



INTERNATIONAL  
PLANETARIUM  
SOCIETY

WWW.IPS-PLANETARIUM.ORG

March 31, 2024

To the University of Louisville:

I am writing today as the president-elect of the International Planetarium Society, the largest planetarium professional organization in the world with members across all continents, except Antarctica. Our members routinely demonstrate the creative ways that planetariums can be used to better the world through. Worldwide there are approximately 4,000 planetariums, visited by over 150 million annually. Planetariums at universities play a particularly crucial role in educating students across disciplines as well as being a positive bridge in communicating research to the greater public.

Initially planetariums were specially designed theaters capable of realistically reproducing the night sky and used to educate about stars, planets, and constellations. Today planetariums are unique, digital, immersive facilities used to teach about everything in the universe from STEM topics to art, culture, geology, climate, language, biology, zoology, history, and more. There is solid research showing that planetariums provide a superior learning environment for many types of content and growing evidence that educational material presented in a planetarium is retained longer than material presented in traditional formats. As science enters the big data era, planetariums can serve as immersive data visualization facilities for exploring datasets across the scientific discipline, making them useful tools for advancing science itself. This can be an incredible boon for University of Louisville students having a unique immersive environment to learn a variety of disciplines and think about data in new ways.

The outreach missions of planetariums also play an important role on a university campus. With large funding programs, such as those through the National Science Foundation, requesting broader impact projects for research proposals, having a dedicated space for faculty can help them have a stronger proposal. Students can hone their science communication skills that will be beneficial as they move on in their careers as well.

Planetariums can also serve as an inspiration to the community in which it sits. It is a place where people can come and have fun while learning why the work done at the University of Louisville is critical and should be supported. IPS members have shown how the planetarium can be a venue for weddings, concerts, yoga, relaxation, and even healing during trying times. It is a place for collaboration and finding shared understanding through the universe we live in.

Many scientists, engineers, and astronauts trace their interest in science to a visit to a planetarium. And while it may not alter everyone's career path, the planetarium experience has the power to remind us all that we are part of something much greater. Planetariums are far more than theaters to show the stars. Given the value of planetariums for communities, education for all ages, and for scientists, I urge you to support and reopen the Rauch planetarium to ensure the University of Louisville community and the greater Kentuckiana community has access to such an amazing tool.

Sincerely,

Shannon Schmoll, Ph.D.  
International Planetarium Society President-Elect

April 1, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

As Director of Astronomy for the Western Hemisphere's first planetarium, I am deeply familiar with the power of a planetarium in reaching the public. The Adler Planetarium touches the lives of over 500,000 people each year. Many thousands of these are school students from grade school to grad school, drawn from the entire Chicagoland region. We routinely receive letters from students and teachers describing their sense of awe and wonder in the moment the lights went down and they found themselves fully immersed in the splendor of a truly dark night sky. This sense of wonder doesn't go away when the lights go back on, it continues to inspire, sometimes for decades after.


We have found that the planetarium is also a fascinating and effective tool for teaching more formally. Over the years university professors, from across the Chicagoland area, have used our dome for teaching concepts ranging from spherical trigonometry to computer graphics, from architecture to the origin myths of global cultures. Essentially anything that can benefit from either the spherical geometry of the dome or a fully immersive environment is enhanced marvelously by the use of a domed planetarium theater. Teaching Astronomy is simply the most traditional educational use, but the possibilities are endless.

Education, however, is only a portion of what a well utilized dome can offer. A planetarium dome is also useful in research and the arts. On the research side we have focused primarily on data visualization in astronomy. But a planetarium can be used to gain unique insights into any dataset the exploration of which will benefit from the immersive quality of a full dome. The dome also provides a fantastic venue for art. Whether it is an artistically driven dome show, or a venue for dance, music or poetry, the full dome environment provides a space that enhances the experience. At the Adler we have had hundreds of such events and they invariably draw rave reviews.

Finally, I'd like to note that a creative use of a full-dome planetarium comes with many opportunities for funding beyond ticket sales for shows. There are multiple grant opportunities: In the past decade our dome has played a central role in securing funding through proposals to the NASA Space Grant Consortia, National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, and Institute for Museum and Library Services. The physical space can also be marketed to corporate and private events. And finally, a dome is a wonderful place to entertain private donors.

In summary, I believe that a planetarium is a tremendous resource and its beneficial impacts can be felt across many fields, age groups and geographic regions. The loss of a planetarium is not simply the loss of a few sky shows, but rather is a profound loss for the entire community.

Sincerely,



Dr. Geza Gyuk  
Director of Astronomy  
ggyuk@adlerplanetarium.org



EVANSVILLE MUSEUM

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April 1, 2024

Re: Letter of Support for Midwest Planetariums and their Benefits to Communities

Dear University of Louisville Faculty Senate,

As the Director of the Koch Immersive Theater and Planetarium at the Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science, I am writing to express my support for the Rauch Planetarium.

Today, light pollution from our cities and towns makes the dark night sky inaccessible to most Americans. Virtually everyone living east of the Rocky Mountains experiences some level of light pollution, with people living in metropolitan areas experiencing the most significant effects. As the dark night sky fades from our collective conscious, so too does our connection to our cultural past, our knowledge of the world around us, and our curiosity and drive to expand our own horizons. Planetariums are calm pockets of starry darkness nestled in the hearts of our glowing cities. Operated by passionate and knowledgeable staff, planetariums provide a unique opportunity to explore the night sky and learn about astronomy right in our own communities.

At the Koch Immersive Theater and Planetarium, we present live planetarium shows and educational films to the general public, serving approximately 5,300 people in 2023. We also are one of the most highly sought after field trip locations in the Tri-State area, welcoming over 6,200 students in 2023. At the Koch Immersive Theater and Planetarium, we emphasize inclusiveness and accessibility. We are proud to offer discounts and free admission to low-income and under-served students in our region, bringing the wonders of the night sky to children who may never get to experience it in nature.

Planetariums are more than just an educational tool; they are a point of pride for our communities. Here in Evansville, our planetarium is a local landmark, a trusted source of scientific information, and a gathering place for families and friends. Thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers and docents, we are able to welcome guests six days a week with just one full time staff member.

Evansville is a small city of approximately 118,000 people. Louisville, with a population more than 5 times the size of Evansville, has an incredible opportunity to excite, educate, and inspire thousands of people each year through the Rauch Planetarium. Here at the Koch Immersive Theater, we are proud to support Midwest planetariums and astronomy education.

Sincerely,

Carlisle Wishard, PhD

Director of Science Experiences and the Koch Immersive Theater and Planetarium  
Evansville Museum of Arts, History, and Science

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Mar. 19, 2024

Dear Community,

I am deeply saddened by the news of the potential closure of our beloved Rauch Planetarium. As someone who grew up in the Kentuckiana area, and as the director of a planetarium myself, I see the planetarium as a source of inspiration and wonder, sparking curiosity and fostering a love for science and exploration among visitors of all ages. As a graduate student, I realized that science advocacy and outreach were my passions in life when I once gave a planetarium show to ninety 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. Their reaction when the stars first turned on in a dark, planetarium dome has stuck with me for many years. I remember feeling an overwhelming sense of joy at their excitement and how it paired with my own passion for learning science as a kid.

Something a university planetarium has that many others do not is direct access to the world of academia and research. Planetariums are no longer just committed to astronomy. Today, we have the capability to show off many fields of science. At a university, we can easily reach out to leading experts in physics, oceanography, chemistry, biology, computer science, climate change, and more. The wealth of knowledge available in a university setting is remarkable, and a planetarium allows us to be at the forefront of where science and the community meet.

While I understand the challenges that may be driving this decision, I believe that the closure of the Rauch Planetarium would be a significant loss for the University of Louisville. Therefore, we urge all stakeholders to come together and explore alternative solutions to keep the planetarium operational. Whether through increased community support, partnerships with local organizations, or innovative fundraising efforts, we believe that with collective effort, we can find a way to preserve this invaluable resource for generations to come.

Thank you for joining me in advocating for the continued existence of our cherished Rauch Planetarium.

Sincerely,

**Justin Mason**

**Planetarium Director**

Michael and Kimthanh Lê Planetarium

Old Dominion University

Tel. (757) 756-7226



# SACRAMENTO STATE

§ DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today in support of the presence of a planetarium theater on a university campus. I sit on the faculty in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at California State University, Sacramento, and in 2018 I was selected to serve as the Planetarium Director for the planetarium being built on our campus as a part of a new science complex. I have been at Sac State for ten years, five without a planetarium and five with one. It has been my pleasure and delight to see the many ways in which the presence of a planetarium on our campus has been a benefit to the students in our department, students from across our campus, primary students from our area, and even the general public.

The Sac State Planetarium was constructed with a threefold purpose: hosting Sac State classes, hosting K-12 field trips, and hosting public shows. In a typical academic year, we will enroll 700-800 Sac State students in an astronomy course that is held in the planetarium. Some of these students will be our own physics majors and astronomy minors, but the majority are students from other departments who are taking an introductory astronomy course as a general education requirement. Our weekly schedule generally allows for as many as fifteen field trip slots per week, with anywhere from 20 to 90 students in a field trip group. Over the course of an academic year this totals approximately 15,000 schoolkids. Finally, we host shows that are open to the general public on Friday evenings and weekends, with tickets sold through our university ticket office. Last year we had just shy of 10,000 guests attend one of our public shows.

The planetarium has also allowed for an increase in interdisciplinary events on our campus. We look forward later this month to our second collaboration with the School of Music as we host "Music Under the Dome," a series of live concerts in the planetarium set to astronomical visuals overhead. We have also found that the planetarium is an ideal place for our geography department to host a course on Visualizing Global Environments, allowing more than just astronomy courses to make use of the unique capabilities of a planetarium lecture hall.

It is my determination that the presence of a well-run planetarium on our campus has been an immense benefit to our students, to primary students in our area, and to the excited and curious space-loving community of our city and region. I am confident that the Sac State Planetarium has served our University's goal of becoming an "Anchor University," an institution that centers our city and pulls not only students, but our community at large onto our campus for the purposes of education.

Sincerely,

Kyle Watters, Ph.D.

Department of Physics and Astronomy

Kyle.Watters@csus.edu



**YOUNGSTOWN  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

April 1, 2024

One University Plaza, Youngstown, Ohio 44555

College of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

Department of Physics, Astronomy, Geology & Environmental Science

Ward Beecher Planetarium

Clarence R. Smith Mineral Museum

330.941.3616

[ysu.edu/stem](http://ysu.edu/stem)

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Director of the Ward Beecher Planetarium at Youngstown State University, I am writing to outline my strongest possible support to not only re-open the University of Louisville's Rauch Planetarium, but for it to continue as a beacon of science education for students and the surrounding community for years to come.

The Ward Beecher Planetarium is one of the largest (145 seats in a 40-foot dome) and recently upgraded university planetariums in Ohio, and one of few planetariums where students take their astronomy classes *in* the planetarium; a unique experience shared with students at the University of Louisville. Indeed, there are many parallels between our planetarium and the (*even larger*) Rauch planetarium. We opened in 1967 as one of the first 'teaching planetariums' in the country, as both a high-quality classroom for YSU students and a **free** educational resource to school children and the public in NE Ohio. YSU is an urban research university in an economically depressed region, so our mission to provide free programs on astronomy, space science and other sciences is an important community resource. We estimate almost a million people have seen programs here over the past 57 years. Many local school students' first impression of YSU is from positive experiences visiting our planetarium, to showcase that YSU is a great place get their university education. Pre-COVID, we had annual attendances of ~ 20,000 school students and the public. Our commitment to astronomical education and research goes beyond the Youngstown area, as we also create high quality astronomy-related programming that has been presented at planetariums world-wide.

Our planetarium, like Rauch, is an integral part of the mission of our department and college. At full capacity, YSU supports two full-time staff in the planetarium, complemented by 3-4 physics/astronomy undergraduate majors (some drawn here by our facility) to present live and high-resolution video programs. The Planetarium Director (me) is supported via 8 credit hour release (of 24 FTE) per year. Our varied programming is supported through funding extracted from 5 different endowments (under the Director's control; currently totaling over \$800,000; this number will rise to over \$1.5 million in 4 years) -- our ability to provide the myriad programs and events (and invited talks by astronomers) is supported by the community, former faculty, our previous director, and his family. I am overwhelmed by the support from the community, school teachers and local media over the past 20 years I have been here.

It is not lost on our students that our planetarium is one of the largest and most well-equipped planetariums, even compared facilities at much larger universities. In any given year, about 500 YSU students (5% of the total student body) take our general-education Descriptive Astronomy classes. As this may be one of the few university science courses they take, we are deeply committed to providing students a strong (now critical) general understanding/appreciation of science and scientific principles.

Recently (Jan. 2023) our public and school programs were suspended due to a planetarium roof fire; however, there was *never* any discussion about shutting down the facility, due to the strong support from within the university, school teachers, university students/faculty, alumni and members of the community who constantly ask when we will reopen (*construction underway, we will reopen Fall 2024*) Once re-opened we are ready to bring the planetarium back even better than ever, to continue to be a positive force for science education in the region. It is my hope this will parallel the revitalization of the Rauch planetarium, with our shared goals, capabilities, and deep commitment to science education.

With Best Regards,

Dr. Patrick Durrell

Distinguished Professor, Dept. of Physics, Astronomy, Geology and Environmental Sciences (PAGES), and Director, Ward Beecher Planetarium



Ward Beecher  
**PLANETARIUM**  
YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



**4,290**

Visitors



**70%**

Increase from 2022

**135**

Events



**60%**

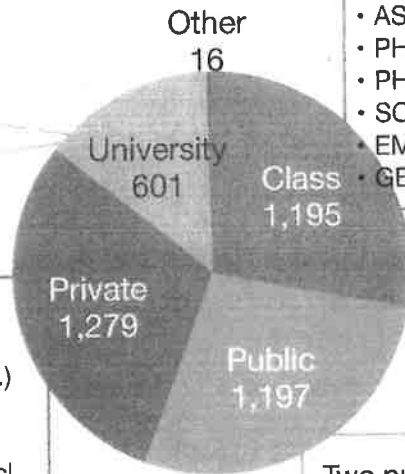
Increase from 2022

**12**

Faculty and Students

- University events, e.g.,
- BCCC Upward Bound
- Building STEPS
- College of Ed.
- Family Weekend
- MHEC
- UMB Mentorship

- 537 Pre-K/Elem/Mid
- 352 High School
- 293 Youth Org (scouts, etc.)
- 39 Adult Day Care / Rehab
- 8 Senior Citizens
- 50 Wedding attendants (incl. Bride Groom)



- ASTR 161,181, 261
- PHYS 185
- PHSC 303
- SCIE 371
- EMF 222, 476
- GEOG 101

Two public shows per month, free of charge

4500

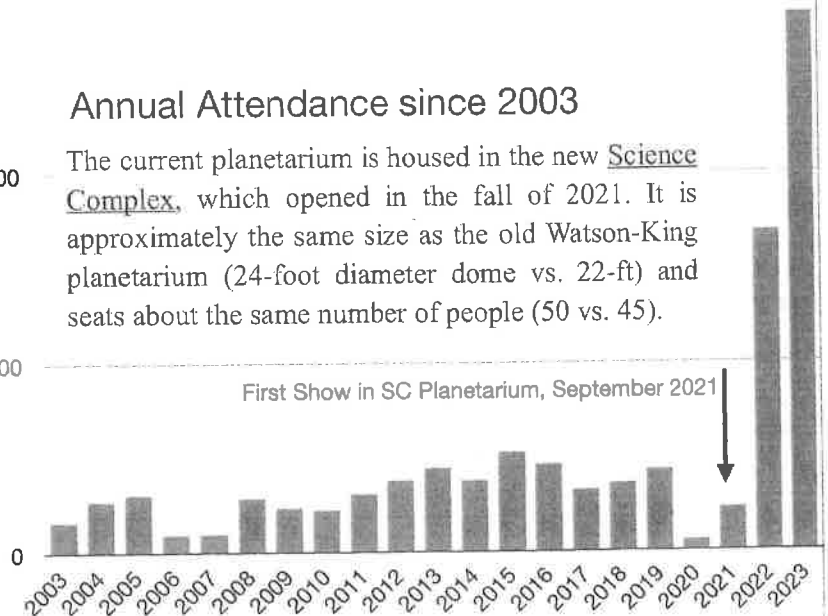
3000

1500

Annual Attendance since 2003

The current planetarium is housed in the new Science Complex, which opened in the fall of 2021. It is approximately the same size as the old Watson-King planetarium (24-foot diameter dome vs. 22-ft) and seats about the same number of people (50 vs. 45).

First Show in SC Planetarium, September 2021



Christian Ready  
Lecturer II, Planetarium Director  
Physics, Astronomy, & Geosciences  
[cready@towson.edu](mailto:cready@towson.edu) | (973) 552-8624  
<https://towson.edu/planetarium>





# Towson University Planetarium

The Towson Planetarium is the premier destination for teaching, public outreach, recruitment, and university marketing. In 2023, the planetarium achieved a new attendance record, hosting 4,290 visitors over 135 individual events. Events are segmented into the following categories.

## Classes

The planetarium offers a unique, immersive learning experience that cannot be matched in a traditional classroom environment, or even with the use of VR/AR headsets. Towson's planetarium is used to teach introductory astronomy and physics classes, for both majors (200-level and up) and non-majors (100-level) alike.

Given that most of our students are from light-polluted urban and suburban areas, the planetarium is often their first look at what the night sky "really" looks like.

In addition to astronomy and astrophysics, the planetarium sees a significant amount of interdisciplinary instruction that extends beyond the College of Science & Mathematics. The College of Education teaches portions of science education classes, and the College of Fine Arts & Communication teaches immersive audio and video production in the planetarium as well.

## Field Trips

2023 saw 1,280 visitors attending as part of field trips and other private-use planetarium events. These included field trips from Title I, Public, Charter, and Private schools, with class groups ranging from pre-K to high school. Additional outings to our planetarium came from local adult day-care and rehabilitation centers, senior/assisted living homes. We even held our first wedding ceremony for 50 attendees, including the bride and groom.

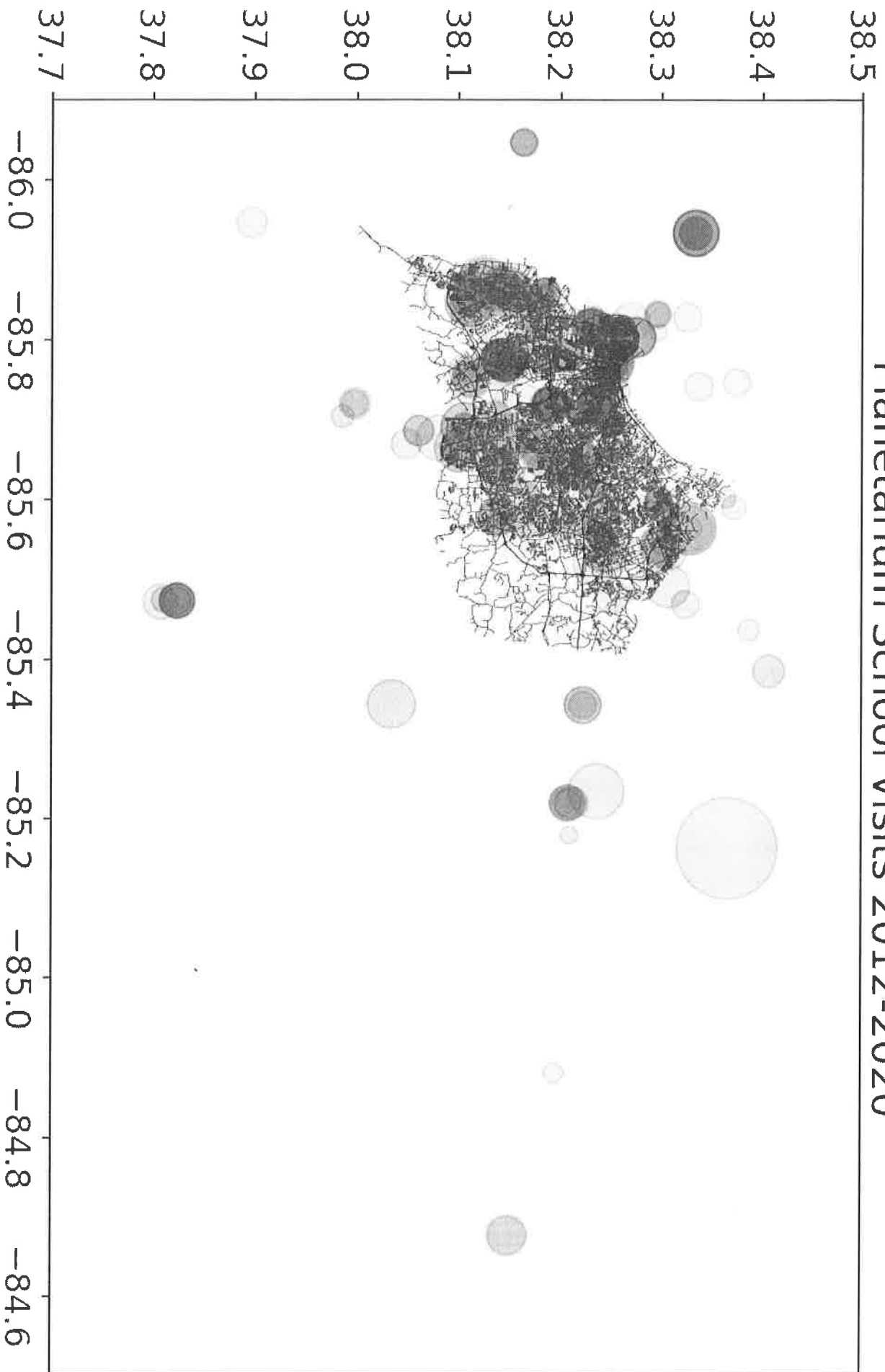
Most field trips are attended by elementary, middle, and high school students. For most students, these trips mark their first visit to Towson University, and even their first visit to a planetarium. For many, the planetarium marks the first time many students consider attending Towson and majoring in a STEM field.

## Public Outreach, Recruitment, and University Marketing

Monthly public shows attract large crowds from the campus and surrounding community alike. In 2023, the planetarium hosted To that end, the planetarium serves as another soft recruiting opportunity for potential students and benefactors.

Because of its public profile, the planetarium is a destination for local TV, newspaper, and other media outlets. Visualizations of upcoming astronomical events, such as the upcoming eclipse, have been featured in local media. Thus, the planetarium is helping to raise Towson's profile in the greater Baltimore region and throughout Maryland.

# Planetarium School Visits 2012-2020





Statements from alumni

*My freshman year at UofL, I decided to take Astronomy 107.. Our first lecture was appropriately inside of Rauch Planetarium. This was the first experience that I had inside of a planetarium, and it radically changed my life, so much so, that I changed my major. In 2014, I graduated with my degree in Physics (with an Astro focus). The Rauch planetarium is an incredibly important learning environment, not only for college students, but for local children as well. The astroscientists of the future need this space, so that they can be awe-inspired to pursue the cosmos, just as I was, many years ago. Please fund the Rauch Planetarium.*

*Sincerely,  
Ben Ballard, B.S. Physics & Astronomy '14*

*The Planetarium was definitely something that helped realize what I was going for with my decisions. It helped me see how much I want to contribute to humanity's understanding and motivated me to go for research. However, I also see the impact a planetarium has on the community. Now I'm a graduate student at a place without a planetarium and I can see the significant impact on scientific literacy on non-STEM members of the community. Without a readily available place that shows not just cool pictures of space but the full understanding and contributions that go into filling the knowledge that we have of the Universe, people feel more disconnected from what science is and how it has driven innovation and evolution of our society. With further disconnect this brings the issue of less people impacted on realizing the fit to be scientists, and less potential enhancement of our society. The planetarium is not just some cool place; it is astronomy's connection to people and our way of bringing awareness of science as a whole, and our way of bringing the Universe to a city swith large amounts of light pollution that blots it out from us.*

*Samir Kusmic, UofL 2019, Physics, 2019 Fulbright Scholar to Heidelberg, Germany  
Now doing a PhD at New Mexico St.*

*"It is difficult to quantify the importance of a facility like the planetarium; perhaps this is why it is an easy target for cuts. However, the planetarium's significance is easily evidenced. When making the decision between UK and UofL for undergrad, UofL was more attractive to me because it was clear that the university takes STEM and STEM outreach seriously: it's not just lip service when there is an actual building on campus dedicated and long serving to that function.*

*I have fond memories of the annual lecture series at the planetarium. These were such critical events for me as a student interested in astronomy as they opened my horizons as to all the different fields that fall under that umbrella. I especially remember Linda Spilker coming to give a talk about her work on NASA's Cassini mission. Never in my wildest dreams would I have guessed that in just a few years I too would start working on Cassini data in graduate school and get to work with brilliant scientists like and including Linda regularly.*

*It is easy to get lost in the trials of our everyday lives and the Planetarium offers a chance to escape and take in the beauty and mysteries of the cosmos. I know I find comfort in experiencing these wonders with a room full of other souls, even when my job title is "planetary scientist". Sharing the joy of curiosity and learning is something that should be celebrated on a university campus..."*

*Shannon Mackenzie, Physics 2012; 2014 NASA Graduate Research Fellowship, U Idaho; 2012 Univ Louisville College of Arts & Sciences Woodcock Medalist; 2012 Univ Louisville Bullitt Award in Astronomy; 2011 Goldwater Scholar*

*#####  
As a middle and high school student living in the suburbs of Chicago, two sources inspired me to pursue a career in astronomy: visiting local planetariums/science museums and looking through telescopes in person. I believe both*

*experiences are crucial sources of education for aspiring young scientists. Seeing Saturn or the Orion Nebula through a telescope allows you to experience the Universe first-hand, while science education facilities like planetariums explain the concepts behind what you see – how things work, why the Universe is the way it is, what else is out there – and furthermore provide stunning views of the cosmos that simply aren't possible with amateur telescopes. These experiences set me on a course to the University of Louisville where I completed a Bachelor's degree in Physics with a concentration in Astronomy & Astrophysics, graduating Summa Cum Laude. I went on to acquire a Ph.D. in Astronomy from the UCLA, where I was able to give back to the public community by serving as the lead coordinator for the UCLA Planetarium from 2013 to 2018. This planetarium facility served more than 5,000 attendees per year over that time, a large fraction of which were elementary and middle school students from Title I schools in the LA area. In 2020, I was awarded a highly selective NASA Hubble Fellowship to pursue independent research.*

*My astronomy career has recently led me back to the Bluegrass State where I have joined the faculty in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Kentucky. My success is indebted to local science education facilities like the Rauch Planetarium that are invaluable for inspiring future generations of scientists. These local and regional facilities are particularly important for young students from underprivileged areas and backgrounds who may not ever get an opportunity to travel to a big city to visit a planetarium or science museum – nearby local science education resources are indispensable for teaching such students that careers in science are open to them, too! Without local planetariums, I would not have gone from a small telescope in my parents' back yard to being the principle investigator of James Webb Space Telescope programs all these years later.*  
*Ryan Sanders, 2011 Physics BS; PhD, UCLA; NASA Hubble Fellow*  
*Assistant Professor, Department of Physics & Astronomy, U of Kentucky*

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*The planetarium is a benefit to the University's courses and the community. It was a great benefit to be able to look up and see the stars from an accurate perspective when I took the Elementary Astronomy course during my time as a student at UofL. I always looked forward to our class days in the planetarium because it was a different learning environment outside the typical classroom and provided such great hands-on learning opportunities. The opportunities for learning astronomy in such an engaging way just don't exist the same way in a traditional classroom. Additionally, there is no other way we could have seen the stars as easily, as the light pollution from bigger cities makes it hard to see them naturally outside.*

*I am glad I took Elementary Astronomy in my first year, as I enjoyed the class and opportunities to view the stars in the planetarium. In fact, I continued to be involved in the class as a REACH Tutor specifically for the class and continued to be involved as a tutor and learning assistant even though my major was in business. During my time in these roles, I interacted with more students taking the class and was often present in classes myself. I witnessed how the other students also looked forward to learning in the planetarium and how they were more engaged in that environment than in the traditional classroom that matched all their other courses. I truly feel hands-on, interactive learning has a more lasting impact than traditional lectures.*

*Furthermore, the planetarium provides an opportunity for the wider local community to participate in learning. I remember attending events or informational lectures that were open to the public, from young children to adults past their college years. The planetarium provides learning opportunities to more than just students and expands learning to the wider community. I know attending classes and community events in the planetarium sparked a deeper interest in astronomy. Even though my degree was in a different field of study, I have a continued interest in astronomical events. After graduation, I joined an astro-photography group and even had the opportunity to photograph the previous solar eclipse in Missouri and create video content for the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources about how the eclipse could affect light responsive plants. These are experiences, and work, I may not have taken on if not for the lasting interest from studying astronomy at UofL and getting the hands-on and close-up experiences in the planetarium portion of class.*

*Stephanie Sidoti Hall, BA Equine Administration 2012; JD UMissouri*

# Cardinal Exclusive: Athletic Director Tom Jurich

By Matt Evans, J.J. Myself, and Michael A. Tyann  
Staff Writers

The 41-year-old spent the past three years building athletic programs at Colorado State University. Before that, he was the youngest athletic director in the history of Division I sports in Northern Arizona.

by the press.

"Despite the fact that I feel this is a really tough time to be in sports, I feel this is a really tough time to be in sports."

"I think the biggest challenge is to get the program back to where it was in the mid-90s."

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Staff Photo by Dan Spaulding

Coordinator Scott Miller inside the domed planetarium.

## Rauch Planetarium to be razed

By Michael A. Tyann  
Assistant News Editor

The University of Louisville's Board of Trustees announced that the Rauch Planetarium will be replaced by a parking structure in 1998.

According to Larry Guseley, Vice President of Finance and Administration, the parking structure would be built to support parking for the newly proposed J. Edgar Hoover Museum. The museum is not affiliated with the University of Louisville.

"The museum just went through a \$12 million renovation," Guseley said. "I'm not sure how much more money we can spend on the museum, so we're going to have to look at other options to enhance parking at the facility." Guseley

said because of the age of the planetarium and its equipment, and with no facility adjacent to the museum, the planetarium has met the criteria for why both the University and museum were looking for it.

"It is a facility that's 33 years old, with the original equipment," Guseley said. He added that the facility had roofing and cable structural problems that make renovation of the facility more economical for the university as well.

Charles Best, chairman of the decision, said the university made sure that the Rauch community was informed and

See SP153D page 2

## Financial journalist eases students' concerns of bleak economic future

By Steve Hattenberder  
Editor-in-Chief

All Jane Bryan Quinn wanted to be after college was a journalist. Unfortunately, in the 1960s when she was in her college career, there was no such profession for women in the region, she said.

"Necessity and opportunity" didn't openly welcome women, Quinn said. Many jobs available to women reporters at the time were part-time and low-paying.

"That's how I got my start," Quinn said. She began working as a business reporter. A job that had little contact with the newsroom, but one that attracted to the strong economy.

"When I was a business journalist, it was a new world," she said. "Now there's a stream of copy writers."

Quinn's early career in business journalism led her to the United States, which caused the strong economy to be volatile and business assumptions had to be made to provide for their needs. Instead of being in the newsroom, she found herself in the business world.

Quinn's first job was in the business world. She worked as a business reporter at the University of Louisville's College of Business and Public Administration as part of the ongoing



Photo courtesy of News & Public Information

Financial journalist and best-selling author Jane Bryan Quinn.

book, she reviewed and edited her book, *Making the Most of Your Money*, which has been updated for the upcoming century, from when it was originally published.

Robert L. Taylor, Dean of the College of

See QUINN, page 2

## Reaction positive towards new U of L football coach

By Matt Evans  
Assistant Sports Editor

After the termination of football coach Roy Cooper on Nov. 10, University of Louisville officials reacted positively to the appointment of John L. Smith as the new coach of the football team. Smith's appointment was announced on Nov. 24, just five days after Cooper's firing.

U of L Athletic Director Jurich said that his reaction to Smith's appointment was positive. "I think it's a great appointment for the program," he said.

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Staff Photo by Dan Spaulding  
John L. Smith accepts his position at a Nov. 24 press conference at The University Club.

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**Say goodbye to 1997!**  
This is the last issue of *The Louisville Cardinal* for the 1997 fall semester. The *Cardinal* will resume publication on January 12, 1998 and will be returning to its regular weekly schedule. The *Cardinal* wishes all students good luck with their studies and we hope you have a safe and happy holiday season.

**Etcetera:**  
If you think it's hard to prepare a holiday meal for all of your relatives, try feeding 300-1,000 people. That's what the people at Wayside Christian Mission do every day. See page 6.

**Sports:**  
For more information and reactions about the hiring of The University of Louisville's new football coach John L. Smith see page 11.





# SAVE THE PLANETARIUM

✓ 12/9/85

## Put Rauch on top

The controversy over moving or destroying the Rauch Memorial Planetarium is sure to result in odious comparisons of the relative values of planetariums, parking garages, stadiums, sports-figure buyouts, etc. All counterproductive. I have a suggestion: Build the parking garage, as planned, but mount the Rauch on top. As the cliché says, if you can't lick 'em, join 'em.

**WILLIAM ALLEN**  
Louisville 40207

## University's mission

I read with disbelief a statement in *The Courier-Journal* made by University of Louisville President John Shumaker with reference to the planetarium controversy: "It's not in the university's mission to teach astronomy to young kids."

As an alumna of U of L for 45 years, one who holds three degrees from this institution, as a science teacher at Atherton High School for more than 25 years; and as assistant director of the Louisville Regional Science Fair, this comes as an amazing revelation to me. Apparently I have been suffering

for all these years under the delusion that this was, indeed, a very important aspect of U of L's basic philosophy as an urban university. I was also under the impression that this school had received national recognition for doing just precisely that, in an effort to serve that ideal.

I realize that Dr. Shumaker is a relative newcomer to Louisville, but is he totally unaware of the university's mission or of its history of service to the community and education of its schoolchildren?

As a high school science teacher, I always felt comfortable sending students to the U of L library to conduct literature searches for their research assignments, to solicit professors as mentors, and even to conduct research in labs on campus or at the medical school, using university facilities. I considered this access to the university as a very important resource.

Is Dr. Shumaker aware that U of L hosts the Louisville Regional Science Fair (which brought the Intel ISEF to Louisville this past May) for students from Anderson, Boyle, Bullitt, Hardin, Jefferson, Marton, Mercer, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Washington counties, Kentucky? For some of these students it may be their first visit to the campus, and

they may want to return someday. To my way of thinking, for Dr. Shumaker to make such a statement is inexcusable. Perhaps he was having a bad day.

**BETTY WOLFE LONG**  
Louisville 40204

## 'Wonderful memories'

The Rauch Planetarium must be saved from the wrecking ball. I cannot tell you how many wonderful memories I have that were given me by trips to the planetarium. I remember my first grade-school trip and the many dates I had with my future wife to the sound and light shows in the late '80s.

It is about time that our city and our local leaders start supporting something educational. I can guarantee you that if it had anything to do with sports, local leaders would be climbing all over each other to save it. However, since it's only an educational (and enjoyable) tool, they want to look the other way. I applaud Alderman Steve Magre for stepping up to the plate. I only hope someone will listen.

**MICHAEL RAYMER**  
Louisville 40214

## Our View

CARDINAL

# Planetarium proof 3/2/79 that public opinion can make a difference

Fans of the old Rauch Memorial Planetarium received good news when plans were recently announced for the "new and improved" Gheens Science Center and Rauch Planetarium.

The old planetarium was razed in early 1998 to make room for a new parking structure for the J.B. Speed Art Museum. The destruction surprised and angered many students and other patrons of the planetarium because no one heard about the plans to tear it down until the decision had already been made.

Initial replacement plans included making it a "traveling planetarium" and including space for a fixed location in a yet-to-be-built research building. This option was not well-received by the public, and U of L responded by seeking funding for a more immediate solution.

Now, thanks to contributions from the Gheens Foundation (which donated more than half of the \$2.8 million needed for the new facility), the city of Louisville, Jefferson County, an anonymous donor and U of L, all but \$300,000 has been raised. The new facility will not only have a larger planetarium, but will also include classroom space and a courtyard. It will be located near Strickler Hall, the Business School and the School of Music, in what is now a blue parking lot.

It is impossible to say what would have happened had the public not gotten so upset and expressed their feelings to the University. While there would have undoubtedly been a new facility, it may have been nothing like what is now in the works.

Many in the U of L community are often frustrated because they do not think that what they feel about an issue matters. This situation proves that getting involved and expressing your opinion CAN make a difference.

But, what you must remember is that if you are going to get involved in an issue, you must be willing to follow up on it. So how is that applicable in this situation?

Fundraising for the project is still \$300,000 short. U of L is seeking private donations to cover this amount, so that's where all of us who rallied for the planetarium come in.

We should prove to the University that not only did we say we wanted the planetarium to be rebuilt — we also want to help make

# Viewpoint

OPINIONS AND COMMENTARIES

Page 16

March 2, 1999

## Our View

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We should prove to the University that not only did we say we wanted the planetarium to be rebuilt — we also want to help make sure it happens. The Louisville Cardinal wants to help do just that.

The staff of The Cardinal is no different than most of the student body — we are also poor college students. Still, we are presenting a challenge to the students, faculty and staff of the University.

Let's all put our money where our mouths are. The Cardinal is going to donate a minimum of \$50 to the fund for the new planetarium and science center. Now, granted, \$50 is just a drop in the bucket if \$300,000 is needed, but we believe the issue is about more than just money — it's also a matter of showing our support.

The challenge is for anyone who has ever enjoyed a visit to the planetarium — as a child in a school field trip, as a parent who has visited it with his or her children, or anyone else who misses it — to donate at least one dollar to the fund for the new planetarium and science center. Now, granted, \$50 is just a drop in the bucket if \$300,000 is needed, but we believe the issue is about more than just money — it's also a matter of showing our support.

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The challenge has been made. The Cardinal wants to help U of L build the new planetarium and science center, and we want you to help, too. Watch in future issues to see how the campaign is going. Show your support and get involved!

### Mardi Gras road trip exhausting, but worth every minute



Brian Kehl

Well, I guess it's finally over, and we are all better people

because of it. A week of indulging, parades, warm weather, tropical lunatics and dirty old men. It will be another year before they all come back. Mardi Gras — yes indeed.

My Mardi Gras story is simple enough. It fell on the week of Valentine's day this year, and my young lady friend and myself decided that instead of getting each other gifts, we would drive 750 miles after I left work Sunday night, get to New Orleans on Monday afternoon, sleep during the day, stay out all night, check out of the hotel Tuesday morning, and spend the day visiting

the streets. It more or less happened that way, with a few minor variations. It sure beat going to Cleveland.

For the uninitiated, Mardi Gras is the week-long Catholic celebration preceding Ash Wednesday, the beginning of 40 days of Lent. This is a time of sacrifice and fasting in the Catholic religion, culminating on Easter Sunday, the day when Christ rises from the dead.

Mardi Gras takes place in New Orleans, a predominantly Catholic city, and is a week of gaudiness to cleanse the system of sins during the 40-day period. Traditionally the participants would wear masks to hide their faces as they cavorted through out the town. The celebration takes place throughout the world and is the American equivalent of a South African street carnival.

See KEHL, page 17

## Burns' View



### Question of the Week:

### Spring Break is almost here! What are your plans?



"I am going to Negri, Jamaica for a week with two good friends. Negri has the second best sunsets in the world — Key West has the best. Everybody watches the sunset and then they party."

—Miranda Cheek, junior political science major



"For Spring Break week I'll be working, because my employer won't let me leave time off. I'll be slinging drinks at Tumbleweed. Come up — I'll get you drunk."

—Joey Simer, senior justice administration major



"Me and a group of 10 friends are going camping at Red River Gorge and going hiking, climbing and stuff like that. It's about a two-and-a-half or three hour drive. We're gonna stay there for about three or four days."

—Joe Kayne, sophomore art major



"I'm driving down to St. Petersburg with 11 other girls and we're staying in two condos. We plan to be very very good girls and go to the beach and get good tans."

—Neagan Winters, freshman undeclared major



"I'll probably have to work — that will be my Spring Break, unfortunately. I don't have any more PTO (paid time off) left."

—Shaka Byrd, junior communication major



"I am flying to Key West with four friends. I don't have any money, though. It's gonna be crazy! We have coupons from the Internet for free meals."

—Lee Hillerich, senior political science major

All photos and interviews by Nina Gricia

Would you like to comment on this week's question? Visit our web site at [http://www.louisville.edu/org/the\_cardinal], then go to "The Forum."

