy Hoe-down

The Employee Wellness Committee and Student Wellness Office will present a Healthy Hoe-down Wellness Fair for USI employees and students from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. October 28 on Rice Plaza and in Carter Hall.

The event will feature a variety of health screenings conducted by students in the School of Nursing and Health Professions and by area vendors.

Additional cholesterol and hearing screenings will be available October 27 in Room 2028 of the Health Professions Center. To make an appointment for screening October 27, call 812/465-1153. Appointments are not required October 28.
Student success

“Taking Control of Test Anxiety,” a workshop in the Student Success Series presented by A cademic Skills, will be held at 9 a.m. Friday, October 17. Erin Simmons, senior education major, will be the speaker.

“Memory Markers,” presented by Judy Luther, coordinator of A cademic Skills, will begin at 9 a.m. Thursday, October 23.

Students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend the free 30-minute interactive workshops in Room 1102 of the Education Center. For more information, call 812/464-1743.

Mole Day

The annual Mole Day Celebration, featuring a chemistry quiz competition for area high school students, will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, October 23, in Carter Hall. Mole Day also will include chemical demonstrations, tours of the University's Chemistry Department, lunch, and awards.

The event is part of the celebration of National Chemistry Week sponsored by the USI Student Affiliate Chapter of the American Chemical Society and the society's Indiana-Kentucky Border Section.

Benefit concert

A benefit concert featuring the Evansville Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra will be presented at 2 p.m. October 26 at the Rapp Granary, 512 Granary St. in New Harmony. Proceeds will benefit the Granary. For tickets or information, call 812/682-3128.

Greek recruitment

David Stollman, a national consultant to Greek councils and chapters, will speak to University fraternities and sororities Sunday, October 19. His program, focusing on recruitment, will begin at 7 p.m. in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center. Advisors of Greek organizations on campus and other interested faculty and staff also are invited to attend.

Newsletter deadline

Friday, October 17, is the deadline for submitting information for the next online issue of University Notes. Submissions received after the deadline will be published at the discretion of the editorial staff.

Submissions for the “Marketplace” column may be made via e-mail to Roberta Fugate, editorial associate in News and Information Services. Other submissions for University Notes may be made via e-mail to Libby L. Keeling, associate editor.

Marketplace

For sale

Black aluminum full-size truck tool box - lockable and does not require drilling through truck bed. Bought last year for $350, will sell for $130. 15" aluminum mag rims and tires - fit most stud ded cars. Rims were bought brand new for $1,700, and tires are low profile. Will sell for $300. Used Visioneer computer scanner (Paperport 6100) - works with Windows ME and later versions, does not work with XP, $30. Call Chris, 812/449-9247.

Oak/Maple dining room set - seats six with two leaves, $125. Will also give a free mauve love seat and colonial blue upholstered rocker with dining room purchase. Can e-mail picture of table and chairs. Contact 812/464-1906 or 812/423-9788.


2003 Chevy Silverado Quad Cab - less than 5,000 miles. All power with CD player. Still like brand new inside and out: $20,500 (negotiable). Call 270/826-1968.


Twin sofas - good condition, blue with oak frame, $50 each. Call Susan, 812/465-1178.

2000 Jeep Cherokee Sport - 46,000 miles, loaded, great condition, $11,800. Call Joanna, Ext. 7049 days or 812/985-0721 after 6 p.m.

1997 Clayton home - 16' by 72'. Three bedrooms, two baths, and laundry room. Patio overhang and tool shed included in price. All appliances, including stackable washer and dryer. Electric heat and central air conditioning. On quiet Westside lot. Newly carpeted and painted. Ready to move in. Call 812/424-8547 or 812/842-2654 after 5 p.m.


Free

Five beautiful kittens - free to a good home. Call Debi Hagan, 812/465-1099.

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Marketplace," a free service available to University employees and retirees, publishes information of a non-commercial nature that may include items for sale or rent, desired items or services, available services, free items, and fund raisers. The editorial staff reserves the right to decline any submission and to enforce the column deadline.

Friday, October 17, is the deadline for submitting information for the next "Marketplace." Submissions may be made by calling 812/465-1192.

University Notes is available online in a convenient, full-color format. To view Notes on the Web, visit: www.usi.edu/newsinfo/newnotes.asp.

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