Athletics booster Patrick Goen named USI Volunteer of Year

By Roberta Fugate
News and Information Services

A devoted Athletics volunteer has been named University of Southern Indiana’s 2003 Volunteer of the Year, the highest volunteer honor awarded by the University.

For more than 10 years, Patrick J. Goen has given exceptional service to the USI community. A volunteer for the Athletics Department, he is a past member of the Varsity Club board of directors. He is chair of prizes for the Varsity Club Golf Scramble. Goen spends hours searching for prizes for goody bags and raffle items to be given away at the scramble and hosts volunteers at his home to organize the prizes and fill bags. Goen also volunteers for other events, including the Varsity Club Steak Fry ’n Auction and the Fall Festival booth. He assists with mailings and works with concessions at softball games. He also is responsible for organizing bus trips to away basketball games.

Jon Mark Hall, USI Athletics director, said, “Our coaches and staff know that when Patrick Goen is around and helping with an event, things are going to get done. However, this is not the main reason that our staff loves to have Patrick Goen involved. The main reason is that he always has a smile on his face and makes people feel good about what they are doing. We could never repay him for all that he has done for our department.”

Men’s basketball to challenge Pearl’s Panthers

The University of Southern Indiana men’s basketball team and head coach Rick Herdes will tip off the 2003-04 exhibition schedule with a trip to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to play Bruce Pearl’s Panthers on November 1. Game time is 3 p.m. at the Klotsche Athletic Center in Milwaukee.

Pearl coached the Screaming Eagles from 1992-2001. “This will be a great game for the fans,” said Herdes. “Bruce remains a fan favorite in Evansville and I look forward to playing a Division I opponent. I want to thank Coach Pearl for giving us the opportunity to bridge the gap between Division I and Division II play. Fans need to remember that this is an exhibition game. Both teams will have had only two-and-a-half weeks of practice. These types of games are designed to give the staff an idea of what we need to work on to be ready for the regular season.”

The match-up with UW-Milwaukee will be the first with a Division I team since 1992-93 when USI traveled to the University of Missouri during the regular season.

“I am aware of the challenges USI faces in scheduling, especially with Division I opponents,” Pearl said. “No one in their right mind would play them, especially this year when they have a chance to compete for the national championship. But no one has ever accused me of being in my right mind. My players have no idea of the talent level they will see or how well-prepared their opponent will be.”

In exhibition games since 1990, the Eagles are 13-4. Last year USI defeated the Tornatta Stars, 116-82, and the Akron Wingfoots, 117-72, in exhibition.
25th Anniversary
Great Lakes Valley Conference
1978-2003
GLVC is 25

This fall marks the 25th year that University of Southern Indiana teams have competed for championships in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. The GLVC was formed July 7, 1978, with USI as one of the founding schools. The conference now sponsors 18 championships in (for men) baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, indoor and outdoor track and field, and tennis and (for women) basketball, cross country, golf, indoor and outdoor track and field, softball, soccer, tennis, and volleyball. USI squads have won 79 conference championships and earned 395 All-GLVC awards in the 25 years.

Volunteer
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In addition to his volunteer work in Athletics, Goen has been a volunteer at the University home. His late wife Judy worked on campus in Career Services and then as the assistant to President Emeritus David Rice, until she retired in 1997.

Goen has accumulated 663 volunteer hours since July 1, 1996. He is the University’s seventh Volunteer of the Year. The award was presented August 7 at the Volunteer USI Recognition Dinner. Nearly 300 individuals who donated 20 or more hours of service to USI last year also were honored.

The Volunteer Recognition Dinner is an annual event sponsored by the Office of Alumni and Volunteer Services. Since 1996 when Volunteer USI was organized, volunteers have contributed 558,261 hours, which when calculated at the national volunteer wage amounts to $9.2 million.

Gatling appointed senior woman administrator
Alumna Casey Nations is women’s basketball assistant coach

Randa Gatling ’99, assistant women’s basketball coach, has been named senior woman administrator for the Athletics Department.

The Evansville native is returning for her fifth season on the women’s basketball coaching staff. She also becomes the top assistant to USI head coach Rick Stein. In addition, Gatling will be in charge of USI’s Eagle Math, an incentive program that encourages elementary-school students to improve their math skills.

Gatling earned a bachelor’s degree in social work. As senior woman administrator, she succeeds LeAnn Freeland, who accepted a position at Florida Gulf Coast University.

Former USI women’s basketball player Casey Nations ’02 (O’Fallon, Illinois) has been named assistant women’s basketball coach. As a player for the Screaming Eagles, Nations helped the team to the 2001 NCAA Division II Elite Eight, a GLVC regular-season and tournament championship, and a 28-4 record. She played in 31 games during her senior season, averaging 4.3 points and 4.8 rebounds per game. Prior to joining USI as a player, Nations spent a season at the University of New Mexico after averaging 11.0 points and 9.5 rebounds as a sophomore at Belleville Area College in Illinois.

Nations earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration.

Athletics names three assistant coaches

There are new faces on the bench for women’s volleyball and men’s and women’s soccer.

Joining Head Coach Craig Bere’s staff is former USI volleyball standout Kristi Kavanaugh. As a player, Kavanaugh earned first-team Verizon Academic All-America honors after helping the volleyball Screaming Eagles to their first GLVC Tournament title and first berth in the NCAA Division II Tournament. The Montgomery, Indiana, native plans to complete a bachelor’s degree in elementary education in May.

Head Coach Dan Hogan will be assisted with men’s soccer by Clay Havill, who spent last year as head coach at Mater Dei High School in Evansville. Havill was a three-time team captain in four soccer seasons at the University of Evansville. He also was a two-time Academic All-American, a first team All-Region Scholar Athlete, and a three-time Missouri Valley Conference Scholar Athlete. On the field, Havill was a two-time first team All-MVC performer.

In her first season as head coach for women’s soccer, Krissy Meek has called upon Ashley Sandefur to be her assistant coach. Sandefur graduated from the University of Evansville with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education and was a four-year member of the women’s soccer program. During her soccer career, Sandefur was named second team All-Missouri Valley Conference. The Evansville native and graduate of Central High School also was named to the MVC Scholar Athlete team.
Volleyball

Need an assist? Setter Kim Boehmer may hit 5,000

By Dan McDonnell
Assistant Director of Sports Information

On August 25, 2000, the University of Southern Indiana volleyball team caught its first glimpse of what was to come. Behind a strong performance from their freshman setter, the Screaming Eagles toppled Wheeling Jesuit University, 3-1.

It was the first of a record 27 wins for the Eagles in 2000.

It also was the beginning of an outstanding assists record for the then-freshman setter, Kim Boehmer (Cincinnati, Ohio). She went on to win Great Lakes Valley Conference “Freshman of the Year” honors after recording a school-record 1,236 assists.

Assistant coach and former teammate Kristi Kavanaugh said, “I attribute our success in 2000 to Kim’s ability to make a decent hitter look phenomenal.”

As a senior, Boehmer finds herself within reasonable reach of something very few players in GLVC history have attained—career assist number 5,000. She recorded 1,271 assists in 2001 and 1,491 in 2002. In the first weekend of 2003 play, she broke the 4,000 mark for career assists. She is more than 1,300 assists ahead of USI’s former school record.

Boehmer’s efforts during her first three seasons earned her three first-team All-GLVC selections as well as an American Volleyball Coaches Association All-Region and Daktronics All-Region selection. With another All-GLVC selection, she would become the first four-time All-GLVC member in USI volleyball history.

Nationally, Boehmer ranks sixth all-time in NCAA II history with 12.38 assists per game. Her sets have helped the Eagles to a 75-22 record during the last three seasons.

“Kim is an important factor in the equation of winning back-to-back conference titles,” head coach Craig Bere said. “Her leadership and individual control will be important for our young squad this year. If she has another year like she had in 2002, she not only will break records as an individual, but the team will make history as well.”

Mayor’s Cup creates new rivalry

USI and the University of Evansville met on the soccer field on August 20 for the first time since 1987. The Aces prevailed in the first annual Mayor’s Cup, 4-2, holding off a strong comeback attempt by the Eagles. At right, freshman forward Neil Peluchette, who scored USI’s first goal of the game, makes his move on Aces back Patrick Ahern in the second half.

NCAA regulations apply to Athletics boosters

S. Jay Newton
Assistant Director of Athletics/Compliance Coordinator

The Athletics Department is grateful to friends and fans who support the Screaming Eagles. Under NCAA regulations, the University is held accountable for the actions of boosters. Therefore, it is critical that representatives of athletics interests (boosters) not engage in recruitment activities or provide benefits or privileges to prospective and enrolled student athletes. You are a “representative of athletics interests” if you have made financial contributions to the Athletics Department or booster club or have been involved otherwise in promoting the institution’s athletics programs. Once you are a representative of athletics interests, you are one forever.

Athletics representatives are prohibited from providing extra benefits or special arrangements to a prospect or enrolled student athlete. Prohibited activities include, but are not limited to, the providing of cash or loans in any amount, use of automobiles, use of a cell phone, gifts or discounts of any kind not available to the general student population, and free or reduced-rent housing.

Also, representatives of athletics interests are prohibited from making in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts with a prospect or the prospect’s relatives. We encourage you to send recommendation letters, clippings, or other materials to our coaching staff, but NCAA regulations do not allow you to contact prospective student athletes directly.
Steak Fry ’n Auction sizzles with success

Discovery Lodge at Burdette Park was the setting for more than 380 friends of USI sports who turned out September 26 for the Varsity Club’s annual Steak Fry ’n Auction. Rick Kersting (inset), chair of the event, donned a hat with island flair to pick up on the South Pacific theme. He confers with Bob Reed during the auction. All proceeds from the dinner and auction benefit student athletes.

Varsity Club membership

The Varsity Club benefits USI intercollegiate athletics with financial support and fan participation. Five membership levels are available with special benefits at each level.

Silver Eagle ($125)—Admission to Varsity Club Room hospitality events, name on Varsity Club Roster in Physical Activities Center, Eagle Outlook newsletter, invitations to fan trips/special events and All-Sports Picnic, basketball season ticket priority
Golden Eagle ($250)—Above benefits plus souvenir basketball press guide and invitation to basketball pre-season events
Regal Eagle ($500)—Above benefits plus pregame event at University Home
All-American Eagle ($1,000)—Above benefits plus reserved parking for basketball games, post-season ticket priority
Screaming Eagle ($2,000)—Above benefits plus personal parking place for basketball games


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