

Student art
on display in MUC

see Lifestyle

ALTON ■ EAST ST. LOUIS ■ EDWARDSVILLE

◆ TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2002

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Vol. 54, No. 47 ◆

Trustees give approval for alarms, track

CALLIE STILWELL
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The Southern Illinois University board of trustees approved a \$1 million upgrade to the fire alarm systems in Cougar Village.

The new systems will include sensors in the attics and utility rooms of each building.

SIUE spokesman Keith Nichols said the alarms will be configured to sound in the entire building if one is set off, rather than just in the affected area.

The current alarms meet state mandated codes for fire detectors, the revamped system

will provide quicker notice for the building's residents.

The systems should be installed in all 62 apartment buildings by the beginning of the fall semester.

Student Trustee Jason Holzum said the board passed the budget for the detectors last week because "We want to do anything to make sure our students are safe. We need to put in place the systems that provide the earliest protection."

Also approved at the meeting in Carbondale was a \$300,000 budget for resurfacing the track at Ralph Korte Stadium.

see BOT, page 2

Salukis win first two games in tourney



PHOTO COURTESY SIUC
Rolan Roberts scores nine points and grabs nine rebounds in SIUC's win over the University of Georgia.

KUMAR BHOOSHAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Southern Illinois University Carbondale Saluki men's basketball team has danced its way to the Sweet 16 in the

National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I National Tournament.

The Salukis were invited to the tournament with a regular-season record of 26-7 and earned a No. 11 seed.

The tournament is divided into four regions of 16 teams.

SIUC played its first-round game against Texas Tech University, out of Lubbock, in Chicago's United Center Friday.

The Salukis downed the No. 6-seeded Red Raiders 76-68 to move on to the round of 32.

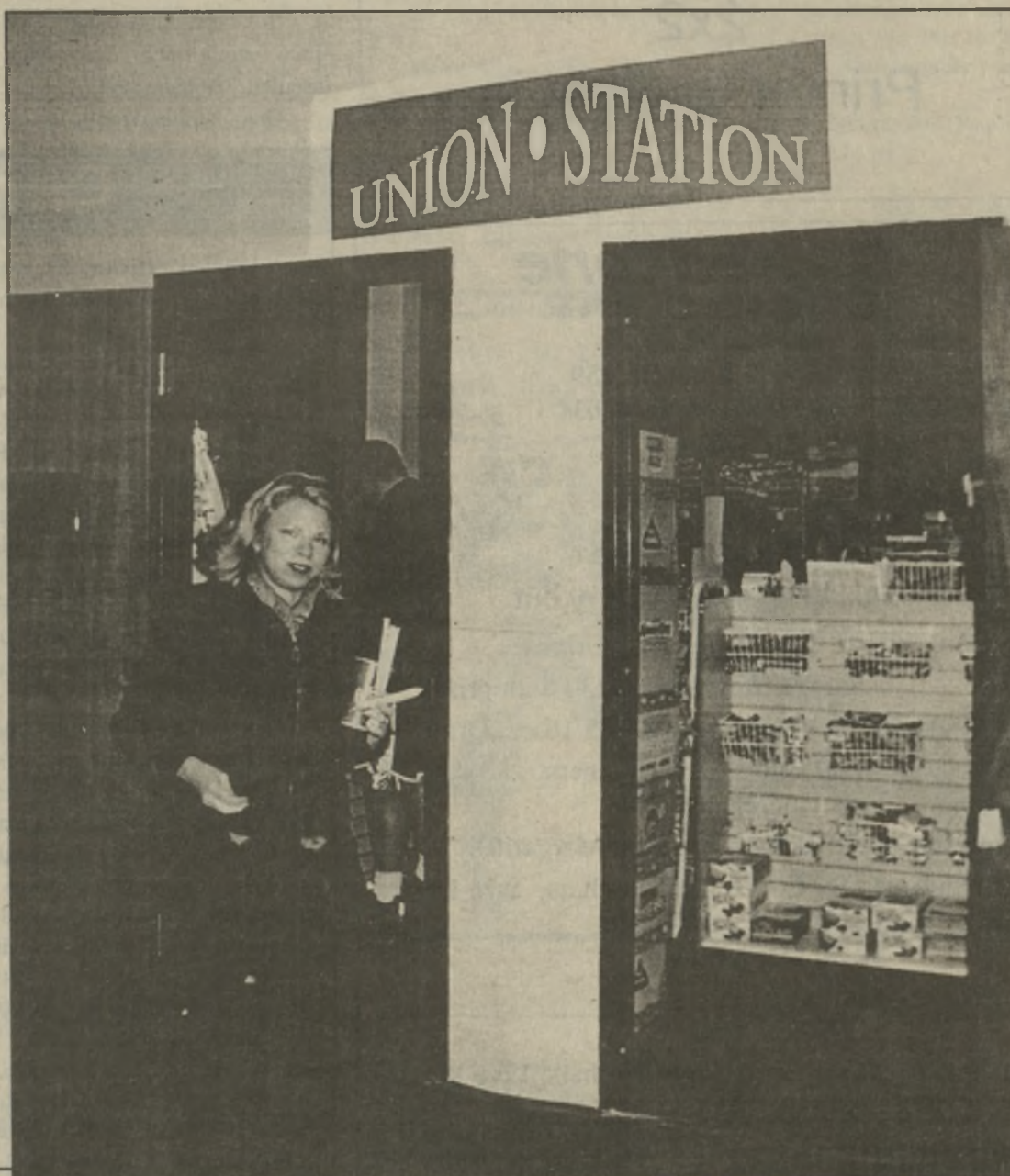
SIUC then met up with the University of Georgia Bulldogs.

The Salukis upset the No. 3-seeded Bulldogs, 77-75, to advance to the Sweet 16 where they will go head to head with the University of Connecticut Huskies in Syracuse, N.Y., at the Carrier Dome.

Uconn is seeded No. 2 in the East Region and will travel to Syracuse with a record of 26-6.

Game time is set for 6:38 p.m. Friday and may be seen on CBS.

Union Station has new home



BROOK BERTLES/ALESTLE

Union Station relocated during break due to renovations to the Morris University Center. According to Assistant Director of the Morris University Center Tom Viel, Union Station will move back to its old location by the beginning of May.

Threats came from carless student

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

Police have the culprit in the case of threatened violence against parking service agents, but they're not sure of the motive.

The student doesn't have a car.

SIUE Police Chief Richard Harrison said Monday that police have tracked down the student who left three threatening messages on The Alestle's voice mail before the spring break. Harrison said police did not charge the student since they did not believe the threats would be acted upon.

In a written statement to police, the student admitted to not even owning a vehicle.

"Even though I do not drive, I voiced my opinion for my friends," the student said.

Harrison would not name the student since there were no charges filed after police caught up with him last week.

The messages to The Alestle, left March 5, came after a flier was distributed last month that urged violence against parking service agents as a way to protest parking problems.

The flier was put out after university officials shut down the 500-space lot at the Vadalabene

Center for teams and fans at a high school playoff game.

A number of students were ticketed for parking on grassy areas during the first shutdown in February.

"Everybody says that violence doesn't solve anything," the caller said in the first message. "You ever heard of the American Revolution? Talking's done. Time to get at it."

Later calls threatened violence such as egging the parking service agents.

In the statement to the SIUE police, the student said his threats were not to be taken seriously.

see THREAT, page 2

THREAT

from page 1

"The calls weren't made to be threatening, but humorous," he said.

Harrison said he did not appreciate the humor. "I didn't find it humorous," he said. "I don't ever find threatening people humorous."

Though he was not criminally charged, the student will face disciplinary action through Dean of Students Randy Rock.

"The punishment through the student system may be more severe than the punishment in the court system," Harrison said.

He added that the student may have gotten off with a small fine if charged with a crime.

Rock said punishment could range from a warning to separation from the university, but not expulsion. Separation means the student would not be allowed to return to the university for a time.

Rock said things such as the student's past conduct would be considered.

Rock said Monday he could not comment further because he had not received the case from SIUE police.

BOT

from page 1

"It's been almost nine years since the track has been installed," Holzum said. "Athletes need to practice The rubberized track with quality equipment if we to expect them to be competitive," Holzum said. Renovation is expected to be complete by June 30, 2003.

Campus Scanner

Women's History Month: The film "Umm Kulthum: A Voice Like Egypt" will be shown from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday in Peck Hall Room 0412. Steve Tamari will be the guest speaker. "A Women's Poetry Reading: An Evening with Herstorians" will be presented by Julie Dill at 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Prairie Hall Multifunction Room. Linda Carlisle will present "Elizabeth Packard and Boundaries of Gender, Religion and Sanity in 19th Century Illinois" at 6 p.m. Wednesday in Peck Hall Room 3417.

Choir concert: SIUE choirs will present a Concert of Love Songs at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Eden United Church of Christ in Edwardsville. The theme will be "B is for Broadway." Admission is \$10 and includes a dessert buffet. For more information, call 650-3900.

Speaker series: "Food for Thought," a six-week series will begin at 12 p.m. Thursday in the Community Room at the Religious Center. Toby Griffen, from the Foreign Language and Literature Departments, will present "Celtic Christianity." Students, faculty and staff are welcome. Bring a lunch and listen to a variety of faith-related topics and issues.

Business Hour: Deanne Vinson, president of American Equity Mortgage, will speak at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Alumni Hall Room 2401. Vinson will cover subjects from customer service to marketing. The School of Business hosts the Executive Business Hour. For more information, call 650-3822.

Art exhibition: The Annual High School Art Exhibition begins Tuesday in the New Wagner Gallery, off the atrium lobby of the Art and Design Building. Works from area high school students will be displayed until March 29. For more information, contact the Department of

Art and Design at 650-3071.

Volunteer: Salus Place needs volunteers to assist staff with purchasing and stocking groceries. Salus Place is a home for people suffering from HIV/AIDS, mental illness or who are recovering from substance abuse. Volunteers will be picked up at 8 a.m. Saturday in Lot B and returned there at noon. For more information, contact Kimmel Leadership Center at 650-2686.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting: The Gut Level Group meets at 7 p.m. Saturdays in the Religious Center. This is an open meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon.

Online mentors needed: Applications are being accepted for online mentors for children in eight after-school programs in Washington Park, East St. Louis and Fairmont City. No personal contact is required. For more information, e-mail Susan Kutterer-Siburt at skutter@siue.edu.

Volunteer: Volunteers are needed to assist the Share Food Project. The food co-op program provides low-cost food through a self-help distribution system. Volunteers will be picked up at 8 a.m. Saturday in Lot B and returned there at noon.

Blood Drive: Blood drives will be held in Edwardsville at SIUE from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and in Wood River at the First Assembly of God Church from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday. Donors must be at least 16 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, not have gotten a tattoo within the last year, not be taking blood thinners or antibiotics and not have given blood within the last 56 days.

Family seminar: There will be a seminar on Work & Family Issues from 8 a.m. to noon Wednesday in the Morris University Center.

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Complete information on applying for the job is available from the receptionist at the Alestle, Room 2022 in the Morris University Center.

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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. 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 U-WIRE.

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

The Alestle

Campus Box 1167

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A fast vote only causes more work



Acting fast can waste a lot of time, especially when you have to go back and repair the damage your quick action caused.

The student senate gave its approval for a meal plan system to take effect in fall 2003. Now the senators are questioning their own decision.

It's about time. I just hope it's not too late.

According to Senator Phillip Gustafson, the senators received information about the meal plan system just five minutes before they unanimously approved it. That doesn't sound like a smart decision to me.

Personally, I don't like to make quick decisions. It's easier to sit back for a while and take in as much information as I can and make an informed decision. I've found I make better decisions that way.

But the senators saw fit to glance over the material and make a decision that will affect the amount residence hall students are forced to pay for their meals on campus. Granted a few senators attended meetings about the meal plans and made informed decisions, but the others only glanced at the

proposal. Really all you can do is glance at it in five minutes.

I've seen a number of government bodies conduct the people's business. I do a little free-lance writing on the side. The Alestle is great, but it doesn't pay the bills. I mostly cover city and village government meetings.

In a way, student government is a lot like those cities and villages. All have voting members who sit on committees and make decisions that will affect thousands of people. Student government plays mostly an advisory role to the administration, since the senate doesn't have any real power, but the concept is still the same.

There's one thing I have noticed at these city and village government meetings: elected officials do not like surprises.

Either the mayor or a trustee or alderman will throw something onto the table to be voted on when none of the voting members have any background information.

Do you know what happens more often than not? They don't vote on it. And that makes sense. Why not wait another two weeks and make an informed decision than make a hasty decision you might regret?

I think there are a few student senators asking themselves that question right now. I'd like to know what their answers are.

Many times a topic will be brought up at a village meeting and voted on at the next meeting.

It gives elected representatives a little bit of time to mull over the possible consequences of their decisions.

And don't think that city and village officials have more experience than the student senate. We're talking about small-town politics here. Many of these people have little or no experience in running government. The student senate is on the same playing field.

So, what do the senators do now?

Well, they could take the time to examine the situation and see if they have any new questions. They should examine their options, before the meal plan gets final approval by the Southern Illinois University

board of trustees.

The senators need to find the problems with the proposed meal plan system. I could talk about those problems, but that's best saved for another column.

Most importantly, the senators need to learn from this. Just because you can vote right away, doesn't mean that you should vote right away.

I hope the candidates running for office for next year's student government take note of this. I'll wager that this isn't the last time a senate regrets a hasty decision.

Look before you leap. It's not a bad old saying.

Brian Wallheimer
Editor in Chief



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to Melinda Hawkins' editorial "ERs are some people's last resort."

I happen to have a little bit of first-hand experience in this field. I'm a firefighter/paramedic in South St. Louis County and an alumni of SIUE.

It is true that the current system forces people to use emergency facilities for non-emergency health care needs. Many people that simply need an over-the-counter medication will call an ambulance and take a trip to the emergency room because this is the only way our government will pay in full. This of course ties up an ambulance that may very well have been closer to a subsequent call, perhaps a heart attack. Time is muscle, as we say, and we try not to waste it.

I think the answer to this problem is the same answer you will get to a lot of the problems in the United States. Simply, this country's foundation is the relentless pursuit of money. Hospital administrators cut staff and cut staff again down to the level where an "average" day will ensure that nurses and doctors are constantly busy.

Guess what happens if you throw a minor or major disaster into the mix. The same thing is true for the environment. It does not pay to protect the environment, it pays to drill in Alaska and destroy the wildlife.

It pays to have poorly educated workers making \$5 per hour screen your baggage at an airport, allowing two planes to slam into the World Trade Center killing 343 of my brothers. It does not pay to have professionals knowledgeable in concealed weapons and contraband inspecting your baggage. You see, it costs too much.

It pays to leave Centreville, Alorton and Brooklyn totally uncovered regarding ambulance coverage so the posted ambulance can go and do a nursing home transfer. You see, nursing home

transfers are guaranteed money whereas a patient that dials 911 may very well not have any money or insurance in these areas.

In this country, the "free market" does not do its job when it comes to health care, the environment and personal safety. And until it does, or something fills the gap, we'll all continue to pay.

And to you, Hawkins, I hope you continue caring for other people. It pays the most.

Tony Roylance
SIUE class of '93

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SIUE Food Service gets healthy review

AMY WINKLER
NEWS STRINGER

Campus eateries have been graded by the Madison County Health Department.

Food Service received scores of 97 and 88 of 100 points for the University Restaurant and the Center Court, respectively.

According to Mary Cooper of the Madison County Health Department, the points for the scores are divided into two categories: critical offenses and minor offenses.

Critical offenses, which include incorrect temperatures on appliances, sanitation issues, improper hand-washing and mice, result in a four-to-five point

reduction.

Minor offenses, such as cleaning issues, are worth one to two points.

Bill Canney, director of Food Service, said he is pleased with the scores Food Service generally receives.

"All our scores are usually in the high 90s," he said. "(Recently) inspectors came in and gave us a 96 on the Center Court and a 98 at the Skywalk (Cafe)."

Canney also said that Food Service at SIUE is often used as a training ground for new inspectors.

"I always look forward to them (inspectors) coming in," Canney said. "It gives us a chance to improve."

Library adds more to online database

AMY WINKLER
NEWS STRINGER

Lovejoy Library is implementing a new way to research journals online.

The addition of more databases comes in response to faculty and student feedback.

"We're hearing that faculty and students prefer doing research online," said Charlotte Johnson, director of user services at Lovejoy Library.

According to Johnson, students and faculty have asked for more scholarly journals online. Johnson said she feels the new system is more accommodating to this need.

For example, the new database, JSTOR, contains the complete offerings of 169 major research journals.

In many cases, the library's stacks may not have all issues of a journal. In other cases, older issues have to be requested from library storage.

Some of the other new journal databases to be implemented are Commerce Clearing House Tax Research Network, which contains a full text on federal and state tax information as well as primary sources from the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Tax Regulations; eHRAF, a database of human relations files; Collection of Ethnology, a database of articles on cultural

diversity; and Access Science, an encyclopedia and dictionary on science and technology.

Johnson said she thinks the new online system offers a lot of possibilities but expects there will be a learning curve.

"Before, users could type in a key word and a long list of, say, 90 articles would come up. Now, a search will be more subject-oriented," Johnson said.

"Teaching new users how to, for example, use a thesaurus will become important because of the subject-specific nature of the databases. Users will need to differentiate between a biology-connotated key word and other subjects."

With the trend of periodicals becoming more accessible electronically, other changes to a library's system are necessary. In some cases, the online trend is so distinct that libraries are beginning to choose between an electronic journal and a printed journal.

"Sometimes this is bad because some faculty like the printed books," Johnson said.

Another change involves the way research is done. Where currently bibliographies are usually essential to seeking more information on a topic, new online journals contain hyperlinks to other authors on the same topic. These hyperlinks greatly reduce the amount of time spent looking for sources.

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Lifestyle

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BETH KRUZAN/ALESTLE

"Art and Process" by Jennifer Schaefer.

ELIZABETH A. LEHNERER
ASSISTANT LIFESTYLE EDITOR

The Morris University Center Art Gallery is presenting an exhibit titled "Threshold – the space between" for the month of March.

Each year SIUE art therapy students produce an exhibit to demonstrate how therapists use art to help people express themselves and their emotions. The students are currently involved in a two-year master's degree program and have volunteered their works for the exhibit.

Physical objects such as doors and windows are a running theme. A door is representative of a threshold, the

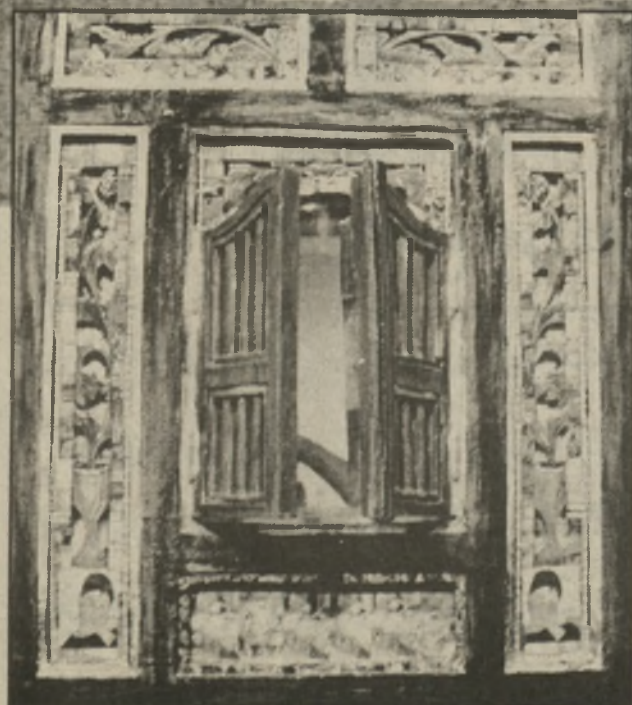
space right before something new is manifested; the beginning of one event and the end of another. The doors represent the personal journeys of the artists and because of that, the artists have opened themselves to the audience.

"This is a very personal show," Salnveet Talwar said. Talwar is the professor responsible for "Threshold."

"The students have put a lot of themselves into the artworks."

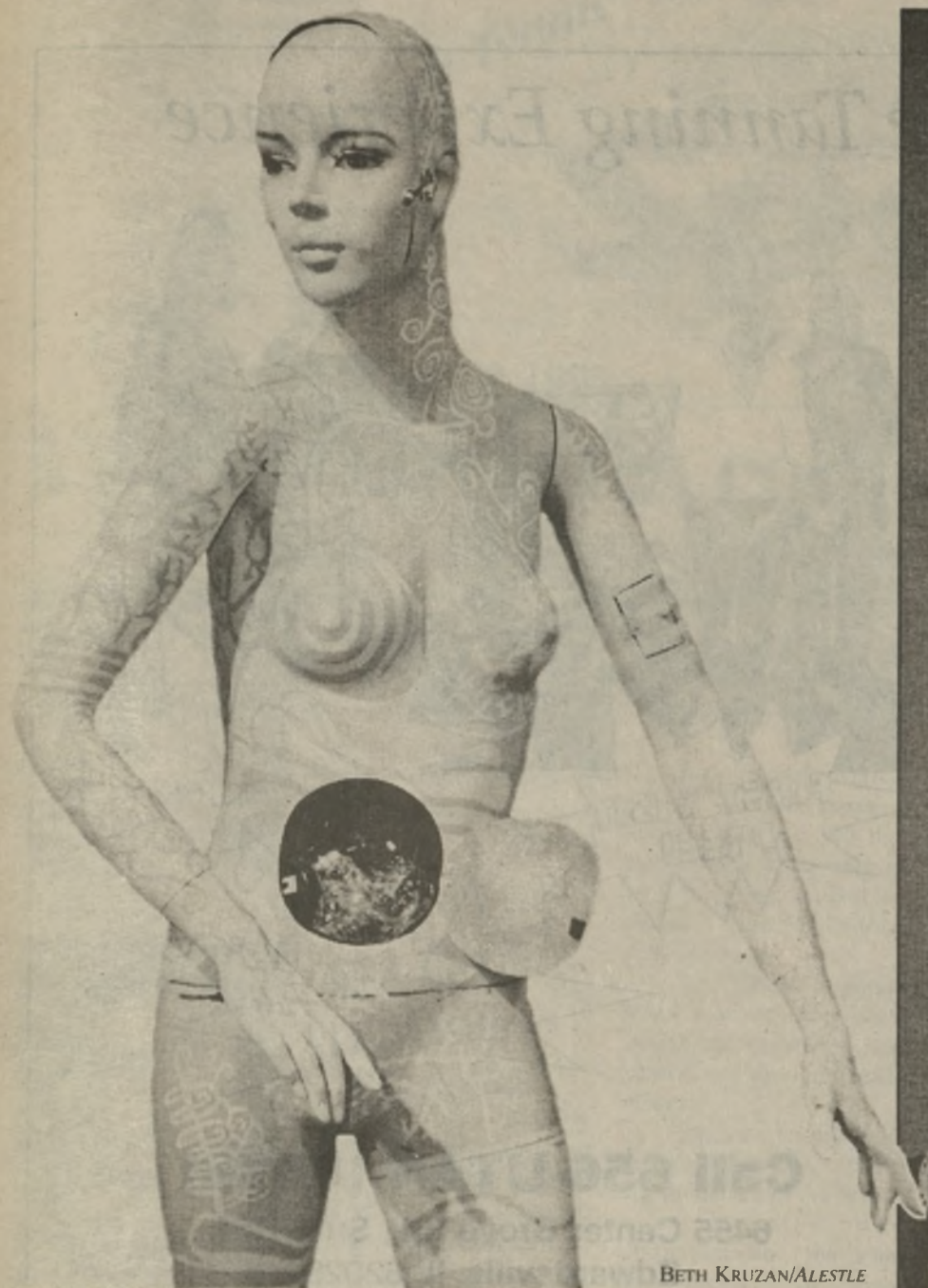
Two of the more arresting works are "Collage/Journals" by Teresa Johnson and Lee Cimircata. The journals include sketches, paintings, writings and collages that express the artists' emotions, sense of humor, views and personality.

see THRESHOLDS, page 7



BETH KRUZAN/ALESTLE

"Peering through Spaces between" by Lee Cimircata.



Untitled by Jennifer Gaynor.

BETH KRUZAN/ALESTLE

THRESHOLDS

from page 6

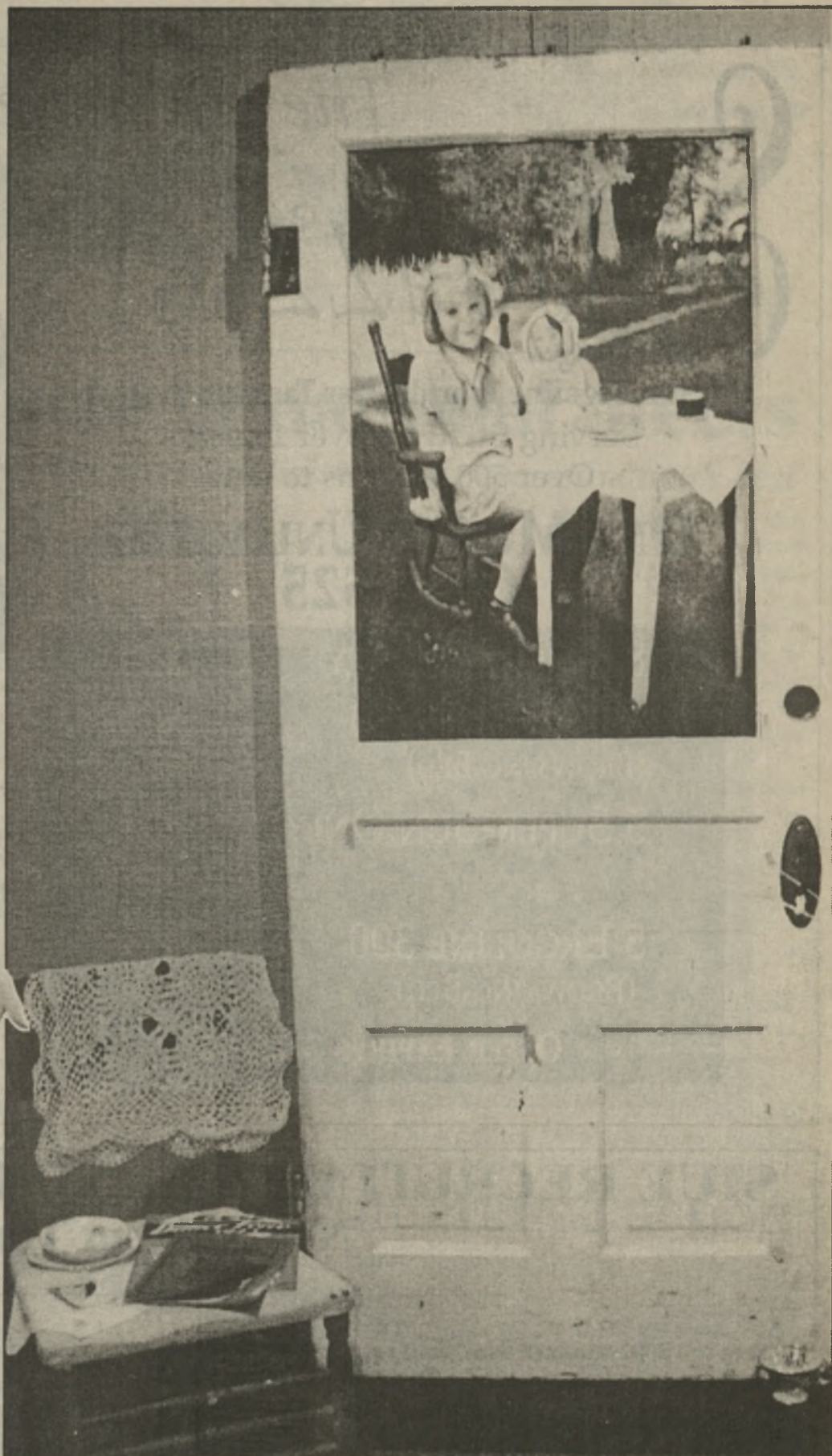
There is also an interactive component in the exhibit.

"Inner-dustrial Evolution" by Teresa Johnson showcases a slideshow of clips from movies such as "As Good As It Gets" and "American Pie." Each of the clips shows actors going in and out of doors, as a result of their emotions, or their movement between something old and something new.

Another mass-media work titled "You Can Do This" has the audience member sit in a chair and listen to an audio cassette.

The show offers a striking, life-size female mannequin with portholes into the piece. The work was done by Jennifer Gaynor.

"Art is about growth, change and self expression," artist Julie Rost said in an exhibit brochure.



BETH KRUZAN/ALESTLE

"Memories Fostering a Transition" by Alicia Grivnp.

Boys of the Lough will perform Celtic sound

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

St. Patrick's Day will have a delayed celebration on the SIUE campus when the Boys of Lough present Celtic music at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Dunham Hall Theater.

The sold-out show by the internationally known group of musicians is part of the Arts & Issues series.

"The Boys of the Lough occupy a unique position of respect in the world of traditional music," A & I coordinator John P. Peecher said.

The group, which is marking its 30th anniversary, offers traditional music and songs accompanied by fiddles, flutes and pipes.

"They have established a reputation for technical brilliance and integrity in their performance of Irish and Scottish music," Peecher added.

The group has toured the United States 51 times since the first tour in 1967.



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SIUE RECRUITMENT AND LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE New Student Transition Team

During the 2002 summer term, staff responsible for New Student Orientation, Pre-Entry Advisement and Registration (PEAR), and Springboard to Success wish to employ approximately 45 talented and energetic students to assist with these new student transition activities. Staff responsible for these transition activities are undertaking a collaborative effort to identify and employ some of the University's most talented students.

The requirements for applying for these special positions are the following:

1. Enrollment at SIUE for at least six hours during the 2002 summer term
2. Completion of at least 24 hours at SIUE at the end of the 2002 spring term
3. GPA of 2.5 or above
4. Effective communication skills
5. Interest in developing leadership skills
6. Enthusiastic commitment to SIUE

Training will be required and will be conducted during April. Selected students will be paid for training time as well as time spent assisting with these transition activities.

If interested in applying for one of these special positions, the application is available on-line at www.admissiue.edu/forms/transition_application.pdf. It is also available in the Office of Admission Counseling and Recruitment (Rendleman Hall, Room 2120), in the Office of Academic Counseling and Advising (Peck Hall, Room 1315), and in the Kimmel Leadership Center (Morris University Center, Room 1088). Completed applications should be mailed (Box 1600, Edwardsville, Illinois 62026-1600) or delivered to the Office of Admission Counseling and Recruitment. The application deadline is April 3, 2002. Preference will be given to those who apply early.

Applicants must also access the Student Job Finder web site at www.stuemp.siue.edu, complete the necessary information for Job Number 2571, and submit a copy of the completed Student Job Finder form with the application.

For additional information, please call Cheryle Tucker-Lowe at 650-3701.

Today in sports history

On this day in 1942, Manager Jimmy Dyke allowed two black players, Jackie Robinson and Nate Moreland to workout in the Chicago White Sox Pasadena, Calif., training camp. Both players were dismissed.

Lady Cougar softball moves to eighth in the nation after spending spring break in Orlando, Fla.
see page 10



◆ Tuesday, March 19, 2002

A l e s t l e

Page 9 ◆

Cougar athletes compete in national meets

Young Cougars get experience in national meet

Two wrestlers finish season against nation's best



PHOTO COURTESY PHOTO SERVICES

Richard Skirball (top)
Kevin Koller (bottom)

CHENOA GLENN
SPORTS STRINGER

Sophomores Richard Skirball and Kevin Koller returned home Sunday, March 10, after a disappointing weekend.

Both men traveled to Boston to attend the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Track and Field National Championships with high hopes toward finishes in top spots.

Skirball competed in the 800-meter run. He placed sixth in the second heat of the meet, but his time was only good enough for an overall finish of 13th place.

He ran a time of 1 minute, 56.45 seconds.

Koller faired slightly

better in the 400-meter dash.

He finished third in the second heat and eleventh overall with a time of 49.18 seconds.

Head Coach Darryl Frerker, who accompanied them to the meet, felt that inexperience in a meet of such a large magnitude played a large part in their performances.

"It's difficult to forget where you are and it starts adding up, eventually to a second, and then you're out of a race."

However, he does feel that the experience will pay big dividends in the future, and despite the disappointment, the team and Frerker had great attitudes about the experience.

see TRACK, page 11



PHOTO COURTESY PHOTO SERVICES

Zach Stephens (top)
Nathan Graumenz (bottom)

JUSTIN HELLER
SPORTS STRINGER

The Cougar wrestling team was well represented in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Championships.

Juniors Zach Stephens and Nathan Graumenz both advanced to the tournament, which was held in Kenosha, Wis.

Stephens won in the first round of the 174-pound division against Sion King from Adams State College in Alamosa, Colo., 3-1.

He came up short, losing 7-2, in the second round to Tom Meester of Augustana College, of Sioux Falls, S.D.

Graumenz was defeated in his first round at the 149-

pound division to Nate Peterson from Colorado School of Mines, of Golden, 15-5.

He was able to come up with a 12-3 victory in the consolation round over Simon Hoepfner of the University of Northern Colorado, of Greeley.

"This was a good experience for them and the team," coach Booker Benford said. "Going to the tournament lets the team know what hard work it takes to be a national champion."

This year the Cougars took fourth in regional, a big turnaround from last year.

The team improved in its overall depth and battled back in many of its matches.

see WRESTLING, page 11

Cougar baseball gets first two wins in conference action

KELI KEENER
SPORTS STRINGER

The SIUE baseball team kept busy during spring break, upping its record to 13-8.

SIUE played host to Harris-Stowe State College in a doubleheader March 6 at Roy E. Lee Field before spring break.

The Cougars were able to edge the Hornets 7-6 in the first game.

Harris-Stowe started off with a 2-0 lead after the first inning and was up 6-1 at the end of the sixth inning. SIUE would rally in the seventh inning, racking up five runs to tie the game at 6-6. The Cougars took the victory in the ninth inning on an unearned run due to two Hornet errors.

Cougar senior left fielder Josh Cate came up with three RBIs and senior pitcher Eric Meyer picked up the win for SIUE.

SIUE picked up another win in the second game, 1-0.

Junior first baseman Jason Kessler picked up the lone RBI of the game for SIUE. Kessler was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded, driving in the only run of the game. Freshman pitcher Jarad Rettberg picked up the win for the Cougars while Meyer took the save.

The Cougars played eight

games on their spring break trip to Savannah, Ga.

The Cougars started off with a doubleheader against Grand Valley State University, of Allendale, Mich.

SIUE beat GVSU in the first game 8-4 while GVSU took the second game 12-4. Freshman Ryan Spurgeon pitched the winning game for the Cougars and junior Jarrod Peters took the loss in the second game.

SIUE next met up with Gannon University, of Erie, Pa., Saturday. The Cougars took the 8-1 decision in that game. Junior Jeff Ebeler picked up the win for his work on the mound.

The Cougars played Armstrong Atlantic State University, of Savannah, Ga., Sunday. The Pirates ousted SIUE 11-2. Spurgeon took the loss.

After a day off, the Cougars met Missouri Western State College, of St. Joseph, Tuesday. The Griffons, members of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association, beat the Cougars 14-6.

Freshman Adam Brennan picked up the loss on the mound for the Cougars.

Wednesday the Cougars played Bryant College, of Smithfield, R.I.

The Bulldogs, of the Northeast 10 Conference, lost to



BETH KRUZAN/ALESTLE

Junior pitcher Jeff Ebeler has an ERA of 3.77 in 14.1 innings pitched this year for the Cougars.

SIUE 8-4. Senior shortstop Chad Opel led the Cougars' 14-hit attack against the Bulldogs. Opel had three hits.

Junior pitcher Nick Seibert went 2-for-3 with a home run and three RBIs and Kessler had three hits and two RBIs for SIUE. Junior utility player Jeff Schwierjohn and sophomore utility player Wes Pickering picked up two hits each.

Rettberg started on the

mound for the Cougars and earned the win with relief help from junior Brad Hinton, Spurgeon and Seibert.

SIUE played a second game Wednesday, this time against Concord College, of Athens, W.Va. The Cougars beat the Lions 8-6.

Brennan picked up another win for SIUE.

SIUE began its Great Lakes Valley Conference schedule over

the weekend.

The Cougars started off by playing host to St. Joseph's College, of Rensselaer, Ind., Saturday and Sunday for a three-game stint.

Saturday, Meyer picked up the win for SIUE in the 3-2 decision.

The Cougars split games with the Pumas in the doubleheader Sunday.

see BASEBALL, page 11



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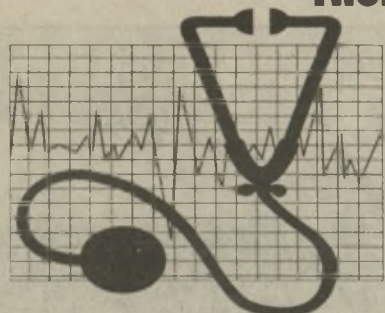
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Lady Cougar softball goes to No. 8 in nation

AMY GRANT
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The softball team returned home with an impressive 21-6 record and a championship trophy after playing 15 games in eight days over spring break.

SIUE claimed the championship in the Saint Leo Tournament before going 7-2 in the Rebel Spring Games over spring break.

The Lady Cougars clawed their way up to the No. 8 spot in the USA Today/National Fastpitch Coaches Association's National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Poll.

The team was ranked No. 16 in the preseason poll.

The Lady Cougars started their break with two games against the University of North Florida, of Jacksonville.

The Lady Cougars didn't get on the scoreboard until the sixth inning and were downed in their first game 7-2.

SIUE fell to UNF again in the team's second contest of the day, 3-2.

The Lady Cougars found some scoring production in a 5-0 shutout against Florida Southern College, of Lakeland, in their last game of the day.

Junior pitcher RyAnn Spann

was just three hits away from throwing a no-hitter for the Lady Cougars.

She struck out seven and walked six in the game.

The Lady Cougars took on host Saint Leo University in the second day of the tournament.

After two innings, the teams were knotted up 2-2 but two runs in the sixth gave SIUE a 4-2 win.

After losing its previous two games to UNF in the tournament, SIUE took revenge on the Lady Ospreys with a 6-3 win.

Senior third baseman Erin Newman went 3-for-4 in the game with a double and an RBI.

The Lady Cougars then faced the No. 10-ranked University of Alabama in Huntsville in the championship game.

UAH led 4-0 at the top of the sixth inning, but SIUE drove in four runs to tie the game 4-4.

The game was tied again 5-5 as the game went into extra innings until the Lady Cougars scored in the ninth to win the game 6-5 and claim the championship.

After competing in six games in the Saint Leo Tournament, the team headed to Orlando, Fla., for the Rebel Spring Games.

see **SOFTBALL**, page 11

Tennis gets first victory

KUMAR BHOOSHAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Cougar tennis team picked up its first win of the season in Pensacola, Fla., over spring break.

SIUE traveled to Pensacola to compete against three teams, the University of West Florida, who played in their hometown, Dallas Baptist University and Martin Methodist College, of Pulaski, Tenn.

The Cougars were downed by West Florida, 9-0, in the their first match of the trip. Freshman Chris Rigdon had the best showing for SIUE, winning four games in the second set against West's Yoshitomo Imoto. Rigdon, however, was downed 6-0, 6-4.

After a tough loss, the Cougars rebounded against Dallas Baptist to get their first win of the 2002 season, seizing the Patriots 8-1.

The Patriots were only able to serve their way to one victory, coming at the No. 1 doubles position.

Dallas Baptist's team of James Bristol and Matt McCleary was able to claim an 8-0 win over SIUE seniors Heath Turpin and Francisco Perez.

SIUE swept the rest of the doubles matches with the

freshmen tandem of Andy Renner and Mike Schmidt defeating the Patriots' Kyle Amerson and Chris Moore 8-5.

Sophomore Doug Kummer and Rigdon downed the team of T.J. Planas and Rob Heineman 8-0.

The Cougars were able to sweep singles play with Turpin and Perez getting a little revenge over McCleary and Bristol.

Turpin downed McCleary in straight sets, 6-3, 6-1, and Perez served his way to a two-set victory over Bristol, 6-3, 6-3.

Renner defeated Planas 6-1, 6-3, and Kummer downed Amerson 6-1, 6-0.

Schmidt only allowed Heineman to score one point in his 6-0, 6-1 win.

Rigdon shut out Daniel Bunker 6-0, 6-0.

In the match against Martin Methodist, Rigdon was the lone Cougar to claim a victory over Martin Methodist's Jude Bhika, 6-0, 6-2.

The doubles team of Perez and Kummer its the closest to claiming another win, taking its doubles match against Martin Methodist's Moez Ali and Jonathan Brown to an extra game.

However, the SIUE tandem was unable to go the distance, being downed 9-7.

BASEBALL

from page 9

SIUE won the opener 4-1. Bowen was the winning pitcher for SIUE, throwing 5.1 innings and allowing just one run and one hit.

Brennan picked up his first save on the season in his 1.2 innings of work on the mound.

The Cougars lost the nightcap 4-2 to the Pumas, who are 11-9-2 overall and 1-2 in the GLVC.

In the second game, St. Joseph's Andy Augsburg stunted the Cougar offense with a two-run, five-hit effort on the mound and a complete-game victory. Peters took the loss for

SOFTBALL

from page 10

SIUE played Tiffin University, of Tiffin, Ohio, in its first game Monday.

The teams were tied 2-2 after six innings, but sophomore pitcher Missy Koenig drove in the game-winning run for SIUE in the bottom of the seventh to clinch the win 3-2.

The Lady Cougars led 2-1 going into the seventh inning against Shippensburg University, of Shippensburg, Penn., but the Lady Raiders recorded two runs in the bottom of the seventh to steal the win 3-2.

Koenig had a home run and four RBIs in the Lady Cougars' 6-3 win against Minnesota State University-Mankato Tuesday.

The Lady Cougars finished out the day with a 7-3 win against the University of South Dakota, of Vermillion.

With their first game against Adelphi University, of Garden City, N.J., rained out, the Lady Cougars next competed against Southwest State University, of Marshall, Minn.

SIUE claimed a 4-1 victory against Southwest State.

TRACK

from page 9

On March 2 and 3 the Division II Championships featured a competition for the multi-event athletes at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis. Senior Bill Wolfe and sophomore Gawain Piper competed in the men's heptathlon.

Wolfe won the meet with a final score of 4,464 points.

Piper also did well, finishing

WRESTLING

from page 9

Benford hopes to have continued success next year.

"This year's freshmen will learn from this year and could have a big impact next year. I hope, with the success of this year's team, we can get some

SIUE.

The Cougars have an overall record of 13-8 and started out with a 2-1 mark in the GLVC.

SIUE's next conference game is against the No. 18-ranked team in Division II, the Rivermen of the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Game time is 2 p.m. in St. Louis.

The Cougars will then play host to a three-game stint with the Flyers of Lewis University Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday's doubleheader will start at noon as well as Sunday's single game.

All four of the Lady Cougar runs came in the eighth inning.

SIUE returned to the field to face rival Truman State University, of Kirksville, Mo., and Merrimack College, of North Andover, Mass.

SIUE came close but wasn't able to catch the Bulldogs and lost 7-4.

The Lady Cougars fared better against Merrimack, taking a 6-5 win.

SIUE concluded the Rebel Spring Games with two shutouts Saturday against Bloomsburg University, of Bloomsburg, Penn., and Ashland University, of Ashland, Ohio.

In a pitching duel between Spann and Bloomsburg senior pitcher Kerri Cooper, the Lady Cougars came out on top 1-0.

Junior outfielder Koree Claxton singled home sophomore outfielder Jenny Esker in the first inning in what would be the only run of the game.

In it's final game against Ashland, SIUE drove in one run in the fifth and one in the seventh in a 2-0 win.

on Wolfe's heels in second place with a composite score of 3,705.

Junior Desiree Barcomb and sophomore Stacey Baima represented the women's team in the heptathlon.

Barcomb won the event, with a point total of 2,952, setting a school record.

Baima followed up in second place with 2,768 points.

more recruits for next year," Benford said.

With their experience from this year's tournament, Stephens and Graumenz hope to get another chance to become national champions next season.

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◆ PAGE 12

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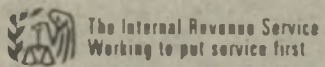
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