Student confesses to setting Elliott fires

According to Purdue Police officials, the student arrested for allegedly setting two small fires in Elliott Hall of Music Monday night has confessed. Isaiah T. Peedin, a 22-year-old sophomore from Martinsville, Ind., confessed Wednesday to setting the fires but reportedly gave no reason for his actions. Peedin was a member of the Purdue student security patrol and was the one who phoned in the fire to authorities.

Elliott is one of 28 buildings larger than 14,000 square feet that do not have sprinklers and smoke alarms.

Purdue spokesman Jorie Siebert said university officials won’t release any more information about the matter until there is a sale in the building of Elliott. She said Purdue’s connection with the security patrol will not change how the building is monitored during events such as exams and concerts.

No reason for his actions

Peedin was arrested for allegedly setting two small fires in Elliott Hall of Music Monday night. According to Purdue Police officials, Peedin is a 22-year-old sophomore from Martinsville, Ind., who confessed Wednesday to setting the fires.

College appoints new associate dean, head of nursing

BY ANDREA HAMMER
Assistant Campus Editor

Concluding a national search, the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences appointed a long time Boilermaker as the new associate dean of the college on Thursday. Jane Kirkpatrick, an associate professor of nursing, was named the head of the School of Nursing as well as associate dean in the College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Health Sciences.

Kirkpatrick’s appointment will begin Nov. 1. According to a press release, Kirkpatrick completed her undergraduate degree in nursing at Purdue, as well as her doctorate degree in educational technology. She has been on Purdue’s faculty since 1981.

She said she is looking forward to seeing the nursing program continue to flourish during her time as associate dean and head of the school.

"Purdue’s graduate students (in nursing) are well positioned," she said. "I expect to see our graduate program to continue to grow."

Craig Svensson, dean of the college, said in a press release that he has faith she will continue to be a great faculty member.

"Professor Kirkpatrick has provided excellent leadership during her service as interim this past year and I am confident she will continue this high-quality service as she formally begins her appointment," he said.

Kirkpatrick said she is excited to see what will be in store for the programs she has spent much of her time studying and working for over the past five years.

"I’m truly honored to have been selected and having had such a long history with the school. I’m very excited about what we can become in the future...I very much respect the work that has come before me."

ELECTION

City councilors file for Indiana House race

West Lafayette city councilor Paul Raddatz filed to run for the Indiana House District 26 seat.

Raddatz, a Democrat representing the 1st District, said he will make an official announcement Nov. 1. “It’s a preliminary filing ahead of an official announcement," he said. "This is to make sure we are in compliance with campaign finance laws."

Raddatz is also being courted by Randy Truitt, a Republican, who won the seat last November after a recount challenge from Democrat John Polles. Truitt is a former West Lafayette city councilor.

BY KERRY KIRK
Features Editor

This year marks the 72nd anniversary of Amelia Earhart’s disappearance on route to circumnavigate the world. The movie “Amelia,” which hit theaters today, is a film about Earhart’s life. Filmmakers consulted Sammie Morris, Purdue head of archives and special collections, to obtain information about Earhart’s time at Purdue, to make a movie that would obtain real people’s lives. Purdue holds the world’s largest archives of Earhart’s belongings and transmissions. Purdue and the movie makers have been in contact for three years. Purdue is responsible for Earhart’s belongings and treasures.

We have Amelia’s flight suit, flight jacket, helmet, goggles, pilot’s license, passport, compact, smoking salts, radios, badges, medals and awards she received, in addition to her personal letters, poems, the flight log and scrapbook she kept. "She was a role model for women," Morris said. "Instead of getting married after college, they taught them they could have careers."

When Earhart began at Purdue in 1935, she was internationally famous celebrity. "Michael Obama might come to campus today, as Amelia Earhart came in 1935," Purdue historian John Norberg said. "It was a real idol to young girls, who think they are women, who thought they were going to be in the military."

Norberg said she arrived in style, driving a tan convertible with red leather seats and donning slacks, which women were forbidden to wear.

Library patrons spent six months archiving and digitizing memora and papers about Amelia Earhart. Morris was consulted during the filming of the soon-to-be-released motion picture “Amelia” for historical accuracy and insight.