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Words to live by:

"Journalism is literature
in a hurry."

-Matthew Arnold

the Alestle

ALTON, EAST ST. LOUIS & EDWARDSVILLE
a student publication

LIFESTYLE



Yeah baby!
Austin Powers invades
the U.S. again.

see page 4

◆ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1999

<http://www.siu.edu/ALESTLE/Alestle.html>

Vol. 52, No. 62 ◆

Cougar Village

Asbestos slows down renovations

BY THOMAS OLSEN
NEWS REPORTER

Possibly dangerous materials, including asbestos, have caused delays in the \$15.7 million Cougar Village renovation.

"We don't know that it is going to affect the students," Mike Schultz, director of university housing, said Tuesday. He went on to say that it was still too early to know what effect the asbestos will have on the renovations. However, Schultz said that there will be beds for all students.

Schultz said the housing office is trying to determine a new completion date for the project.

According to Schultz, materials found during

demolition underwent testing to determine if special handling was needed.

"We knew that there was asbestos in the floor tile," Schultz said, "but when we broke through some walls and found other materials, more testing had to be done."

Buildings constructed before 1980 are likely to have asbestos, Schultz said, "but there is no danger until it (asbestos) becomes friable (when asbestos begins to break down)."

An Illinois Environmental Protection Agency suit against one of the contractors in the renovation also delayed the project, Schultz said. The Illinois EPA sued MJC Contractors and one of its subcontractors for unsuitable work in the renovation of building 501.

Police carry a special torch

BY COLIN FRIES
NEWS STRINGER

Three members of the SIUE Police Department went above and beyond the call of duty to help the less fortunate.

Capt. Regina Hayes, Officer Jennifer Sanders and Detective Kevin Schmoll carried the Special Olympics torch across the campus as it made its way to Bloomington-Normal for the 1999 Special Olympics annual summer games that took place Friday.

"It was a special honor, and it feels worthwhile," Hayes said after completing her leg of the 2.5 mile trek across campus.

The Special Olympics provides training and competition for nearly 18,000 children and adults who have some form of disability or mental impairment.

Each year, the law enforcement runners who carry the torch across Illinois raise about \$700,000 to help the disabled. The trek across Illinois is nearly 1,500 miles and requires several days to complete.

At SIUE, the torch run began around 4:30 p.m. June 15 at Illinois Highway 157 and East University Drive, continued through the campus and ended at Hairpin Drive.

Additionally, the SIUE



T. Cho/Alestle

Kevin Schmoll (left) and Jennifer Sanders run torch.

Police Department assisted in fund raising with activities such as the Pedal with the PIGS (pride, integrity and guts) biking event and the "Cops and Lobsters," where officers served as waiters.

Fund-raising events like these help the Special Olympics Illinois operate and provides thousands of challenged adults and children with the aid they need to compete in the Special Olympics.

Along with raising funds and spreading goodwill throughout the state, the torch run also increased public awareness and support for the Special Olympics.

Another new building at SIUE

BY ANTHONY WATT
NEWS REPORTER

SIUE is growing again.

Bulldozers are clearing the way for the construction of B. Barnard Birger Hall, a 14,000-square-foot facility for the SIUE Foundation.

The building is named after the man who donated his \$1.3 million home and property to SIUE in December.

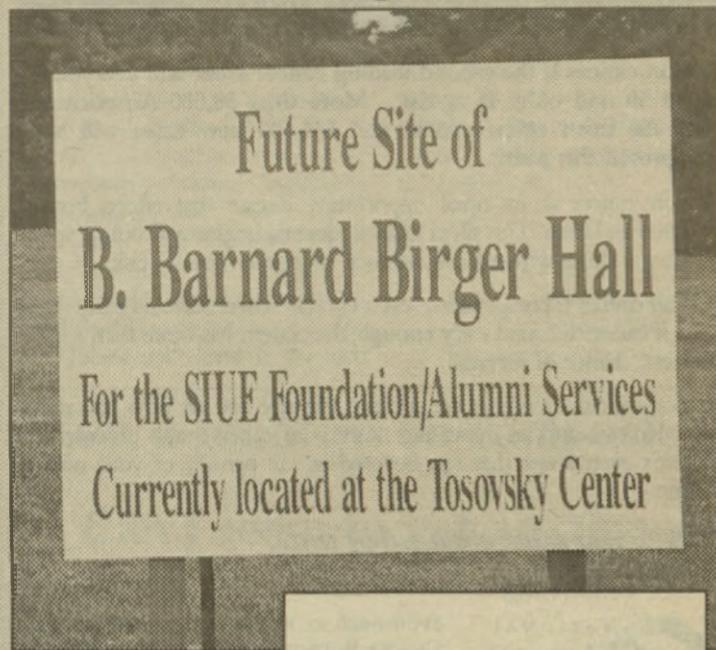
"The facility will house the Alumni Association and the SIUE Foundation offices," said Kathy Turner, assistant director of Alumni Services, "and there will be rooms for special events and meetings."

The SIUE Foundation is the fund-raising arm of the university, and the Alumni Association is responsible for keeping graduates of SIUE involved on the campus.

Turner said that the foundation's original building, the Tosovsky Center on Lewis Road, was too small for their operations.

B. Barnard Birger Hall will cost approximately \$1.8 million and funds will be provided by the sale of the Tosovsky Center and Birger's property.

Turner said the new building should be completed in March 2000.



T. Cho/Alestle

The field across from the entrance to lot A, behind the library, is being prepared for construction.



Korte gives School of Business \$1 million gift

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

Like the stock market, funds in the SIUE School of Business' major gift campaign continue to rise.

Construction magnate Ralph Korte, a '68 SIUE alumnus, gave back to his alma mater Monday by donating \$1 million to the School of Business. The gift from Korte and his wife, Donna Korte, is one of the largest single donations the university has received.

"This gift is really like venture capital," Bob Carver, business school dean, said Tuesday. "This will help us remain competitive in the 21st

century."

Carver noted that the school has been known for innovative programs and that the gift from the Kortes will eventually help make some business school programs self-sustaining.

"As we move toward the millennium, we need to remain innovative," Carver said. "The Korte Fund will support our continuing commitment to innovations that enhance student learning."

The donation will establish the Ralph and Donna Korte Fund for Leadership and Innovation in Business Education.

Korte challenged other SIUE alumni to give back to their

school. He told a crowd gathered to witness the check presentation that he is happy to have an ongoing relationship with SIUE.

"I feel I owe a tremendous amount to the university," Korte said. Korte went on to say that his education has played a major part in the success of his business.

"I feel that if it weren't for finishing college, my business would have only made \$5 million instead of \$140 million."

The Kortes have supported the university through the years as volunteers and fund-raisers. They were helpful in raising funds for the track and field facility that bears Korte's name.

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<http://www.siu.edu/ALESTLE/Alestle.html>



"You can prevent colon cancer, even beat it."
 • HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON •

MAKE THE TIME TO GET A TEST THAT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.

Colon cancer is the second leading cancer killer and everyone aged 50 and older is at risk. More than 50,000 Americans will die from colon cancer and 131,600 new cases will be diagnosed this year.

Colon cancer is an equal opportunity disease that affects both women and men. This silent killer frequently begins without symptoms and those with a family history are at even greater risk.

Colon cancer is preventable—even curable when detected early. In fact, if cancer is found early enough, the patient has more than a 90 percent chance of survival.

Colon cancer screenings are safe and effective and are now covered by Medicare and an increasing number of other health providers. There's even a test that can be used in the privacy of your own home.

Talk to your doctor about getting tested.



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Argersinger files her second lawsuit

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

Ousted SIUC Chancellor Jo Ann Argersinger has filed a second lawsuit.

Argersinger was fired by the SIUC board of trustees June 6 after less than a year on the job. She

has already filed one suit claiming the trustees violated the Illinois Open Meetings Act by firing her without a public vote.

The firing has drawn a storm of protest from supporters on the Carbondale campus, including a grievance by the SIUC Faculty

Association.

Argersinger's latest suit claims that her termination violated her contract by not allowing her to work for the remaining six months of its term. Argersinger will continue to draw her \$130,512 annual salary.

Theater helpers escape parking tickets

BY SARAH LANDWEHR
 CHIEF COPY EDITOR

With the timing of a parking service agent appearing as the meter clicks zero, parking services personnel have come to the aid of theater volunteers.

Parents of children in the summer production of "The King and I" and high school interns working on the show received their parking permits last week after sweating out the risk of getting a ticket for parking in the near-empty lot behind Katherine Dunham Hall.

Those who are volunteering their time to help with costumes, sets and other aspects of the production had to pay to park or risk getting a ticket.

"A lot of people with kids in the play come in from other surrounding communities to volunteer their time," said

Barbara Dumoulin, a volunteer whose son is in the play. "You would think the university would be appreciative that they are volunteering. If someone working on the play gets a ticket for parking, it leaves a bad taste in their mouth. This is bad PR (public relations) for the university."

According to Mike Clarkston, company manager for "The King and I," temporary parking permits were applied for in early June, but the permits took more than a week to process.

Clarkston said one parent volunteer got a ticket while parking service was processing the requests. Clarkston added that he could not understand what the delay is.

According to Carolyn Turner, manager for campus parking, the reason for the delay

was because parking services is shorthanded during summer term as are other offices around campus.

"We have to check out if they are faculty, students or staff (after the application is turned in)," Turner said. "If they're not, then they are issued a permit."

"I wish people would plan for parking," Turner added. "We are shorthanded and that's what we need to complete them — hands. We not only issue permits for the theater, but for other departments as well, sometimes in large numbers."

According to Clarkston, students enrolled for the summer semester are not eligible to receive a temporary permit for lot E. This means they must walk to their cars in the red lots after rehearsal, which can run as late as 11 p.m.

Katherine Dunham celebrates 90th birthday

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

SIUE's Department of English Language and Literature will be taking part in Katherine Dunham's birthday celebration.

Dunham who turned 90 Monday will be honored in a

literary tribute at 6 p.m. Friday, June 25, in the second-floor council chamber of the Municipal Building, 301 River Park Drive, East St. Louis.

The event is co-sponsored by the Eugene B. Redmond Writers Club of East St. Louis and other

organizations.

Other events included the dedication of an African "village" on the grounds of the Katherine Dunham Museum on Sunday and an invitation-only gathering Monday at the Radisson Hotel in Clayton.

Police incidents

Traffic

6/17/99

Citations were issued to John T. Stosky and Heather M. Riekema for speeding.

6/19/99

Zhadde Zhang received a ticket for failure to obey a stop sign.

6/20/99

Jeremy J. Ketchie received citations for driving without a valid driver's license and unlawful use of a driver's license.

Arrest

6/18/99

Dianna Deardeuff, 35, of Moro was arrested on an active SIUE warrant for failure to appear and contempt on charges of operating an uninsured vehicle. Deardeuff was unable to post bond and was taken to Madison County Jail.

6/20/99

Ryan Murphy, 18, and Bradley Pryor, 21, both of Belleville, were arrested on an active SIUE warrants for failure to appear and contempt on charges of possession of liquor by a minor.

Murphy posted \$200 bond and was released. Pryor was

unable to post bond and was taken to Madison County Jail.

Melinda Hinton, 22, of Alton was arrested on an active Edwardsville Police Department warrant for failure to appear on charges of speeding. Hinton posted \$140 bond and was released.

Theft

6/19/99

A Cougar Village resident reported the rear license plate stolen from his car while it was parked in Lot 4C. There are no suspects or witnesses.

Crack Head Shoplifter Prostitute

...all thrown out with the help of kids like me.

-Ana, age 16

Everybody loves to trash teenagers, right? Maybe they don't realize that we do care. That we can make a difference. Get involved in Crime Prevention. Clean up parks. Teach younger kids. Start a school or neighborhood watch. And help make your community safer and better for everyone. Together, we can prove them wrong by doing something right.

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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.

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Have a comment?

Let us know!

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Coffee, gone bad ...

Rumor has it someone at SIUE is going to make a decision – stop the presses and reset the type! SIUE may decide to fight the power; break rank and file; damn the man; and chant, “Hell no we won’t go” by decisively putting a stop to excess charges and waste in Center Court. God save the Queen!

What waste, you ask. Freeloaders on free coffee at the expense of others.

Normally something like this would have my full-fledged support, just for the simple fact that someone at SIU may actually make a decision. However, as typical of a bureaucratic machine, policy-makers are acting on something so petty and minuscule one has to stop, scratch one’s head and simply ask: What the hell are they thinking?

Free refills are a mainstay at practically every fast-food, sit-down and mom-and-pop restaurant in America, but as of this fall Center Court may vanquish the evil practice of one free coffee refill.

Anyone who has spent any amount of time in the Morris University Center, lovingly referred to as the MUC, knows the policy on free coffee refills in Center Court. If you’re not aware of the policy, it works something like this; buy a cup of “freshly” brewed coffee, hold on to your receipt and you can get a refill, free of charge, upon return of the receipt to a cashier.

Well, that policy is currently under review and may be done away with come fall.

Yes someone, somewhere has decided that free refills on coffee are costing the university too much money. In an effort to save, one would hope, the consumer vast amounts of money, free refills may be discontinued. Of course, if this crusade is accomplished, you may save a whopping, tremendous, exorbitant total of a few cents per cup, but we won’t know until a decision is actually made and carried out. God save SIUE!

My question here is, who really cares?

Apparently, someone does. Complaints from staff and students have prompted review of the policy. Members of the “banish-the-coffee-refill brigade” have complained that because of their schedules or location on campus the refill cannot be used. Fearing that the cost of the refill is figured into the cost of the coffee, the “brigade” wants the policy terminated and the price lowered.

Some have questioned whether the refill policy includes a new cup and lid when claiming the refill. That cup and lid were not paid for in the original transaction and thereby costs the university money.

My problem here is twofold. First, why would such complaints even be deemed to have such weight that a policy review would be called? My best guess is someone who hasn’t taken a power trip in awhile decided to get out and stretch his or her legs – first stop, Center Court. I’m sure there are more important issues in food service than dealing with a few complaints over the price and policy of a cup of coffee.

Second problem: why do you need a policy review over a cup of coffee? This isn’t a life or death issue we’re talking about. It is a simple 8-oz., Styrofoam cup full of coffee. It costs 58 cents and we’re talking about a refill. One, single refill. A refill, that in order to obtain, the claimant must bring proof of purchase of the first cup of coffee.

So what does any of this really matter? Well it points out, very well, the problems inherent in a system such as the one instituted on this campus and in this university system. A cup of coffee gets a policy review, whereas the firing of a chancellor does not. God save us all!

John Klimut
Editor in Chief

Letters to the Editor — Who’s in the know on campus?

As a copy editor/reporter for the Alestle, there is nothing more disheartening than to open up one of the local newspapers or the Post-Dispatch and find a story about SIUE that we knew nothing about.

Those of us who work here depend on news releases for information because we rarely receive tips from the general campus population.

Our paper has been put down in the past for our lack of decent stories. Sometimes that means doing the best with what we have. And sometimes the best we have is basing our stories on what we find in the local papers. Personally, I hate doing this. In an ideal situation we would be on the top of Public Affairs’ list to receive information about events happening on campus, especially upcoming events.

Take the Ralph Korte donation story for example. A local businessman donates \$1 million dollars to this campus and we found out about it the next

day in the local papers. Now you can’t tell me that this donation was a complete surprise and that no one knew Korte was going to be here. Wouldn’t it have been nice for our student journalists, who incidentally may be working for the local papers some day, to have been at the ceremony side by side with professional reporters? This would have been good PR for our campus.

I just don’t understand why Public Affairs doesn’t want to support us. Providing us with press releases makes the paper timely, interesting and provides information to the campus population about important upcoming events. This in turn makes the university look good, which is the whole purpose of having a public relations office in the first place.

Sarah Landwehr
Chief Copy Editor

Got a problem on campus?

Can’t seem to get an answer
to your questions?

Getting the runaround?

Contact the Alestle!

If you can’t get answers or solutions
to your questions, let the Alestle
know.

If there’s a story, we’ll investigate,
and find out what’s wrong. E-mail us
or write us.

Know Your World.

the
Alestle

ALTON, EAST ST. LOUIS & EDWARDSVILLE

a student publication
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

NEWS

Always
Searching...Questioning...Reporting

Learn to call 911 quickly if you have one or more symptoms of stroke, like numbness in one side of the face or one limb, sudden dimness or loss of vision, loss of speech, sudden severe headache or dizziness along with the above signs. Call 1-800-AHA-USA1 to learn more. Or visit <http://www.amhrt.org> on the World Wide Web.

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American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

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In My Mind...

BY SHERI MCWHIRTER
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

The one thing many of us realize while attending college is that this is the time to grow up. At least it's the time you're expected to grow up. In various ways everyone who attends college changes as time passes. The unfortunate thing that sometimes happens is we forget where we came from.

My car broke down in Highland Thursday while I was at my best friend's house. Krystal and I met in high school and have been inseparable ever since. I see her all the time. And not one day passes that we don't speak on the phone. She's my exception.

While I was stranded in my hometown, I saw a lot of people I hadn't even thought of in a long time. It made me feel terrible; I was the most disloyal and irresponsible friend in the world.

My old sidekick, Jason, just got home from a very unfriendly place with cold, steel bars. Granted, I visited him while he was away as often as I could afford. But spending hours Thursday sitting in his back yard waiting for the car repair shop to call was enlightening, to say the least. I had forgotten how much fun it was to do absolutely nothing except hang out. Just sitting around and swapping stories about people we know and rehashing our own legends was the most fulfilling thing for me lately. I haven't been able to escape my date book for that many hours in months.

I've become so incredibly wrapped up in my life on campus that I forgot what I was doing just two years ago. The people whom I associated with and even loved have become secondary in my life. I feel so incredibly ashamed. Especially when I remember saying, "Don't worry. I'll stop by all the time." I never even phoned the people who told me to call them sometime.

I guess I convinced myself that when you go away to college, you're entering a world which you'll never leave. Was I sure wrong. Last summer my parents moved from Highland to Kalkaska, Mich. When that happened, I started to feel very alone. Sure, I have family just on the other side of Vandalia, but I just never made it over there either. Surprised?

Instead, I got wrapped up in campus. I have plenty of friends here and being a resident assistant is more than mildly time-consuming. Then there were the committees I joined and I don't care what the stereotype is, being a mass communications student isn't simply a breeze. I spent more time looking at the television monitors in the AVID editing room than I did in my own dorm room. Hell, I read half of "Memnoch the Devil" by Anne Rice over Christmas break and haven't picked it up since.

Everyone should take a weekend now and again to go find old buddies and have a party. Sure it's nice to sleep all weekend long, but sometimes too much shut-eye isn't refreshing at all. Instead, get off your butt and find out what happened to your posse.

In many cases, high schools keep tabs on where the graduates are and usually what they're doing. If you're from a small town, try calling your high school secretaries. They always had the answer, remember? If that doesn't work or if you graduated from a school that had more than 900 students, find out if there is a reunion chairperson you could speak to. Other methods would be the Internet or even a county phone book.

My point is this: Don't forget the people who meant the world to you at one time. And if it's too late and you've already lost touch, make contact. Find the people you used to run around with. Getting together with them again could be the greatest thing you do all week.

Wilest

People, En

Austin Powers lost h

The sequel prompted thousands to add "Yea

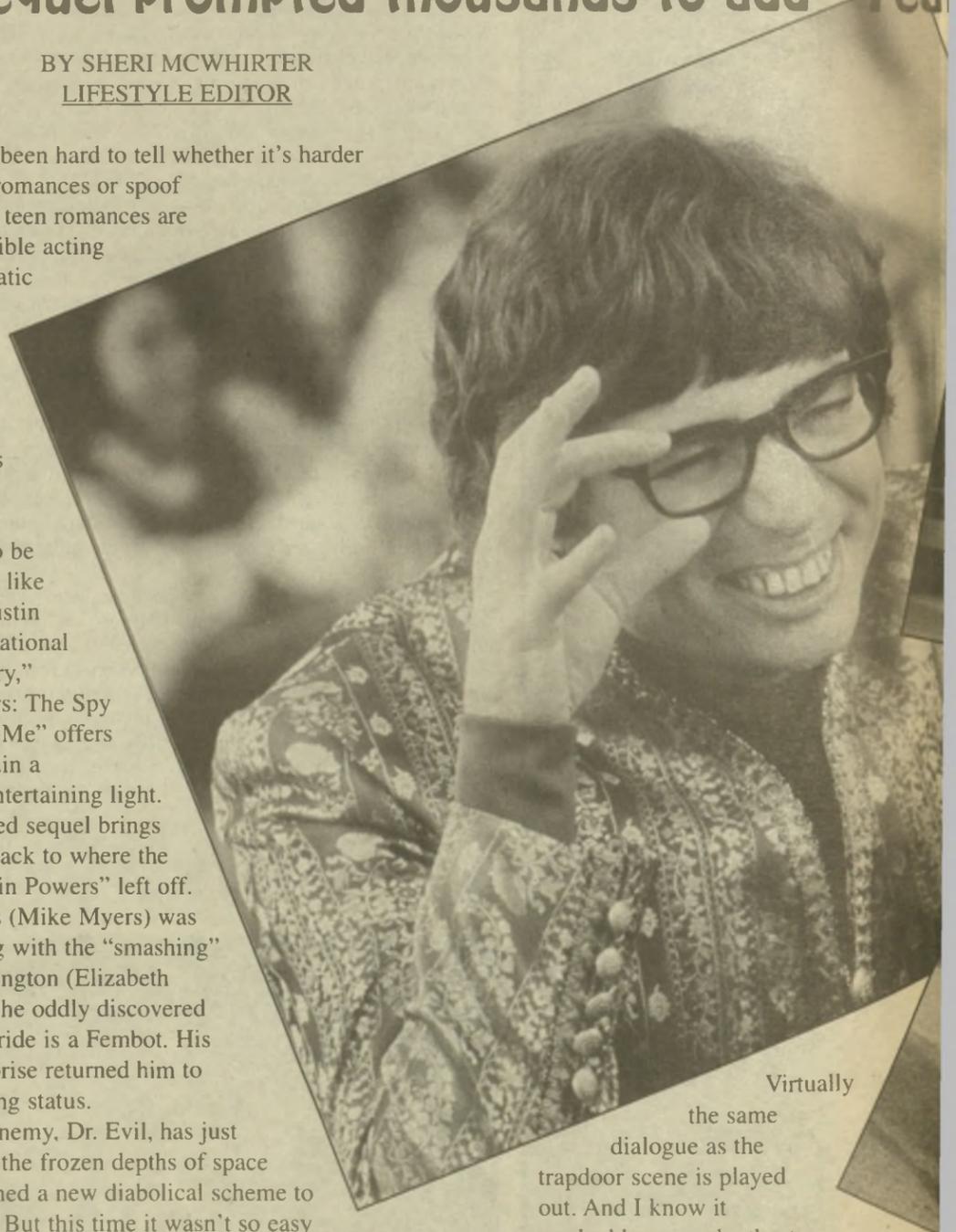
BY SHERI MCWHIRTER
LIFESTYLE EDITOR

Lately it's been hard to tell whether it's harder to watch teen romances or spoof comedies. The teen romances are filled with terrible acting and melodramatic situations, while the spoof comedies are chock full of lame situations that make the audience feel embarrassed to be watching. But, like last year's "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery," "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me" offers spoof comedy in a refreshingly entertaining light.

The awaited sequel brings the audience back to where the original "Austin Powers" left off. Austin Powers (Mike Myers) was honeymooning with the "smashing" Vanessa Kensington (Elizabeth Hurley) when he oddly discovered that his new bride is a Fembot. His explosive surprise returned him to single, swinging status.

Austin's enemy, Dr. Evil, has just returned from the frozen depths of space and has launched a new diabolical scheme to destroy Earth. But this time it wasn't so easy for Austin to foil Dr. Evil's plans. Austin had to follow his nemesis back in time to the swinging '60s to regain his stolen mojo. Without it, Austin was left not only without any powers, but without his manhood.

The plot, it seems, has had only minor alterations made from the first film. And Myers is reveling in it. The rip-off is played up. For example, Mustafa (Will Ferrell) was brought back after being flame broiled and eventually shot after a grueling begging episode beneath Dr. Evil's meeting room in the original movie. The reincarnation is explained with time travel, folks. It's most convenient, don't you think? Mustafa endured the exact same scene with only minor changes. Instead of through a trapdoor, Mustafa fell off a cliff and survived.



Virtually the same dialogue as the trapdoor scene is played out. And I know it worked because the theater echoed with laughter.

So it seems that "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me" has nothing new audiences. Well of course not. It's a spoof Bond series and is appropriately written always stay the same. Only the leading action will ever change. Myers even produced the film with the comment by Austin Powers: "How the English countryside looks nothing like California" in a scene meant to be a car chase in England, when it's obvious to the audience looking at the Pacific and not the Atlantic.

style

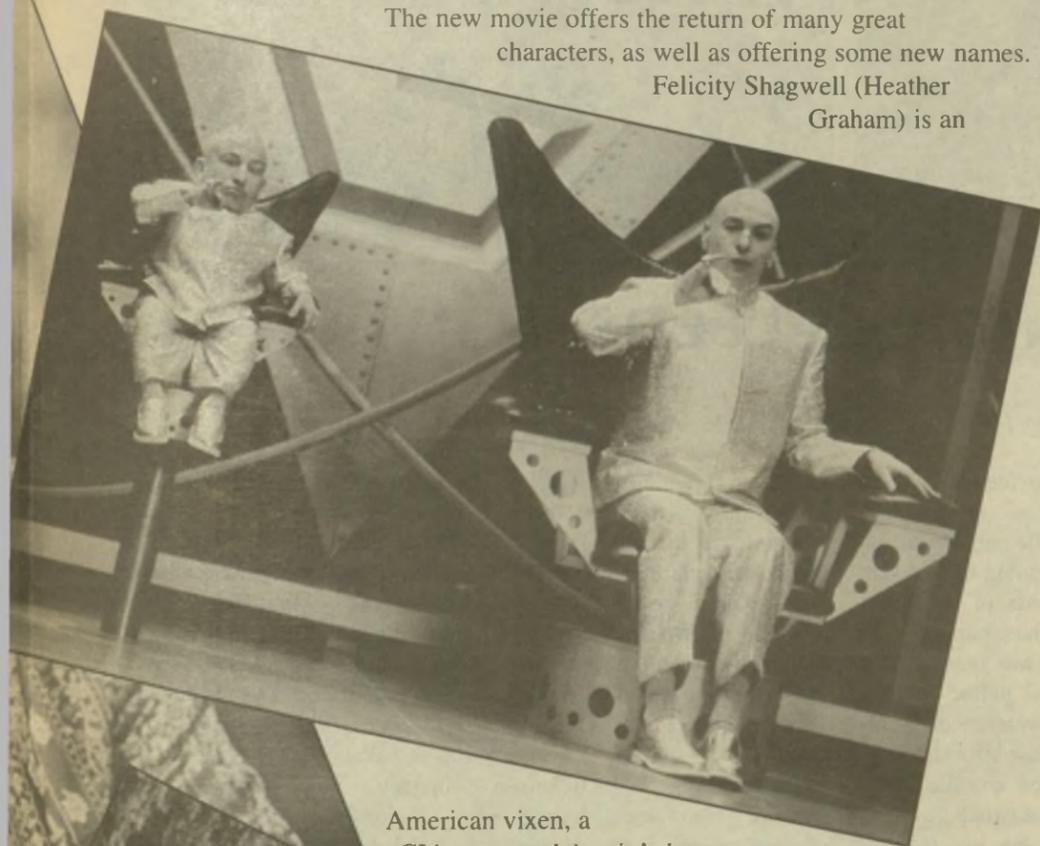
entertainment & Comics

his swinging mojo!

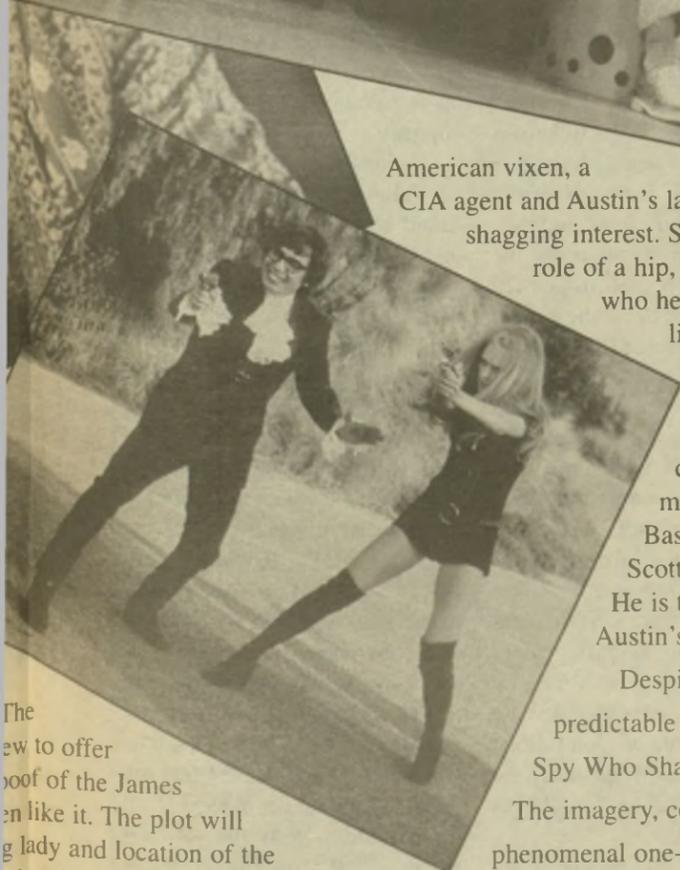
ah baby” to “hip phrases to use list”

The new movie offers the return of many great characters, as well as offering some new names.

Felicity Shagwell (Heather Graham) is an



American vixen, a CIA agent and Austin's latest shagging interest. She's perfect in the role of a hip, swinging and shagadelic babe who helps Austin regain his stolen libido. Mini-Me is Dr. Evil's new clone who is only one-eighth his size and is pure, concentrated evil. This ornery character provided many moments of comic explosion. Fat Bastard is an insanely obese Scottish agent working for Dr. Evil. He is the one who physically stole Austin's mojo in the year 1969.



Despite the cheesy plot and predictable dialogue, "Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me" is a great comedy.

The imagery, costumes, choreography and phenomenal one-liners make the movie exhilarating and energizing. The corniness is

intended to create a truly great comedy. This sequel spoof doesn't hurt like the "Hot Shots" sequel.

"Austin Powers: The Spy That Shagged Me" is rated PG-13 for sexual innuendo and crude humor.

The new to offer spoof of the James en like it. The plot will g lady and location of the okes fun at his own in. "I was just thinking thing like Southern ar chase through rural ience that they are ntic.

Sheri's picks:



If you're looking for enlightenment or at least a good time, check out one of my ace pick concerts. You'll have a hell of a time, but I'm making no promises. If you look hard enough, you'll probably find me there!

Only one suggestion for this week. This is the only show that caught my eye. Just wait until you see what's coming in July!

Eli Stone, Playground King and BROKE

Saturday, Mississippi Nights, Laclede's Landing, St. Louis

I've only seen Eli Stone one time and they were having an "off night." But everyone I've talked to about them had nothing but great things to say. I know Playground King rules and I've heard the lead singer of Broke is worth the drive to any show.

Top Ten subliminal messages in advertising:

By Sheri McWhorter and Mark Wood

10. Drink me, you sexy fool.
9. Eat me, you sexy fool.
8. Drive me, you sexy fool.
7. Wear me, you sexy fool.
6. Fly me, you sexy fool.
5. Smell me, you sexy fool.
4. Spray me, you sexy fool.
3. Enjoy me, you sexy fool.
2. Shag me, you sexy fool.

and the number 1:

Buy me, you sexy fool!

On Father's Day in 1964, Phillies' pitcher Jim Bunning throws a perfect game and beats the Mets, 6-0. It was his second career no-hitter.

Sports & Cougars

Coming UP Next

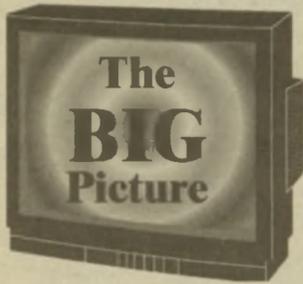
SUMMER CAMPS
Baseball: Advanced, June 21-24.
Girl's basketball: Fundamentals Day Camp, June 21-24.
Nike Girl's basketball Camp: June 27-July 1.

BASEBALL
Thu.-Sun., St. Louis Cardinals at Arizona Diamondbacks.

◆ PAGE 6

The Alestle

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1999 ◆



BY TONY AMMANN
SPORTS EDITOR

Hockey

National Hockey League Commissioner Gary Bettman had better do something about this new goal crease rule, because the last goal of the playoffs shouldn't have been a goal. Or should it have?

That's the problem right there. When Bret Hull shoved the Stanley Cup-clinching overtime goal into the net Saturday night in Buffalo, his foot was in the crease. Legally, the goal should have been disallowed, right?

Well, here's where the loophole to the rule comes into play. According to Bryan Lewis, the NHL director of officiating, it didn't matter that Hull was in the crease, because he had "control of the puck."

Wait, you mean a player actually had control of the puck! The last time I watched a hockey game, the puck was floating around while all the players were high-sticking each other. How exciting. I'd rather watch paint dry.

More importantly, isn't the referee supposed to review controversial goals? Hull's goal, the one that determined the Stanley Cup champion, was taken for granted as being legal by the referees.

The foot-in-the crease rule says that a player cannot have any part of his body in the crease at any time. This protects the goalie from injury.

First off, it should be illegal to be in the crease if the player is involved in the play. Therefore, by this rule, Hull's goal would not have been allowed, and shouldn't be. There has to be a line drawn as to how close a player is allowed to the goalie.

The bad part about this rule is sometimes goals are disallowed because a player is in the crease, but not actually involved in the play.

If the NHL plans to draw crowds the way pro baseball and football currently do, there should be changes. Mr. Bettman ought to start with the crease thing because right now, hockey is really a mess.



The boy's wrestling and boy's basketball summer camps were held at the Vadalabene Center recently. The basketball camp was an individual day camp that took place from June 14-17. The camp consisted of two sessions: grades 1-4 and grades 5-8. The wrestling camp was held from June 14-18. The camp was for boys below High School Senior class and focused on skill development.

Stewart overcomes greens, wins Open

Payne Stewart sinks dramatic putt on 18th hole to win his second U.S. Open

BY TONY AMMANN
SPORTS EDITOR

As Payne Stewart lined up his par-saving putt on the 72nd hole of the United States Open Sunday, some people still doubted his toughness under pressure.

At last year's U.S. Open, Stewart entered the final round of play with a four-stroke lead, only to succumb to the severely sloped greens and finish a disappointing second.

This year, Stewart and the rest of the players in the field were challenged by even more disastrous greens and heavy rough at Pinehurst No. 2. The course played mind games with the best putters in the game, but Stewart drained everything he faced.

Throughout the weekend, Stewart battled steady left-hander Phil Mickelson at the top of the leaderboard. Names like Singh, Woods and Duval weren't far behind, putting even more pressure on the leaders.

Mickelson played Pinehurst beautifully, hitting 86 percent of his fairways on Sunday. But the biggest shots of the day came on the last three holes, when Stewart proved experts wrong about his toughness.

On the 16th hole, Stewart sank a 25-foot putt that not only saved his par, but tied him with Mickelson for the lead. Then on

the par-3 17th, Stewart calmly stuck his approach to the green four feet from the pin. Mickelson answered by stoning his tee-shot three feet outside of Stewart's. Now we really had a match.

Mickelson was faced with a curling putt and pulled it for a par. Then Stewart sneaked his birdie putt into the left side of the hole and walked confidently to the 18th, up by a stroke.

After pushing his tee-shot into the rough, Stewart was forced to lay up and try to save par with his putter. Stewart had two choices. He could miss the putt and play an 18-hole playoff tomorrow, or sink it and go home the U.S. Open Champion.

With Mickelson standing on the side of the green, his ball already in the hole, Stewart eyed his downhill attempt to be the new champion. Right when everyone expected there would be a playoff, Stewart drained the 15-foot putt and won the tournament by a single stroke with a score of -1 (279).

The classy Mickelson watched his dream shatter in front of him, but still had the strength to smile for Stewart. Fittingly, on Father's Day, Stewart embraced Mickelson and said, "Your going to be a father." That was the coolest thing and the only thing Mickelson probably wanted to hear.

Mickelson and his wife are expecting their first child. Before

the tournament started, Mickelson told the press that he would leave the tournament no matter what place he was in if his wife paged him. Asked if Mickelson would have left Sunday if he would have received the call from his wife, he said, "There will be another Open next year."

Unfortunately, Mickelson will still have to live with the title of "best player never to win a major" that the press unfairly puts on young phenoms on the tour. Mickelson just turned 29 last Wednesday, but some people are still thickheaded enough to put that kind of a label on golfers. He's 29 years old, not 89. Give the guy a break.

If only there were more guys like Phil Mickelson in golf. Over the whole weekend, you never saw him bang clubs or curse when he ran into trouble. Tiger Woods. You never heard him make shameful remarks about Pinehurst's design or that the U.S. Open shouldn't be considered a major. John Daly. Nor did he break his hand against a wall in frustration. Jose Maria Olazabal.

That's not to say that Tiger Woods was not entertaining. Woods entered the final round just two strokes off the lead behind Stewart and Mickelson. He ran into trouble on the first few holes, but stayed in contention until the very end.

After barely missing two birdie chances on the front nine, Woods finally took advantage of a strong wedge shot and sank a birdie putt on the 16th. Woods then knocked himself out of contention when he put his tee-shot into the green-side bunker on the 17th. He was unable to go up-and-down to save par or his chances of winning the championship.

Vijay Singh shot the best round of the day, a 69, but fell just short of the title. Singh, last year's PGA Champion, made par after par on the back, but bogeyed one too many holes to finish two strokes behind Stewart at +1 (271).

David Duval, the No. 1-ranked player in the world, also came to the teebox on hole No. 1 Sunday right in the thick of things. But Duval, like Mickelson, has never won a major, and will also have to live with that label.

Duval was favored to win this tournament, just like he usually is when he enters one. But when Duval started missing greens Sunday, he missed them on the sides with the steepest slopes. That is a big no-no at Pinehurst No. 2., especially when the leaders are hitting the greens.

Mickelson and Duval will get another chance to win their first major championship at the British Open, which takes place next month.

editorial

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overall, 7-5... will take the court against Kentucky Wesleyan... 0 GLVC... tonight

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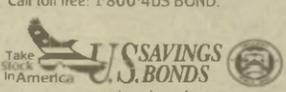
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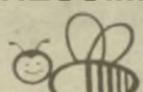
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