

Athletics grapples
with wrestling
See Sports

◆ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Vol. 56, No. 60 ◆

Buses will run at night Classmates mourn death of student

NATALIE WALTERS
NEWS STRINGER

Students taking night classes this summer presented a problem to the student government and got help.

At the start of summer semester, no buses were scheduled to run during the evening, but a new night bus route went into effect Monday.

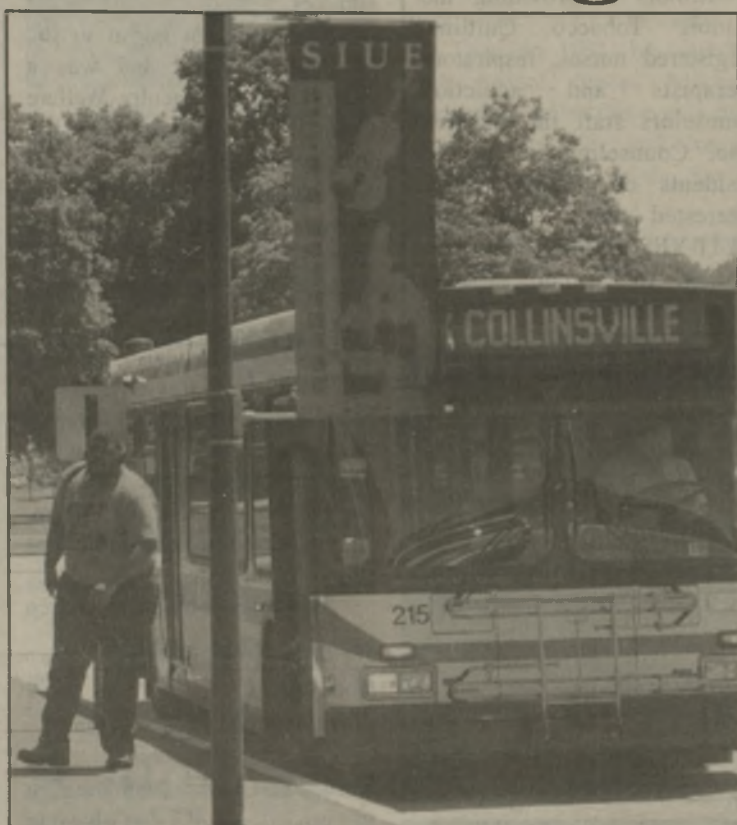
After hearing from students, the Student Senate brought the bus transportation problem to the university administration's attention.

Administrators opted to use university buses driven by student workers to provide transportation to and from Cougar Village.

Madison County Transit does not run night buses on SIUE's campus due to lack of riders during the summer.

The university will continue to work with MCT to develop a permanent solution that will meet students' needs in an efficient manner.

The route will begin at Peck Hall at 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The bus will stop



JESSICA BALADAD/ALESTLE

Madison Country Transit buses do not run at night on campus. University buses will cover evening shifts.

at Building 519 in Cougar Village, at Lot 4F, the Cougar Lake Road shelter, University

Drive and Devon Court, University Drive and Esic Drive,

see BUSES, page 2

Professor's trio may win 2004 jazz award

KELLY SCHOMAKER
NEWS STRINGER

A jazz trio headed by SIUE professor Reggie Thomas is in the running for the Riverfront Times 2004 Best in Jazz award.

"I'm not concerned whether or not I win," Thomas said. "But to be nominated is just another opportunity to play."

The Reggie Thomas Trio played Saturday at the Delmar Restaurant & Lounge in University City.

"We're happy to be a part of the festival. It went very well but the performance times were just too short," Thomas said. The group played for 40 minutes.

Thomas is a professor of music at SIUE. He is a jazz keyboardist and plays organ and piano as well.

Thomas said the awards program will be held Tuesday at the Delmar Lounge.

Voters can vote online at www.riverfronttimes.com/music/awards/2004/musicpoll04.

Gas gouge hits SIUE

TRAVIS ROSS
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

If gas prices have got you feeling like a chump at the pump, you're not alone.

"I remember when it cost me \$10 to fill up my car, and that's sad because I have only been driving for about seven years," Student Senator and graduate

student Jason Jacobson said. "In the past year it's gone from around \$1 per gallon to if it's under \$1.95, it's a deal."

Jacobson said high gas prices have him walking and carpooling a lot more.

Eanista Dixon, a criminal justice senior, said she looks at high gas prices as an opportunity

see GAS PRICES, page 2

Classmates mourn death of student

JAMIE FORSYTHE
NEWS EDITOR

More than a week has passed since SIUE student Chad Calhoun died after falling asleep at the wheel of his newly purchased Pontiac Grand Am, but the mourning continues.

"He was enthusiastic about becoming an Army officer, very intuitive in the art of war class and extremely team-oriented. He was more concerned about the team than himself," ROTC professor Capt. Carla Hughes said.

Calhoun, 20, of Shiloh, died at 7 a.m. May 30. Visitation was June 2 at Schildknecht Funeral Home in O'Fallon.

Funeral services were the following day at First Baptist Church in O'Fallon. Calhoun was buried at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Shiloh.

"It's a great loss to our program," Hughes said. "Several cadets attended his funeral. He had a lot of close friends in the program."

Hughes said Calhoun's professor of military science, Roberto Vazquez, spoke at his funeral.

Calhoun had just completed his sophomore year at SIUE. He was studying to be an officer in the Army and a high school English teacher.

"He was very patriotic. He recently competed in the German Armed Forces Competition for Military Proficiency in May and won a bronze medal," Hughes said.

He is survived by his parents, Larry and Kay Calhoun, of Shiloh, and his brother, Jonathon Calhoun, of Clarkston, Mich.

He is also survived by his grandparents, Tom and Audrey Calhoun, of Shiloh.

According to Hughes, Calhoun had other siblings who preceded him in death.

Memorials may be made to the Chad Calhoun Memorial Scholarship Fund at Scott Credit Union, 648 Carlyle Avenue in Belleville.

Workshop to teach TV production

KELLY SCHOMAKER
NEWS STRINGER

He's been cast in commercials for Anheuser-Busch, dog food and Hardee's. Now, Riley Maynard is set to teach a television production workshop for high school students June 14 through 25 at SIUE.

The workshop meets from noon to 3 p.m. daily and features opportunities for students to get hands-on experience in the television studio and with its equipment.



JESSICA BALADAD/ALESTLE
Riley Maynard

"The students will do commercials, news stories,

newscasts and we'll also take a field trip to a St. Louis TV Station," Maynard said.

Before his 23-year career at SIUE, Maynard taught at other universities including the University of Latvia. While at SIUE, Maynard was a Fulbright scholar.

"I can relate to students," Maynard said. "I'm used to adapting to all circumstances."

Maynard said that he always wanted to teach and does ads on the side.

"I was in this one print ad for see TV WORKSHOP, page 2

Click It or Ticket campaign ends

KELLY SCHOMAKER
NEWS STRINGER

The 2004 Click It or Ticket campaign has ended, and SIUE police once again used the opportunity to crack down on motorists who neglect to wear their seat belts.

Operation Click It or Ticket is a high visibility seat belt and child restraint enforcement

program funded by the state. It is used to increase seat belt usage and save countless lives.

"The Click It or Ticket campaign basically goes to get people to buckle up," SIUE Police Lt. Dan Keeton said. "We want to make people aware that we're out there and there is no excuse."

The Click it or Ticket campaign ran from May 24 to

June 6.

"So far we have written out 14 citations," Keeton said.

Keeton added that there were more citations written out during the campaign last year because it was conducted in the middle of the semester.

"It's pretty simple. There are signs posted to buckle up," Keeton said. "Be aware and always wear seat belts."

TV WORKSHOP

from page 1

Target where they told me to dress business casual, and I wanted them to make me younger and skinnier," Maynard said.

Maynard added that the photo of him walking into the Target store in the ad was blurred out.

"They took 75 photos of me

and it was cold outside, and I didn't have a coat on," Maynard said.

On the side, Maynard portrays "Elvis" in the murder mystery dinner theater at the Lemp Mansion Inn and Restaurant in St. Louis.

"There's a bit much of work

these days," Maynard said.

Maynard lives in Collinsville with his wife, Barbara, son, Nathan, and daughter, Meredith.

For more information about the television production workshop, call 650-2245. The registration fee is \$75.

Campus Scanner

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

Cookout: Baptist Student Ministries is sponsoring a prayer cookout from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday. There is no charge, and it is open to all interested students and guests. It is being held off campus. Call 656-4100 for location and directions.

LeClaire Trio and friends: An

Edwardsville and St. Louis favorite, the celebrated LeClaire Trio and friends, will present a concert of chamber music at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Abbott Auditorium, Lovejoy Library. For more information, contact the Music Department at 650-3900.

Summer Showbiz: Summer Showbiz presents "Grease" from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday in Dunham Hall Theater and from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday. For ticket information, contact the

Box Office at 650-2774 or (888) 328-5168, Ext. 2774.

Tobacco Counseling: The American Lung Association of Illinois is providing the Illinois Tobacco Quitline. Registered nurses, respiratory therapists and addiction counselors staff the toll-free line. Counseling is free to residents of Illinois. Those interested should call (866) QUIT-YES. Hot line hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Police Incidents

Traffic

6/1/04

Police issued a citation to Dana Harris for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Deborah Eck for expired registration and a verbal warning for speeding on University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Lisa Wright for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Robert Campbell for operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

6/2/04

Police issued a citation to Jami Breakfield for operating an insured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

6/3/04

Police issued a citation to Katherine Simon for disobeying a stop sign on South Circle Drive.

Help for the faculty

NATALIE WALTERS
NEWS STRINGER

The Faculty Ombuds Office is in full swing for the summer semester.

The faculty ombuds serve all university faculty by providing a confidential, private and neutral source for university faculty members experiencing conflict, according to Jeff Skoblow. Skoblow is one of two faculty members who will be serving the ombuds office during the summer.

The program began in the summer of 2002 and was a creation of the Faculty Welfare Council, a committee of the Faculty Senate.

Skoblow said that while the ombuds are there to help, their role is not to make the final decision. "We act as mediators,

information providers and listeners," he said.

Recently the Faculty Welfare Council sent out a survey to faculty to measure the success of the ombuds program.

Skoblow said the results of the survey have been positive although "it's difficult to judge the success of the program."

The office is located in Rendleman Hall, Room 2225.

Skoblow will be holding office hours from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Wednesdays and from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursdays through June 25.

Debbie Mann will be holding the same office hours June 28 through July 30.

For further information faculty can call the office at 650-3238 or check the Web site at <http://www.siu.edu/UGOV/FACULTY/OMBUDS/>.

BUSES

from page 1

and Lancashire Drive, the last stop. There will be six circuits each night with the last one leaving Peck Hall at 10:55 p.m. and expected to make the last stop at 11:11 p.m.

Bus rides continue to be free

for students.

"The service will cost the university more money, but will not directly affect the students riding the shuttle," Kimmel Leadership Center Director Steve Sperotto said.

GAS PRICES

from page 1

to cut down on excess driving.

"I don't have any recreational money (with the high gas prices), and if I don't have to go, I just don't go," Dixon said. She said she and her husband "even carpool to keep gas in the car."

Anita Terry is a Dining Services administrator, who has another job at a Mobile gas station in Granite City. She took an alternative approach to carpooling and walking when she saw people slapping down \$50 just to pay for gas — she traded in her vehicle.

"I traded in a 2002 Camero Super Sport for a four-wheel drive Jeep Liberty that got 18 miles to the gallon," Terry said.

About a month ago, when it looked like the Liberty was going to become a gas-guzzling burden, Terry traded again.

"This time I got a diesel-powered 2004 Volkswagen Jetta," Terry said. "The guy I bought my Jetta from said there was a point not too long ago when they couldn't even get rid of the diesels, and in the two weeks prior to me buying mine, they had sold 12 of them."

Terry said she filled up with gas immediately after she bought the vehicle May 15. As of May 27, she had gone 532 miles and still had at least a quarter of a tank left.

"I paid \$1.72 (a gallon) that day for diesel as opposed to paying \$1.98 for gas," Terry said. "I figure I'm saving at least \$40 a month, probably more than that,

just because I drive a diesel."

Lee Jackson, spokesman for Dave Mungenast Alton Toyota-Dodge, said salespeople there have seen changes in what a lot of customers are looking for.

"We've noticed that since people have started becoming more conscious of the gas prices, they've started expressing the need for vehicles that get a little more gas mileage," Jackson said. "We have a lot of people with bigger vehicles that are looking to get smaller ones."

According to Jackson, that's led to an increase in sales of vehicles that are a little bit more fuel friendly.

"We have seen a huge increase in sales of the Toyota Prius," Jackson said. "It's a hybrid vehicle; it's half gas and half electric. We have nearly 27 of the hybrids on order right now."

Jackson said the hybrid vehicle gets about 60 miles per gallon in the city and 55 miles per gallon on the highway.

"The miles per gallon is high because the gas engine will shut itself off automatically and turn on the battery power in the city," Jackson said. "It's virtually the only (nearly) zero-emission vehicle on the road, and that's about as low as you can get in a vehicle right now."

Those wanting to invest in a 60-miles-per-gallon vehicle better save up.

The 2004 Prius starting price is \$20,810, about the same as most hybrids.

UNIVERSITY

Theater



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July 8-11 and 15-18



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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.

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

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Have a comment?
Let us know!
Send us an e-mail:
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Opinions & Editorial viewpoints & commentary

◆ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004

A l e s t l e

PAGE 3◆



Mourning may become part of the past

than three decades. He will be remembered across the country as the actor who became president. He was shot in 1981, dealt with recession in 1982, took aim at the "evil empire" in 1983 and increased defense spending by 35 percent. In 1984 Reagan won re-election by a landslide.

Then, in 1985, his summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev led to the events that ended the Cold War and brought about the collapse of the Soviet Union.

He implemented tax reform and rallied the nation when we lost the Challenger shuttle. He urged the destruction of the Berlin wall. In 1989 after the end of his second term, he saw his vice president, George Bush, become the new president of our country.

The part that I find amazing is that whether the mourner is Democrat or Republican, President Reagan will be missed. My generation, having been born in the years when he first took office, remembers little about

him. Let's face it, what do you know about the world when you are in kindergarten? However, whether we remember or not, it was sad to know that he had died.

But something inside of me believes this may be the last time we see this nation mourn for the loss of a president – at least for a while. We might not remember President Reagan, but we remember George Bush and his "no new taxes" policy. We remember Bill Clinton and the Monica Lewinsky scandal, and we will remember George W. Bush and his war with terrorism and Iraq.

Whether we agreed with their policies or not, there has been a shift in the country's attitude about its presidents. No longer are they our fearless leaders. Instead, we feel cheated and angry with each one as his term comes to an end. We have heard empty promises and have suffered great losses due to their decisions. Perhaps there was some good done, but there still remains an overcast of clouds

that blocks out all else.

I'd like to think that if one of those presidents were to die, my generation would look past the faults and differences of opinion and mourn the loss of a fellow human being, but I don't think it's true. I believe this may be the last time we see a national outpouring of grief.

In 20 years, I'll be the middle-age parent with retirement moving farther away as college tuitions grow with each passing year. I'll be the one fighting to keep my rights, fighting for my own decisions.

I'll be the one electing the president. And when these men die, I'll look back and see how little they thought of my future, and how little I care that they are gone.

I can only hope for more from our future, for a better America, and a place where I too can prosper under a good president and feel sad when that president dies.

Tyler Bennett
Editor In Chief

A man and his futon: friend or foe

The most daunting task I've faced as a college student is not writing a 20-page paper or putting together a last-minute presentation or getting set to enter the third straight hour of drinking games – it would have to be assembling a futon.

Maybe it was the cheap futon my good friend chose to buy, maybe it was the full moon or maybe it was fact that we had a little help from Auggie Busch III – I don't know. What I do know is that I have a newfound respect for the workers who assemble the futons on display at local shopping

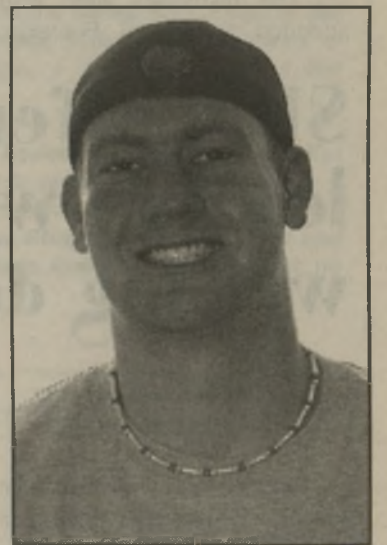
establishments.

You see, my friend was moving into an off-campus apartment and he needed a bed. Instead of buying a comfortable and affordable air mattress, or investing in a regular mattress and throwing it on the floor, he splurged and bought the finest futon he could get ... for \$133. If it's been awhile since you've dabbled in the futon market, that doesn't go far.

For about \$300 you can get a futon made of gold and for \$150 you can get a solid, stable wooden futon. For \$133 the company will dismantle the

dented aluminum futon on display, take every screw out, strip the black paint off, pack it in a 1-by-2-foot box and throw it at you.

I saw a guy wearing a shirt a few days ago that said, "Support America, Buy Made in Mexico." Truer words have never been spoken, because the first step in reassembling this beast of a futon is converting the instructions from Spanish to English. This can be a little bit difficult if the only Spanish you know after two years of it in high school is, "Donde esta mis pantalones?" Show some



ambition, look it up.

We chose to bypass step one and use the pictures to guide us. That's easier said than done when there are so many pieces the part numbers go up to ZZ-1.

Including breaks, it took three men with the mechanical mental acuity of the three blind mice about four hours to put the vile contraption together. If we hadn't put the back of the futon on upside down, I'm sure we could've done it in about three and one-half hours.

We're just lucky we didn't stab ourselves with the rods or screw ourselves to the floor; but that could still happen, we did end up with about five extra screws.

Travis Ross
Assistant Sports Editor
radiomn1@hotmail.com



Lifestyles

PEOPLE, ENTERTAINMENT, & Arts

Edwardsville celebrates Route 66 with music, food, fun and cars

NICOLE GAUDREAU
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

The first weekend in June brought with it fun for the Edwardsville area with the Eighth Annual Route 66 Festival.

The festivities were well attended and Carol Foreman,

executive director for the Edwardsville and Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce, said there was a steady flow of people at the event both days and that everything went extremely well.

"Overall I was very pleased," she said. "It is a very good community event that is

inexpensive and gives us a chance to connect to our roots."

Live bands were popular with the guests, and there were plenty of hands-on activities for children and adults alike, including historical displays,

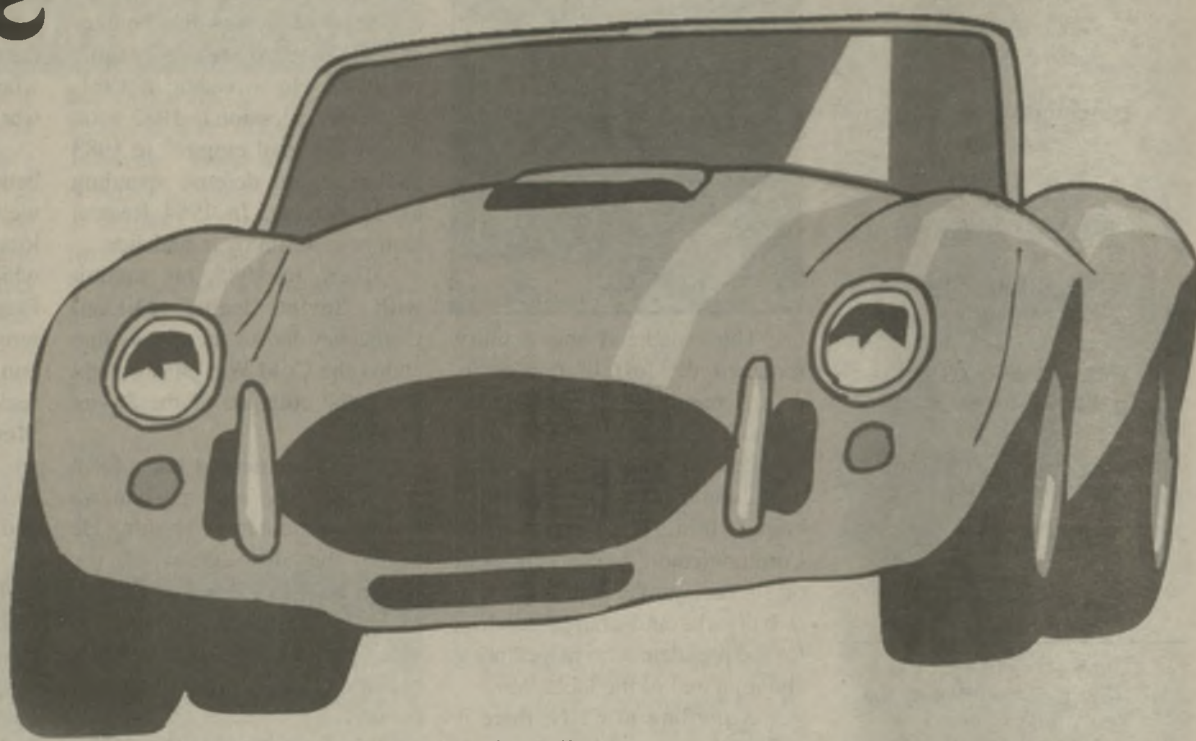
artisan villages, a car cruise and plenty of food booths to fill empty stomachs.

"There really is something for everyone," Foreman said. "It's a healthy, fun event that gives us a chance to reflect on our community."

The festival is a group

project put on by the Edwardsville and Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce and about 150 volunteers to celebrate Route 66, the Mother Road.

For more information on the annual Route 66 festival, visit www.greatriverroad.com.



SIUE offers fun and learning with summer writing day camp

NICOLE GAUDREAU
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Students can enhance their writing skills this summer through the 21st Annual Summer Writing Day Camp, which will be

"It helps them sharpen their writing skills and gives them a sense of what good writing is."

~Eugene Violette

held June 14 to 25 and July 12 to 23.

Each camp is limited to 50 students per session, ages 8 to 18, and the camp is open from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The camp was started in 1982 to help kids of all ages develop their writing skills. Eugene Violette, a retired professor in the English

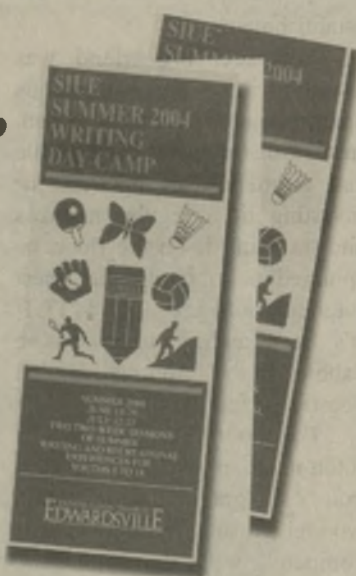
Department, has been the director of the camp since 1983. He says that the camp allows students to improve their writing abilities and have fun at the same time.

"It helps them sharpen their writing skills and gives them a sense of what good writing is," Violette said.

The camp includes classroom development activities as well as recreation times, during which students can enjoy softball, swimming, volleyball, bowling, billiards, board games and nature activities.

The older students get to enjoy campus life by visiting the Vadalabene Center, the Student Fitness Center, the Religious Center and the Art Gallery. The cost for either camp is \$190, which includes a non-refundable \$15 enrollment fee at the time of registration.

The \$175 balance is due by tomorrow for the first session or July 8 for the second. Violette said the average class size ratio in the camp is 12 students to one



instructor, with the total attendance reaching into the 60s.

Violette said the camp is a fun, educational experience for the students who participate, but for him it's all about the students.

"The students are smart, bright, eager and like to write," he said. "They're funny, witty and polite, which is a reflection of their home life."

Violette claims that the good character of the students makes the writing camp easier for everyone.

For more information about the camp, call the SIUE English Department at 650-2060 or visit the Web site www.registrar.siu.edu/SummerCamps/writing.htm.

Arts in the Park has activities for all ages

TYLER BENNETT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The summer is here, and that means more exciting events will be in town for the Edwardsville's Arts in the Park series.

This is the fourth season for Arts in the Park, which runs through the end of July. The events are on the bandstand in City Park, which is next to the Edwardsville Library.

Beginning at 8 p.m. every Thursday, the Edwardsville Municipal Band will play for an expected turnout of 500 patrons. Friday nights will play host to a cavalcade of music and performers. All concerts will begin at 8 p.m.

Friday, see the Little David Band perform rock, blues, country, soul and jazz. The series will feature Starlifter, the U.S. Air Force Band of Mid America's rock band, which will perform Motown, country, blues and Top 40 hits on June 18.

The Master's Voice Choir

gives a patriotic salute to America on June 25.

The Ralph Butler Band and the Granite City Swing Band will play July 2 and 9, respectively. On July 16, Jean Kittrel and the St. Louis Rivermen play southern jazz, blues and spirituals. Visitors can see the Bob Kuban Brass Band play rock 'n' roll from the '60s on July 23.

Alderman Rich Walker, the decision-maker for the activities and performers for the Arts in the Park series, said he is looking

"I have some favorites, of course, they are all good."

~Rich Walker

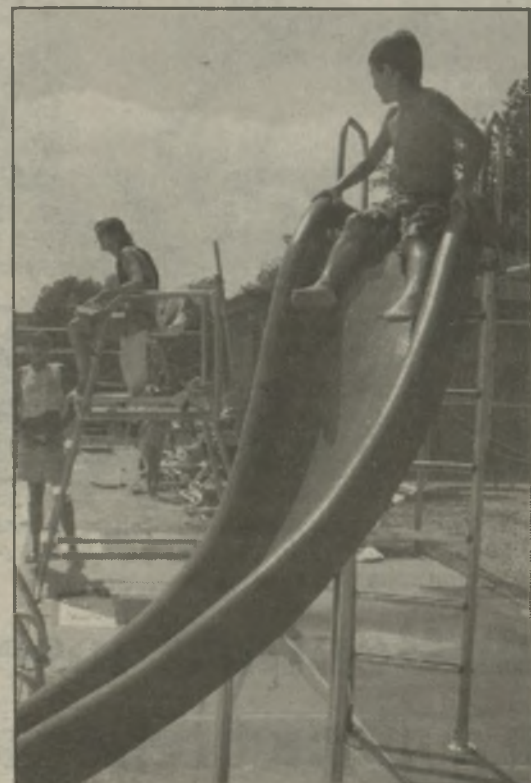
forward to a number of the bands.

"I have some favorites, of course, they are all good," he said. "Everybody locally loves Jean Kittrel and her group."

Walker also said that Kittrel has been in the area for many years; she was once a professor of English at SIUE.

see ARTS, page 5

SIUE Cougar Lake Pool a good place for summer sun and fun



KWAME ROSS/ALESTLE

Logan Ware, top left, son of an alum, floats with a ball in the the Cougar Lake Pool. A young boy, bottom left, prepares to go down the slide. Bottom right, a boy takes aim at the basketball hoop.

Two boys, above, play water basketball and soak up the summer sun. Cougar Lake Pool is open daily from noon to 6 p.m. until Sept. 6. There are extended hours Monday evenings for Family Night from 6 to 8 p.m. Students, faculty, staff and alumni may bring their immediate family to the pool at no charge.

Weekend ideas for fun

The Gateway Arch

St. Louis Riverfront
Open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday to Sunday
Fax: (314) 982-1527
(314) 425-4465
www.gatewayarch.com

The St. Louis Science Center

5050 Oakland Ave
Open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday to Saturday
(314) 289-4444
www.slsc.org

The St. Louis Zoo

5050 Oakland Ave
Open May 31 to Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Monday
(314) 781-0900
www.stlzoo.org

The Missouri Botanical Garden

4344 Shaw Blvd
Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Sunday
Open until 7 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday
(314) 577-5100
www.mobot.org

The St. Louis Art Museum

Forest Park
Open from 1:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday
(314) 721-0072
www.slam.org

The Museum of Transportation

3015 Barrett Station Rd. in South St. Louis
Open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Sunday
(314) 965-7998
www.museumoftransport.org

The Magic House

515 S. Kirkwood Rd. (at Lindbergh Blvd),
Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday
(314) 822-8900
www.magichouse.com

Grant's Farm

10501 Gravois Rd. in South St. Louis
Open April to October. Reservations required
(314) 843-1700
www.grantsfarm.com

ARTS

from page 4

There are also fun activities geared for children from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays. Local art teachers and their students have volunteered their time to teach the events.

"We like to have lots of adult supervision for the kids," Walker said.

Walker also said that the turnout for the children's events has been consistently large.

"The first time we didn't know how many to expect, so I told the teachers to be prepared for 20," he said. "We had 80 kids show up. They did a great job, and since then we have had 75 to 80 show up every time."

On Saturday kids will participate in Bon Voyage and create a passport for summer

adventures.

The Primary Forest is the theme on June 19. Then kids learn about pattern, texture and camouflage while at a safari on June 26.

The activity on July 3 is Monet's Garden, as the children will use clay to create garden sculptures.

Ancient Egypt and My Kind of Town will be featured on July 10 and July 17, respectively.

On July 24, kids will learn about caves and cliff dwellings at Bat Heaven, while space will be the topic for Blast Off on July 31.

The City of Edwardsville and the Madison County Arts Council sponsor the series. All events are free and open to the public.

**Have fun this summer.
Read Alestle Lifestyles.**

Sports Quote of the Day

"Sports do not build character ... they reveal it"

~John Wooden

Coming Up

Women's volleyball team teaches kids the basics of the game.



Granite City native to coach wrestling

KEELAN GILLIAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Khris Whelan, a former All-American at the University of Missouri – Columbia, has been named as SIUE's wrestling coach.

"Whelan will bring a tremendous amount of experience – collegiate and international," Athletic Director Brad Hewitt said. "He will also bring his skills in running his own camp for many years."

"He will also bring a broad

range of skills to the table on the issues like external affairs, which is a critical part of the wrestling program," Hewitt said.

Whelan was chosen from among 28 contenders for the part-time job.

"It's a great honor and privilege," Whelan said in an SIUE press release. "I'm looking forward to the challenge."

Whelan was inducted into the Illinois Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2001. At Mizzou, Whelan was a two-time All-American. His college record is

102-19-3. Before attending college, he was an Illinois Class AA prep champion at the old Granite City North High School. Whelan was also the British National Freestyle wrestling coach from 1994 to 1997.

Whelan has been coach of the Cahokia High School wrestling team since 2000.

SIUE has also named an assistant wrestling coach.

Ronald Bessemer of Mount Olive will join Whelan. Bessemer has wrestled at the college level and for the U.S. Army.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.SIUE.EDU

Khris Whelan will take over as coach of the Cougar wrestling team. He can hope for the same type of performance as displayed above by 2002-2003 All-American Zach Stephens.

Softball player wins award

KEELAN GILLIAN
SPORTS EDITOR

For the second time, SIUE softball player Jenny Esker has claimed the nation's top academic award as the College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-American of the Year.

The player is chosen for academic success and athletic ability. Esker helped the Lady Cougars get to their fifth straight National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Regional appearance.

Esker led the team with a batting average of .358. She had 59 hits, eight home runs and 36

runs batted in.

She was also a strong hitter when it came to academics. A physics major, Esker carried a 3.99 grade point average. She was honored by the Physics Department as its top student.

Esker graduated summa cum laude in May with a bachelor's degree in physics.

Esker also won the Richard F. Scharf Paragon Award from the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

The award recognizes an athlete among the GLVC's 11 institutions based on academic excellence, athletic ability and achievement, character and leadership. Esker was also



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.SIUE.EDU
Jenny Esker

a three-time All-GLVC and All-Region first-team selection and a former GLVC player of the year. Last season, she was tabbed as a first team All-American.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.SIUE.EDU

Jenny Esker taps baseball mitts with her team mates during a Cougars' softball game.

Coach Benford loses out on contract renewal

TRAVIS ROSS
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Booker Benford's record as a wrestler at SIUE is 161-34-1; but his second loss may be the biggest one of his career.

After five years as SIUE's wrestling coach, the university did not choose to renew Benford's contract. As a result, the job was up for grabs.

Athletic Director Brad Hewitt said Tuesday that Benford's "skill sets did not match those of other candidates."

Benford holds SIUE's record for victories at 161 and was a four-time All-American in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II. He was

also a national champion in 1984 and 1985 after he advanced to the NCAA Division I Championships. He also earned All-American honors. Benford secured an alternate position for the 1988 and 1992 Olympic freestyle wrestling team, and was eliminated by an injury during the semifinals of the 1996 Olympic Trials.

Benford said he's qualified for the job and there's more to it than what Hewitt is saying.

"I did not get an opportunity to interview for the job," Benford said. "I did what everybody else had to do and put my resume in."

According to Benford, the university decided not to rehire

see COACH, page 7

Rock out with KSHE 95-FM

Come out for the 11th annual tournament 3-on-3 soccer event. The tournament runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The age range of players is 7 to 30.

The money raised will go to Metro FC Soccer Club in Edwardsville. The teams are broken down by skill level and age, which is a major factor in setting up the tournament.

COACH

from page 6

him because of his campaign to keep the wrestling program at SIUE. When told in December 2002 that the program would be axed, he sought private contributions to keep the award-winning program alive. Benford eventually raised more than \$100,000 from outside sources.

"What I've heard from tons of people in the SIUE organization and outside of it is that they probably were not going to rehire me because of what I did to keep the wrestling program," Benford said. "They said I basically contradicted the university by wanting to keep the program when they wanted to get rid of it."

According to Benford, a lot of things changed after he put up a fight.

"My reduction in pay for one thing," Benford said. "They took away my event coordinator position and pay as of July 1. That pay cut hurt and I feel it was unjustified."

Benford said he couldn't even find out exactly why his pay was cut.

"I got in trouble for writing a letter requesting information why my pay was cut," Benford said. "I didn't get any answers for that. I guess what the university's looking for is someone that it can

push around a little bit more and who doesn't want to fight the system."

Benford said his problem with the administration stemmed from the fact that athletic administrators did not handle the situation in a business sense.

"Business is business, and you can't get personal," Benford said. "They forget I'm still a homeowner and a father."

According to Benford, he was more than willing to take a pay cut and work with the university to coach the team.

"I talked with the team and told them that for the sake of the wrestlers I had there, I would put my application in because the wrestlers went through enough last year with the team being almost gone," Benford said. "The wrestlers don't need any more turmoil."

Benford's record in his five years as a head coach was 13-64-1. But, he said, he had a lot of things to look forward to with the coming season.

"This past season we had all of the weight classes full for the first time in a long time. We had more team wins than we had registered in a long time, and the team grade point average was nearly 3.0," Benford said. "I'm gonna miss it."

Campus Recreation www.siu.edu/CREC



Coed Summer Sand Volleyball Team Registration Due: Wed. June 9

Captain's Meeting: Thurs. June 10
League Begins: Tues. June 15



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★5. Yu Shan Shrimp
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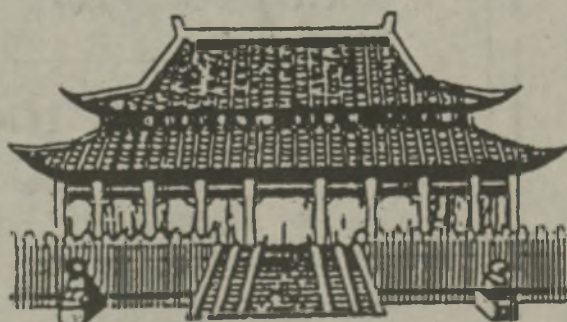
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- 5. Golden Brown Fresh Oysters
- 6. Teriyaki Calamari

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Classified & Personals

◆ PAGE 8

A l e s t l e

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2004 ◆

HELP WANTED

Babysitter during summer. 3 yr. old. Newborn. Daytime hours flexible. 651-9049. Highland. 6/30/04

Haircut models needed for educational training. Men, women, medium to short hair length only. Performed by licensed professional in area salon. Includes consultation on hair design to enhance facial shape and structure. No charge for service. Hendrickson Hair Design Group. 656-4011 6/30/04

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Seeking college student to share 3 bedroom house. 618-973-3963. 6/16/04

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Two bedroom apartment for rent. Glen Carbon. Close to campus. 920-2637 6/9/04

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