



SPORTS

INSIDE

SPORTS.....6

STEP UP TO THE  
PLATE AND MEET  
THE REAL MCCOY.

EDITORIAL .....3

GET YOUR PIZZA  
HERE, OR MAYBE  
NOT.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"HUMAN KIND  
CANNOT BEAR VERY  
MUCH REALITY."

- T. S. ELIOT

LIFESTYLES.....4

JOHN TRAVOLTA  
BATTLES EARTH.



LIFESTYLES

# THE ALESTLE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2000

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Vol. 52, No. 59

## Board passes MUC renovations

*Student fee increase of \$45 a semester will take effect in summer 2001*

BY MAUREEN HAGRMAN  
NEWS REPORTER

It's still a year away but the \$19.3 million face-lift for the Morris University Center is a done deal.

The SIU board of trustees approved the proposed renovations at its monthly meeting May 11. The board's approval was the final step in making the renovations a reality.

The proposal went to the board after students passed the renovations in an April referendum mandated by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Since the renovations will be funded entirely through student fees, the IBHE said the majority of students must support the renovations for them to continue through the approval process.

More than 1,400 students voted on the renovations, with 62 percent supporting them.

The final approval of the renovations means that students' fees will increase by as much as \$45 per semester. The fee increase is pro-rated at \$9 a semester hour, up to a maximum of \$45. The fee increase will begin in summer 2001.

The renovations will be paid for through 20-year revenue bonds. SIU will purchase the bonds, and they will be retired through the student fee increase.

Renovations to the MUC will include an expanded Center Court that will resemble a mall-type food court, improvements to the bowling and billiards center, a computer lab, a full-service copy center, a remodeled Cougar Den to resemble a restaurant such as Applebee's, infrastructure improvements and extended service hours.

Renovations are scheduled to begin summer 2001 and will be completed by spring 2003.



E. Browne/Alestle

**The Morris University Center will be seeing some major changes to Center Court (above) and other areas and offices.**

## SIU president search down to 12 hopefuls

BY ANTHONY WATT  
NEWS REPORTER

SIU has narrowed its search to approximately 12 presidential candidates and the SIUE faculty members want to have their say.

A poll was distributed by the SIUE Faculty Association to the campus's tenured and tenure-track faculty members asking them what they want from a new president. Three hundred seventy-eight polls were distributed in December and 102 replies were returned. The compiled results were released in February.

Mass communications professor Riley Maynard is the spokesman for the Faculty Association. He said the group has approximately 50 members among the SIUE tenured and tenure-track faculty.

"I thought it was surprising that 80 percent of the faculty decided they wanted someone more open-minded than (former President Ted) Sanders," he said. "When you can get 80 percent of the faculty to agree the sun rises in the east, it is impressive."

The top three character traits for a president on the faculty's wish list were an ability to procure state funds and operate as SIU's ambassador, a commitment to improve the quality of the university's academic offerings and extensive experience in higher education, in particular, with research and teaching.

"We don't want an education administrator who is neither an educator nor an administrator, and that has happened," Maynard said.

## Pie-thrower faces trial

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

SIUC sophomore Dawn Roberts will face charges of aggravated battery for the May 1 incident involving a pie thrown in Gov. George Ryan's face.

Associate Circuit Judge E. Dan Kimmel announced Wednesday, May 17, Roberts will go to trial.

Jackson County Assistant State's Attorney Neil Holley argued that the incident was done in an "insulting and provoking nature."

Roberts told the SIUC newspaper, the Daily Egyptian, that she threw the pie to raise awareness "about all the corruption going on in (Ryan's) office."

Roberts is a student senator

and a part of the group Students for Excellence in Education. The group is trying to draw attention to problems it has with the Carbondale campus. The group believes the five Republicans on the seven-member board of trustees is unfair and illegal.

At Wednesday's preliminary hearing, Holley put Carbondale police officer Doug Wilson up as his only witness, but Wilson said he did not see the incident and therefore could not testify.

Roberts' attorney, Richard Whitney, declined comment on the defense planned, but he did tell the St. Louis Post-Dispatch last week that "it's fair to say a lot of people around here wanted the government to smell the coffee about the university, but we can't talk about the pie."

see POLL, page 2

[www.siu.edu/ALESTLE](http://www.siu.edu/ALESTLE)

## Textbook Service Summer 2000

Textbooks Available  
Starting  
May 15, 2000

May 15	Mon	8:00 A.M. - 6:30 P.M.
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May 19	Fri	8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
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### ATTENTION STUDENTS:

Specific types of student Directory Information are made available to the general public. Under Public Law 93-380 as amended, the University may make accessible to any person external to the University "Directory Information" in conformity with the law. Notice is therefore given that the information listed below will be available to any person inquiring about such data for any student enrolled at SIUE unless the student files a written objection prohibiting release of this information. Students who have not filed an objection to the release of directory information also will be included in the published student directory. This written objection must be filed with the Office of the Registrar no later than June 2, 2000. This objection will remain in effect until the student files a written cancellation with the Office of the Registrar.

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1. Student Name
2. Student address and telephone number (local and permanent)
3. Student e-mail address
4. Major field of study
5. Classification
6. Dates of attendance
7. Full or part-time status
8. Attempted hours
9. Degrees and awards earned
10. The most recent educational agency or institution attended prior to enrollment at SIUE
11. Participation in officially recognized activity or sport
12. Weight and height of members of athletic teams
13. Date of birth

#### Important Note:

In order to receive your grade report, you must maintain your current address with the Office of the Registrar.

## Rendleman under construction ... again



Anthony Watt/Alestle

**An employee in Rendleman Hall does her work in the hallway of the building's basement Tuesday. The U.S. Post Office and Disbursements are waiting on new furniture to be delivered next month so files can be transferred. In the meantime, file cabinets, desks and other office supplies fill Rendleman's corridors.**

### POLL

from page 1

Maynard said copies of the survey were sent to members of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

Sharon Hahs, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is chair of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

"During the time frame that we were discussing presidential qualifications and experiences," Hahs said, "if one looks at what was in their survey and what the committee came up with, there is a great deal of overlap."

In March, Hahs posted a letter on the SIU Web site that detailed the qualifications an SIU president should have. The list included having strong external political relations, being an effective advocate and having excellent credentials appropriate to the position.

For updates on the committee's progress, go to the Web site <http://www.siu.edu>. The information is posted under Presidential Search Advisory Committee updates.

## Campus Scanner

**Charity:** Tickets are available for the benefit basketball event between the SIUE Police Department and the St. Louis Rams football team at 7 p.m. Friday at the Vadalabene Center. All proceeds will benefit the Illinois Special Olympics. Tickets can be purchased for \$7 at the SIUE Police Department, the O'Fallon Police Department, the Bond County Sheriff's Department in Greenville and Dobbs Tire and Auto in Edwardsville or for \$10 at the door. For more information, call Capt. Gina Hays at 650-5530.

**Teacher course:** "Mini-Society Training for Fourth- to Sixth-Grade Teachers" will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 12 through 13 in Founders Hall and June 14 through 16 at the St. Clair County Regional Office of Education, 500 Wilshire Drive, Belleville. The course costs \$124. Teachers will be trained to use a curriculum that involves students in developing their own classroom economy. For more information, call Mary Anne Pettit at 650-2583.

## Police incidents

### Traffic

5/17/00

Arash Mahmoudi was issued a citation for parking in a handicapped zone in Cougar Village.

5/18/00

Shannon L. Hudson was issued a citation for no insurance on North University Drive.

5/19/00

Timothy R. Hellenrich was issued a citation for speeding on North Drive.

### Arrest

5/21/00

Police arrested Timothy C. Bosworth on Poag Road on an Illinois State Police warrant for failure to appear.

### Ambulance

5/20/00

Police and ambulance responded to a call from Cougar Village. The victim was taken to Anderson Hospital by Edwardsville Ambulance Service.

A woman who injured her knee during a cheerleading camp at the Student Fitness Center was taken to Anderson Hospital for treatment.

**THE ALESTLE NEEDS CREATIVE PEOPLE WILLING TO WRITE OR TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE FALL SEMESTER. CALL 650-3528 FOR DETAILS.**

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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. Letters may be turned in at the Alestle office located in the Morris University Center, Room 2022 or via e-mail at [alestle\\_editor@hotmail.com](mailto:alestle_editor@hotmail.com). All hard-copy letters should be typed and double-spaced. All letters should be no longer than 500 words. Please include your phone number, signature (or name, if using e-mail) and student identification number.

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

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

The Alestle is a member of the Illinois College Press Association, the Associated Collegiate Press and UWIRE.

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

The Alestle is published on Tuesdays and Thursdays during fall and spring semesters, and on Wednesdays during summer semesters. For more information, call (618) 650-3528.

### Have a comment?

Let us know!

Send us an e-mail:

[alestle\\_editor@hotmail.com](mailto:alestle_editor@hotmail.com)

The Alestle  
Campus Box 1167  
Edwardsville, Ill. 62026-1167

## The semester that time forgot, or so it seems



So, I guess I didn't want Taco Bell today. It was nice to realize that I wanted another cold, burnt pizza in the SIUE food court. Of course I really didn't have much choice, did I? I guess the summer semester students don't really need the same choices as the fall and spring semester students.

My first inclination was Chik-Fil-A, but that was closed. The Deli was open, but I wasn't in the mood for a cold sandwich. So I went to Taco

Bell Express. No dice, my friends. Taco Bell Express was also closed.

So I, being the rational person that I am, kept a cool mind and went to Pizza Hut Express. I can go for a nice pizza for lunch, but nice it was not. I guess I should get used to cold, burnt pizza, but I'm not. And it's not like I had a lot to choose from. When I came in the fall and spring I could choose from around 20 twenty pizzas in the front line and others waiting behind, but now I can only find four.

Don't get me wrong now. I'm not saying all of this because I didn't enjoy my meal, but because SIUE really does not seem to care that I won't enjoy my meals. You see, there will be no Chik-Fil-A or Taco Bell Express all summer.

This seems trivial, even to me, but people in the world have forgotten about principles. I pay to come to SIUE every semester, and in return I expect to be given the best education and services that the university can provide.

I've found in life that people seem not to worry about the big

things that go wrong in the world, but they will throw a fit when the slightest thing gets in their way. An earthquake could devastate a third-world country whose people are already starving and no one would give it a second thought, but as soon as Burger King forgets to put pickles on your Whopper, the world has seemingly come to an end.

In other words, we care about the little inconveniences in our world, and I for one am very inconvenienced by the food court situation at SIUE.

I pay enough for the food that I do buy; I think I should get to enjoy what I have paid for.

It makes sense in the grand scheme of things though. Get rid of what the students want. There are only about 6,000 of them here anyway during the summer.

When the students come back in the fall, there will be enough to really put forth our best effort. It's all about money anyway.

Brian Wallheimer  
Editor in Chief

**Ed. note:** There is no rule stating that I am the only person who should hear your feedback on this opinion. While I welcome all letters and sound offs, I'm sure Food Services would love to hear what you think on this subject.

## Commentary

### Don't join the system, fight for change instead

EVANSTON, Ill. (U-WIRE)— We live in an authoritarian culture. Once we look past all the rhetoric and falsehoods that are repeated so often that people actually believe them — land of the free, high social mobility, a rising tide lifts all boats — we see that undemocratic hierarchy is the basis of most of American society.

The best example is the corporation. Employees have no choice in who their leaders are and have no say in what they will be ordered to do. They are free insofar as they can choose which corporate dictatorship to serve under. The management class wields power over the workers, but managers are themselves subject to the undemocratic authority of executives and owners. That this sort of social organization is constantly referred to as economic freedom shows how completely we've been brainwashed. People who characterize a capitalist country as democratic are very similar to those who, 200 years ago, believed that slavery was consistent with a government "of, by and for the people."

American authoritarianism doesn't end with private economic tyrannies. Take a look at how Northwestern University is run. Dictators (the president and the board of trustees) control a hierarchical bureaucracy, which imposes their commands. Student input is allowed but rarely heeded (see the administration's unresponsiveness to thousands who asked it to join an effective anti-sweatshop monitoring agency and a similar disdain for the concerns of Hispanic studies students). The desires of the people who work for the food service or the cleaning staff are given even shorter shrift.

Even the one institution that is not explicitly authoritarian — the government allows little popular influence. Candidates have to champion the corporate agenda or they won't get the contributions necessary to win. The two main parties have fixed election rules so that third parties don't stand a chance (for example, the Democrats and Republicans who run the presidential debates have set the requirements to keep third-party candidates out). And popular preferences are frequently ignored when they clash with the desires of the powerful.

What we have to fight for is the decentralization of power so that every person has a say in the decisions that will affect him or her; something that's also called democracy.

Many suggestions have been put forth for a democratic economy, without which a democratic polity is impossible. The

basic idea is that workers not the state or a few lucky individuals — should own and control their workplace and its products. See <http://www.parecon.org> for one interesting proposal.

We also need democratic control over foreign policy so American power is no longer used to advance elite interests at the expense of others' welfare. We need not only to change the decision-making system, but also become informed ourselves on what the United States is doing in the world.

Ultimately it's up to us to fight for these changes. Think about that before you take a job at an investment bank and before you accept your societally defined role of passive consumer. You can join the system or you can fight for a new one.

# Welcome to Summer Classes!



Redeem this newspaper coupon for a

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Center Court Only! with valid Student ID  
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Want to sound off? Call the Alestle sound off line at 841001

PEOPLE, ENTERTAINMENT &amp; COMICS

# The music maker

*Soundbreak.com offers unique opportunity to sample up-and-coming bands over the Internet*

San Diego (U-WIRE) — Ever wonder how some of your favorite musicians got their start?

It's an intriguing notion — just think, at some point in time the stars we hold as idols were once people leading everyday lives. Suddenly, with either constant hard work, a miracle or knowing the right connections, they are on magazine covers across the globe and taking up TV time standing next to Carson Daly.

Well with new ideas such as Soundbreak.com, anybody with a dream can make it happen.

Soundbreak.com is the new evolution in music today — especially for the unknown artist. In a world now clogged with MP3s and Internet music stores, Soundbreak.com enters the market as something of a controlled venue — a Web site that works with the artist and gives airplay to those unsigned acts.

"We're creating our library from scratch. We don't have to play certain songs in rotation because we're not owned by a large music company," said Mark Goodman, vice president of Soundbreak. "On top of all the relatively unknown music we'll have, we will also be playing alternative music, dance, hip-hop and electronica.

"And because we are not just speaking to a local audience like a local radio station does, we're also going to be playing music from around the world."

Hey, wait a minute. Isn't that what MTV is for?

"A lot of what you see here at Soundbreak.com reminds me of the early days at MTV," Goodman said. "There are very talented and creative people here. We're all working extremely hard to do something we believe in."

Why the similarity? Perhaps because MTV used to be Goodman's stomping ground. Yup, he used to be a VJ — back when the station was good. Face it. The days of the all-new video release segment are over. Now, MTV has become a wasteland for already established acts.

It's a work in progress, Goodman said, but it's extremely exciting for everyone involved.

Unlike MTV, people who go online have the unique opportunity to be involved with the up-and-coming act. They can have their music played (if it is relatively good) or even become part of the team.

These are some of the more attractive aspects Soundbreak.com has to offer. Not just the ability to log on and enjoy good music that isn't heard on radio stations, but also to be a part of its success.

Billboard.com's New Talent Network started a similar idea a few years back. The difference is, they charge a bundle. Billboard.com acts as something of a personal management team, where as Soundbreak.com is just looking to get your product out for people to see.

Imagine this — the CEO of Warner Brothers Records needs a new act. Soundbreak.com and a few other similar locations will be the first place to look. Even if you only have one good song in you, that composition might just turn into the next "Livin' La Vida Loca."

What this all boils down to is that the Internet is the wave of the future. A person can basically live their lives through the Internet. This newest installment of entertainment alongside opportunity only reinforces this idea. If you're looking to make your music famous or just want to hear the latest in the diverse unknown, log onto Soundbreak.com. It has a bit of something for everyone.

# Lives

## BATTLE IN N

*'Battlefield Earth' is summer's f*

BY ANDREW LEHMAN  
FOR THE ALESTLE

Imagine a world in which the human race is dominated by an evil alien race, bent on raping the planet of its resources for profit.

Now imagine you had to sit through the two-hour movie that it took "Battlefield Earth" director Roger Christian to tell the same old story in which mankind destroys an evil alien threat. The only threats I wanted to do were the filmmakers.

"Battlefield Earth" stars John Travolta as Terll, the leader of an alien race called Psychlo. Can we make it a little bit more original with the name of the aliens? When I saw the name was Psychlo, I was expecting to see Norman Bates pop up in someplace.

Though Travolta's performance is semiamusing, it seems like he took a huge step back in his acting career by playing Terll. The film stars Barry Pepper as Terll's brother, Zete. Brace yourself for one, Jonnie Goode, Tyler.

The film is a waste of time around Terll's character to exploit his and the human slaves. Terll discovers a deposit of gold and wishes to train the slaves to dig for him to receive gold.

Terll presents a training plan for the slaves to Psychlo District Manager Zete, played by Michael Rea. The plan involves sending a group of humans to a remote area of Earth, where the gold happens to be, to train to dig. Of course, Terll forgets to mention the slaves will be digging for gold. But then, in what direction would this film go if Terll would not have concealed the gold?

Zete rejects the training of human slaves because he believes humans do not have the mental capacity to learn digging. Terll is angered but, like a good Psychlo, blackmails Zete into giving him authority to train the humans.

Before digging can begin, Terll must train a human to instruct the other humans. As luck would have it, the trainee is none other than our hero, Jonnie.

Terll sticks Jonnie in front of a gizmo that shoots pretty light in his eyes and magically makes him smile. Albert Einstein. Now Jonnie is the too good to need a revolution. Taking the film to the next level.



## D OF SAVIOR

box office flop, despite star power

Jonnie and a small band of slaves to the state of the old. Terl makes it quite clear that if Jonnie tries anything funny, Terl will kill Jonnie's girlfriend, played by Jim Coates. Terl gives the

and 14 days complete the job and will be back in seven days to check the progress.

Jonnie constructs a plan. He will fly one of the Psychlo machines left behind by Terl to Fort Knox and will take the gold from there so as not to endanger the lives of his men. When the probe Terl is trying to watch the band flies overhead, the men will pretend to work, thus fooling him.

Jonnie outsmarts himself when he presents the gold from Fort Knox to Terl. Terl remarks that once Jonnie had enough time to smelt the gold into bars, Terl wants the rest of the gold in four days.

The slaves are then transported by Jonnie to a military base, where they will teach themselves how to fly because any Neanderthal can teach himself how to fly an airplane. Jonnie locates a nuclear warhead that he will send through a teleportation machine to the Psychlo home planet. The nuclear bomb will react with the Psychlo atmosphere to destroy the planet.

Not only was "Battlefield Earth" bad, well, it was just really bad. It was fun playing "name the movie"



while watching "Battlefield Earth."

The Psychlo race itself was a rehash of "Star Trek" aliens. They looked like Klingons, plain and simple. They were big and menacing but lacked

the honor of the Klingons. Psychlos are hung up on profit much like the Ferengi. It is nice to know that originality is not a prerequisite when making a film.

The whole air assault was much like the dog fight in "Independence Day." At one point I thought I heard Bill Pullman say, "Get on the wire and tell the rest of the world how to take these sons of bitches down."

The fight was much like the rebel assault on the Death Star in "Star Wars." I kept waiting for someone to ask where Red 5 was and then tell Wedge he made a nice shot.

The opening of the film was the worst. Underneath the title "Battlefield Earth," the producers felt the need to put the words "A saga of the year 3000." As if I am not smart enough to realize the film is supposed to be a saga, though it failed at that miserably.

For the first minutes of the film, all we see are mountain ranges. Right, because in the year 3000, mountains roam wild amongst the ashes of Earth.

Unfortunately, "Battlefield Earth" is playing in theaters now and runs two hours. It is rated PG-13 for some adult content and violence.

Photos courtesy of Warner Brothers Pictures

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."  
—Albert Einstein

THOUGHT  
OF  
THE DAY

## Action man extraordinaire

Tom Cruise proves you don't need a stunt man for an impossible mission

Los Angeles (U-WIRE) — Maybe it's because his new film "Mission: Impossible 2" opens against the new Jackie Chan vehicle, "Shanghai Noon," that Tom Cruise felt the need to do all his own stunts, a demand that's more a trademark of the off-kilter Hong Kong star.

It certainly wasn't the suggestion of director John Woo ("Hard-Boiled", "Face/Off") who would have preferred a professional stuntman to hang off the precipitous peaks of Moab, Utah, in the film's opening sequence, instead of his internationally famous leading man.

"I think that was the worst time for me," Woo said at a recent Los Angeles press interview.

"Tom was hanging over the side of a cliff thousands of feet in the air with a helicopter almost touching him. He wouldn't just do the stunt once either. He'd do it time and time again to get it perfect."

Many of the cast and crew of the film were impressed with Cruise's considerable physicality and eagerness to risk his life to get the needed shot. In fact, for many of those who have worked with Cruise on the film and other action projects, the line between the actor and the heroes he portrays begins to blur slightly by the shoot's completion.

On screen, Cruise reprises the role of Ethan Hunt, the new head of the secret government agency Impossible Mission Force, or IMF. But this is where the similarities to the first film, and the television show that inspired it, pretty much end. This was apparently star/producer Cruise's intent all along.

"Tom had always wanted the series to have different directors for each film," Woo said. "We both wanted to make this one a really romantic, dramatic spy film."

That's pretty much what they've ended up with. "M:I-2" features significantly less bloodletting and gore than previous Woo efforts, in favor of a more complicated storyline and a focus on the romantic interplay between Hunt and his new associate and lover, Nyah (Thandie Newton).

That's not to say that there isn't a good deal of action in the new film, as the movie follows Hunt on his mission across Australia and Spain to stop a vile agent (Dougray Scott). The sequel's release is scheduled just two days before Memorial Day weekend, typically one of the biggest opening weekends of the year. Many industry insiders are predicting "M:I-2" will be one of the summer's biggest moneymakers.

In fact, by the time veteran screenwriter Robert Towne was brought on board to write the sequel, a number of action sequences for use in the film had already been storyboarded and some preproduction work had already begun in Australia, where the majority of the film is set.

Thus, the screenwriter not only had to create an interesting story in which to place his characters, all of whom had already been cast, but he had to fit several action sequences already imagined by Woo. As a result, his job was considerably more difficult.

"Storyboards for the action sequences were already laid out," Towne said. "It was a matter of taking that action, and very often it was a change in tone. You take advantage of the characters that you've got. Tom's persona in life is that 'I can get it done and I don't care what it takes.' It's an inescapable part of him, so you want to take advantage of that."

That's where Cruise's considerable bravery came into play. The opening sequence of the film finds Hunt on vacation, hanging off the side of a cliff while rock-climbing in Utah. Filming the extremely perilous scene, in which only a small safety cable held Cruise approximately 1,500 feet above the canyon floor, proved the movie star's mettle to those on the set. Everyone had expected to use a stunt crew for the complicated series of shots.

"They had a stunt guy, but I don't know if they ever used him," Towne said. "That's Tom jumping and falling. He had a cable around him, but that cable could snap, and if you see the dailies, you can see Tom asking the crew not to put any pressure on the cable."

"He said, 'I want to make that jump by myself.' And he did," Towne continued. "He made that jump. You know you've got this guy who's ready and willing to do it. I heard John was a little uneasy."

Cruise's producing partner, Paula Wagner, has assured the media on multiple occasions that Cruise always had safety in mind. While performing his own stunts is just the star's way of "connecting with the audience," Towne (who previously worked with the actor on the race car drama "Days of Thunder") claims that a daredevil spirit spurred the megastar to risk his neck for the sake of a shot.

"Yes, he is a daredevil," Towne said. "He always feels that he has it under control, and the truth of it is, I've never seen him not be in control. It's actually more amazing than it sounds. He's the only guy I know that's physical like that in that way. It's quite impressive. It's just the way he is."

Still, Wagner sees her partner's willingness to put it all on the line for his films as just another facet of his famed perfectionism and commitment to his vision.

The original "Mission: Impossible" film was indeed Cruise's brainchild, as he had been a longtime fan of the series during its television run. His enthusiasm for getting everything right in his films apparently fueled his bravery in the face of extreme challenges on the set.

"He knows his own limits," Wagner said. "He takes ultimate responsibility for himself, and he relies on the great team of people around him. Physically, he is very impressive, and he has the most incredible concentration."

"M:I-2" is rated PG-13 and opens in theaters Wednesday.

# SPORTS

◆ PAGE 6

A L E S T L E

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2000 ◆

## Bethalto native makes her mark at SIUE

*Softball is one of many sports McCoy has excelled at during her lifetime*

BY SARAH HALL  
FOR THE ALESTLE

Like fireworks on her favorite holiday, Fourth of July, Valerie McCoy of the SIUE Cougars explodes with talent and enthusiasm on the softball field.

McCoy, a native of Bethalto, has been playing softball most of her life. She started playing for the Khoury League at age 6 and played all four years at Civic Memorial High School.

As a CM Eagle, McCoy was selected first team All-Area and All-Mississippi Valley Conference and held a batting average of .325 her senior year.

But softball was not the only sport in which McCoy excelled. She lettered in basketball and tennis as well. She was a two-time state qualifier in tennis, and still managed excellence in academia as a member of the National Honor Society.

At SIUE last season, McCoy started in all 50 games as a freshman and hit .292 in 120 at-bats. She was third on the team in walks with 15.

But McCoy, who plays second base, just seems to keep getting better. This season, her batting average was .364 with 154 at-bats and 39 RBIs.

Coach Sandy Montgomery said she thinks McCoy has grown as a player both mentally and physically.

"Strength and maturity have improved her game," Montgomery said. "She's an outstanding player and a heady player. She's captain of the team as a sophomore, so that should tell you something. She's also an outstanding team player."

Teammates Erin Newman,

who plays third base, and pitcher Dawn Farmer agree.

"She (McCoy) always seems to come through for us," Newman said. "If somebody messes up, she brings them back into the game."

"Val has gained a lot of confidence this year," Farmer said. "She's a real leader. She makes a better atmosphere both on and off the field. She's a fun player to be on the field with too. She's a very aggressive player and doesn't let much go by."

McCoy said she thinks her teammates have a lot to do with her strong mental game.

"We have a strong team around here," McCoy said. "We're like one big family. We are all good friends. Team spirit has a lot to do with Sandy Montgomery."

And there was plenty of team spirit at the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference vs. Great Lakes Valley Conference Challenge Softball Tournament recently at Gordon Moore Park in Alton.

McCoy and her teammates were chanting and cheering one another on relentlessly throughout the games, and the morale boosting must have worked because the Cougars stomped both of their opponents in their doubleheader.

In game one against the University of Indianapolis, the Cougars won in just five innings, 13-3. McCoy was named Player of the Game going three for four with five RBIs. The team did not seem to be any less energetic in game two against Ferris State University, Big Rapids Mich., as SIUE won in seven innings 9-1.

see **SOFTBALL**, page 7



SIUE photo services

**Lady Cougars second baseman Valerie McCoy fields a throw on a bunt attempt earlier this season. McCoy played basketball and tennis at Civic Memorial High School before coming to SIUE.**

## Rams players and police officers butt heads for charity



**Dexter McCleon and Taje Allen are two of the Rams players that will take part in Friday's charity event.**

BY DANIELLE STERN  
NEWS EDITOR

The SIUE Police Department and other area police departments will take on the St. Louis Rams in a basketball game Friday night at the Vadalabene Center to benefit the Illinois Special Olympics.

Rams equipment manager Todd Hewitt said the Super Bowl champs want to make the game fun for the crowd at SIUE.

"We like to play up-tempo," Hewitt said.

Since the Rams players will not be wearing helmets, Hewitt said fans will have the chance to get to know the team on a personal basis. The Rams will also sign autographs at halftime.

As of Tuesday, only five Rams were set to

play in Friday's game. Hewitt said that more were in the works.

Fans can expect to see the following players for sure: defensive back Dexter McCleon, cornerback Taje Allen, linebacker Troy Pelshack, wide receiver Darrius Blevins and defensive back Cliff Crosby.

Cheryl Huber, chief clerk for the SIUE police, said the charity event began with an idea from Illinois State Trooper John Merrifield, who is also the state's safety education officer.

Tickets are \$7 in advance and can be purchased at the SIUE Police Department, O'Fallon Police Department, Bond County Sheriff's Department in Greenville and Dobbs Tire and Auto in Edwardsville or \$10 at the door. The game will start at 7 p.m.

## SOFTBALL

from page 6

"Indianapolis beat us earlier in the season, so we were ready to come back," McCoy said. "Ferris is a good team, but they just beat themselves."

Although she is only in her second year of college, McCoy is already planning life after softball. She is a double major in psychology and history, with a minor in secondary education. McCoy said she also plans to pursue a master's degree in sports psychology someday.



SIUE photo services  
**Valerie McCoy was third on the Lady Cougars softball team with a .364 batting average.**

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## Trouble Connecting to the Network?

Technicians from Library and Information Services hold Network Clinics to help SIUE students and employees connect to the SIUE Network from home, Prairie Hall, Woodland Hall, or Cougar Village.

**Who?** Current SIUE students and employees

**What?** Questions answered, instructions given, and computers configured (Windows 95/98/NT and MacOS 7.5 or higher only)

**When?** By appointment only, on Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Where?** Academic Computing Lab in Lovejoy Library, Room 0033A

**How?** Call 650-5234 for an appointment or for more information.

CATCHING UP IS A WALK ON THE BEACH.

# CLASSIFIEDS

◆ PAGE 8

A L E S T L E

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2000 ◆

## HELP WANTED

**Painter** Residential and commercial year round p/t \$7-13/hr. Reply with experience/background to 918 Holyoke, E'ville 62025 or call 656-6464. 9/14/00

**WANTED:** Full-time or part-time teaching position at Creative Beginnings Rainbow Center in Hamel. Must be lead-teacher qualified. Call Laura or Tammy at 618-633-2668. 6/14/00

**Summer Student Worker Position** needed for the summer semester in Counseling Services; a maximum of 15 hours per/wk. Must be registered for a minimum of 6 credit hours. Call 650-2197 for further information. 5/24/00

**Evening Receptionist** for elegant dining establishment, Friday, Saturday and special events. Downtown St. Louis. Apply at 720 Olive St., Suite 2950, 2:00 - 4:00 pm. 7/26/00

**Used Books at Bargain Prices** Good Buy Bookshop, Lovejoy Library, Room 0012, Thursdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by Friends of Lovejoy Library. 7/26/00

**Seeking patient, knowledgeable student** familiar with Lotus, Word, Excel, Access, Outlook, Internet Explorer to train middle aged man. Must be available evenings and weekends. Call 656-7530, leave message. 5/31/00

## FOR RENT

**Looking for a place to live?** www.housing101.net... Your move off campus! 7/26/00

**SIUE student has Edwardsville house** to share with another student. Call 656-7530, leave message. 5/24/00

## PERSONALS

**Silkey,** I'm gonna stop saying please in about 10 seconds.... Canned Ham 5/24/00

## RESUME



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Where in the world is my  
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## Professional Opening

Looking for Qualified Mental Retardation Professional to manage a small group home in Greenville, IL. Responsibilities include but not limited to - supervision/training of all staff, doing shift work/fill in shift work, completing resident documentation/reporting/assessments, etc. Previous experience helpful but not necessary. Bachelor's degree is required. Starting pay - at least \$8.00/hour - salaried position. If interested, contact Jim at Brauns Terrace, 1115 E. Washington, Greenville, IL, and Phone 664-1444 or send a resume and cover letter to above address.

EOE



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3 runs: \$.95/line Personals: \$.50

### Adjustments

Please read your ad on the first day it appears. If you cannot find your ad or discover an error in your ad, call 650-3528 or come into the office. Positively no allowance made for errors after the first insertion of advertisement. No allowance of correction will be made without a receipt.

### Deadlines

Summer

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Noon Monday

### Placing Ads

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

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday: 8am - 4:30pm

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## QMRP

Jump at the opportunity to become part of our positive working environment! QMRP position available in Alton area residential facility. Responsibilities include direct supervision of the faculty staff and coordination and implementation of each resident's treatment plan. Qualifications include Bachelor's Degree in Social Work or related field and one year experience working with persons with developmental disabilities and previous supervisory experience preferred.

If interested please forward resume to:

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Alton, Illinois 62002

Attention: Carol Kohler

Or Fax to:

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