

System keeps students notified

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IU Notify, a system that will be used to notify students of campus emergencies and closures through telephone, e-mail and text messages, is now up and running.

The system was developed for all IU campuses, but IU Southeast students will receive messages specific to their campus.

"It's a better way to notify students about what's going on in the university environment, to keep them out of harm's way and to keep them from coming to campus and finding out it's closed," Dennis Simon, IUS Police Chief, said. "As a police department, we feel like it's a very good tool."

Larry Mand, Vice Chancellor for IT and Community Engagement and campus notification task force chair, said the system will probably

be used most often to inform students of events like snow delays or closures.

"We have a lot of folks who drive in from considerable distances and may be on the road and miss news announcements," he said. "These are the kinds of things where I think you can have a real positive impact by getting the information to people."

"Obviously it's there, too, for more serious situations if there should be a crisis on

campus, but hopefully that's as bad as it would ever get," Mand said.

If an emergency should occur, there is already a system in place to deal with the situation, part of which includes using the IU Notify system.

The Crisis Management Team is convened by the first member who is notified of the emergency. The Crisis Management Team consists of the chancellor, vice chancellors, campus police and

other individuals, varying with the type of emergency.

The team collects information, evaluates the situation and makes decisions about how to handle it, including whether or not to evacuate or send a message through IU Notify. If they decide to send a message, it is sent directly from the police department. There are five people on campus who can send the message, but the police department is the primary place from which messages

will be sent.

The system will initially use contact information given by each student when they were admitted to IU Southeast. Students will have to subscribe to receive text messages.

But Mand said this contact information may not be accurate.

"In some cases that may not be the right number anymore," he said. "What we'd

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SGA offers money for students

By BRUCE DOOLIN
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The Student Government Association is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2008-2009 school year. All returning students are welcome to apply for the scholarship.

The Student Judiciary SGA scholarship awards an applicant who is involved in his or her community and campus. The recipient is chosen according to a points system.

"Everyone should apply," Sandy Turpin, SGA chief justice and general studies senator, said. "Anyone could get this scholarship."

The judicial branch has offered the scholarship in the past with few applications turned in.

"I would rather go through a thousand applications than to find out later that students didn't know about it," Turpin said.

The award can be divided for two semesters, \$500 each, or throughout three semesters, \$400 for two semesters with \$200 for another future semester, depending on the recipient's decision. The SGA judiciary will contact the winner.

Applications are located at the judicial branch office located in University Center South, room 014. The deadline for all applications is April 15. In the event that the office is closed, the red

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Kicking the habit

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On Jan. 23, the Quit Clinic had its first meeting of the four-week program. The clinic began last fall at IU Southeast when the campus went tobacco-free. It is a service that the campus set up for anyone who is seeking assistance or information about quitting smoking.

Felicia Essing, MSSW Floyd County Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Coalition coordinator, is leading the meetings, providing support and information.

"I am more than happy to coach people," she said. "It's very informal."

Essing also is encouraging people who don't smoke to sit in on the meetings.

"Students studying public health, psychology, addiction or people who are just curious or know someone who is trying to quit should stop by," Essing said.

Since the clinic began, one person has attended.

Essing said she hopes others will take advantage of this program.

"The school is offering more than any other school has," she said.

"They set up the ground

work, now it is up to the individual."

She said with the clinic, there are no expectations. It is to provide information and help.

"I think people felt that their rights were taken away when the campus went tobacco-free."

Essing is offering to work with individuals who are unable to attend the clinic but are seeking information. She can be reached at 923-3400, or toll free at (800) 276-9773.

Kimberly Pelle, coordinator of non-traditional student programs, was the clinic's first participant and said first session was a great first step.

"It was helpful, laid back and non-condescending," Pelle said. "She gave me hope."

She said Essing helped her see her addiction was more physical and emotional, and not to nicotine.

The next meeting for the tobacco cessation program will be on Feb. 6 in University Center, Room 126.

"I'm not a heavy smoker," Pelle said. "Some people don't even know that I smoke."

Essing said less than seven cigarettes a day isn't an addiction, it's emotional and just a habit. Being a former smoker, Essing doesn't chastise people who do smoke.

"People think that if they

Photo Illustrations by Jerod Clapp

come to the meetings they have to quit and that's not what this is about," Essing said.

By calling 1-800-QUIT-NOW you can receive two weeks of free therapy and also get free nicotine replacements such as nicotine patches.

Pelle said she didn't know what to expect, but is coming back to future meetings.

"I think people who smoke think about quitting," she said. "In the back of their minds they really want to quit."

One dorm filled to capacity so far



Photo by Jerod Clapp

Construction workers lay foundation for a residence hall. So far, 71 applications for residents have been turned in.

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With its opening in the fall drawing closer, the IUS residence halls have hundreds of vacant spaces.

Jim Schlinsog, director of Residence Life and Housing, said there's room for 400 total spaces. So far, 71 applications have been turned in.

Applications for apartment spaces were first accepted in November, 2007.

There is no sign-up deadline and applications will even be taken after the start of fall 2008 classes.

Schlinsog said early applications were more likely to get preferred locations. That's important for students like Heather Brown, education freshman.

"I want to have a dorm overlooking the lake," she said. "I'm excited that I'll get the full college experience everyone's talking about."

The rooms in the lodges are already taking shape. Model apartments will be prepared by March for anyone who wants to see what the rooms will look like. Major construction will be finished by June.

Schlinsog said he hopes

more people will apply for apartment spaces as fall approaches.

"Some may be hesitant to sign the dotted line until it gets closer," he said. "I'm hoping to get as many as I can. Lately they've been coming in more regularly."

More applications will equate fewer budget woes for the university. The rates students pay go toward the fees, utilities and the staffing the dorms require.

The construction and every room's furnishing were not paid by the students. It was paid by the university when they issued bonds,

Schlinsog said. The resident lodges cost approximately \$21 million to build.

Schlinsog said the gas line leak on Jan. 18, which was caused when a contractor working on the dorms damaged a main gas line, is not going to affect the budget or the construction schedule.

"We have time built into the schedule if something goes wrong," he said. "We're on time and on target."

Some money has also gone toward advertising the dorms. The university has sent direct mailers, posted a

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BLURBS



IUS Police officials said the parking lots haven't been full yet. To find those extra spots, you'll have to be willing to hoof it.



Want to be a Community Advisor? It's like an RA with one different letter. Go to the office of Residence Life, University Center South, 188, and apply.