

Banta decimated IU campus site

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seemed to confirm what they had wanted to do all along.

Banta didn't like the idea and said so. Monroe County residents had shown good faith in the University by floating a \$50,000 bond issue despite the fact that some residents grumbled that the additional tax was an illegal appropriation of their money. The insurance company had to pay up \$20,000, so the Trustees had \$70,000 to work with.

To say that the university was at a crossroads is an understatement. Some of the trustees wanted to rebuild on the South College property, but Banta had made up his mind that the university had to move. It was hemmed in by a growing Bloomington, and the noisy New Albany and Salem Railroad trains disrupted classes. Also the sparks from the engines were a real hazard to the buildings.

When word leaked out that the trustees were thinking of moving the campus, offers of land for sale started coming in from everywhere. Two main contenders were John Blair, who offered 30 acres of his property in the area where Dyer Middle School is now located for \$3,000, and Mose Dunn's 20 wooded acres for \$6,000.

Banta played a strategy game with his fellow trustees. Three voted to stay on South College, three voted to buy the

Blair property, and Banta had already decided that the university should go to Dunn's Woods. He intimidated the "Blair faction" by threatening to vote with the "stay-on-South-College faction".

Several meetings later Banta had won his fight. The board voted to take up Mose Dunn on his offer. Banta was backed by the Bloomington Telephone, which ran an impassioned plea to keep the university in Bloomington.

His last battle was with consumption. He died in April of 1896. It has been the custom of the IU Board of Trustees to name buildings after distinguished alumni or faculty members. The Banta Apartments are named for the stubborn kid who walked back home to Indiana from Iowa.

Congressmen differ on C

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keeping secrets is not very good," Deckard said.

Deckard added that "regardless of the satisfaction with President Carter's handling of the Iran crisis, we should support him."

Rep. Adam Benjamin, D-Hobart, echoed Deckard and Lugar's opinion about the issue of congressional prior notice