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Friday Rain and Storms 47/639 Weekend: Partly Cloudy 47/63°

Today: Partly Cloudy

WEATHER



The surrealistic world of Jim Mahfood

Corey Stulce does "13 Inane Questions" with cartoonist Jim Mahfood. See story, page 10.



♦ THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1998

Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Vol. 50, No. 59 ◆

SIUE grad student resigns from internship after organization's slow reaction to racial epithet

■ BY DANIELLE **BELTON**

EDITOR IN CHIEF

In the turbulence of today's world, racial sensitivity is still a problem in the workplace.

An SIUE graduate student resigned from an internship with Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Southwestern Illinois March 31, stating that the organization over Bellville, East St. Louis and Alton. looked a derogatory racial remark while considering a co-worker's urban minority populaiton. The promotion to full-time.

Dale Colbert, a graduate student in the Public Administration/Policy Analysis Program at SIUE, was an intern at Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Southwestern Illinois, central office in Bellville, Ill. It is one of

All the offices serve a large co-worker used a racial epithet while driving Colbert and herself to pick up door prizes for a fundraiser. Colbert resigned after the co-worker was promoted to a fulltime position without completing any form of diversity training.

On Feb. 13, 1998, the cothe three offices which serve worker was driving herself and Colbert back to work when the co-worker allegedly said that a man who was tailgating her car was driving like a "nigger." When Colbert asked the co-worker repeat what said, the co-worker replied that she didn't mean it in reference to Colbert, who is African-American.

"I couldn't believe she just said that, I lost my breath," Colbert

Music students (left

said. "The thing is; we got along so well. We had a good relationship. It surprised me [because] earlier that day I said, 'you know, Nicole is pretty cool, we could be friends,' then that shot that idea."

According to Colbert, she was told by her advisor, Dr. Richard Bush, that she was the first African-American to come to work at the Bellville office since its opening.

see RACE, page 2

Students get to "feel the vibe" with poetry

■ BY ANTHONY WATT **NEWS STRINGER**

The Delta Sigma Theta sorority's Delta week began Monday, March 30 with "Feel the Vibe II." Held at 7 p.m. in the University Center Conference Room, the event featured poetry readings. Approximately 50 people came to hear campus poets share their work.

"It makes people think," said Natasha Lang, president of the sorority. "Everyone who comes will be made to think and ponder questions and will either help improve their surroundings or at least be more conscious of them."

"Feel the Vibe" was first introduced last fall and was brought back for Delta Week because of its popularity. The poets' subjects varied from topics of love, sex, religion, single motherhood, race issues and society. Nakia Hannon, planner of the event, got the idea for the show from the movie, 'Love Jones.'

"Feel the Vibe' will give students a chance to share their talents with others," Hannon said.

A two dollar admission was charged and all proceeds will be donated to a local charity. Other events during Delta Week have included a Greek social on Tuesday, and an African Cultural museum on Wednesday. A fashion show will take place this evening at 7 p.m. in the University Center Conference Room. Delta Week will conclude on Friday with a party in the Cougar Den from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. with a cost of \$3 for admission.



Jill Stevens/Alestle

right) Sarah Engelke, Kelly Sims, and Meg McCullough admire the artwork of art therapy students on display in the **University Museum on** the second floor of the Univeristy Center. The displayed artwork features the feelings and emotions of the art therapy students expressed on canvas or in sculpture. The work will be on display for the month

Art in University Center reflects talents of junior high and local art therapy students

■ BY RENEE D. HOLLER NEWS REPORTER

Two art exhibits featuring the artistic talents of SIUE students as well as elementary and junior high students from the St. Louis Metropolitan area are currently on display on the second floor of the University Center.

The art education program of the Department of Art and Design invited kindergarten through ninth grade students to showcase their artwork in the 24th Annual Young Artists' Exhibition, which is being displayed on the wall opposite the University Museum on the second floor of the University Center.

In addition, the University Museum is housing "The Art of Art Therapists: Growth in Healing," an art exhibit being

presented by the SIUE Student Art Therapy range of work displayed," Bridget Speer, Association featuring the work of local art graduate student in the art therapy therapiete and their students

The goal of the Art Therapy exhibit is to make students who might not otherwise know about art therapy become aware of how art therapy works, according to Sharyl Parashak, assistant professor of Art and Design at SIUE.

"We want the public to see how someone works with an issue and then creates an image," she said.

Parashak also hopes that the exhibit will expose more people to the ideas of the art therapy program.

"We currently have about 22 students in the art therapy program," she said. "Art therapy is really interesting. It's where the expression [of the artist] takes over."

"I have been really excited about the

programsaid. "Art therapy has really helped me to look not only at my own experiences, but also at those of the client."

The Young Artists Exhibit features approximately 80 works of art and is being held in conjunction with Young Artist Month, which is March, according to Dr. Joseph Weber, professor of Art Education in the Department of Art and Design.

"The idea [of the exhibit] is to promote children's artwork. What better way than to host an annual exhibit on campus for the general public to see the children's artwork," he said.

The work on display is created by students in elementary and middle schools throughout the area.

see ART, page 2

from page 1

When she was employed at the agency, she was the only African-American out of the 10 all-woman staff. She was one of the three African-Americans working for Big Brothers-Big Sisters in the region.

On Feb. 16, Colbert reported the incident to her supervisor, Barbara Cempura, consulting with her adviser, Dr. Richard Bush of SIUE. Bush served as the liaison between Colbert and Big Brothers-Big Sisters. Later that week, a meeting was held to discuss the incident with Colbert, Bush, Cempura and the co-worker.

According to Colbert, she was asked not to tell anyone else in the office about the incident by Cempura, and was told that it should be treated as a personnel matter. During the meeting, it was decided that Colbert would return to work under the condition that the co-worker received some form of diversity or sensitivity training.

"I explained to [the coworker] that I didn't resent her as a person, but I resented what she said," Colbert said. "I thought she was my friend. I explained to her that you can't exclude people with that word. When you say 'nigger,' you call my mother a nigger, my sister a nigger."

The co-worker apologized during the meeting, but Colbert felt the apology wasn't as genuine because it came four days after the incident.

"When it initially happened, since she was nice, I decided to not let this bother me," Colbert said. "You don't want to believe that people are ugly, but they are. Then I was driving home from Bellville and I thought about it and I started to cry. That really hurt my feelings.

Colbert's desire to keep this from happening again to someone else made her decide to report the incident to Cempura.

But after the discussion about sensitivity training for the other co-worker Colbert decided that it was fine to return to work on Feb. 26. According to Colbert, after an uneasy first few days, things at work were soon back to "business as usual," until March 13. During a Friday staff meeting the same co-worker was promoted to a full time position in special events and marketing at

"Everyone's clapping and I'm like, 'I can't believe this." Colbert said. "I think what upset me about this was because she was still appointed to full time, and now it made sense why she didn't want anyone else to know. That's when everything hit me."

Colbert was shocked that the co-worker would receive this position after an incident of racial insensitivity occurred and still had received no diversity training. After consulting with her adviser again and officials at the university, Colbert decided that she did not wish to return to Big Brothers-Big Sisters.

"I thought they were being insensitive and minimizing the situation," Colbert said.

Colbert then realized that she had to do something, believing that she was the only one taking the situation seriously. After a final meeting with Cempura on March 27 she was informed that the co-worker did receive a written reprimand that would stay in her file as long as she worked for the agency, and that Cempura had discussed with the co-worker the various rules and policies of the organization. Cempura then informed her that the co-worker may be enrolled in some diversity classes at some point in April.

"I don't see the severity," Colbert said. "I don't know what the reprimand says, it could say anything."

Colbert complained that action was only taken when she threatened to quit.

Colbert has since quit her job at the agency as of Wednesday.

She believes that racial issues such as this should be a priority, but in her case, it seemed to not be that way.

"It [racial insensitivity] needs to be approached in an organizational matter," Colbert said. "That includes me too, that's everybody, not just black people, white people or Asian people. You never know how serious it is till it happens

Big Brothers-Big Sisters is a non-profit, national organization, active in Illinois since 1980. It works to match children living with single parent families, ages 7-14, with adult volunteers.

Barbara Cempura was unable to be reached for comment.

Editor's note: The co-worker's name was withheld because she was unable to be contacted for comment.

ART

from page 1

The art teachers from the schools then select works to be displayed at the exhibit.

art education program at) SIUE are involved in selecting the work for the exhibit, and they take a lot of pride in bringing their through April 6.

"Many art teachers students work to be shown who graduated from (the at their alma mater," he said.

> Both exhibits are open to the general public and will be displayed

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A Debate on Affirmative Action

PHOTO

UNAVAILABLE

Terry Eastland,

Publisher of the American Spectator

Terry Eastland is the publisher of The American Spectator, a contributor to the "Rule of Law" column in the Wall Street Journal, and a correspondent for "Media Matters," the PBS show on the news

media. He has also published articles in many newspapers and magazines across the country, such as the Los Angeles Times, New Republic, Reader's Digest, Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report.

Mr. Eastland has also edited and authored books on Constitutional Law, Religious Liberty and ending Affirmative Action. He has worked over 11 different public relations media outlets from 1975 to

From 1971 to 1980 Mr. Eastland completed two Bachelors of Arts from both Vanderbilt and Oxford. He continued graduate studies at Oxford and completed his Masters of Arts in 1980.

Eastland was born and raised in Dallas, Tx. He currently resides in Washington, D.C. with his wife and daughter.

Featuring



Wade Henderson, **Executive Director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights**

Mr. Henderson is well known for his expertise on a wide variety of civil rights, civil liberties and human rights issues. He works principally in the areas of civil rights enforcement; affirmative action policy; economic and

political empowerment for people of color and the poor; welfare reform; criminal justice reform; fair housing policy; issues of immigration and refugee policy; and human rights.

Wade Henderson was previously the Associate Director of the Washington national office of the American Civil Liberties Union, where he began his career as a legislative counsel and advocate on a wide range of civil rights and civil liberties issues. Mr. Henderson also served as Executive Director of the Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO); and as Assistant Dean and Director of the Minority Student Program at Rutgers University School of Law. He is a member of the Bar in the District of Columbia, New Jersey and the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Henderson is a graduate of Howard University and the Rutgers University School of Law. He is the author of numerous articles on civil rights and public policy issues.

April 8, 1998

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The art of denial, Northern style



Belton

In the midst of winding down while watching television one evening after coming home from the Alestle office, I started to watch "The Jerry Springer Show." This is something I do often because even though I know I shouldn't watch it, I do anyway. It's Danielle one of life's guilty pleasures, but this night something strangely disturbed me.

There was a promotion on for a tomorrow's show that featured "Jerry Springer" viewers versus Klu Klux Klan members, and I was aghast. It usually takes a lot to shock me, but this truly disturbed me for some reason. The promo featured the entire guest panel fighting a group of Klansmen in full dress. One Klansman slammed a woman to the ground as she swung a punch at him. I watch men take a swing at women all the time on "Jerry Springer," but this one just bothered me. Perhaps it was the fact that there was no way anyone could deny the fact that the episode was flat out exploitation.

The show was exuding ignorance. I didn't bother to watch it the following night because it sickened me. At least in other episodes they could pretend to give advice or even have a conversation, though nothing ever gets resolved, here was an entire episode dedicated to fighting. The promo featured a black woman saying she was going to "take two or three of 'them' out." What was this supposed to solve? There was no inner conflict or pressing secret that someone wanted to get out in the open. This was an excuse to have people fight each other in a melee of ignorance.

Some us can think back to when Jerry Springer actually had a real talk show that was like "Donahue" or other talk shows, where real subjects were discussed and real issues were brought forth. I used to love his show. I still remember one episode that feature children with the HIV virus. It almost made me cry, but then somewhere along the line, Jerry Springer started to have only ignorant people, half-naked women, transvestites, freaks and Klansmen on the show. He featured a "Klan wedding" one episode. Then there was the cute little blonde haired girl with her own little gown and hood. And all the male Klansmen do is remind Jerry Springer that he's Jewish over and over again, too ignorant to realize they're not hurting him, they're helping him get ratings.

So, perhaps that is what disturbed me. I was used to the average everyday ignorance on the show. I'd become desensitized to it. But I guess I'll never be desensitized to a group that is infamous for murder, destruction and hatred. And the fact that he had regular people willing to come on television just to fight them. Which was exactly what the Klan has wanted all along. Every time a Klansman speaks, he's talking about a race war. Maybe that's what the show was, a prelude to a Klansman's dream, perhaps.

Therefore, I exercised my right not to watch the show that night because it's one thing to know that people hate me and don't know me, and it's another to actually see it in my face. I suppose that I'm like what I described in my "Racism, Northern style" editorial. If it's not in your face, you can pretend like it isn't really there. So I give Jerry that much. Because it was there, I couldn't deny it, could I?

> Danielle C. Belton Editor In Chief

Commentary

Gospel concert helps spread a joyful noise

SIUE students, there is something spreading around the campus. It has the power to resurrect the dead, heal the sick, free those in bondage and give victory unto all those who catch it. It's not anything that will make you sick, but it will give you good health. It's not something that will make you ashamed, but it will make you proud to be who you are. You better catch it, the Gospel, the good news of Jesus

The Gospel Music Festival took place on March 27 and 29. Audrey Johnson of Zeta Phi Beta and Kisha Sledge of Rhema Outreach Christian Club sponsored this exciting music workshop. Audrey and Kisha decided to work together to offer the campus a new experience. This function was not a fundraiser. Its divine purpose was to bring a spiritual awareness of Jesus Christ through gospel music for the students and the community.

Fri., March 27, 1998 the gospel festival presented a free gospel music workshop (4:30 p.m. in the Illinois Room of the

This University Center). workshop was designed to strengthen your knowledge about gospel music. Minister Rodney Mobley taught the seminar. Everyone who attended formed the SIUE choir that presented two songs the night of the concert. The student choir did an excellent job. There is a lot of talent on this campus. Sun., March 29, 1998 was the night of the Gospel Explosion. The concert took place in the Meridian Ballroom of the University Center at 7:30 p.m. It was awesome. Whoever missed this concert missed out on a slamming, jamming good time.

The program was very organized. There were praise dancers, soloists and choirs that preformed. Kisha and Audrey did an excellent job as Master of Ceremonies. The praise dancers from St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church glorified the lord through a powerful and breath taking dance. We had our very own Melody Griffin and Audrey Johnson preform solos, while Elonda Griffin interpreted the song through dance. Melody had the crowd shouting "Amen,"

while Audrey had the crowd "going over and yonder with the lord." The audience was very involved with the performers. Rolanda Ellis was a soloist who represented the New Hampshire Mass Choir. She did a wonderful job. She was so good that she had to come back and sing a little longer. I can't tell you the name of the people hearts that were at the concert. Good is good. There were other performers who truly blessed the crowd through their songs, please forgive me for not stating all of their names, may God bless you all.

Last, but not least, we had a new choir called the "Rapture" from St. Louis. Amos Issac was the director and their choir album/CD will be released in two weeks called "He Promised." The choir did an interesting performance. I recommend all to go buy the CD, I think it will bless you. So, until we meet again SIUE, catch on to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

> **Dana Miles** soph., Mass Communications

Correction

In Mar. 26, 1998 issue of the Alestle in "Students spend alternative break..." one of the members in the photo was not of the Shawnee tribe, but was Lakota. Also Don Greenfeather, the Tribal Chairman's name was not included with the photo. The Alestle apologizes for this error.

Something about sitting in on student senate meetings tickles your fancy?

The Alestle is looking for lifestyle sports, news reporters and copy editors. If interested in any of these positions please contact the Office of Student Employment at ext. 2563

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

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

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Father who suffocated child pleads guilty to murder

GREENSBORO (AP) — A judge sentenced the father of a 7-month-old baby to at least 18 years in prison for the child's suffocation — one of two deaths in November that prompted scrutiny of Guilford County's social services.

Efram Zimberlist "Eric" Bennett, 26, pleaded guilty Monday to second-degree murder in the Nov. 25 death of Erik Marcel Bennett. A Guilford County Superior Court judge sentenced him from 18 years, four months to 22 years, 8 months in prison.

Bennett told a police detective that he held a pillow over the infant's face for several minutes to stop him from crying, according to prosecutors.

"To suffocate someone for four to five minutes with a pillow over their head devotes an extreme lack of compassion and a lack of humanity," Guilford County District Attorney Jim Kimel told the court. "That is an eternity to have your airways blocked and die."

When Bennett removed the workers determined that pillow, he noticed the baby would be safe. Chyenne's more wasn't breathing, a prosecutor is also charged with murder.

said in court. He told police that he rubbed the baby's back until he started breathing again. The baby's mother, Chapelle Patterson, later came home and noticed the baby wasn't breathing and called an ambulance.

The deaths of Erik and 3-week-old Chyenne Summer Kelly during one week in November led to state and local reviews of Guilford DSS. Both children were allowed to remain in their homes after social workers determined that they would be safe. Chyenne's mother is also charged with murder.

Assistant District Attorney Howard Neumann said Erik had been abused in the past. He had old and new bruises on his body and his collar bone had been broken a week before his death. Older fractures in his leg and arm were never treated and were healing on their own.

During a sentencing hearing following his plea, a psychologist testified that Bennett lacked the necessary parenting skills needed to take care of his son. A low IQ also may have led him to suffocate his child, Dr. John Warren III said.

The baby's grandfather, Bobby Lee Patterson Sr., also spoke on behalf of the defendant. But he also said his daughter knew about her son's abuse and did nothing to stop it. She has not been charged with any crime. Patterson doesn't want her to go to jail, he said, but he wants her to get psychological help. The mother, who now lives in Charlotte, was not in court.

"This young baby had no reason to be treated as he did," Patterson said. "I just ask the Lord to have mercy on both their souls, hers and the defendant's."

Convicted public aid worker seeks lenient sentence

SPRINGFIELD, III. (AP) — A former Illinois Department of Public Aid bureau chief convicted of a fraud charge resulting from the investigation into Management Services of Illinois Inc. contracts is seeking a lenient sentence.

Curtis Fleming contends in federal court documents filed by his attorney that he was a good employee of the Public Aid Department before he got embroiled in a multimillion dollar state contract scandal.

Fleming also asserts if he hadn't admitted taking money and cooperated with prosecutors, the government's investigation into MSI might have failed to net any convictions.

Fleming in 1996 pleaded guilty to single counts of mail

fraud and diversion of funds, charges that carry penalties of five and 10 years in prison and \$250,000 fines. He resigned his bureau chief position soon after his indictment in August 1996.

"Mr. Fleming's failure to consider the interests of the taxpayers in this one contract is truly a single act of aberrant behavior occasioned by the enormous political clout MSI wielded with the upper echelons of state government," says the motion filed by Fleming's attorney, Daniel Lanterman.

The government has yet to file a response to the motion, and lead prosecutor Patrick Chesley refused to comment Monday.

MSI, a computer consulting firm and once one of Gov.

Jim Edgar's biggest campaign donors, was convicted last summer of bilking taxpayers out of more than \$7 million under a renegotiated Illinois Department of Public Aid contract. Neither Edgar nor anyone in his inner circle has been accused of wrongdoing.

Former MSI co-owner Michael Martin, along with former Public Aid employee Ronald Lowder, who later worked for MSI, were convicted of bribery and fraud. Current MSI owner William Ladd was acquitted of those charges, but later convicted of bank fraud and money laundering.

James Berger, a former deputy director at the Public Aid Department, was acquitted of corruption charges.

The Department of Chemistry and the Chemistry Club Announce the Twenty-Second Annual

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Samuel Latham Mitchill Professor of Chemistry and University Professor at Columbia University

Tuesday, April 7, 1998

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7:00 p.m., St. Clair Room, SIUE University Center

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• ACS-St. Louis Section and SIU Edwardsville Undergraduate Research Symposium

Wednesday, April 8, 1998, 1:00 p.m. St. Clair Room, SIUE University Center

SIU

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Dr. Ronald Breslow

Wednesday, April 8, 1998, 3:30 p.m.

St. Clair Room, SIUE University Center

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Agreement pumps millions into Illinois River watershed

PEORIA, III. (AP) — Top government leaders from both parties signed a \$450-million agreement on Monday to protect Illinois River from sedimentation and pollutants.

"The economy and the environment can work together. The two must go hand in hand if we are to have a sustainable future," U.S. Agriculture

Secretary Dan Glickman told a out of production for up to 15 standing-room-only audience in the Gateway Building on Peoria's riverfront.

The USDA will spend up to \$350 million on the program, matched by nearly \$100 million from Illinois.

The funds will pay farmers to erodible and environmentally sensitive land

years or longer. The voluntary program may affect up to 232,000 acres by 2002.

"This is a celebration of the art of the possible," U.S. Sen. Carol Mosley-Braun told the audience. "Everybody came together to make certain this issue became

"This has cut across party and

jurisdictional lines," U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin said.

He said the goals of the plan include reducing sediment going into the waterway by 20 percent, cutting back on nitrogen and phosphorus from farm chemicals by 10 percent, increasing populations of waterfowl and

shorebirds by 15 percent and boosting native fish and mussel stocks by 10 percent.

"We're putting our money where our rhetoric has been, said Gov. Jim Edgar. "A half-billion dollars in 15 years, this is meaningful."

Gore announces improvements to civilian Global Positioning System

WASHINGTON (AP) — The new and rental automobiles for Global Positioning System, which provides pinpoint location information around the world to the U.S. military, will soon provide the same accurate data to civilians thanks to an upgrade announced by Vice President Al Gore.

He said Monday that the government will expand the number of signals available for civilian use from one to three. should overcome atmospheric distortion that affects the current lone civilian signal by providing companion channels to check for accuracy.

The announcement builds on another one made in 1996, when the Clinton administration said that over the course of the next decade, it would eliminate small errors intentionally inserted into GPS to guard against its misuse by non-Pentagon users.

Taken together, the changes mean that by the middle of the next decade, hand-held GPS receivers sold to civilians should soon be able to pinpoint locations within 33 feet – 10 times as close as the current range of 325 feet.

The hand-held units are already used by outdoorsmen and are beginning to be featured in use in emergencies or to provide directions to lost drivers.

"GPS has become an engine economic growth efficiency as businesses and consumers are continually developing new and creative applications of the system," Gore said in a statement. "We will continue to do everything we can to protect these GPS signals and promote GPS applications for commercial, public safety and national security interests."

The Pentagon spent dlrs 10 billion developing the Global Positioning System, which works off information from 24 satellites positioned around the Earth.

Those satellites transmit signals giving the satellite's location and the time of the transmission. A GPS receiver uses that data to calculate the satellite's relative position and, consequently, the receiver's position.

The military inserted errors in the current system's timing signal to protect its troops. The receivers they use filter out the errors, a process called "selective availability." Both Gore and President Clinton announced in 1996 that they wanted to make

GPS information more accessible to the public and private enterprise, in part by eliminating selective availability by 2006.

The new system would provide the same protection for the military by eliminating service for entire regions in times

While the military currently has use of two GPS signals, civilians can receive only one. The second signal, which Gore said would be operational by 2005, may be most useful in the public safety arena because of its improved accuracy.

The third civil signal, whose operational date has not yet been determined, will primarily be of use to scientific users and surveyors, because a total of three GPS signals would allow for even better accuracy than one or two signals, the vice president

The changes will take some time to implement because they will require new satellites and new receivers. The satellites are routinely changed every 7 1/2 years. Existing GPS receivers will still work with the new system, although they will not provide the improved accuracy.





Bus driver faces more sex assault charges

DERBY, Conn. (AP) — A school bus driver faces new charges of sexually assaulting a student he met through his job.

Douglas Martin, 35, of Ansonia, was arrested for the second time in two months on charges he allegedly sexually assaulted a student he met through his job.

Martin was being held at the New Haven Correctional Center on \$100,000 bond. He was arraigned in Superior Court Monday on four counts of second-degree sexual assault.

Police said a Derby High School student came forward last month to claim he had been sexually assaulted by Martin four different times in various

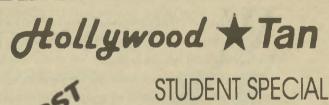
locations in Derby.

The student, whose age and identity are being withheld by police, told police the incidents began last May and continued until August.

Previously, on Feb. 2, Ansonia police arrested Martin, charging him with sexually assaulting a 14year-old Derby boy he also met through his job as a bus driver. He was charged with first-degree sexual assault, second-degree sexual assault and risk of injury to a minor.

Martin, who worked for the Dufour Transportation Co. of Prospect, was fired, Superintendent of Schools Nathan Chesler said.

The Alestle is looking for sports and news reporters. If interested, contact the Office of Student Employment at extension 3997.



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Families reach settlement with amusement park

TULSA, Okla. (AP) _ An out-of-court settlement has been reached in connection with last year's fatal roller coaster accident at a local amusement park.

The dollar amount of Monday's settlement with Bell's Amusement Park was not disclosed, although the attorney for three of the claimaints said it was fair.

"My clients didn't want to go through a civil trial," attorney Clark Brewster said. "This was the best resolution for everyone involved."

The claims stemmed from the April 20 accident in which 14-year-old Patrick Kurek of Tulsa was killed.

The claimants included his family and the boy's friends, Ryan Denton and Dionte Parker, who were with him when their ride car slid backward down the incline

and into another car.

Johnny Fagin, his two daughters and a friend's 3-yearold girl, who were riding in the car and received minor injuries, were also claimants, as were two people who were not directly involved in the accident.

"Somebody asked me today whether I was happy about it. I'm not," said Kurek's mother, Jane Kurek. "There's just a sense of relief that it's behind us."

After a lengthy study, a state Labor Department report said a plastic device designed to prevent the Wildcat roller coaster car from sliding backward was faulty. The Wildcat's manufacturer recommended a different type of plastic be used in the device than what Bell's had installed.

Brewster said his clients were willing to resolve their claims in part because they had a good understanding of what caused the accident and because the park had worked to correct the problem.

The attorney for Bell's said park officials "deeply regret" the accident but that they hope the settlement will help put it behind them.

"The Bell family is relieved that this matter is concluded and that they can get back to serving this community, as they have for a number of years," Robert Coffey said.

The Tulsa County District Attorney's Office is investigating whether park officials should face criminal charges as a result of the accident.

Fewer students could mean small-school closures

CASPER, Wyo. (AP) — Natrona County's student population is dropping, and Casper's smallest schools will have to offer attractive programs if they want to stay open, school district officials said.

Staff members recommended that the district take up to two years to talk with teachers, staff and parents from the small schools about what to do about declining enrollment.

The problem comes at a time

when district officials are also trying to determine how best to use additional state funding due to the district under a new education finance system.

Under the system approved by the Legislature this year, the Casper School District could get up to \$9.5 million more next year than it received from the state this year

The population of Casper's schools is falling steadily at a rate of about 200 students per year

and is now about 12,000 students.

The new state education finance formula provides districts with about \$6,000 per student. A loss of 200 students translates to a loss of about \$1.2 million in state funding.

Statewide student enrollment has been dropping for several years also, several lawmakers said during this year's session.

Superintendent Stan Olson said in Natrona County, local birth rates appear to show the trend will continue.

"It's not a disastrous pattern," he said. "It is a pattern we've got to recognize and be smart about."

Of the district's 31 elementary schools, seven have only one classroom per grade.

Those schools are still viable, said Chuck Huber, a district personnel official. But he said they will have to make sure that parents and other district residents know that.

"It has to be a product people want to come to," he said.

Members of the school board have indicated they know they would be in for a political fight if they ever decide to propose closing a school.

Chairman Jack Wold and Olson recently visited one of the seven small schools for what they thought would be a staff meeting, but 65 people showed up.

"They were very defensive of that school, very proud of that school," Wold said.

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Air Force releases results of US - German crash off Nambia

MCGUIRE AIR FORCE BASE, N.J. (AP) - A German military aircraft was flying at the wrong altitude when it collided with a U.S. transport plane off the coast of Africa, killing 33 people, an Air Force investigation concluded.

The Air Force C-141 and the German Tupolev 154 were each traveling at about 500 miles per hour and struck nearly head-on about 150 miles off Namibia last September, officials said today.

Both planes were traveling at an altitude of 35,000 feet, the investigation board reported. That was the proper altitude for the C-141, but the Tupolev's flight plan called for it to cruise at 39,000 feet.

Under international aviation rules, the German plane should have been at either 33,000 or 37,000 feet because of its direction of travel, said Col. William H. C. Schell Jr., vice commander of the Air Force's 375th Airlift Wing, who headed the investigation board.

Although the planes flew almost directly at each other, the crews apparently had no warning of the impending collision, Schell

another aircraft out in front of you that's at the same altitude," he said.

Schell said the German crew, and air traffic controllers in Angola, should have realized it was not at the proper altitude.

The nine people aboard the C-141 and the 24 on the Tupolev were killed.

Poor air traffic control and poor ground communications in the region contributed to the accident, the board concluded.

The German plane had filed a flight plan in Angola, but air controllers there did not properly track the aircraft. And because of communications problems, the flight plan did not reach the agency in Windhoek, Namibia, that controlled the air space where the crash occurred.

The American aircraft had filed proper flight plans and followed them, the Air Force Windhoek controllers followed proper procedures and, based on the information they had, could not have known that the German plane was heading for the American plane.

The C-141 was returning to McGuire, about 15 miles south of Trenton, N.J., after delivering "It's very difficult to see troops and 32,000 pounds of

antipersonnel mine-clearing equipment to Namibia. It was the first McGuire-based aircraft lost since 1976 when two cargo planes crashed on the same day in separate incidents in Europe.

The Soviet-made German air force plane was en route from Germany to Cape Town, South Africa, where soldiers were to have participated in a boat race marking the 75th anniversary of the South African navy.

Senior Pentagon officials in Washington, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Monday that the crash may have been prevented had adequate anti-collision devices been in use. The Air Force is moving to speed up installation of such devices on many of its aircraft.

The collision alert system, called TCAS, is required on commercial U.S. aircraft. It alerts pilots to nearby aircraft and tells them what protective action to take. Neither military plane involved in the collision had such a system.

But Schell that said considered by not investigation board. Because such a device was not to be "therefore aircraft,

not a player as far as an accident cause," Schell said.

"It would have been another piece of safety equipment on the aircraft and could have helped," Schell added. "We can only speculate as to whether it could have prevented this accident."

Earlier this month, Gen. Walter Kross, the head of the U.S. Transportation Command, said: "My personal opinion is that if the C-141 had TCAS on it, we probably would have avoided that crash."

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary William Cohen announced Monday that the Air Force was moving to put more anti-collision devices on many of its aircraft.

"I think it's something that needs to be done as soon as it is technically feasible to do. And we have requested the Air Force to move as quickly as they can, and we believe the Air Force has a program in place that will accomplish that," Cohen said at the Pentagon.

Kenneth Bacon, the Defense Department spokesman, said the Air Force plans to increase spending from \$600 million to \$1.6 billion on installing the TCAS, along with a number of other safety devices

Cohen, asked whether the service had been dragging its feet on installing the devices, noted that the Air Force has been barred by law from making such updates to aircraft due to be retired within five years.

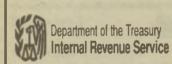
He said, however, that waivers to the law might be sought and that the collision-avoidance devices need to be installed on existing aircraft "as soon as possible. The other modification on existing aircraft needs to be done as soon as technically feasible as well."

The number of C-141 transports carrying the system will rise from 60 to 90, and overall the service plans to have the system in some 2,500 aircraft by the year 2008, Bacon said. At present, only 300 of the service's aircraft have the system.

This week a set of about two dozen bones will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in the name of seven of the crewmen aboard the C-141. Capts. Peter Vallejo and Jason Ramsey, whose remains were identified, were to be buried separately.

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[2:00] 7:00, 9:45, Sun-Thurs. 7:00

Sat/Sun Matinees in [brackets] Wild Things (R)
[1:00] 4:00, 7:00, 9:30
Sat-Thurs. 4:00, 7:00, :00. 9:30 The Borrowers (PG) [12:00] 4:30,6:45, 9:15 Sat-Thurs, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:30 Titanic (PG-13)

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Sat/Sun & Mon Matinees in [brackets] Titanic (PG-13) [12:15] 4:15, 8:15

Grease (PG) [2:00] 4:45, 7:15, 9:50 Mercury Rising (R) [1:30] 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Lost in Space (PG), [1:00] 4:00, 6:45, 9:40

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un Mon Matinees in [brackets] As Good As It Gets (PG-13) [2:00] 6:45, 9:40

The Wedding Singer (PG-13) [2:15] 7:15, 9:30 Sun-Thurs. 7:15

Eastgate 6

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Sat/Sun Matinees in [brackets]
Meet The Deedles (PG) [2:15] 7:20 Sun -Thurs. 7:20 The Man in the Iron Mask (PG-13)

4:30, 9:20 Sun -Thurs. 4:30, 9:20

Mercury Rising (R) [2:00] 4:45, 7:10, 9:40 Sun -Thurs, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40

Grease (PG) [1:30] 4:00, 6:45, 9:30 Sun -Thurs. 4:00, 6:45, The Newton Boys (PG-13)

Good Will Hunting (R) :15] 4:00, 7:20, un.-Thurs. 4:00, Lost in Space (PG)

[1:20] 4:15, 7:00, 9:50 Sun -Thurs. 4:15, 7:00, 9:50

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Open Mic Night W/ Joe Frew

Sunday April 5

Palm Sunday

Ferne Cliffe Rock Climbing 6:00AM - 6:45PM Campus Recreation

Baseball - SIUE vs. Kentucky Wesleyan Noon

Athletics

Men's Tennis - SIUE vs. Indianapolis Athletics

SETO #2 Performance 2:00PM \$4.00 Student & Senior \$5.00 General Admission Monday, April 6

Art Therapy Exhibition Art Gallery The University Museum

Table Tennis Registration Due

Annual High School 9:00AM - 4:00PM New Wagner Gallery Art & Design Department

7:30PM College of Arts & Sciences and Music Department \$5.00 Student \$6.00 Senior \$7.00 General Admission

For more information call the **Information Office**

692-5555

at

Coffee Concert Meridian Ballroom University Tuesday, April 7

Student Government Elections

Annual High School 9:00AM - 4:00PM New Wagner Gallery, Art & Design Department

IMAGE Interviewing Part I 11:00AM - 12:15PM Student Leadership Development Program

SLDP Module 2:00PM & 6:30PM Mississippi-Illinois Room University Center Student Leadership Development Program

Survival Group 2:30PM - 3:30PM Peck Hall Room 2414 Counseling Services

Softball - SIUE vs. Quincy (DH) 3:00PM Athletics

Softball - SIUE vs. Missouri-St. Louis (DH) 5:00PM **Athletics**

Probst Lecturer by Dr. Ronald Breslow 7:00PM - 9:00PM Dogwood Room UC SIUE Chemistry Club

Concert Jazz Band Concert 7:30PM

Wednesday, April

Student Governm

Blood Drive 10:00AM - 3:00Pl Meridian Ballroon Sigma Phi Epsilor

A Debate On Affin 7:00PM - 9:00PM Lovejoy Auditoriu Philosophy Socie

Annual High Sch 9:00AM - 4:00PM New Wagner Gall Art & Design Dep

UCB Center Stag 12:00 Noon - 1:0 Goshen Lounge University Center

Seven Habits of **Effective People:** & Bill Misiak 2:00PM - 4:00PM Student Leadersh **Development Pro**

Pathways to Han 4:00PM - 6:00PN Kimmel Leadersh Assistant Provost and Social Divers

Probst Lecturer t Breslow 4:00PM - 6:00PM Dogwood Room

SIUE Chemistry (

CB Room 1115
College of Arts & Sciences
and Music Department

Happenings Around SIUE

CONCERTS

St. Louis Symphony

The St. Louis Symphony performs regularly at Powell Symphony Hall, 718 N. Grand. \$14 - \$66, except as noted. 314-534-1700 or for group rates 314-286-4152. April 3: Michelob Classix Concert featuring violinist David Halen and conductor Jiri Belohlavek at 8 p.m. April 4 - 5: Orchestral Concert featuring violinist David Halen and conductor Jiri Belohlavek at 8 p.m. Sat. and 3 p.m. Sun.

Jazz at the Bistro

Jazz at the Bistro features top national acts performing Wed. - Sat. with sets at 9 & 10:45 p.m. at the Backstage Bistro, 3536 Washington, \$18 - \$25. Students receive a 50 percent discount with a valid I.D., for the second set only, any

evening. April 8 - 11: Clark Terry Quintet. 314-534-3663 or 314-533-1884.

SIUE Arts & Issues Series

Continuing the Arts and Issues Series, the Gregg Smith Singers perform April 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the SIUE Communications Building Theater. \$12 general admission. \$6 students, 618-692-2320.

SIUE Coffee Concert

The College of Arts and Sciences Department of Music at SIUE presents a Coffee Concert April 6. W. A. Mozart: Quartet in G Minor, K. 478, for piano, violin and cello. Bela Bartok: Contrasts for clarinet, violin and piano. Ernst Dohnanyi: Trio, Op. 10, for violin, viola and cello. The concert will be presented at 7:30 p.m. in the Meridian Ballroom. \$7 general admission. \$6 seniors. \$5 students. 618-692-2774.

Blueberry Hill

Performing at Blueberry Hill in the Duck Room April 2 & 10: Dr. Zhivegas. In the Elvis Room April 11: Reggae at Will. recently voted the No. 1 St. Louis Band in the Riverfront Times. 314-727-0880.

Mississippi Nights

Performing at Mississippi Nights on April 3: Boogie Chyld with Mind Over Soul. April 19: Squirrel Nut Zippers. April 24: Tone Loc. May 1: Soul Fly, (hed) pe. & Snot. 314-421-3853.

Funny Bone - West Port Plaza

Funny Bone Comedy Club - West Port Plaza. I-270 & Page, features acts at 8:30 p.m. Wed. - Thurs., 8:30 & 10:45 p.m. Fri., 7:30 & 10 p.m. & midnight Sat. and 8 p.m. Sun. (except as noted) \$6 - \$13. April 1 - 5: Jason Stuart. April 8 - 9: Pinkard & Bowden with Craig Hawksley 314-469-6692.

Art Vieluf's Comedy Etc.

Art Vieluf's Comedy Etc., in the Ramada Inn, I-64 and Hwy. 159 in Fairview Heights

- FRIDAY

SATURDAY



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Department

Thursday, April 2

Art Therapy Exhibition Art Gallery The University Museum

Annual High School 9:00AM - 4:00PM New Wagner Gallery Art & Design Department

Seven Habits of Highly Effective People: Joseph Michlitsch 11:00AM - 12:30PM Student Leadership Development Program

Men's Tennis - SIUE vs. Quincy 3:00Pm Athletics

SETO #2 Performance 7:30PM \$4.00 Student & Senior \$5.00 General Admission

Gregg Smith Singers 7:30PM CBT Arts & Issues \$6.00 Student \$12.00 General Admission Friday, April 3

Grand Canyon Hike Registration Due

Art Therapy Exhibition Art Gallery The University Museum

Men's Tennis - SIUE vs. IUPU-Ft. Wayne 3:00PM **Athletics**

Annual High School 9:00AM - 4:00PM New Wagner Gallery Art & Design Department

Student Senate Meeting Student Government

SETO #2 Performance 7:30PM \$4.00 Student & Senior \$5.00 General Admission

Dance 10:00PM - 2:30PM Cougar Den Delta Sigma Theta

Saturday, April 4

Student Government Elections

Canoe Float Meramac River

Grant Writing Seminar/Workshop 9:00AM - 5:00PM Redbud-Oak Room Alpha Phi Alpha

Viennese Ball 6:30PM Meridian Ballroom University College of Arts & Sciences and Music Department \$50.00

Habitat for Humanity 8:00AM - 12:00 Noon Student Leadership Development Program

Baseball - SIUE vs. Kentucky Wesleyan (DH) 12:00 Noon **Athletics**

Men's Tennis - SIUE vs. **Indianapolis** 1:00PM **Athletics**

SETO #2 Performance 7:30PM TBA \$4.00 Student & Senior \$5.00 General Admission

ook For Events!

III., presents shows at 8:30 p.m. Thurs. - Fri. and 8:30 & 10:30 p.m. Sat. \$6 - \$8. April 1 & 8: Open Mike. April 2 - 4: Mike Armstrong with Greg Lausch and Chris Stedman. 618-628-4242.

Stage Left

Stage Left Nightclub, in the Riverport Casino Center, offers live comedy shows at 8 p.m. each Tues. No cover charge. April 7: Buzz Sutherland. 314-770-8100.

OPEN MIC

Stagger Inn ... Again

Stagger Inn ... Again, 104 E. Vandalia in Edwardsville, holds open-mike nights for music, comedy and poetry from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Sun & Wed. 618-656-4221.

Afrocentric Books & Cafe

Afrocentric Books & Cafe, 8081 Olive, holds a poetry open mike from 8 - 10 p.m. each Fri. 314-991-0097

Soho Internet Cafe

Soho Internet Cafe, 3137 S. Grand, holds a music open mike with Liam Christy each Thurs. 314-776-3009.

Gallery

The Gallery, Hwy. 159, Edwardsville, holds a poetry slam/singer-songwriter showcase every Mon. 618-659-0506

St. Louis Art Museum

Gallery Talks are held at 6:30 p.m. Tues. and 11 a.m. Thurs. (except as noted) at the St. Louis Art Museum in Forest Park. April 2: Suburban Pathos: Eric Fischl's Growing Up in the Company of Women II. April 7 & 8: Degas' Dancers. Sunday Editions are held at 2:30 p.m. Free. 314-721-0067.

Washington University

American Indian Awareness Week features a variety of activities March 30 - April 4 at Washington University. Forsyth & Skinker. The events include a social, March 30, a food tasting. March 31 and a screening of Medicine River, April 1. The series closes with the 8th annual Washington University Powwow from 1 - 10 p.m. April 4 in Francis Fieldhouse. The powwow features Native American dancing, singing, drumming, arts, crafts and food. All events are free. 314-935-4510.



Renee Holler/Alestle Student players wowing the audience with Sam Shepard's Simpatico, directed by senior theater major, Peter Banholzer.

<u>SPECIAL EVENTS</u>

SIUE's Experimental Theater

Peter Banholzer. a senior theater major at SIUE. is directing a Sam Shepard play, Simpatico. The Student Experimental Theater Organization presents the play in the James F. Metcalf student theater. The play runs April 1 - 5 with show times of 7:30 p.m. April 1 - 4 and 2 p.m. on April 5. General admission is \$3. 618-692-2774.

Easter Egg Display

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows presents an Easter & Egg Display April 4 - 19. 618-241-3400.



Listen to rising star Reginald Jones discuss why a free market is the solution to our inner city problems!!!

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Who Said 183/ What Movie?

"Blane? His name is Blane? That's a major appliance, that's not a name." (Hint: His name brings tears to your eyes) Answer on Tuesday

Sunyikuv dos, in softin his consuo s kopsont

Lifestyle People, Entertainment & Comics



♦ PAGE 10

The Alestle

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1998



Jim Mahfood got his start in the comic book business by selfbooks publishing "Girlscouts." Now, he is doing work for some of the bigger distributors, like Marvel and Oni Press, but his gritty, underground style hasn't changed a bit. Mahfood's work can be seen in the comic book continuation of Kevin Smith's "Clerks", which Smith wrote, or in the "Generation-X Underground

Special" for Marvel. What's the first thing that you ever remember drawing? That would probably be either Spiderman or dinosaurs, like when I was still a little, little kid. I've been drawing ever since I

was a little kid. How do you describe your attitude towards art?

Art, along with music probably the most important things in my life. It comes from my attitudes and what I like. Most of the things I write and draw are taken from my life, and the lives of those closest to me, my friends. ...It's a very heavy thing.

What kind of direction did Kevin Smith give you for the "Clerks" comic?

When I first started the gig, I had to do character sketches of all the characters. So, before I started the job I had to meet Kevin's and View Askew's approval. From there, Kevin sent me the whole script and I did rough pencil layouts of the whole book.

see MAHFOOD, page 11

Inane Questions Breaking the walls down on homophobia

■ BY JASON TRÍPLETT LIFESTYLE REPORTER

When words like homophobia or homosexual are mentioned, some people don't want to talk about it, some leave the room and some like to get it out in the open.

Motivational speaker Paul Wesselmann gave three seminars yesterday on the topics of homophobia and sexual orientation. Wesselmann, the creator of the "Stone Soup Seminars," gives talks all over the United States about self-empowerment, leadership, communication, and team building.

"Our goal here is not to change anybody's mind about gay, lesbian or bisexual topics," Wesselmann said, "the goal is too get everyone to be open and talk about their opinions and questions."

The Hickory/Hackberry Room in the University Center was the site of three sessions in the oneday series of seminars. The first two seminars explored the topic of homophobia and the third discussed sexual orientation and coming out.

The seminars offered a safe environment for topics to be discussed that aren't always easy to discuss. Wesselmann also

requested that the topics discussed come from the questions of the audience.

"I am interested more in what the group wants to know other than simply me telling them what I know," Wesselmann said, "but the discussion needs to keep a balance of questions and given information to help with education. I learn from them like they learn from me.'

Wesselmann thinks that the important discussion needs to go on outside of the seminar.

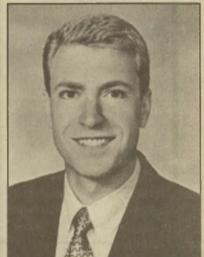
"It's really a topic of understanding," Wesselmann said. "If the discussion of sexual orientation continues outside of this room in offices and classrooms, then understanding can be achieved."

Topics from teaching children about sexual orientation to religion were tackled and Wesselmann's answer was in each area; understanding and love.

"We can teach children about sexual orientation," Wesselmann said. "There are age-appropriate of explaining methods homosexuality to children."

Sophomore Nick Hughes from Chicago, Ill. thinks the seminar was informative and educational.

"I think it is a positive thing to openly discuss homophobia and sexual orientation," Hughes said.



Motivational speaker Kenneth Wesselmann

"You could get to know more about yourself and others that way."

Kris Tucker-Lowe, Housing Coordinator at Cougar Village, played a big part in organizing the seminars and feels it's important to go a step further in understanding gay, lesbian and bisexual issues.

"At SIUE we love pathways to harmony," Tucker-Lowe said. "We are a good communications outlet on such issues for people other than college students.'

Tucker-Lowe also thinks that any open exploration of homosexual issues is healthy for the campus community.

"SIUE needs to present a united front to say we celebrate and appreciate people of all orientations and life itself," Tucker-Lowe said.

Taut and gritty Sam Shepard play at the SET this week

■ BY COREY STULCE LIFESTYLE EDITOR

There's no changing the past.

That is the theme of "Simpatico," the Sam Shepard play being performed at the Metcalf Student Theatre this week.

The show is being directed by senior theatre Megan Bennett and Bryan K. Miller in "Simpatico" major Peter Banholzer and he describes the production as film noir for the stage.

The show has an almost claustrophobic feel. Three tiny sets force the actors close together, at the same time they are trying to break free from something. The story involves Carter (Bryan K. Miller) and Vinnie (Chris Keith), former business associates and friends, who meet up fifteen years after a sour deal. Carter is now married to Vinnie's wife, and Vinnie has some photos that Carter is willing to pay to keep tucked away.

The acting is intensely exciting, especially Miller and Allen Dorsey as a racetrack owner



Renee Holler/Alestle

under a pseudonym.

The play starts off a bit slow, but as pieces of the puzzle are revealed the pacing increases. By the end all is revealed, and each scoundrel is exposed.

Banholzer chose the Shepard script because of the many layers involved.

"I like the story, and the way it's written. If you relate every line to the past, then every line is loaded. You could play it five different ways if you

The show runs tonight through Saturday at 7: 30 p.m. Sunday's show is at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$3.

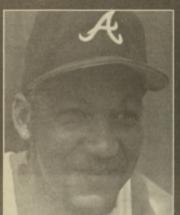
Say What?!?

What was the last thing that really creeped you out?



"I saw a roach on the counter at a doughnut shop."

Jamie Nash Fr., mass comm.



"The power outage at Tower Lake."

> Trevon Bell Sr., journalism



Myko Seqauia Hammond Jr., elementary ed./physical science

"At the restaurant

customer scratched her

back with a knife, then

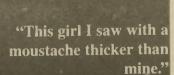
used it [to eat with]."

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Amanda Manvel

Fr., science







MAHFOOD ____

from page 10

Actually, we would only speak every couple of weeks. He saw the first half of the book and dug it, and it wasn't until the book was completely done with that I heard back from them again ... It wasn't like he was calling me every day, saying, "Where's those pages? This looks like sh*t." I think we both met at a point where it was a pretty good marriage of the art and the story.

Were you very familiar with the film before you did this?

I've been a follower and fan of his work, that's why it was such an honor to be able to work with him on my first 32-page big comic. What more could you ask for?

How long does it take you to churn out a page?

I'm doing usually a page a day right now.

What kind of frame of mine do you have to be in to do successful work?

I really have to be focused. I really have to be in the frame of mine to work on the finished comic book page. Because when I approach the page like just drawing in my sketch book, doodling for me, it's a totally different approach. When I'm working on a page I feel like I'm almost performing. I feel like I'm on-stage. Because, that's the stuff that people are gonna see

Do you see the comics business as a competitive type thing, or is there a camaraderie? I think there's a camaraderie between the people that put out good quality stuff. I think the competition comes from, I'm not going to name names or anything, but from the bigger companies that are really, really concerned about selling more swimsuit issues and crossovers, so they can make their billion dollars.

Do you have plans for doing anything with your "Girlscouts" characters?

Right now, that's on hiatus, but I want to bring them back for something. The only problem is the name, and figuring out how I can use it legally. Because when I was in Kansas City, the Girl Scouts did approach me with a lawsuit saying that if I continued to use the name they would pursue legal action. I can't take on the Girl Scouts of America, come on.

Well, you could, but you'd probably lose.

I'd probably lose miserably.

Do you have any statement you're trying to make with your work?

No, the thing is, for a while I was like, "God, I've got to really use my talent to spread knowledge and educate." And I think that's well and good, and it's nice to have a message in your stuff, but right now, I'm just trying to tell good stories with some really nice visuals that people can get into. I think the majority of my stuff is catered towards people my age. 16-year-olds on up. It's mature stuff. I'm not catering my stuff towards the super-hero genre.

What do you miss about the world of self-publishing?

Not as much pressure. It's up to me to produce the work. It was up to me to get it out there. If I wanted to spend three days on a really cool page, I could...Besides that, there's not really all that much I miss. I really enjoy letting the publishers worry about advertising, distribution, printing. Those things were all just like thorns in my side.

What are you working on now for Oni?

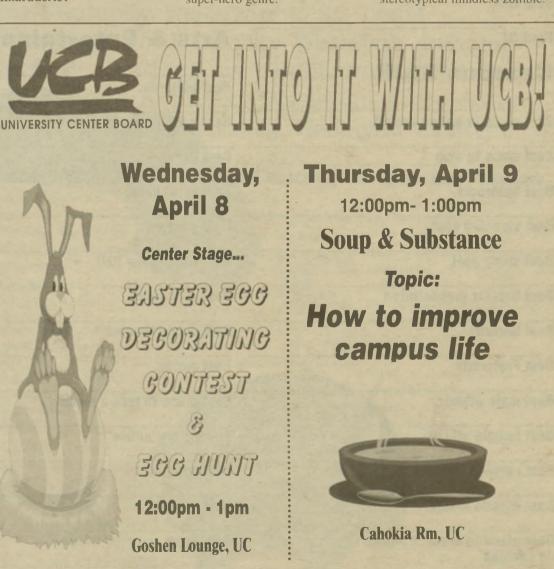
Right now, I'm working on a creator-owned project called Zombie Kid. Zombie Kid appeared in a book called "Scud." I'm doing Zombie Kid for "Oni Double Feature" numbers five and six. Basically, Zombie Kid is a vegetarian zombie. He's the only one who doesn't need human brains to survive. He's a good guy. He lives in this town called Freak City, a weird place where all this stuff happens. He's basically like the town's protector.

What does he eat instead of brains?

Just normal food, vegetarian stuff.

What exactly makes him a zombie?

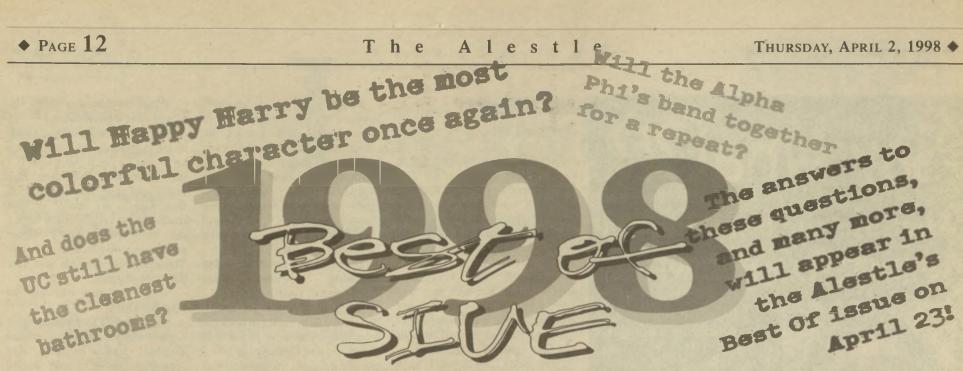
He was a normal person, but I haven't gone into his origin yet, but I'll give you a brief description. When he was like eight or nine, he got bitten by a zombie. Something went wrong in the transformation, and he was still conscious of who he was and it left him with supernatural power. It didn't turn him into a stereotypical mindless zombie.



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Best Alestle writer	Best burgers	Best bike trails
Best place to sneak a smoke on campus	Best pizza	Best city park
Best place to park for free	Best pasta	Best picnic spot

Turn this ballot into the Alestle, upstairs in the University Center. Vote Early. Deadline for ballots is APRIL 17! Only one ballot per person. We check handwriting!

SIUE softball looking for consistent play, leadership over weekend

BY BRETT LICATA

SPORTS REPORTER

The SIUE softball team will look for consistent play and leadership this weekend in Great Lakes Valley Conference competition.

Bellarmine College, the University of Southern Indiana and Kentucky Wesleyan College will join SIUE in St. Louis this weekend as the Cougars hope to move up from fourth place in the Southwest Division of the GLVC.

"This year, the conference is wide open," head coach Sandy Montgomery said. "There's no team that is really dominating. Whoever comes prepared to play is going to win the game."

The Cougars, who hold a record of 16-15, are led offensively by junior Sarah Sollberger of Peoria. Sollberger is batting .429 with seven home runs and 35 RBIs on the season. She also leads the squad in

doubles, with 15, and has swiped 13 bases.

Senior outfielder Gwen Jackson, of Collinsville, is second on the team in hits with 35 and is tied for the team lead in triples. Jackson also leads the team with 14 stolen bases.

Bridgeton, Mo.'s Kim Messinger is second among the Cougars with a .393 batting average. She has 33 hits and 13 RBIs on the year.

Dupo native Mandy Uhrhan strikeouts. In 11 games of work,

and Pekin's Erica Connett round off the top five offensive producers for SIUE midway through the season. Uhrhan has 32 hits and 16 RBIs on the year, while Connett is batting .278 and is second on the team with 21 RBIs.

SIUE's pitching staff has a combined 2.66 ERA going into this weekend's games. Morton native Deanna Smith leads the staff with an ERA of 2.38 and 32 strikeouts. In 11 games of work,

Smith has a record of 5-7.

Jessica Silbe, of Pinckneyville, also has five wins to her name so far this year. She is second on the team with 19 strikeouts in 56 innings pitched.

Sophomore Sara Obrecht has an ERA of 2.84 and a record of 3-1 while senior Stephanie Stinson has the second best ERA on the team at 2.55.

The Cougars start off the weekend road trip on Saturday at 8 a.m.

Not quite opening day...



Renee Holler/Alestle

Cougar baseball hosts the Kentucky Wesleyan Panthers this Saturday and Sunday at Roy E. Lee Field. Both games are Great Lakes Valley Conference games. The Cougars are 17-7-0 on the season and 4-1-0 in the conference.

Six ISU football players charged in frat fight

NORMAL, III. (AP) — Six Illinois State University football players have now been charged in a fraternity house fight that injured at least six people.

Robert Boyd, 19, Aveion Cason, 18, and Christopher Marks, 18, were charged Friday with felony home invasion and mob action.

Felony home invasion charges were filed earlier this week against Jason Leach, 20, who was charged with home invasion; Kenneth Ramsey, 22, who was also charged with mob action; and Leonard Reliford, 19, who was also charged with aggravated battery.

Police say about 25 football players armed with homemade weapons converged on the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house on Sunday night.

The attack followed a fight at the fraternity Saturday, Normal police Lt. Tony Daniels said.

Witnesses said some of the players involved in the fight used pipes, broken broom handles and a tent stake wrapped in tape in the attack.

All six players are due in court April 17 and have been suspended from the team indefinitely. Two others were suspended when they were arrested then were reinstated after being released without charges.

A witness told The Pantagraph newspaper in Bloomington the fight began when a football player caught urinating in a shower refused to leave the house.

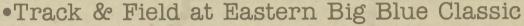
Alumni of Sigma Alpha Epsilon have hired an off-duty Normal police officer to keep watch over the building during evenings.

Cougar Scoreboard

April 2: Men's Tennis vs. Quincy University at home

April 3: Men's Tennis vs. IU-PU/Ft. Wayne at home

April 4: Men's Tennis vs. Indianapolis at home



•Softball vs. Bellarmine, Southern Indiana and Kentucky Wesleyan at St. Louis

Baseball vs. Kentucky Wesleyan at home
April 5: Softball vs. Bellarmine, Southern
Indiana and Kentucky Wesleyan at St. Louis
Baseball vs. Kentucky Wesleyan at home

Six injured, four arrested during hoops celebration

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Camped out in front of Rupp Arena five hours before the national champion Kentucky Wildcats were to arrive for a pep rally, 10-year-old Justin Puffer got a lesson in supply and demand.

Tickets for the event commemorating Kentucky's 78-69 title game victory over Utah were gone within minutes after the sales window opened Tuesday morning.

The 20,000 fans fortunate enough to get tickets somehow found a way to scream louder as the pep rally progressed, even with strained vocal chords. At 7:06 p.m. EST, the team bus drove to the edge of the Rupp Arena floor, and out jumped the national champions the 'Comeback Cats' as several posters proclaimed.

Although the crowd erupted with deafening hysteria after the announcement of each team member, the loudest cheers of all were for first-year

coach Tubby Smith.

"The love affair you all have for Kentucky basketball and this program is unbelievable, and it's second to none," Smith told the fans, his next sentence being drowned out by crowd noise.

Senior Cameron Mills gave credit to former coach Rick Pitino, who left the team at the end of last season to accept a head coaching job with the Boston Celtics. But Mills' highest praise was for Smith.

"I don't think you'll ever know how much our relationship means to me," said Mills, before giving his coach a hug.

Tournament Most Outstanding Player Jeff Sheppard seemed to choke up as he spoke about the influence of his teammates. And Kentucky's other senior, Allen Edwards, thanked the fans for supporting him following the death of his mother during the tournament.

At the end of the hoopla, the players raised the championship banner to the rafters, posing in front of the cameras almost as if they had done all this before.

At Keeneland, across from Blue Grass Airport where the team landed Tuesday night, an estimated 800 to 1,000 fans showed up, many because they couldn't get tickets to the celebration in Rupp Arena.

The players went out in the crowd and signed shirts and newspapers, while Smith was presented with a cake that read: "Tubby takes the cake."

With two seasons of practice in controlling wild crowds after national title games, Lexington police were ready to handle the mob of near 15 000 fans who celebrated in the streets. Three hundred officers lined downtown Lexington in full riot gear, watching the chaos with the aid of spotlights from a National Guard helicopter.

Police made ten arrests during the celebration, and the University of Kentucky hospital reported that 25 people had been treated for minor injuries.

Rick Majerus remembers when Kentucky played in '66

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The last time Utah was in the Final Four, Rick Majerus was 18 years old and just beginning to form ideas about basketball. The NCAA tournament commanded his attention and made a lasting impact.

That was the year Texas Western (now Texas-El Paso) had the audacity to start five black players against five whites and won a national championship. The coach was Don Haskins, who thought nothing about the sociological revolution he was launching during racially tense times.

David Lattin, Bobby Joe Hill, Willie Worsley, Orsten Artis and Harry Flournoy started that game and Nevil Shed and Willie Cager came off the bench, and together they changed basketball for good.

Haskins insisted he was not making any civil rights statement. He was just trying to win a basketball game and using the best players he had.

That made eminently good sense to Majerus. And so did Texas Western's dedication to defense.

"It was the first championship game I watched," he said as Utah prepared for Monday night's championship game which it lost 78-69 to Kentucky. "I was still young. I remember George Ireland winning with Chicago Loyola and Tom Thacker winning two at Cincinnati. But that was the first time I had any

idea about the game."

And Texas Western gave him plenty of ideas.

"I enjoyed watching them," Majerus said. "I liked the way they played. I liked their defense. I didn't know a lot about it. But I saw defense as something I could do. I gravitated toward that."

Texas Western's first step to the championship came against a Utah team led by Jerry Chambers. The Utes had lost their captain, George Fisher, with a broken leg late in the season. That shifted the burden to Chambers and he responded, leading Utah to the West Region championship. The Utes beat Pacific 83-74 as Chambers

State 70-64. Chambers, Rich Tate and Merv Jackson were named to the All-Region team.

Next came the Final Four and the Utes ran into Texas Western, losing 85-78. Teams played a third-place game then and Duke edged the Utes 79-77. Even with the two losses, Utah's Chambers still was voted the MVP of the tournament.

It was a landmark Final Four, not only for Haskins but also for Utah. The Utes have been back in the tournament frequently, including six times in the last nine years, but never in 32 years had they been back to the Final Four.

Majerus, meanwhile, got into coaching, first as an assistant to scored 40 points, and Oregon Al McGuire and Hank

Raymonds at Marquette, later as an assistant to Don Nelson with the NBA Milwaukee Bucks and as a head coach, first at Marquette, then at Ball State and, for the last nine years, at Utah.

He cultivated numerous friendships in the profession, including an important one at Texas-El Paso. They're friendly rivals in the WAC and Haskins was delighted when Majerus reached the Final Four.

"One of the nicest notes I got was from him," Majerus said. "He sent me a fruit basket. I think Don ate half the fruit. Then he was concerned that I got it. I hadn't gotten it when we talked and he was upset with his secretary."

Ex-Rutgers basketball player gets fine, probation in sex case

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (AP) — A former Rutgers University basketball player has been fined and placed on three years' probation for sneaking into dormitory rooms and fondling women's feet while they slept.

Maurice Brown, 20, was sentenced Monday for one count of criminal sexual contact and two counts of burglary. Superior Court Judge Phillip Lewis Paley ordered Brown to continue mental health counseling, fined him \$4,465 and ordered him not to have any contact with the women.

Brown avoided a jail sentence

by pleading guilty to the charges Feb. 5. In return, prosecutors dropped all other charges relating to the eight incidents in which Brown walked into unlocked rooms of female students and fondled their feet.

In at least one incident, he allegedly rubbed a student's feet with his penis, authorities said.

Brown, a freshman forward from Syracuse, N.Y., withdrew from school Dec. 9, following his arrest after a complaint by a female student.

University officials said Brown never appeared in a game for Rutgers, either regular season or exhibition.

Indians place Dwight Gooden on disabled list

CLEVELAND (AP) — The the acquisition of Dave Burba Cleveland Indians have so many ailing pitchers that even the Doctor came down with something.

Dwight Gooden, expected to be Cleveland's fourth starter after in the final week of spring

from Cincinnati, was placed on the 15-day disabled list Monday with stiffness in his right shoulder.

Gooden was rained out twice

training, but pitched well in his final start. While the Indians traveled to Seattle for Tuesday's opener against the Mariners, Gooden stayed in Winter Haven, Fla., to pitch in a minor league game.

Students protest exams during **World Cup**

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) About 200 students rampaged through downtown Dhaka Tuesday to protest having to take annual school exams during the soccer World Cup that kicks off in France in June.

The protesters damaged at least 20 cars during the 30-minute rampage before baton-wielding police dispersed them. A passenger in one of the damaged cars was injured.

Nearly 300,000 students across Bangladesh are scheduled to take the month-long 12thgrade exam in late May and June.

"We will miss some important matches of the finals because of the tests," said Abdul Karim, a protesting student.

The demonstrators demand that the exams be postponed until after July 12, the final day of the World Cup.

In Bangladesh, soccer is one of the most popular sports.

Three Arizona players charged with beating

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - A University of Arizona football player and two former players have been charged with beating an unconscious man outside

Police said that a Pima County grand jury has indicted linebacker William W. "Scooter" Sprotte, 21, former players Richard P. Dice, 23, and John W. "Jimmy" Sprotte, 23, and a fourth man — Victor E. Hershberger, 21 — on charges of aggravated assault. The Sprottes are brothers.

Their court appearance was set for April 28.

Sgt. Michael Widmer said the four allegedly assaulted a man in a bar parking lot after a fight began inside Dec. 6 and moved outside, where the victim fell to the ground and was kicked in the head as he lay unconscious.

His name was unavailable.

Football coach Dick Tomey could not be reached for comment, nor could the athletes.



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Dismantled Marlins open season against revamped Cubs

MIAMI (AP) — For Jim Leyland, this year's Florida Marlins will not be about wins and losses.

After dismantling the World Series championship team in the offseason to cut in half its payroll, the Marlins are left with 14 rookies on their 25-man roster. And a heavy dose of uncertainty as they open the season today against Chicago.

"I'm ready to roll," Leyland said Monday. "I don't know where the hell it's going, but I'm going."

While the fans will measure success in the number of victories, Leyland said he won't do that.

Instead, it will be the more intangible measure improvement — part proven by statistics, part only visible to a

'That's going to be the test of this team, to get better as we go along," Leyland said.

Still, the Cubs are taking no chances. The World Series banner will be unfurled at Pro Player Stadium before the game, a reminder not to be caught offguard by the little-known names in the lineup.

"They're the defending world champions, and we're going to treat them like that," said Cubs veteran first baseman Mark Grace, who broke his right toe Sunday with a foul ball and will not start today.

World Series MVP Livan Hernandez will face Cubs starter Kevin Tapani. Both finished last season 9-3.

Tapani said Monday he prepared no different for the

manager with 35 years in opener than he would have for a more experienced Marlins club.

> "That really doesn't matter," he said. "I guess the only thing different is you might have faced a guy 50-60 times. (Today) you might wind up getting surprised."

> A torn right rotator cuff on Marlins' ace Alex Fernandez has left Hernandez, with less than a full year in the majors, the most veteran pitcher in the starting rotation. He is joined by four rookies.

> "I'm definitely not a veteran," said the 23-year-old right-hander. "The ace pitcher of the staff is Alex Fernandez. It's fallen on me (to start), and I'm happy to do it."

> The Cubs also underwent an offseason overhaul, the fruits of which should be shown Tuesday. Chicago added six veterans in

last year's 0-14 start.

"I feel confident. I like our ballclub," manager Jim Riggleman said, then paused. "I felt confident last year."

The Cubs, who haven't won a World Series title since 1908 and haven't been to one since 1945, signed free agent shortstop Jeff Blauser from Atlanta and closer Rod Beck from the Giants. Through trades, they picked up second baseman Mickey Morandini from the Phillies and left fielder Henry Rodriguez from the Expos.

They also got center fielder Lance Johnson and right-hander Mark Clark, who joined the team last August in a trade with the Mets.

Absent from today's lineup will be Grace, a career .310 hitter who fouled a ball off his

hopes of avoiding a repeat of right big toe Sunday in his last at-bat of spring. He will be replaced by Brant Brown.

First base also was a question for the Marlins until Monday, when Leyland named rookie Ryan Jackson as the starter over rookie Derrek Lee, who was acquired in a trade for ace Kevin Brown. Veteran Jim Eisenreich, another option at first, said Monday he would miss opening day because of a death in the family.

Jackson said he was excited to meet Grace, one of his favorite players. But he did not want to dwell on it.

"That's just one of those things you don't like to think about when you're out on the field," Jackson said. "You could be intimidated by some of those guys."

Judge dismissed a drunken driving charge against Buffalo Bills' Smith

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) A judge dismissed a drunken driving charge against Buffalo Bills defensive end Bruce Smith while upholding a charge that Smith refused to take a bloodalcohol test.

Circuit Judge Frederick B. Lowe on Monday suspended Smith's driver's license for 12 months for refusing to take the blood test last July when he was found passed out in the driver's seat of his car at an intersection.

The conviction will not affect Smith's driving record, said Smith's attorney, Larry Cardon.

Smith refused to comment

following the hearing, which was an appeal of convictions on both charges during a Sept. 2 trial in General District Court.

Lowe said prosecutors failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Smith was intoxicated when officer Alison Fletcher found him sitting behind the wheel of his Mercedes Benz.

Lowe noted that Smith did "fairly well" on two field sobriety tests administered by the officer.

Smith said he passed out because he suffers from sleep apnea, a condition that interrupts breathing while people sleep.

Sufferers often fall asleep at unusual times.

Smith testified that he consumed about four beers and a glass of wine on the night before his arrest while celebrating the last night before returning to training camp.

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April 7, 1998 2:00pm

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Mississippi/Illinois Room **University Center**

> April 7, 1998 6:30pm

Renee Johnson

Volunteer Service Coordinator Missouri Historical Society

Leadership Challenges for Minorities

Mississippi/Illinois Room **University Center**

Additional Opportunities:

Pathways to Harmony April 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Cahokia Room - University Center

> Action! Day Kids Public Safety Day April 11 8:00am to 4:00pm

Life After Class: The Movie

Starting April 1st, look for cameras roaming around campus capturing student "life after class." A documentary type film will be made promoting non-alcoholic and substance-free events taking place in the SIUE community. This film will present student/faculty/staff opinions on drug and alcohol use and abuse. The film will be shown in the University Center Goshen Lounge on April 28th from 11:00 am until 1:00pm. Be a part of the "Action."

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April 1

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- Meet in VC Room 2005

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Sunday April 19, 1998

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- \$10.00 for each guest
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VOTE WILL Goldsmith fro Student Body President (endorsed by APA and AII. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

LADIES OF AΦ let's get pumped up for formal! It's going to be a blast! I can't wait to see you all there! AΦ Love, Jenni P.

VOTE: ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by Alpha Phi Alpha and Delta Pi, The Health and Administration Organization).

VOTE: WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by Alpha Phi Alpha and Delta Pi, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

MO' MONEY-mo problems: Not in a capitalist society. Come see why on

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by A Φ A and $\Delta\Pi$, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

HEY AΦ'S! I am really excited about Parents Weekend. Let's show our parents a good time. A Love, Michelle.

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΙΙ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by $A\Phi A$ and $\Delta\Pi$, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

HAVE A capitalist time with REGGIE. April 15 in the University Center.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by $A\Phi A$ and $\Delta\Pi$, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

A P. TO Missy, Jessica, Angie, Michelle, Theresa and Carrie-8th floor! Thanks for the awesome times and remembering to bring the brown sugar.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by $A\Phi A$ and $\Delta \Pi$). The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔII. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

REGGIE IS right. April 15

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΙΙ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

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VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by $A\Phi A$ and $\Delta\Pi$, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by AΦA and ΔΠ. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.

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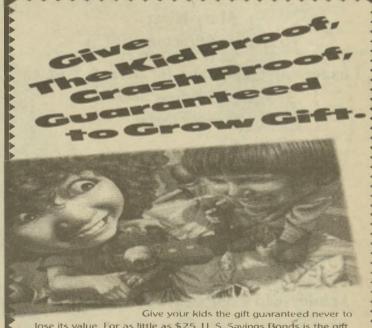
VOTE ETTRICK Lucas for Student body Vice-President (endorsed by AΦA and AII, The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you

VOTE WILL Goldsmith for Student Body President (endorsed by $A\Phi A$ and $\Delta\Pi$. The Health and Administration Organization). Thank you.



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