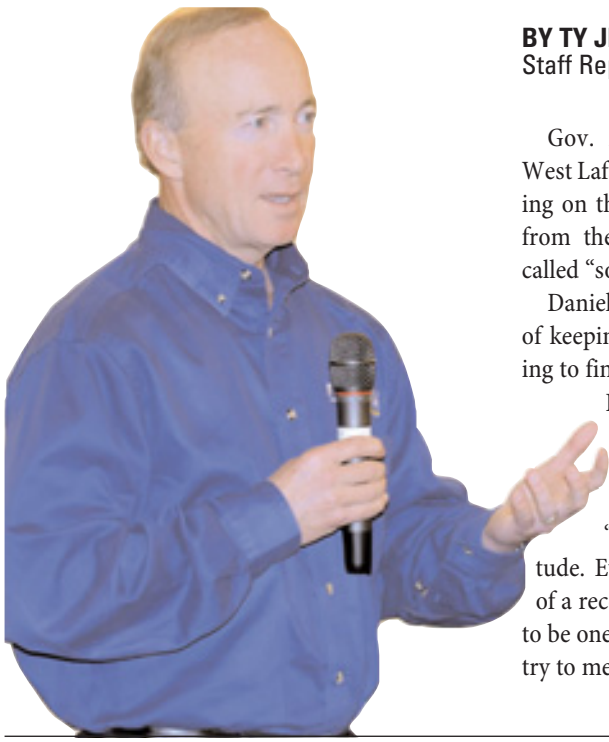


SPEECH

Daniels offers hope for state post-recession



BY TY JEPSON
Staff Reporter

Gov. Mitch Daniels spoke in West Lafayette on Thursday, focusing on the economy and numbers from the state budget, which he called "sober."

Daniels stressed the importance of keeping taxes low and continuing to find ways to cut spending so Indiana "can come out of this recession earlier and much stronger than other states."

"This has been our attitude. Everybody abhors the idea of a recession, but if there's going to be one then we want our state to try to meet it head on," he said.

In the month of September, state tax collections were below target by \$166 million. Numbers for October, which Daniels said are also disappointing, are to be released today.

The fiscal year started July 1, and state revenue for the first quarter was \$254 million less than forecast in May, of which Daniels said, "We will have to deal with it."

"Recent forecasts have not been right. One quarter into the two-year budget cycle, this one's way behind right out of the starting block," he said. "We will have to make, at some stage, at least temporarily, some unwelcome and unpleasant choices."

Daniels was emphatic that

ONLINE

For video of Mitch Daniels, click the multimedia tab at purdueexponent.org

Indiana is faring better than many other states but also reminded listeners that the recession is not over yet.

Dana Smith, director of Greater Lafayette Commerce, said Gov. Daniels' appearance in Tippecanoe County made a statement about local businesses.

"The fact that he came up and

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CONCERT

Lady GaGa will come to Purdue

STAFF REPORTS

Pop superstar Lady GaGa will perform at 7 p.m. Jan. 14 in Elliott Hall of Music.

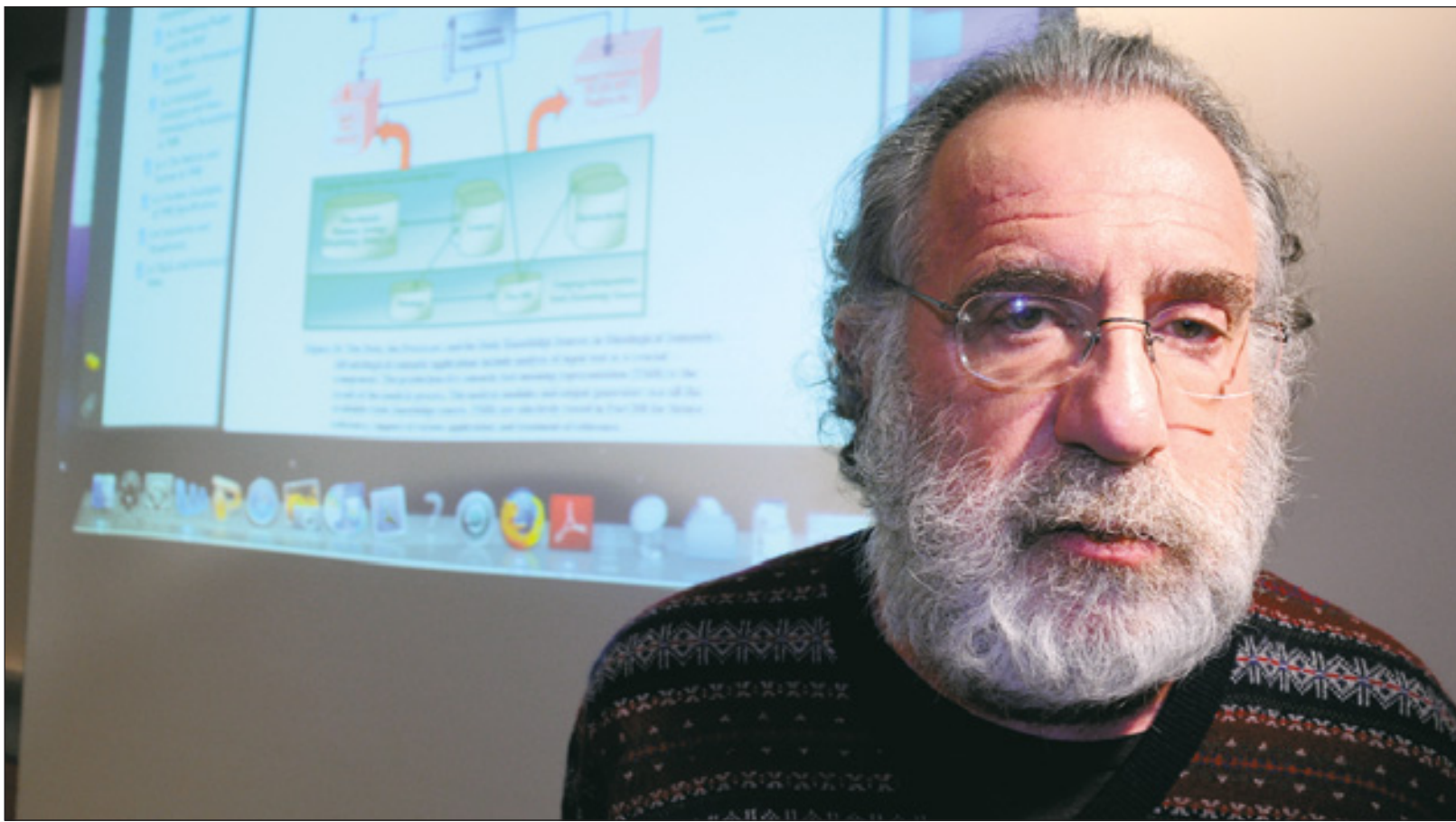
The event is sponsored by the Student Concert Committee along with Purdue Convocations.

"The Haus of GaGa has been designing 'The Monster Ball' for premiere in 2010 at the O2 Arena in London, but due to diligent work and preparation 'The Monster Ball' will begin on Nov. 27 in Montreal," said Lady GaGa in a press release. "The Monster Ball" is a multimedia artistic experience in the style of the first-ever 'pop electro opera.'"

Tickets for Purdue and Ivy Tech students with a current ID go on sale at 10 p.m. Nov. 13 at Elliott Hall and Stewart Center box offices.

All other tickets cost \$36.50 and go on sale at 10 a.m. Nov. 14 at all Ticketmaster locations and at the campus box offices Nov. 16.

PROFILE



Professor of English and linguistics Victor Raskin stands in front of a chart depicting a few of the many complexities involved with linguistics — a subject that is far more than just the knowledge of multiple languages.

MICHAEL CARNEY | PHOTO EDITOR

COMMUNITY

Neighborhood elects steering committee

BY JEFF BERGLUND
Staff Reporter

Landlords and business owners of the New Chauncey Neighborhood held their first informational meeting Thursday night to discuss a neighborhood land use plan.

The West Lafayette City Council passed a resolution in May which authorized the Area Plan Commission and New Chauncey homeowners to develop such a plan for the New Chauncey neighborhood. The meeting was led by Ryan O'Gara, assistant director of the Area Plan Commission of Tippecanoe County.

"This neighborhood planning process is a way to bring all interests together," said O'Gara. "We want to develop a plan that promotes development that the community thinks is best."

This first meeting's main purpose was to elect part of a steering committee that could represent the interests of landlords and business owners in New Chauncey, said Chandler Poole, director of development for West Lafayette.

"This is the first step in trying to put together a steering committee to represent all the various interests in the neighborhood," Poole said.

A member of the West Lafayette City Council, a member of West Lafayette city staff, two neighborhood residential owner occupiers and a student renter will be selected to fill out the steering committee.

Loren King, owner of King Properties, was selected to represent commercial property owners. No commercial business owners were in attendance to represent their interest group in the committee.

Patti Weida, owner of Weida Properties, and Shane O'Malley, a partner in Highline Construction, were selected to represent landlords in the neighborhood. Weida laid out her vision for the neighborhood.

"I would like to see a mixed-use neighborhood that accommodates landlords, families and students," Weida said.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE

Professor develops smart computer applications

BY BRIDGET JOHNSTON
Staff Reporter

Most people don't have a multiple language fluency, found a linguistics program, travel the world, write scholarly books and develop natural language processing computer applications, but Victor Raskin has.

Raskin, a distinguished professor of English and linguistics with a courtesy

appointment in computer science and founder of the Purdue linguistics program, is an eccentric professor — and a very busy one. He writes technical texts on his theories and continuously works on multiple research projects in many academic fields, ranging from humor research to engineering.

"I'm a Purdue professor," said Raskin. "I wouldn't be alive if I weren't doing, like, a million research projects

at the same time."

His biggest interest of study is semantics, the study of meaning in language by classifying and explaining the complex relations between meaning and form, and much of his work is in that field. He is developing computer applications that better understand the content users simply type on their keyboards.

One application is similar to search engines in which the computer

understands the concepts behind a person's words and searches, rather than just the character strings. Raskin finds today's top search engines to be less than optimal.

"Much of Google responses is garbage," said Raskin. "It just searches for the exact words you type in, rather than the content you're looking for."

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PROTEST

Students speak out against licensing violations

BY ANDREA HAMMER
Assistant Campus Editor

Eight students with Purdue Organization for Labor Equality marched to the University president's office reception area with a "gift" of \$2.5 million in play money Thursday and were later removed by University police.

In support of labor equality, the students marched into Hovde Hall and went to President Córdova's office to make their concerns known. Organization member Dan Kercher, a senior in the College of Liberal Arts, said the organization found out about a violation of Purdue's Code of Conduct with apparel licenses at two factories in Honduras.

According to the Worker Rights Consortium, the factories, which produced Nike apparel, were closed by subcontractors without any warning to workers. The workers were owed \$2.5 million in severance pay

when the factories were shut down. The equipment was liquidated, providing the workers with a small portion of their money, but they are still owed more than \$2.1 million.

After reading a page-long letter detailing their grievances, students dumped the play money on the floor of the reception area. An administrator insisted that he would take the letter, but said the students needed to leave. When the students were asked to pick up the play money, they refused.

Gautam Kumaraswamy, a junior in the College of Engineering and a member of the organization, said the students were under the impression they were in a public place because they were in a reception area and they did not want the play money back.

"What we put down in there is what we gave to the University," he said.

After handing over the letter, students were ordered to leave the building by Purdue Police.

Brian Napoletano, a graduate student who participated, said letting sweatshops produce clothing with the Purdue logo on it is sending the wrong message.

"By letting them use the Purdue logo, they're representing Purdue," he said.

Purdue Police Chief John Cox said he supports freedom of speech, but students must be within University policies with their events and protests.

"They can work with space management to arrange the use of space," he said.

Purdue spokeswoman Jeanne Norberg said this breach of contract by Nike will be handled the same way as last year's incident with Russell Athletics. After investigating claims of labor inequality brought forth by the Organization for Labor Equality last year, Purdue cut ties with Russell.

"This has just been brought to our attention," Norberg said. "We have a committee that will look at it."



Members of the Purdue Organization for Labor Equality dumped the equivalent of \$2.5 million in fake money on the floor of the reception area of President Córdova's office. POLE members were protesting the alleged non-payment of workers at a Nike factory in Honduras that produces Purdue apparel.

MICHAEL CARNEY | PHOTO EDITOR