

Grenadiers run with another win

By **MARTI JOHNSON**
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The softball game against Brescia University on April 6 went on as scheduled, despite weather. Throughout the game, players and fans alike were put off by freezing winds and scattered snow showers. The cold did not, however, hinder the ladies of the Grenadiers softball team. The game went off without a hitch.

From the start, IU Southeast dominated the game. While Brescia's pitcher, junior Jenny Hall, couldn't seem to find her game, IU Southeast took advantage of the opportunity, scoring run after run in the first half of the game.

During the second half, things started to get nasty for the Grenadiers. Early on, freshman Kristen Martin had to be carried off the field for an unknown injury. Later, freshman Krista New was hit in the face by a bad pitch while at bat.

Unfortunately, New couldn't make the walk to first base after being struck, and freshman Kristen Houtsch was called in as a courtesy runner. The change-out was hotly disputed by IU Southeast's coach Todd Buckingham, Brescia's head coach Traci Smith and two different referees.

In the end, Houtsch was not allowed to courtesy run and New's walk was called an out. Despite weather and injury, IU Southeast managed to come out green, with a final score of 6 to 1.



Photos by Marti Johnson

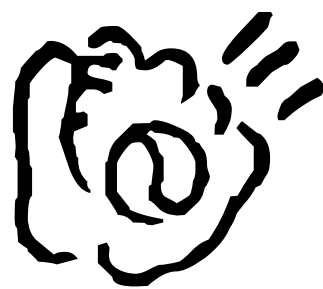
Jill Adams, freshman pitcher, readies to play against Brescia's Lady Bearcats. The Grenadiers brought home a win with a score of 6 to 1.



Cindy Davis, mother of Carmen Davis, junior outfielder, is bundled up to watch her daughter's softball game.



Carmen Davis, junior outfielder, makes a run in the game against Brescia's Lady Bearcats on April 6.



Student conference opens on link between literacy, poverty

By **LORI RICHIE**
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IU Southeast will be hosting their third annual Student Conference April 19-20. This year's keynote address, "Reversing the Cycle of Poverty: Literacy Across the Life Span," will be given by Sharon Darling, president and founder of the National Center for Family Literacy. "We are very excited about Sharon Darling coming to IU Southeast," Debbie

Finkel, dean for research, said. "We are lucky enough to have a world renowned speaker like her to give our keynote address this year."

The last two years IUS alumni have given the address, Finkel said.

"This year we are hoping for a broader appeal," Finkel said. "We want a broader audience to see what our students have achieved."

Darling recently returned from a trip to Tokyo where she presented a tribute to honor the president of the

Toyota Corporation for the millions of dollars he has donated to help support the literacy efforts of the NCFL. She serves on numerous national boards and is instrumental in shaping state and federal policies and laws.

Darling has received recognitions such as the National Humanities Medal, the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, the Charles A. Dana Award for Pioneering Achievement in Education and the Harold W. McGraw Award for Outstanding Educator.

She has been featured on A&E network's "Biography" and has received several honorary doctorate degrees.

According to their Website, the NCFL, located in Louisville, and founded in 1989, is known for creating innovative program models, developing effective advocacy strategies and providing research, training and technical assistance to professionals working in literacy across the lifespan.

The conference is set to begin at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 19, in the Ogle Center Lobby and the keynote

address will be held at 7 p.m. in the Stem Concert Hall.

The conference is a time for the IUS students to present their work to a larger audience than in a classroom.

Awards will be presented. Last year award winning papers were published in a special edition of the IU Southeast Undergraduate Research Journal.

Refreshments will be served at the event.

Everyone is encouraged to take advantage to come see the work of IUS students and have the opportunity to hear from a woman who has had such a major impact on literacy worldwide.

There is a link on the IUS Web site for a detailed schedule of the two-day event.

Check out the IUS Student Conference on April 19 at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

'Oklahoma!' hits home sweet home

By **MARY Q. BURTON**
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Southern accents abound as the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "Oklahoma!" takes the stage at the Derby Dinner Playhouse. For what is generally an enormous production, director Lee Buckolz scales the show perfectly to the small, round stage. The show opens with the well-known number "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'," in which Jessica Ball, who stars as the lead role of Laurey, instantly enraptures the audience with her soaring vocals. Ball plays the role perfectly, capturing the necessary innocence while also portraying Laurey's stern resolve to live up to her personal values.

Her love interest, Curly McLain, is portrayed just as well, though the character doesn't offer as diverse a personality to work with. Actor Kyle Durbin makes the most of the part, however, skillfully pulling off the dance numbers and numerous songs he must sing. What Durbin does best is to convey the heart of Curly, who wants nothing more than to marry Laurey.

Aunt Eller Murphy, as played by Carol Tyree Williams, commands the audience at every appearance. Williams seemed to be the most immersed in her character, never losing her accent, even when singing. Her demeanor remained as consistent,

during even the most mundane of tasks such as churning butter.

The best dance of the evening is given by Matthew Brennan, starring this time around at Derby Dinner as Will Parker. Brennan owns the stage as he performs "Kansas City" with a host of others, pulling off the boot-studded steps with ease.

Matt Wallace, bearing an uncanny resemblance to David Arquette, draws constant laughs from the audience as he portrays the scheming Persian peddler Ali Hakim. He craftily dodges any form of commitment while simultaneously trying to get up Ado Annie's skirt. Wallace makes what could easily be seen as a smarmy character likeable. Melissa Carlile artfully portrays Ado Annie, showing the flighty bubble-headed character to be the confused insecure youth that she really is.

The surprise hit of the evening, however, is Peter Hamon's appearance as Jud Fry, the lonely hired hand who longs for Laurey.

Jud is a man of few words, but words are not always necessary as Hamon radiates the anguish of the character with both his body language and his eyes. He leaves the audience wishing Jud could find some sort of happiness, rather than death, in the end.

"Oklahoma!" will be running through May 20 at the Derby Dinner Playhouse in Clarksville, Ind.



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