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AN IU GPA CALCULATOR GAVE STUDENTS ACCESS TO OTHER STUDENTS' GPAS AND GRADES.

The calculator may have violated federal privacy law.

By Christine Fernando
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An official IU GPA calculator allowed students, faculty and staff to access the grades of at least 100,000 current and former students in apparent violation of federal privacy law.

The university took down the tool Tuesday within an hour of being notified about the situation by the Indiana Daily Student.

The calculator appears to have exposed current undergraduate and graduate students from IU-Bloomington, IU-Purdue University Indianapolis, IU-Purdue University Columbus and possibly other campuses, as well as students who graduated in 2015 and later.

The tool, under the domain of the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, allowed students to calculate their GPAs for specific types of classes by selecting the courses that were factored into the calculation. The IDS discovered the search function allowed access to other students' grades and notified the university.

Grades, test scores and courses taken are education

records protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, which bars schools receiving public funding from releasing grades without prior written consent.

"This is a clear FERPA violation," said LeRoy Rooker, former director of the Department of Education's Family Policy Compliance Office and a leading authority on educational privacy law. "There's not any gray area here. You just can't have that."

IU spokesperson Chuck Carney said Tuesday that he was not aware of the GPA search function until the IDS brought it to his attention. While logged in under a reporter's student account, he used it to look up his own grades from his Ph.D. program. His GPA and grades popped up on the screen. He got an A in Research Ethics in fall 2009. His eyes widened.

"Well, that's wild," he said.

The webpage was intended for internal use only, Carney said, and was not supposed to be available to students and others. He does not yet know who is responsible for creating the calculator or making it accessible to students and other IU affiliates, but he said IU

webpages usually go through multiple hands before being published.

IU will investigate how many students have been affected and why the calculator was made accessible to students, Carney said.

"Are they equally careless with the rest of my information? How are we supposed to trust them?"

Carley Berg, IU senior

"We really do take the student security aspect of this very seriously," he said. "We have to be very, very careful about anything we reveal about a student, and we can't take these things lightly."

While it rarely happens, the Department of Education could have pulled IU's federal funding if the university didn't fix the problem, said Indiana public access counselor Luke Britt.

The link was protected behind the university's two-step

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

IU rises in latest AP poll

By Sam Bodnar
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IU women's basketball advanced two spots to No. 18 in the latest AP Poll on Monday following back-to-back victories at home.

After dropping three consecutive games, IU defeated Penn State on the road Jan. 23 and took down Minnesota and Wisconsin at home on Jan. 27 and Jan. 30 to move into fourth in the Big Ten standings.

The Hoosiers overcame a 16-point deficit in their overtime win against the Badgers on Jan. 30. They outscored their conference rival 37-17 in the final 15 minutes of play with the help of three players who tallied 15 or more points.

During this stretch, the program announced the departure of two players on Jan. 31.

Junior guard Bendu Yeane is entering the transfer portal along with freshman guard Shaila Beeler. Yeane said in a press release that she wanted to play closer to home in light of family illnesses, and Beeler has yet to see time on the court this season.

Three conference games await IU this week, the first being on the road against Purdue on Monday. IU will return to Bloomington on Thursday for a rematch with Maryland and will then travel to Nebraska on Sunday.

IU senior to compete in 'Jeopardy!' College

By Shelby Anderson
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This Midwestern college with the Hoosiers as a mascot will be sending a student to a "Jeopardy!" championship later this semester.

What is Indiana University?

IU senior Tyler Combs will be one of 15 students to compete in the "Jeopardy!" College Championship in April.

Combs is from Greenfield, Indiana, according to a press release from "Jeopardy!". The championship will run April 6 to 17.

"It's a nice way of closing out my time at IU," Combs said in an interview with the Indiana Daily Student.

He will be competing alongside students from colleges across the country including Yale University, Princeton University, the University of California San Diego and Northwestern University, according to the release.

The process for selection began in September when he took an online exam, Combs said. The next step involved an audition in St. Louis that consisted of another test, round simulations and personality interviews.

Along with the \$100,000 grand prize, the winner of the 10-day tournament will also have a chance to compete in the next edition of the "Jeopardy!" Tournament of Champions, according to the release. In the Tournament of Champions, contestants who have won the most games in the prior season as well as the winners of the Teachers' Tournament and College Championship compete against one another for a \$250,000 prize. "Jeopardy!" is in its 36th season and is hosted by Alex Trebek.

He tried to prepare by staying up to date on the four categories he considers staples for "Jeopardy!": history, literature, politics and geography.

Combs was in California Monday to film all of the episodes in two days.

"It's two super long days for two weeks of content," Combs said.

Combs said his episode of Jeopardy College Championship will air April 10.

Students to perform Beethoven's piano sonatas

By Lauren McLaughlin
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Jacobs School of Music will present its third concert of the Beethoven Piano Sonata Festival at 8 p.m. Tuesday in Auer Hall. The concert is one of twelve, and Jacobs students will perform them in the spring and coming fall.

Professor David Cartledge, co-chair of Jacobs' piano department, said the festival is one of Jacobs' ways of celebrating Beethoven's 250th birthday. Six concerts will be performed this spring.

"It's an opportunity over the course of a year to really get exposed to the amazing contribution Beethoven made to the development of the repertoire for the piano," Cartledge said.

Beethoven published 32 piano sonatas in his lifetime, and ideally one student will perform each sonata, Cartledge said.

In the two previous concerts, three sonatas were performed each time, but there will be two on Tuesday night. The two pianists are Benjamin Elliott, a senior studying



CLAIRE LIVINGSTON | IDS
Boyoung Kim plays in the Beethoven Piano Sonata Festival on Jan. 29 in Auer Hall. The Beethoven Piano Sonatas series will be completed in 12 concerts.

piano performance, and William Chiang, a first-year masters student studying piano performance. Elliott will perform Sonata in A Major, Op. 101, and Chiang will perform Sonata in E-Flat Major, Op. 7.

The students were selected by a nomination and competition process, Cartledge said. The faculty in the piano department nominated

students for specific sonatas. Sometimes, more than one student was nominated for a sonata, and a group of faculty made the decision blindly by listening to recordings of each student performing the sonata without knowing whose recording it was. The piano department is in the process of deciding which students will perform in March.

"There are some professional pianists that have been celebrating by performing all 32, and that's long been a huge achievement," Elliott said. "But to do it as a department is a real opportunity to showcase the students that we have in the school."

Beethoven's work is divided into three periods — early, middle and late. The series does not showcase the sonatas in order, Elliott said.

Chiang's piece is one of Beethoven's very first piano sonatas, while Elliott's is from the composer's late period after he had gone deaf.

"It's among the less-played of Beethoven's 32 sonatas," Chiang said of his piece. "It's the first one that he wrote that was on a really revolutionary scale."

Jacobs will also present Beethoven's five piano concertos, Cartledge said. The first three will be performed in the spring.

Jacobs quartet-in-residence, the Pacifica Quartet, is also playing Beethoven's sixteen string quartets in a series of six concerts to celebrate.

Tuesday's concert is free for everyone and does not require tickets.