

## Strategic specialist speaks at IUS

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**'This not winning or losing process will take us well into 2008.'**

**Anthony Cordesman  
Center for Strategic and  
International Studies**

Anthony Cordesman, senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C., spoke in the IUS Library on April 4.

Cordesman holds the Arleigh A. Burke Chair at the CSIS and he is also a national security analyst for ABC News.

Cordesman spoke about strategic lessons from Iraq and Afghanistan and gave his opinions about where the U.S. military should go from here.

He said he has differing views from President Bush and his new plan which focuses on stabilizing Baghdad by adding thousands of troops with newly expanded powers to take on Shi'ite as well as Sunni rebels.

"This not winning or losing process will take us well into 2008," Cordesman said.

"We need to realize there will be many wars fought between different groups over there even after we leave, and we will never be able to fully control their fighting."

Cordesman said the United States needs to deal individually with each country in the Middle East.

He said we need to negotiate with each country separately and let them know we respect their identity. Cordesman said we need to be careful to not impose our values on other countries and realize they have different traditions and ways of living than our own.

"Terrorism will never fully go away," Cordesman said.

"It is what it is. Even if we caught [Osama] bin Laden tomorrow there would still be terrorists in the world. We

need to strengthen our intelligence and improve our foreign relations before this conflict will improve."

Pat Boucher, journalism senior, serves in the U.S. military and attended Cordesman's lecture. He said he agrees with Cordesman that killing bin Laden won't stop terrorists, but says capturing him is necessary.

Boucher said developing a track record of killing our enemy's leaders will make them more prone to negotiation as opposed to violence.

"I feel he was a little too pessimistic about our involvement in Iraq," Boucher said.

"Although he was absolutely correct in calling it a war of time and attrition."

Cordesman said our fighting in Iraq is similar to our involvement in Vietnam and the Cold War. He said like the Cold War, this conflict will not go away through a series of wars.

Cordesman said fighting in the Middle East will undoubtedly continue throughout most of our working careers.

"Most of the countries we have issues with in the Middle East will not stop their objectives," he said. "We need to accept reality and



Photo by Justin Carter

**Chris Lang (left), professor of mathematics, listens to Anthony Cordesman (right), senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, give his opinion on the current war in both Iraq and Afghanistan in the IUS Library on April 4.**

realize we're not going to be able to transform this region. They'll probably transform themselves way before we can."

Cordesman said one of the most debilitating misperceptions of this war is the view that the United States' involvement is anti-Muslim or anti-Arab.

He said we need to improve our reputation in this area and show them we respect their religious beliefs.

Cliff Staten, dean of the

School of Social Sciences, said he was impressed that such an experienced and important expert would share his views with the students and faculty at IU Southeast.

Cordesman said we need to work together as a nation and not remain as partisan in our political beliefs.

He said the differences between neo-liberals and neo-conservatives are not as apparent as both sides would like to believe.

Lorrie Vinson, secondary education junior, said she was surprised at how lively and spirited a speaker Cordesman was.

"He really kept my attention," Vinson said.

"Some of the topics he covered were really heavy and in-depth, but he made them interesting to listen to."

Cordesman said every American has a responsibility to stay in touch with what is going on in Iraq and the rest of the Middle East.

He said he has learned through experience that if something sounds like a conspiracy it probably is one, and each person should strive to find the most balanced and unbiased news.

"It is important for us to learn from our mistakes and to plan for our future," Cordesman said.

"However, we have failed ourselves if we give too much thought to our history and culture, but not enough to reality."

## Students volunteer during spring break

BY JUSTIN CARTER  
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A group of IUS students helped repair a historic home in Corydon, Ind. during spring break.

The house was built by Leonard Carter, an African-American Hoosier, who fought for the Union during the Civil War. Carter settled in Corydon after the war and built his home in 1891.

The house was targeted for a volunteer day of repair as one of the projects in the Fourth Annual Greater Louisville Martin Luther King, Jr. Season of Service.

The Carter house was saved from demolition two years ago when it was moved to a lot that was purchased next to the Leora Brown School in Corydon.

Connie Holland, IUS volunteer center coordinator, helped organize the event for IUS students.

She said the group of students that

went with her to repair the house got a lot accomplished.

"We mainly did work on the exterior," Holland said.

"We did a lot of scraping and we put up weatherboarding."

Holland said about 12 people turned out to help work on the house.

Lorrie Vinson, secondary education junior, painted the front porch and helped clean up the property.

"There were actual construction workers repairing the home as well," Vinson said.

"We had all the tools and resources we needed.

It was a great feeling to see the house come together."

Maxine Brown is the founder of the Leora Brown School.

Brown is in charge of the Carter house project.

She said the home was stabilized with funds from the Emfromyson Fund and First Harrison Bank sponsored the

volunteer event.

"Connie and the students from IUS made a wonderful contribution to the Martin Luther King Day of Service at the Carter house here in Corydon," Brown said.

"The house looks so much better now and I'm sure that this obvious sign of progress will assist with our fundraising efforts to finish the project."

Brown said the weatherboarding of the house is nearly complete but all the panels will now have to be painted.

She said the Carter home is a work in progress that when completed will add another important historical property to the array of sites in Corydon's historic community.

The Volunteer Center is planning another trip to help restore the Carter house on April 14.

Vinson said there is plenty of work still to be done and she hopes more people will volunteer this time.

## College Republicans discuss elections

By JACK MCCOY  
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The College Republicans met on April 5 to discuss the elections of officers and reaching out to new students among other things.

"We are going to need to do elections again this month," Alyssa Brown, journalism sophomore and College Republicans president, said.

"I know we just did elections in the fall, but that was because we were ratifying this constitution and the offices changed."

Brown said the new elections will take place on April 19 at 12:15 p.m. in Crestview Hall.

"The offices that are open are president, vice president of membership, vice president of finance, vice president of community affairs, vice president of activities and secretary," Brown said. "I'd really like to have someone who is a freshman or maybe sophomore; someone who isn't graduating in a few years to take an office position."

"Freshmen, freshmen, freshmen," Chanelle Vavasseur, criminal justice senior and College Republicans vice-president said. "That's what we need."

The group also discussed plans to bring new students to the College Republicans, including a strong appearance at Fresh Fusion, a freshman welcome festival in the fall.

"I think we also need to schedule

more social events because the meetings are kind of boring," Brown said.

"Our next social event is the first Friday in May," she said. "We are going to be having pizza and a conservative movie."

The event will take place at 6 p.m. in the Indiana Room on May 5.

Another concern of the College Republicans was getting an office in the newly renovated University Center.

Vavasseur said having an office would be very helpful.

"Getting in contact with our organization would be easier if we did have an office," she said.

The meeting concluded with nominations for new officers and the raffle of a book.

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