

INDEX...

editorials.....3
lifestyle.....6
sports.....10
classifieds.....12

WEATHER

Today: Cloudy 32/45°
Wednesday: Cloudy
48/34°

the Alestle

ALTON, EAST ST. LOUIS & EDWARDSVILLE

VIVA Variety!

Live in the land of the
lavish excitement that is
Comedy Central's Viva
Variety! See story on
page 6



◆ TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1998

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY AT EDWARDSVILLE

Vol. 50, No. 42 ◆

Celebration continues King's Dream

Freeman speaks
out against racial
polarization
during luncheon

■ BY REBECCA HOPKINS
NEWS REPORTER

St. Louis Post-Dispatch columnist, Gregory Freeman cited racial polarization as the biggest problem communities face today when he gave the keynote speech at Thursday's Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Luncheon.

"We must see how polarization affects us politically, economically and morally," Freeman said. "We need to reach out more to do what we can in our own spheres of influence."

Freeman challenged those present to take the initiative to end polarization of all minorities because "we will never be all we can be unless we learn to be all we can be together," he said.

see SPEAKERS, page 2



Neil Beitzell/Alestle

(Left to right, forefront) Harvey Jones, Jr., and Rudolph Wilson enjoy themselves at the Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday celebration reception in the University Center, Goshen Lounge on Thursday.

Dees' "Passion for
justice" illustrates
realities of hate
crimes in America

■ BY REBECCA HOPKINS
NEWS REPORTER

A passion for justice and the hope of a united America brought attorney Morris Dees to the SIUE campus on Jan. 22, to speak to students and the community in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. day.

"We need to decrease the temperature on racial issues and find a way to label ourselves 'Americans of mixed descent,'" Dees said. "Race is an artificial concept that means nothing genetically."

In 1971, Dees co-founded the Southern Poverty Law Center dedicated to the pursuit of equal opportunities for minorities and the poor. In 1981, Dees began a battle against hate groups that

see DEES, page 3

IRS offers electric filing as alternative to traditional filing

■ BY ZHANDA
JOHNSON
NEWS EDITOR

Does the date April 15th ring a bell? It is a date which many people despise because it is the income tax deadline. For those who feel this way, there is a fairly new way of filing taxes which could make filing easier.

This year choose a different way of filing your income tax return. The Internal Revenue Service offers several electronic filing (IRS e-file) options for individual taxpayers. Last year over 19 million taxpayers chose an e-file option.

One of the biggest professional tax return preparation companies, H&R

Block supports the e-file system.

"We like electronic filing because the IRS likes it," Carol Augustine, office supervisor of the Edwardsville office said.

Augustine said that if H&R Block prepares a tax return they will e-file it for free.

Federal tax returns can be e-filed through an approved

electronic filer. In order to do this one should look for the "Authorized IRS e-file Provider" sign. The completed return is transmitted, usually for a charge, over telephone lines directly to IRS computers.

Illinois residents can e-file their state and federal income tax return in one transmission to the IRS. The Illinois

Department of Revenue will retrieve the information it needs to process the return electronically.

For those who own a personal computer, some on-line computer service providers offer e-file for a small fee. All a person needs is a modem and IRS accepted software.

see IRS, page 4

Latex is the safe sex condom

Misconceptions and improper condom use could heighten STD risk for SIUE students

■ BY RENEE HOLLER
NEWS STRINGER

Now more than ever, SIUE students need to be aware that condom use dramatically reduces the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). According to Dr. Lee Johnson, director of Health Services at SIUE, a reason to be concerned is the rapid increase of several STDs.

"It (the major

misconceptions students have) is that they are not going to get it (an STD)," Johnson said. According to Johnson, many young people also believe that if the female is using another form of birth control (such as birth control pills or Norplant), they are protected from sexually transmitted diseases as well as pregnancy. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Despite the AIDS epidemic and the fact that

many other sexually transmitted diseases are making a comeback in record numbers, many college students still feel that a condom is too cumbersome to use, that a condom takes too much time to use or that a condom could fail. Johnson, however, disagrees.

"When used properly, a condom can prevent pregnancy," Johnson said.

see CONDOMS, page 5



Jill Stevens/Alestle

"Let's talk about sexually transmitted diseases," a display on a billboard in the Cougar Village Commons, provides information about sexually transmitted diseases.

STUDENTS

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SPEAKERS

from page 1

Freeman was interrupted by applause several times during his speech and received a standing ovation at its conclusion.

Freeman is the host of "Mosaic with Greg Freeman" on KETC-TV, does regular commentary for radio station KWMU, and is an occasional guest on KETC-TV's "Donnybrook."

A special lifetime humanitarian award was presented to Morris Dees, the co-founder and chief trial counsel of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala. Committed to fighting for the civil rights of minorities, Dees was on campus to present a lecture as guest speaker for the Arts & Issues Series. He accepted his award "on behalf of the 75 people who work for the Southern Poverty Law Center and helped to make this possible."

Thursday's luncheon, held in the Meridian Ballroom, was SIUE's 16th annual celebration of King's birthday that is held to honor his memory. King envisioned that peaceful protest, by appealing to the conscience of our nation's citizens and capturing the attention of world opinion, would yield an integrated American society where all persons could live and prosper together.

The occasion was marked by a presentation of awards and scholarships to students, teachers and community leaders who exemplified King's commitment to justice. This year's winners are:



Neil Beitzell/Alestle

Dr. Lorraine Williams, assistant professor in the School of Nursing, and Scholarship/Humanitarian award recipient, Youngchoon Hahm, at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Luncheon.

Harvey Jones, Jr., Community Humanitarian Award; Dr. Shirley Portwood, University Humanitarian Award; and Youngchoon Hanh, Scholarship Humanitarian Award. Awards were also presented to three high school students: Jessica Vick, Essay Award; Natalie Bellm, Poetry Award; and Joanna Koopman, Visual Arts Award.

The awards and scholarships are made possible by a \$40,000 endowment from Coca-Cola Bottling Co. and from private donations.

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Student Government is looking for a self-motivated student to hold the position of Election Commissioner. To serve, the requirements are as follows:

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US government should repeal the Hatch Act of 1939 and give government employees a chance at civic involvement

Shortly after filing a Democrat primary petition for the Illinois Twentieth Congressional District, David Loebach was informed that he was not eligible to be a congressional candidate. Loebach, an employee of the Illinois Department of Human Services, has discovered that his job may be covered under Title 5 of the United States Code, chapter 15, paragraph 1501. Commonly referred to as the Hatch Act of 1939, this law regulates which state or local government employees may run for partisan political office.

Paragraphs 1501 and 1502 of the act state that a state or local officer or employee whose principal employment is in connection with activity which is financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a federal agency may not (1) use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election or a nomination for office; (2) directly or indirectly coerce, attempt to coerce, command or advise a state or local officer or employee to pay, lend or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes; or (3) be a candidate for elective office. These officers and employees retain the right to vote and to express opinions on political subjects and candidates. The act does not prohibit the people specified in the act from being a candidate in a non-partisan election.

The act does not apply to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or individuals authorized by law to act as Governor; the Mayor of a city; a duly elected head of an executive department of a state or municipality who is not classified under a state or municipal merit of civil service system; or an individual holding elective office.

The Office of Special Counsel was established in 1989 as an independent agency within the executive branch of the federal government. It has been designated as the agency which will investigate the provisions of this act. If, after receiving a creditable report of a violation of the act, the special counsel shall investigate and present its finding to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB). The MSPB will set a hearing date and notify the officer or employee. At that hearing the MSPB will determine if there was a violation of the act, determine whether the violation warrants the removal of the officer or employee from the office or employment, and will notify the individual and the agency of its decision by mail.

If the Merit Systems Protection Board orders the removal of an officer or employee and finds that after 30 days that individual has not been removed or has been removed and rehired in less than 18 months by the state in a state or local agency which does not receive loans or grants from a federal agency, the MSPB will take action to cause the appropriate federal agency to withhold from its loans or grants to the state or local agency, to which notice was given, an amount equal to two years pay at the rate the officer or employee was receiving at the time of the violation. Of course the act also provides for appeal to the courts.

David Loebach may or may not be a credible candidate for Congress. Yet, if the Office of Special Counsel determines that the Illinois Department of Human Services receives federal funds, Mr. Loebach will not be permitted to be a candidate.

State and local government employ vast armies of workers

like Mr. Loebach. Many of their executive agencies receive federal funds. By taking those funds, governments also agree to take from their employees a portion of their political rights. There are numerous reasons why Congress passed the Hatch Act in 1939. Yet, one must inquire about the fairness of a system which prevents otherwise qualified citizens from running for political office. The U.S. Constitution clearly defines the qualifications to be a candidate for federal office. There is no mention of an exclusion for those who work for a state or local government agency which receives federal grants or loans. Mr. Loebach may be struck from his Congressional ballot contention through no fault of his own. Rather, it may be a result of an omnipresent federal government.

Just because the federal government sends grants or loans to a state or a local agency it should not automatically disqualify an entire class of otherwise qualified citizens from seeking political office. There may have been some good political reasons in 1939 but are those reasons still valid in 1998? Let's see some statesmanship, for a change.

Congress should revisit that portion of the Hatch Act of 1939 which excludes an entire class of citizens from their right to be a candidate for any partisan political office, municipal, state or federal. They should consider modifying or repealing Paragraph 1502 (a) (3); be a candidate for elective office.

Lee A. Presser
The Presser Group

Correction

In the Jan. 22, 1998 issue of the *Alestle*, a photo on page 5 stated that the Edwardsville amphitheater was being built, when in fact it is still in an approval phase. Also, in the article "Belton named *Alestle* editor in chief," Danielle Belton was approved by the Student Publications Advisory Board. Also, the date on the front page read 1997 when it should have read 1998. The *Alestle* apologizes for these errors.

Black History Month is fast approaching and the Alestle is looking for editorials and editorial cartoons on race relations and black history to be featured in the Editorial section. Please send your letters to the Alestle on the second floor of the University Center, with name, phone number, social security number and signature. Letters missing the above WILL NOT be printed. For more information contact Danielle Belton at Ext. 3528.

DEES

from page 1

would make him the target of death threats and arson. In that year he won a \$7 million settlement against the Ku Klux Klan for the lynching of a young black man in Mobile, Ala.

In the course of his efforts he has written two books on the dangers of hate groups. The first, Hate on Trial: The Case Against America's Most Dangerous Neo-Nazi, chronicles the trial and \$12.5 million judgment against white supremacist Tom Metzger and the White Aryan Resistance for their responsibility in the beating death of a young black student in Portland, Ore. His second book, Gathering Storm: America's Militia Threat, exposes the danger posed by

today's domestic terrorist groups.

The purpose of such large settlements is to "put the organizations out of business by breaking their bank," Dees said. "I believe in basic fairness and justice. I grew up as somewhat of an underdog, the son of tenant farmers, so I fight for the underdog."

Six months before the Oklahoma City bombing in April, 1995, Dees warned the U.S. Attorney General that radical militias were planning domestic terrorist strikes. The Militia Task Force at the law center was created in October, 1994 after the group Klanwatch uncovered links between white supremacist organizations and

some of the militia groups that were organizing throughout the United States.

The Patriot Movement that spawned Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols continues to flourish on the fringes of the American political culture and are growing more passionate.

"Groups that espouse extreme anti-government positions are growing in number and hardening in attitude," said Joe Roy, director of the law center's Klanwatch Project and its Militia Task Force.

As chief trial counsel for the law center, Dees and staff attorney Ellen Bowden have written that:

see DEES, page 5

Letters to the editor policy:

The editors, staff and publishers of the *Alestle* believe in the free exchange of ideas, concerns and opinions and will publish as many letters to the editor as possible. All letters should be typed and double-spaced and be no longer than 500 words. Please include your phone number, signature and social security number.

We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. However, great care will be taken to ensure that the message of the letter is not lost or altered.

Letters to the editor will not be printed anonymously except under extreme circumstances.

The *Alestle* is a member of the Illinois College Press Association.

The name *Alestle* is an acronym derived from the names of the three campus locations of SIUE: Alton, East St. Louis and Edwardsville.

The *Alestle* is published on Tuesdays and Thursdays during fall and spring semesters, and on Wednesdays during summer semesters. For more information, call (618) 692-3528.

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IRS

from page 1

Look for the e-file or on-line feature when buying tax preparation software. For on-line e-filing one transmits the return to the on-line service. The information is then converted to the acceptable IRS format and then sent to the IRS. The IRS will then notify the person through the on-line service whether or not the return has been accepted. If it is not accepted the person will be told which items have to be changed. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Another option is filing a tax return with a 10 minute phone call. Some people receive a special TeleFile tax package. This package contains the special customer service number needed to file. All one has to do is follow the instructions on the package. After dialing a toll free number the caller is asked to punch in the requested information. TeleFile computes the tax and tells the

caller how large the refund is or how much additional tax is due. At the end of the call a confirmation number will be given that can be used if there are any questions. TeleFile is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

There are several advantages to e-filing. The main advantages are receiving an acknowledgment from the IRS when the return is received and accepted, eliminating human errors, missing information is immediately identified and requested, the refund can be directly deposited into a bank account and reducing contacts with the IRS.

"You will receive a faster refund through electronic filing," Augustine said.

Even though e-filing is a good and easy way of filing, Augustine warns that it is important to keep good tax records.

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CONDOMS

from page 1

"It can also prevent diseases, like syphilis, chlamydia and AIDS."

"A majority of SIUE students do feel that condoms are an important weapon in the fight against STDs and pregnancy," said a 21 year-old male student who wished to have his name withheld.

"Condoms are effective, worth using, but they can take the away some of the pleasure. The benefits, though, outweigh the risks of not using one."

For many years there was only one brand of condom, the Trojan. However, in recent years many new brands have become available. These new brands include Lifestyles, Shiek, Avanti, Contempo and Prime. Along with these new brands come more types of condoms, such as ribbed, lubricated, non-lubricated, colored, glow-in-the-dark and flavored, all for the pleasure of the consumer.

Condoms are most effective when used properly, according to Johnson. Johnson said that some students reuse condoms or use them with oil-based lubricants, such as Vaseline or baby oil, that



Jill Stevens/Alestle
Trojan condoms shown to display their contents are some of the best known condoms. One of most common mistakes made when using one of these is putting on the condom up side down.

break down the condom quickly. The oil in the lubricant breaks down the latex of the condom, rendering the condom ineffective against pregnancy and STDs.

One of the most common mistakes made when using a condom is putting the condom on upside down. The proper method of using a condom is to unroll it smoothly and easily from the rim on the outside. A good way to tell if it is inside out is if the person has to struggle or take more than a few seconds to put it on

Almost all condom manufacturers agree that their products have a shelf life of three to five years, depending on whether the condom is pre-lubricated with spermicide or not.

Also, if a condom feels sticky or brittle, use another condom. A condom should not be kept in a purse or back pocket. Instead, a condom should be stored in a dry, dark place, not too warm or too cold, to help prolong the life of the latex.

Condoms are more widely available today, more so than they were ten years ago. According to Johnson, condoms are easily available in grocery and drug stores, and in restroom vending machines. Condoms are also available through any health department or University Health Services.

"We give out a lot of condoms," Johnson said.

DEES

from page 3

"In an age increasingly populated by militia groups that train to commit violence, states should seriously think about using their anti-militia laws to shut down militias ... they are the best route to prevent the violence that militias cause before it occurs." Illinois has an anti-militia law, but Missouri does not.

Another arm of the Southern Poverty Law Center is its Teaching Tolerance program begun in 1991 as a response to an increase in hate crimes among youths. The program offers free or low-cost resources to educators at all levels. Curriculum resources include the free video and text teaching kits, America's Civil Rights Movement and The Shadow of Hate, which chronicle the history of hatred and intolerance in American and the struggle to overcome prejudice. One of the films produced by Teaching Tolerance, A Time for Justice, won an Academy Award in 1995 for Best Short Documentary.

Dees has received many awards for his work at the Southern Poverty Law Center. In 1987, Dees was named Trial Lawyer of the Year by Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, and he received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award from the National Education Association in 1990.

In the 1996 feature film about the murder of civil rights leader Medgar Evers, Ghosts of Mississippi, Dees was portrayed by actor Wayne Rogers.



Neil Beitzell/Alestle
Morris Dees addresses the audience during his speech for Arts & Issues at the Meridian Hall on Thursday.



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Wednesday, February 11, 1998 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.*

Wednesday, March 11, 1998 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, March 24, 1998 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
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Connery) in "Goldfinger"

Lifestyle

People, Entertainment & Comics

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2. Spiceworld \$11
3. Good Will... \$9.1
4. As Good As... \$7.6
5. Fallen \$4.9

(All figures in millions)

◆ PAGE 6

The Lifestyle

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1998 ◆

RAVINGS & RAVES



■ BY COREY STULCE
LIFESTYLE EDITOR
cstulce@siue.edu

I hate to complain, but I have
come to a disheartening
realization. There is no such
thing as originality anymore.

I wracked my brain, and I
can't think of a concept or
person that is doing something
entirely new. Everything is
either a remake or an homage.
Usually anything written about a
new idea has a comparison to an
old idea.

Sure some might say, "Well,
that's not so bad." And, they're
right. This gives younger people
a chance to discover things that
their elder generations have
already enjoyed.

The disheartening thing is that
some people are so deluded that
they think what they are doing is
new and cutting edge.

Let's start with sex. Now,
anything having to do with sex,
be it with a man and a woman, a
man and a man, a woman and a
woman, or a man with a dog, has
been done.

It had probably been done in
the first 50 years of man's
existence on earth. And, no
matter what your religious
beliefs, that was a long time ago.

So, anyone who thinks
they're conquering new ground
by using some new and painful
position or implement of
penetration is just going to extra
effort for nothing. Neil
Armstrong won't be calling to
congratulate you. (In fact, they
probably messed around on the
moon, just to do something
different.)

So, it's okay to accept that
what you do everyday is already
old hat, but it's not okay to give
up. I do not want to see anymore
sad excuses from those in the
entertainment industry who do
not even attempt an original
thought. No more remakes of
60s cartoons or TV shows! And
please, for the love of all that is
sacred, no more cheap Puff
Daddy song remakes. It's called
pumped-up muzak, Puffy, and
it stinks!

Variety!

i
v
a

'STATE' ALUMNI SPICE UP THE AIRWAVES ON COMEDY CENTRAL



■ BY COREY STULCE
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

They starred on the M T V sketch comedy show "The State" for "about ten minutes" and now Kerri Kenney,

Tom Lennon and Michael Ian Black are living large on Comedy Central in the big and brassy "Viva Variety."

"Viva" is a parody of European variety shows, such as "El Sabado Gigante," which are bigger than life and feature eccentric guests. Now in its second season, "Viva" will feature guest stars like David Johansen, Evil Knievel and Reel Big Fish.

The show's incarnation began from a skit from "The State" written by Lennon.

"It was very, very unlike the show now," Lennon said. "We had people screaming, an ape man, a Hitler character, talking cuckoo clock. In short, it was very annoying."

The trio, along with co-creator Ben Garant, toned the show down, and it became more for adults by the time it aired on Comedy Central.

The show gets written by Lennon, Black and Garant. Lennon said they

had a very successful writing process.

"Basically, me and Mike and Ben sit in a room," he said. "Mike and I have computers and Ben writes ionghand like Mozart."

"And, we play with the putting machine we have and we dunk baskets and we try to think of jokes. It's a really nice process, because we have worked together for so long that we have a really good sense on how the others write," Lennon said.

"They hand me a script and it's as if I had written it," Kenney concurred. "We trust each other and we speak the same language."

The show stars Lennon and Kenney as Mr. and the former Mrs. Laupin, an ex-husband and wife team still working together after divorce. They riff off each other like a super-demented Sonny and Cher. Their companion is the clueless Johnny Blue Jeans, who attempts to be the epitome of American cool, but acts more like Fonzie with a learning disability. All three speak with an indeterminable European accent.

Kerrey attempted to explain where the

origin of the accents came from.

"I don't know if you can print this, but out of my ass," she said. "Basically, Tom and I, for the last 12 years have been doing this voice that we used to call the nowhere people. It was a character where you couldn't identify where they had come from. That was our little joke and we made it into a big TV show," Kenney said.

One of the big differences between "Viva" and "The State" is the addition of celebrity guests to aid the variety show format. Working with celebrities have caused Lennon and Kenney to get a little star-struck.

"I'm always interested in people who scared me as a child, and I was always afraid of Stacy Keach," Lennon said. "I was also very scared of Fishbone... But, it turned out they were very mellow."

Kenney, Lennon and Black have worked together for a decade, but have led very interesting lives without the other members being involved.

Kenney's father is also involved in show business. He is the voice for such popular animated breakfast cereal characters as the Cocoa Puffs bird and Count Chocula.

Kenney is also the lead singer and bass player for the band Cake Like. The band is currently writing their second album, but have been plagued by ill health. Kenney herself is recovering from work overload.

"I do too much," Kenney said. "It should always be a lesson to me because every time I do too much I get sick and end up in the hospital. And I don't learn and I

push on and it happens again. So, this time I'm trying to remember that, even though I won't."

She has also starred in a film that competed in the Sundance film festival last year called "Love God."

"I play Darla, a surrogate sex therapist in training, which is her way of having sex with all the patients and getting away with it," Kenney said.

Black worked as a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle with Garant touring around the country.

"They were offering me a good amount of

money to go and see the country, and I thought it was a good idea," Black said.

"It was a lot of working with latex and saying 'Cowabunga' a lot. Surprisingly little martial arts involved. I was Raphael, occasionally Donatello, but I really connected with Raphael."

Black, along with another "State" vet Michael Showalter, hosts a weekly night of alternative comedy called "Stella." The show is very popular in New York City and has featured comedians like Jeneane Garofolo and odder acts like a puppet show. The show has an open format in which comics can perform sketches, monologues or regular stand-up for a mature audience.

"The comics appreciate ["Stella"] because they can get laughs that they might not get in other clubs," Black said.

Lennon is using his time on hiatus from "Viva" to write jokes for another Comedy Central show called "Pulp Comics."

The foursome of Black, Lennon, Kenney and Grant, along with the other six members of "The State", became friends and a team when they were all going to NYU. The group somewhat disbanded after being cancelled by MTV and a very-short lived appearance on CBS.

Lennon is surprised at "The States" popularity after its cancellation.

"The State" was the most hated show in the history of television. We got negative three stars from the New York Post ... There were two girls, they were kind of looking at me, and I thought they

recognized me from the show. I got ten feet past them and they yelled 'We hate you!' They were mustering up the courage to tell me that they hated me," Lennon said.

Besides the show, the troupe wrote a comical guide to the United States, which was also not very well received.

"Entertainment Weekly" called it racist," said Black. "If I had wanted the book to be racist, you would know. I would have fought tooth and nail for it. It would be my version and published by the White Aryan Press," Black said.

All joking aside, the luck of "The State" has been low as of late. They recorded an album which was never released, and Kenney said they made a bad decision which cost them a movie deal. Still though, Kenney and Black are hopeful about the future of "The State."

"The State as an entity still exists. It's just in hiatus because no one wants to give us money," Black said.

"We have reached cult status," Kenney said. "There's no question in my mind that we always will work together in one form or another. It was bizzare that we ever got together in the first place, but we got together for a reason. I could tell a psychic that and if they tell me otherwise I'd tell them to shove it."

Of course, Lennon has another opinion. "Maybe in a few years, I'll miss it when a couple of them start dropping dead," he said.



Photos:

Top left: The cast of Comedy Central's "Viva Variety," now in its second season.

Left: from left: Kerri Kenney as the former Mrs. Laupin, Michael Ian Black as Johnny Blue Leans, the Swimsuit Squad (background), special guest Evil Knievel, and Tom Lennon as Mr. Laupin.

Right: The former Mrs. and Mr. Laupin and Johnny Blue Jeans are the stars of the European-style variety show, "Viva Variety"

photos courtesy of Comedy Central

Left Bank Books: A nook for book lovers and coffee drinkers

■ BY STEPHEN WHITE
LIFESTYLE REPORTER

There's a little bookstore and cafe in the St. Louis Central West End; a place where book lovers can meet some of the biggest names in literature today.

Left Bank Books and Cafe Danielle are connected from the inside by an open door. The cafe houses book signings, reading discussion groups and several special events.

Last Wednesday, National Book Award finalist Amy Bloom debuted her first novel, *Love Invent's Us* at the historic book store and cafe. Her work has appeared in the *New Yorker*, the 1991 and 1992 Best American Short Story collections and the 1994 O. Henry Prize Story collection. She is also the author of *Come to Me*, a collection of short stories and writes a column for a new magazine for women,

entitled "Sex Life."

Bloom is a psychotherapist by trade and lives in Connecticut. She read a chapter from *Love Invent's Us* and a short story entitled "The Gates Are Closing," which will be published in the February edition of "Zoetrope," a magazine produced by Francis Ford Coppola.

She spoke directly and with authority, seldom pausing as she read line after line of her rich, vivid prose.

The audience of no more than 50, composed primarily of women, giggled ferociously when Bloom told jokes and whined and moaned in empathetic "mms" and "uh huhs" during her moments of greatest insight. Her stories dealt with the problems of growing up as a female in contemporary society.

After the readings, she

answered questions from the audience and signed books for her fans.

Barry Leibman, owner of Left Bank Books, said Bloom's visit continued the tradition of great writers who have chosen the vintage St. Louis book store to debut their newest works.

"We've had hundreds of writers come through our doors, many of them major literary figures of today," Leibman said. "People like William Burroughs, Toni Morrison and Charles Johnson, to name a few."

Left Bank Books sponsors about 10 literary events each month. The store is a 3,000 square-foot, two-story building which was erected around the time of the World's Fair. It opened in 1969. Leibman and his co-owners took it over in 1977. Presently, only 10 workers are employed. The store is strapped for help, but they cannot afford to hire any new employees. They are losing ground due to competition from superstores like Barnes and Noble and subsidiaries.

"The most significant thing about us right now is that we are the last independent, full-service, full-selection book store left in the metropolitan area," Leibman said. "There's one book store in

Kansas City like us, but the rest have been taken over by superstores — superstores that pretty much run everybody else out of business."

Left Bank Books doesn't sell a book simply because it's a New York Times bestseller. "This is really a literary bookstore," he said. "We specialize in fiction, art, psychology and politics. We also have a used book section downstairs which emphasizes literature and the arts. We're pretty choosy in what we carry. For instance, we don't have romances or westerns. For the amount of space we have, we try to put in it what we're most interested in. That's why an independent bookstore is different than a chain bookstore. First of all, you don't have as much space. And secondly, you have an identity as opposed to just being another book warehouse."

An identity that employees like Sharon Greenwood, 35, take pride in being a part of. "We have a lot of regular customers here. It's pretty much a neighborhood store," she said. "The coffee shop next door helps a lot. We get some of the same people in here every morning. This store has a lot of personality. I've worked at a lot of different bookstores and to be honest, right now I'm exactly where I want to be."

Whereas a chain bookstore might hire someone whose only reading interests include comic books and magazines, Left Bank

Books hires only true bookworms. "You have to love books to work at a store like this," Greenwood said.

The store's distinctive identity is in large part due to its founding fathers' original political agenda. The name "Left Bank Books" definitely implies a left-wing, liberal affiliation. In other words, don't expect William F. Buckley or Rush Limbaugh to stop by any time soon for a book signing. But that doesn't mean that conservatives won't find anything of interest at the store, unless the only thing they care about is politics.

"The store was founded from a leftist political movement in 1969. We have matured since then to encompass a library of books that appeals to a larger audience, but of course we are still more liberal than a chain bookstore," explained Lisa Greening, an employee at the store for two years and a co-owner during the last year and a half.

For its final literary event of January, Left Bank Books will welcome Marilyn Heldman, a local historian. She will discuss and present her book "African Zion," a study of religious icons and history of Northern Africa. The presentation starts at 7:30 p.m. this Thursday.

Left Bank Books is located at 399 N. Euclid in St. Louis. For more information call (314) 367-6731.



Dressed to the Nines

"Stepping Out With My Baby," a new display put on by the department of theater and dance, will be unveiled in the Art Gallery upstairs at the University Center on Thursday. The display features clothing that shows examples of the absurdity of the Victorian era of dress. It will be featured through March. Rebecca Baygents, a senior in the department of theater and dance, prepares the display.

Bob Fehringier/Alestyle

Photos:

Above: The outside of Left Bank Books located at 399 N. Euclid in St. Louis.
Right: The Cafe Danielle, adjacent to Left Bank Books.

Stephen White/Alestyle



Attention All SIUE Student Organizations

The FY99 Annual Allocation Meetings are Scheduled on the Following Days:

1. Monday, January 26, 1998 @ 2 pm
Location: Faculty Club, University Center
2. Thursday, January 29, 1998 @ 11am
Location: International Room, University Center
3. Wednesday, February 4, 1998 @ 10 am
Location: Faculty Club, University Center
4. Friday, February 6, 1998 @ 1 pm
Location: Faculty Club, University Center

All Organizations must have a member attend one of these meetings if their organization intends to obtain Annual Allocation funds for FY99.

**For Further Information
Call 692-3819 or stop by the
Student Government Office**



GET INTO IT WITH UCB!



Showcase

**Tuesday, January 27th
7:30 PM
Maple/Dogwood Rm., UC**

**Wednesday, January 28th
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Center Stage-
Caricaturist
Goshen Lounge**



**Thursday, January 29th
12 PM - 1 PM**

**Soup &
Substance
Cahokia Room, UC**

**Friday, January 30th, 6PM
College Bowl Tournament**

Conference Center, UC

Does your organization need some money? Sign up to play the Varsity Sport of the Mind & earn some extra bucks. Get your team of 4 together now and sign up in the Kimmel Leadership Center by January 28.

Do you want to be a Leader?

Here's your chance!!!

UCB is filling leadership positions for the next academic year. Interested? Pick up an application in the Kimmel Leadership Center. Application deadline - Friday, February 6. For more information call 692-3371.

**Become part of the programming team.
Call 692-3372 for more information UCB Hotline (618) 692-3372**

Women's hoops up record to 8-2 in conference

■ BY JASON TRIPLETT
SPORTS REPORTER

The Cougar women's basketball team is rolling again as they upped their conference record to 8-2 by defeating Indianapolis last Thursday and Northern Kentucky on Saturday.

Indianapolis had a 7-10 record going into the game at Nicoson Hall in Indianapolis. A crowd of nearly 450 people looked on to watch the Lady Greyhounds take a quick lead four seconds into the first half on a jumper by Indy guard Karrie Hochgesang who had 13 points on the night. Then a layup from Cougar forward Alicia Harkins evened the score at two.

A pair of Cougar threes from Misi Clark and Kim Lowe five minutes into the game brought SIUE within one making the score 11-10 in Indy's favor. SIUE never led in the half again with the help of two Indianapolis scoring runs that held the Cougars down 33-31 at the end of the first half.

"We simply weren't hitting our shots early," Cougar head coach Wendy Hedberg said. "Later, we were able to settle in and run our offense and do the things we wanted to do."

To drain or not to drain was the Cougar's motto in the second half. They shot 76 percent from the field by hitting 16 of their 21 shots taken.

Early in the half, Leslie Phillips, who started the game at shooting guard, hit a three that took the lead 39-37 and the Cougars never looked back. A 10-0 scoring run later in the half also helped SIUE to keep the Greyhounds at bay.

The two SIUE freshmen, Clark and Erica Cory hit five free throws between them in the final minute of play to assure the victory 76-73.

Clark finished leading all scorers and rebounders with 23 points and nine boards. Indy guard Kim Lawrence tallied 18 points and six assists to lead her team.

On Saturday, the Cougars were stung by the Northern Kentucky Norse early in the game and SIUE could only muster eight points through the first fifteen minutes of play.

"In each of the two games we got off to slow starts," Hedberg said. "We were out of sync early in both games."

SIUE fought back and did it the hard way. They capped off the first half by dominating NKU with a 14-5 scoring run. The run was highlighted by SIUE going eight of 11 from the charity stripe down the stretch to finish the half 24-22 in NKU's favor.

SIUE went to the line 45 times in the game and hit 27 of

the attempts. They shot only five of 22 from the floor in the first half and their free throws literally saved them.

"NKU is always physical," Hedberg said. "There wasn't much flow to the game because every time we got the ball we went to the line. Free throws got us back into it. And if we would have converted more of them I don't think the score would have been that close."

Misi Clark tagged a three to start off the second half and it was the shot that broke NKU. The Norse never led the rest of the game. A series of free throws by Harkins, Clark and Christina Loomis in the first 10 minutes only extended SIUE's lead 43-31.

Two three-pointers from NKU's Katie Kelsey, and one each from Michele Tuchfarber and Jamie Garner brought the Norse to within three and the game ended 54-51.

SIUE's Kim Lowe finished in double figures with 14 points and 15 rebounds. Harkins led all scorers with 17 points in her 35 minutes of play.

SIUE will try to do it again when they visit Southern Indiana this Thursday. Over the weekend, the women will travel to Quincy to take on the Hawks to end the four game road venture.

"USI is out to stick it to us," Hedberg said. "They want to prove that their loss to us was a fluke. They're back at first place in the conference and we will be ready for them."

Men's basketball splits games over weekend

■ BY BRETT LICATA
SPORTS REPORTER

Two intense conference games left the SIUE men's basketball team mentally and physically exhausted.

The Cougars needed double overtime to down Indianapolis 103-99 last Thursday at Nicoson Hall in Indianapolis, Ind.

Down 13 points with under 11 minutes to play in regulation, the SIUE coaching staff told its players that if they would stay close they would have an opportunity to win.

With 10 minutes remaining, Rusty Sarnes and Tommy Shurn both drained three-pointers and the lead was cut to five. Nathan Kreke had three field-goals and Marlin Clark knocked down two three-point bombs on a run that saw SIUE take the lead by two.

Down 73-71, Indianapolis tied the game with one second on the clock to send the game into an extra period.

The Cougars tried not to think back to a week ago when they were upset by Wisconsin-Parkside in overtime on a last second desperation shot. Instead, SIUE stayed focused and beat the demon that let Wisconsin-Parkside back into the game — missed free throws.

After a 16 point effort by both

squads in the first overtime, SIUE sank six of six from the charity stripe in the second OT to clinch the four point victory.

"Defensively we played great," assistant coach Scott Eggleston said. "We contained their three-point shooters. We were mostly worried about their size coming in, but we did a good job in denying their big guys inside."

Kreke and Sarnes led the Cougars by combining for 27 rebounds and scoring 26 and 20 points respectively.

Fatigue plagued SIUE in the second half of its game against No. 18 ranked Northern Kentucky.

Only down two at the break, the Cougars liked their chances for upsetting the nationally ranked team while playing in Highland Heights, Ky.

"We played an outstanding first half," Eggleston said. "Northern Kentucky is known for playing extremely intense and we matched their intensity in the first half."

With a couple of players fighting illness, the Cougars couldn't run with Northern Kentucky in the second half. Northern Kentucky pulled away for the 80-71 victory dropping SIUE to 12-5 overall and 6-4 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

"We simply ran out of gas," Eggleston said.

SIUE will dive into more GLVC action when they face Southern Indiana in Evansville, Ind. on Thursday.

"We need the same intensity that we've been playing with for these up-coming games," Eggleston said. "Everyone needs to be contributing on the glass."

Wrestling Cougars fall at National Duals

■ BY BRIAN
ANDERSON
SPORTS REPORTER

The SIUE Cougars came away from the National Duals this weekend 0-3, losing to Wisconsin-Parkside, Chadron State and Augustana. The nail in the coffin for SIUE was when

the Cougars pulled ahead of Wisconsin-Parkside 21-7, only to lose 21-25.

The Cougars failed to put it together as they lost their last four weight classes, including returning All-American Jason Carter's 8-7 loss. Preseason ranked No. 1 Carter went 1-2 over the weekend.

The only bright spots for the Cougars were Tim Michel and Titus Taylor as they were the only wrestlers to go 3-0 in the Duals.

The Cougars travel to the University of Missouri this Thursday and then back home to host Central Missouri State on Jan. 31 at the Vadalabene Center.

Cougar track & field dominate Wesleyan invite

■ BY FARRAH
GRIMES
SPORTS STRINGER

The men's and women's track teams started their new season off with a bang! They have already broken six of SIUE's old records for indoor track.

This past weekend the team traveled to Bloomington, Ill. for the Illinois Wesleyan Invitational.

In the high jump Travis Gude finished first with a height of 6-6 and Beth Louderman finished fourth with a height of 4-10. Paul Parson placed second in the 5000 meter run with a time of 16:22.4. Kelly Hucideberry finished second in the men's 55 meter high hurdles with a time of 7:46. Tricia Huelemann finished fifth in the 3000 meter run with a time

of 11:54.4.

In the 55 meter hurdles, Christy Anderson finished sixth with a time of 9:76. In the shot put Heather Collins threw 28-3 and placed 15th, Kelly Suanders threw 33-9 and placed sixth, and Mekelle Beck threw 35-9 and placed fourth.

In the women's long jump Monica Edwards jumped 13-2 and placed 11th, and Casey Faro jumped 16 1/4 and placed third.

In the women's 55 meter run Christy Yoiama placed third with a time of 7:52, Randlance Pitts placed fourth with a time of 7:58, and Janence Frederich placed fifth with a time of 7:63. Luke Lay finished sixth in the men's 55 meter run with a time of 7:07.

In the men's triple jump,

Joshua Ritzel jumped 42-4 and placed fifth.

In the men's and women's 4x800 meter runs and the distance medley relays, both teams finished first in their heats.

The women's sprint medley relay team placed first and the men's sprint medley relay team finished fifth.

The women's 4x400 meter run placed second with a time of 4:29.4. The men's 4x200 meter run finished second with a time of 1:35.0.

Darryl Frerker, the head coach, said that the team is doing very well and is looking forward to a good year.

SIUE's track and field team is competing in all indoor events until they return to the Vadalabene Center on April 11th.

Cougar Scoreboard

Jan. 29th - Men's and Women's hoops at Southern Indiana

Wrestling at Missouri State

Jan. 30th - SIUE Club Hockey vs. University of Missouri-St. Louis at East Alton Ice Rink

CORRECTION

A headline in the Jan. 22nd issue of the *Alestle* read, "Men's hoops end home stretch with win over Lewis." The men's team lost to Lewis. We regret the error.

STUDENTS TAKE A BREAK FROM STUDYING AND CLASSES

To enjoy some REFRESHMENTS

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9:00 am - 11:00 am

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Wednesday, February 4

Live Videoconference

11:30 am - 2:30 pm

Madison Room, (Meridian Ballroom) University Center

Open and Free to the Public

Box lunches will be provided to the first 150 reservations.

For lunch reservations, please call 692-2660

by noon Wednesday, January 28.

Agenda:

11:30 am - 12:00 pm Welcome, overview and lunch

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Videoconference

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm Discussion

For more information contact Norma Griggs at 692-2333

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January 30 - Winter Olympics; Pool
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



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Indoor Rock
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Gym, St. Louis
Sunday,
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- Time: 11:00 am - 6:pm
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Registration Deadline: January 30, 1998

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◆ PAGE 12

The Alestle

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S.S. S.H.A.D.E.S. Thanks for being
very supportive through the storms.
Much love and true sisterhood forever,
Phenomenal #1

TO OUR beautiful, sophisticated, and
breath taking (breeze) ship, Retannical
have a Happy 22nd Birthday. Love
your sorors of Alpha Kappa Alpha.
Skee wee.

TO MY AKA family: thank you for the
warm and supportive welcome. Lets
continue to strive to promote UNITY
around Epsilon Iota. Love Shanita

TO ALL of my beautiful, sophisticated
and dedicated sorors of Alpha Kappa
Alpha Sorority, Inc. Lets continue our
strong tradition of standing supreme in
the pink and green

ROOMMATE MELISSA I had an
awesome time with you wednesday
night, can't wait for many more good
times. Love ya girl, Tracy

AST SARAH, to the awesomest mom in
the world. We definitely have to go
partying! I love you with all my heart.
Love ya Tracy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Retannical and
Kelley. Love your sorors

CONGRATULATIONS to my ships.
Throughout the year we've grown close
and now each of you have a special
place in my heart. I love you, continue
to stand proud and dedicated. I
believe in you all. Love Toskee #5
Renaissance

WE CAN'T win if a nutcracker is asking
for donations. Don't fall, you can't hide
those weeping eyes of Master P #11

S.S. S.H.A.D.E.S. We're Chinese 'cause
birds the word. We've searched high
for nutbush in the same game with Mr.
Ed #11

TO S.S. S.H.A.D.E.S., you were
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I am so proud of you. Love Meisha
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Belleville, IL 62220
or telephone
618-234-6876.

Placing a classified ad

Frequency Rates

(For billing purposes, five (5)
words equal one line)

All classifieds and personals must
be paid in full prior to publication.

1 run: \$1.00/line	5 runs: \$.90/line
(2 line minimum)	20 runs: \$.8/line
3 runs: \$.95/line	Personals: \$.50

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday: 8am - 4:30pm

Adjustments

Please read your ad on the first day it
appears. If you cannot find your ad or
discover an error in your ad, call 692-3528 or
come into the office. Positively no allowance
made for errors after the first insertion of
advertisement. No allowance of correction will
be made without a receipt.

Deadlines

Tuesday Publication: Noon Friday
Thursday Publication: Noon Tuesday

Placing Ads To place a classified ad,
come to the Office of Student Publications,
located in the UC, Rm 2022, and fill out a
classifieds form.

the
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692-3528

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Hurry up and get
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5 minutes to get a
quote! Call Now!

GregSchmidt Agency
656-9086

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TAN FOR \$1

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