THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2004

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Vol. 57, No. 9 ◆

Howard Dean coming Student Fitness

SARAH PETERSON NEWS REPORTER

Former Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean will be on campus to face Newt Gingrich speechwriter Tony Blankley in an election debate at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13.

Dean and Blankley will square off as part of the Arts & Issues series. Two former presidential press secretaries had been scheduled but had to cancel, according to John Peecher. coordinator of the series.

Peecher's announcement at Tuesday's Arts & Issues event, which featured National Public Radio host Garrison Keillor, brought stifled giggles at the

see DEAN, page 4



JOHN PETTITT/DEANFORAMERICA.COM

Howard Dean addresses the South Carolina state **Democratic Convention.**

emocrats meet Senate candidate

KRISTEN REBER **News Editor**

SIUE College Democrats had the opportunity to meet up-and-coming politician Barack Obama Saturday.

"He's running for the (U.S.) Illinois Senate (seat), a Democratic candidate," SIUE College Democrats President Zack St. Ivany said.

July at the Democratic named Obama because his father Convention.

"(He gave a) keynote address at the Democratic convention. It was kind of exciting, he even garnered the support of Republicans and that is why his candidacy is such a big deal right now," St. Ivany said. "It was funny because he was treated like a rock star all of a

Obama garnered attention in sudden. Kids in Kenya are being is from Kenya."

Jerry Costello, the 12th District representative, was also present at the event.

"This was a labor rally for the local unions and the College Dems were volunteering,' College Democrats political affairs director Sarah Crouch

see OBAMA, page 5

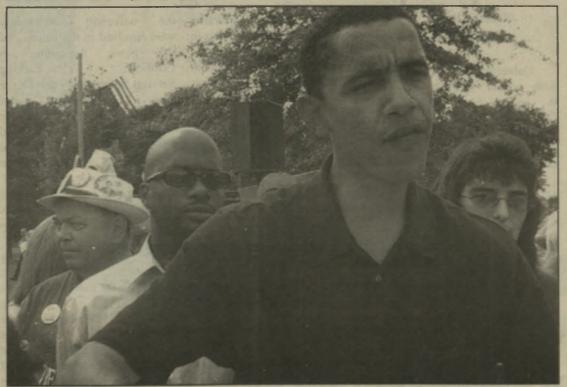


PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH CROUCH

Barack Obama, who is running for a seat representing Illinois in the U.S. Senate, speaks at the Caseyville Labor Rally Saturday.

Center to expand

"It's in response to

within the program,

those trends and in

response to student

-Mick Ostrander,

Campus Recreation

surveys."

observed growth

a need to address

BRENT NAYLOR NEWS REPORTER

Students may soon see construction at the Student Fitness Center, if the Board of

Trustees approves plan for additions to the center.

" (The main addition would be) an expansion above the existing weight room, Director of Campus -Recreation

Mick Ostrander said.

The plan also includes two non-critical options, which are a snack and juice bar and additional office space needed to replace space lost to the snack and juice bar. The add options will be included in the entire construction plan if the price is

"The university can choose

to take from a contractor if the bidding is favorable," Ostrander

The planned addition is in response to increased use of the

> "We've see an explosion in the area of group exercise, club sports, et cetera," Ostrander said. "We're feeling the squeeze as other programs such

kinesthesiology expand.

"It's in response to observed growth within the program, a need to address those trends and in response to student surveys," Ostrander added.

Students do not need to worry about potential fee increases to cover the cost of the project, however.

see FITNESS, page 4

to vote next week

KRISTEN REBER News Editor

As the voting days near for SIUE's non-tenure track faculty union representation, members remain positive on the outcome.

"I am extremely optimistic," SIUE NTT Faculty Association Chair Alan Shiller said. "We have put out an all-out effort in this last week."

"We've also made weekly mailings to our potential supporters and the responses are good," Shiller added. "(The responses) are good to the point that we already have a victory party planned."

The nearly 300 non-tenure track faculty members are set to vote Monday and Tuesday on Illinois Education Association union representation.

"We've gotten a very positive response," IEA Organizer David Vitoff said. "We

look forward to a strong showing Monday and Tuesday as the NTT vote to gain a place at the table."

Last Friday, Student Senate approved resolution supporting the faculty members' efforts to gain union

"I'm glad that students recognize the contribution we make to SIUE," Shiller said. "Their resolution is awesome and I cannot thank them enough."

The NTT faculty members will have a chance to vote from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 8 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday in Founders Hall, Room

Results will be available Tuesday evening.

"They will count the ballot immediately after the polls close at 8 p.m.," Vitoff said.



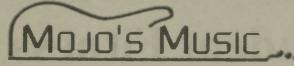
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The ELLA Speaker Series has been founded in part or whole by: Student Activity Fees College of Arts and Sciences

Department of English Language and Literature

Office of Cultural and Social Diversity

Journey to a hate-free millenium

SCHALENE HOUSTON NEWS STRINGER

Students are welcome to attend "Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium" at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Meridian Ballroom of the Morris University Center

The lecture, which is sponsored by the Campus Activities Board, will focus on the effects of, the ending of, and true stories of hate crimes.

Campus Activities Board Adviser Amanda Rainey said this would be a helpful lecture because diversity is an important

"This lecture will hopefully educate the SIUE community about some of the differences in our society and help them become change agents in acceptance and embracing diversity," Rainey said.

Producer and director of "Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium" Brent Harpo will be the keynote speaker. Harpo is an experienced educator, producer, writer, director and actor in Hollywood. He also presents about lectures diversity hate crimes, multiculturalism universities around the nation.

He is the founder of a nonprofit group called New Light Media that is dedicated to stimulating, educating and affecting the world through multimedia works.

Students will view a powerful film that discusses the true stories from national headlines including. massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., the death of James Byrd Jr. and the death of Matthew Shephard. The documentary thoroughly explains the nature and consequences of hatred in society while also raising questions of

how it is taught and learned.

Junior Leslie Jones said she is interested in attending to find out more information.

"I want to go to find out about the views and opinions my peers have on hate issues and hopefully hear some encouraging ideas about ways to resolve and eventually alleviate hate within society," Jones said. She believes abhorrence is still problem in society. "Unfortunately, hate is very prevalent in our community," Jones said.

Harpo will introduce "10 Clean Cut and Concise Ways to Combat Hate" and introduce the "Power of 1" after viewing the film. He will then focus on how one person can make a difference.

For more information, contact Rainey at the Kimmel Leadership Office at 650-2686.

Seminar on international trading

ASHLEY FOREST News Stringer

The International Trade Center is presenting "Exporting 101: The Building Blocks of a Successful International Business" from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 30 in the Morris University Center's Conference Center.

The event is designed to provide ideas for businesses to expand into the global marketplace.

"It's important because it will provide information for small businesses that intend penetrate exploretheinternational market,"

International Trade Center Director for the School of Business Silvia Torres said. "It will be an excellent venue for people wanting to sell products abroad."

Companies from both Missouri and Illinois will be at the event.

Along with the International Trade Center, FedEx, the U.S. Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and the Small Business Administration are sponsoring the event.

The keynote speaker for the event is Jill Brannon, the vice president of international sales for FedEx in Memphis, Tenn. Brannon studied international business in France and has nearly 20 years of experience in the field of business.

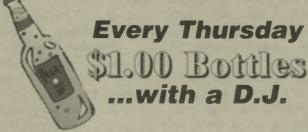
Representatives from the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Illinois Trade Office will also be present to offer advice.

Advanced registration necessary because no registration will be accepted at the door. The deadline for registration is Tuesday and the program fee is \$25.

The seminar includes a continental breakfast, buffet lunch, parking and a package of materials.

For more information, call the International Trade Center at 650-3851 or 650-2452.

DECADES



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Cougar pride leaving its tracks

KRISTEN REBER **News Editor**

University Drive is ablaze with school spirit thanks to the cougar paws painted by

the School Spirit and Pride committee.

"We're not done yet,' School Spirit and Pride Nikki

chairwoman Grashoff said. "We are going to try

Prairie Hall."

to continue on University Drive and on Circle Drive, the road that brings you to Bluff Hall and Woodland Hall and

Early Sunday morning the members of the committee met to paint the paws.

"I think we did about 30," Grashoff said. "Members school spirit committee, which is

university community were involved in the painting of paws. According to the Grashoff, Parking Services donated the paint for the paws Campus Recreation Assistant Director

> Chad designed a stencil of paw prints.

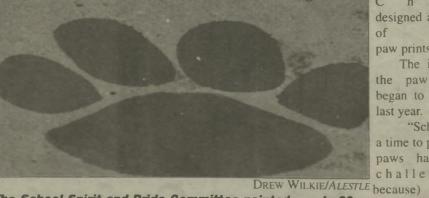
The idea for the paw prints began to develop last year.

"Scheduling a time to paint the paws has been challenging

have to weather

said. "I'm hoping to meet and student government (painted again on Sunday because that is when we have the

see PAWS, page 4



and expand on The School Spirit and Pride Committee painted nearly 30 They Cougar paw prints on University Drive Sunday.

mostly members of CAB conflicting schedules," Grashoff (Campus Activities Board)

> the paws)." Various members

Student advocacy meeting

KRISTEN REBER
NEWS EDITOR

Student Government's Student Advocacy Committee will hold an informational meeting at 12 p.m. Friday in the Kimmel Leadership Center Conference Room.

"Basically, it's a new committee developed by Dell Jones," SAC Chairperson Cristina Baines said. "We'll try to act as a liaison between the student body and the administration of SIUE."

This is the first meeting for chaines@siue.edu.

the organization, which is open to students regardless of major.

"It's going to be comprised of SIUE students interested in increasing their peers' educational experiences by increasing the student population's knowledge," Baines said. "Any student on campus or off campus, graduate and undergraduate can join."

Those interested in joining the committee but unable to attend the informational meeting should contact Baines at 650-4861 or by e-mail at cbaines@siue.edu.

Donations to benefit shelter

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

The SIUE Women's Studies program and SIUE Athletics are offering free admission to the women's volleyball game at 7 p.m. Wednesday, to anyone who donates an item to help abused women and their children.

The Cougars will play the Screaming Eagles of the University of Southern Indiana.

All the collected items will

go to the Oasis Women's Center, a domestic violence shelter in

Such items as personal care products, small alarm clocks, baby care products, underwear, dishes and utensils are needed.

Items may also be dropped off in Peck Hall Room 0230 or Room 3047. However, the free admission is only for those who donate at the Vadalabene Center game night.

READ THE ALESTLE.

Police Incidents —

Traffie =

9/7/04

Police issued a citation to Teresa C. Price for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and a written warning for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Kelly Jewell for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and a written warning for driving on the sidewalk on North Circle Drive.

Police responded to a report of an automobile accident on Lot A-South. Police issued Carol A. Cowell a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

Police issued a citation to Thomas S. Taylor for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and a written warning issued for disobeying a stop sign in Lot 5G.

Police issued a citation to Michelle R. Weber for unauthorized handicap parking.

9/8/04

Police issued a citation to Thomas Palazzolo for speeding on Stadium Drive.

9/10/04

Police issued a citation to John P. Jackson for unauthorized handicap parking.

Police issued a citation to Bianca J. Vance for speeding on South University Drive at University Park Drive.

Police issued a citation to Lisa N. Keeton for expired registration on Circle Drive at Whiteside.

9/11/04

Police issued a citation to Krista M. Snipes for a stop sign violation at the entrance to Lot B.

Police responded to Cougar Village after a report regarding a traffic accident. Police issued a citation to Ryan E. Powell for driving under the influence. Powell posted bond and was released.

9/12/0-

Police issued a citation to Jadah L. Green for speeding and a written warning for a stop sign violation on North Circle Drive.

Liquo

9/11/04

Police arrested Martin Sutherland for illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor. Sutherland posted bond and was released with a notice to appear.

9/7/04

Police arrested Carl Weatherford for theft in connection with a fake hangtag. Weatherford was processed and released with a notice to appear.

Other Offences

9/12/04

Police responded to a report in Cougar Village regarding a noise complaint. Police arrested Jason S. Holler for disorderly conduct. He was released after posting bond and given a notice to appear.

Police arrested Derrick L. Gray on an SIUE warrant. Gray posted bond at Fairview Heights Police Department.

Practice Quiz for SIUE Non-Tenure Track Faculty

Which of the choices below best completes the following statement:

"I have a lot of options at SIU-Edwardsville;

1. like it or lump it.

2. love it or leave it.

3. grin and bear it.

4. vote for a union, gain collective bargaining rights and negotiate a contract.



On Sept. 27-28, it'll count. Vote for the Non-Tenure Track Faculty Association

Polls open both days 8 am to 1 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm, Founders Hall 3101. For more info: www.siuntt.org



PAWS from page 2

least amount of traffic."

While the School Spirit and Pride committee organized the event, everyone is welcome to join in on the painting.

"If anyone wants to paint contact Grashoff at 650-3820.

the paws on campus, it's open to all students." Grashoff said.

For more information on joining the School Spirit and Pride committee or helping with the paw painting,

FITNESS from page 1

"(The cost) we're envisioning \$1.27 million, and that's for the entire project," Ostrander said. "The funding for the project will be taken from a 'Triple R' account, which is for repair, replacement, reserve.

"The campus recreation

office has been saving up for this for a few years."

If approved, the expansion is expected to take close to two

Campus Recreation is hoping to propose the project in November.

DEAN from page 1

mention of Gingrich while the mention of Dean received a mocking "Dean scream."

Dean, former governor of Vermont, will make the appearance as a replacement for Joe Lockhart, who cannot attend due to his involvement in the Kerry-Edwards campaign.

"We regret not being able to bring presidential press secretaries Marlin Fitzwater and Lockhart to campus. Dean and

Issues audience with a spirited debate on the 2004 presidential election," Peecher said.

"Both are well-informed Beltway pros and will give us insight in to Washington, D.C., and national politics."

Blankley is a regular panelist on the "McLaughlin Group" and appears with Chris Matthews on "Hardball." He will replace Fitzwater, a former press secretary for Presidents Ronald Blankley will provide the Arts & Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

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OBAMA from page 1

said.

"Congressman Jerry
Costello spoke and introduced
Barack Obama, a candidate for
the U.S. Senate seat. Obama
is one of those truly incredible
men and to get to see him
speak was such a
great experience."

St. Ivany added, "It was all pretty progressive. They talked about bettering America. It was a labor rally, so we talked about getting jobs here and stopping outsourcing.

"We went to Robert Stephens' office," St. Ivany said. "(Stephens) is the regional campaign manager for Barack Obama and he gave us a few dates (we could volunteer for)."

The College Democrats directed traffic and passed out information and signs to participants.

The group was among the audience members who

were able to get up close and personal with Obama.

"We got to shake
h a n d s
with Obama and take a group
picture with him," St. Ivany said.
According to St.

Ivany, Obama autographed six signs at the event for the College Democrats.

"We're going to auction them off to raise money for the College Democrats," St. Ivany said.

SIUE's College Democrats reorganized in the spring semester.

"(The SIUE) College
Democrats is about getting
out into the political world
and getting involved,"
Crouch said. "I feel that we
can really make a difference
in this election and to have
the opportunity to make
that difference is incredible."

For more information, go to the College Democrats Web site siue.edu/STACTV/DEMOCRATS/.

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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?
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The Alestle

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

Opinions Editorial viewpoints Editorial

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2004

Alestle

PAGE 6



I bought "The Sims 2" Friday, and as of Sunday night my brain had been reduced to something with roughly the texture and mental capacity of a skinned kumquat.

It's more addictive than "Puzzle Bobble" or "Yahoo Text Twist"

"The Sims 2" is supposed to be a life simulation game, and as far as I can tell, it's right on the money.

I created a Sim in my likeness and with my attributes, which wasn't difficult. I then chose to make my Sim's life mission to strive for popularity.

You learn a lot about

'Sims' leads to change in columnist's lifestyle

yourself when you play a game like "The Sims 2" and plug yourself into it. For instance, I learned that nobody likes me, no women want to woohoo with me, and after living a short life filled

khakis" theory

"The Sims 2" isn't like most games where you play for an hour or so and stop. I sat around for an entire day making my little trooper eat, sleep, shower, go to guide a Sim through four years at SIUE while making such crucial decisions as: will your person be a class-cutter, how big of a partier will the Sim be, will the Sim get involved in extracurriculars, will your person go to the gym, what will the dating life be like and will your Sim graduate on time?

To add more difficulty to the game, you can have nurses chasing around students who aren't up to date on their shots with needles, you have to keep your apartment clean to pass inspections, you have to get a spot on the Cougar Shuttle between 8 and 10 a.m. on the 400-side of Cougar Village and you have to stay out of trouble with the police.

And, if you have any free time, I recommend trading in the Tostino's Party Pizzas and eating something healthy, like a kumquat.

Travis L. Ross Columnist Radiomn 1 @hotmail.com

"Maybe SIUE should have the computer science department build a program called SIUE: The Sims."

with rejection I'm destined to die of electrocution because my mechanical skills aren't high enough.

Needless to say I didn't feel like getting out of bed the next morning or using my electric shaver.

So, in a quest for a more positive result, I plugged my little loser back into the equation. This time he got a good job, got lucky, got married and had a kid. It's the whole, "First you've gotta get the

the bathroom, go to work, study, paint, clean up and try to get lucky. His life is more exciting than mine, and he doesn't even really do anything.

If the game could only be a little more applicable to my life, I could almost justify playing so much. Maybe SIUE should have the computer science department build a program called "SIUE: The Sims."

Instead of guiding a little person through life, you can

I am writing out of fear. Fear that Brad Branham's conservative Christian views would be generalized to represent the views of all Christians. As peer minister for United Campus Ministries, a progressive ministry, I do not agree with Branham's beliefs, nor how he presented them.

I acknowledge that everyone is entitled to his or her own values, opinions and beliefs. To ensure balance, please listen to the other side of the story.

In his letter, Branham made reference to homosexual marriage being "devastating to the children of America." Do you know any children with gay parents? I do. In fact, they are quite happy and "normal." I am not saying that to be a child with two fathers or two mothers would be the easiest situation, however, loving parents are loving no matter their orientation.

Furthermore, Branham was "appalled" that feminists would

think a mother is "not needed for the healthy development of a child." Sir, you have misunderstood feminism. As a feminist (by the way I am not hairy or man-hating), I can say that feminists work toward equality, meaning that roles, such as child rearing, are not a "woman's" or a "man's" job. Therefore, a woman may not be necessary, just as a man may not be required for running a church service or a business.

I also do not feel that

homosexual marriage "opens the door" for legal polygamy. They are not the same, even if you consider them to be so.

Branham also stated that legal homosexual marriages would lead to more divorces in heterosexual couples. This is not a fact. Please do not state it as one. Marriage is socially constructed. There are other cultures that have constructed different definitions of marriage and still have functioned quite

see MINISTER, page 7

Student refutes anti-gay marriage arguement

I would like to thank Pastor Branham for bringing up a controversial subject; it makes reading the Alestle so much more meaningful.

I do agree with Branham's statement, "SIUE students have much more at stake this election year than potentially at any other time in history." However, that is where my agreement ends, and while the pastor is certainly entitled to his opinions, I must respectfully dissent.

There are so many companies and universities who are offering same-sex benefits to

the partners of their employees and there is a national divide of such magnitude that this issue will come up until all involved parties are satisfied. I applaud SIUE in its recent addition of supporting same-sex partners. This university is obligated to a progressive attitude as a center of higher education. This shows respect for all relationships and the inherent dignity for all people.

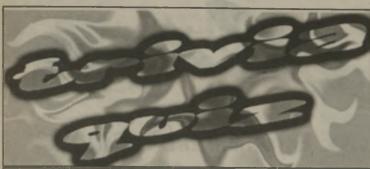
I look forward to the debates sponsored by the Campus Activities Board, as I am sure many others do. And though a very good point is made that many churches will be holding midweek services, I encourage the opponents of gay marriage to express their faith in another way, to come to this debate and to support their point of view in the best way possible.

I would also like to ask why there is such opposition to gay marriage. The reasons seem to dance around family values, the economy and personal belief. Permit me to address each of these in detail.

The idea of needing one heterosexual father and one

heterosexual mother for normal psychological, emotional and spiritual development is a notion that is past its prime. In a March 9 report from The Boston Globe titled, "What can social science add to the gay marriage debate?" it is reported that more than 50 various studies "have found no significant differences between children raised by heterosexual or homosexual parents." Even conceding that studies such as these are preliminary at best, the early results look promising for proponents of gay adoptions.

see ARGUEMENT, page 7



How many people participated in the Nursing Scholarship Walk Saturday?

submit answers to the Alestle office by noon Monday.

Quote of the Day

"Nothing fixes a thing so intensely in the memory as the wish to forget it." ~ Michel de Montaigne

MINISTERfrom page 6

nation's economy that I could not possibly begin to cover in one letter. I wonder if Branham supports the war; and if so, does he know how much money it is costing our country? To stay on topic, I will say that I believe all spouses experience the trials of married life and all deserve the same benefits.

Branham used the term "hate Many factors affect the crime" quite loosely. I am rather put off by that. Our nation should be proud of our freedom of speech, and Branham may teach what he likes to his church youth. It is his choice.

> Christianity and other equally worthy religions are built around the ideal of loving our neighbors. We cannot choose our neighbors, just like we cannot

choose our family.

If anyone would like to discuss any of these issues or others, all are welcome to come with an open mind for discussion during a Spiritual Growth Group from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Religious Center.

> Junior Sara Carpenter Peer Minister, United Campus Ministries

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ARGUEMENTfrom page 6

There is also some fuss over the exact interpretation of Lawrence v. Texas, which is only a partial victory for gay rights advocates. Although the case began as a challenge to Texas' laws that criminalize all homosexual interaction, the case was taken to the Supreme Court where "five justices claimed that the law violates equal protection rights by discriminating between homosexuals and heterosexuals."

To make myself clear, gay marriage is still about the right for one man and one man or one woman and one woman to be recognized legal as relationship. Tom Green's claim to use this case as a basis to legalize polygamy is unfounded.

Branham also stated, "if marriage is redefined, the door will be opened for divorces to be a religious institution and obtained instantly, further will always be so. But it's been jeopardizing our nation's shown throughout time that others and create a second class children." It seems to be a the church has also played other of citizens. common assumption that gay roles such as a governing entity, marriages are prone, in fact a police force and this year one inclined, to fail. The legalization of the world's largest, of gay marriage does not open the strongest, most organized and

doors to an easier divorce. Why is it that when two men get married, heterosexual relationship should be more easily dissolved? Keep the divorce standards the same. Just because mechanism of marriage has changed does not mean the mechanism for divorce has to change too.

The idea that gay marriage will further damage an already fragile economy is absurd. What if all the homosexual men and women married heterosexually? They are still entitled to Social Security when their time comes. Let these men and women love whom they choose to love. Economy makes no difference, the solution to "an already overburdened system" is reform, not exclusion.

The church has always been

best funded political action committees.

Branham stated that the legalization of gay marriage would allow the state to interfere in the affairs of the church. If the church can indeed influence the state, then why is it so unthinkable to say that the state can regulate the church? Unless the freedom of speech is unconditionally repealed, I can think of no scenario which speaking out, or preaching against, homosexuality or gay marriage can be classified as a hate crime. I loathe to ring the bell, but separation of church and state is separation of church and state. No exceptions.

If there is reason to be alarmed, it is not because the "homosexual agenda" is moving of intolerance heterosexuals seeks to repress

> Respectfully submitted, Michael W. DeMoss Senior, Political Science



Student Leadership Development Program & Volunteer Services

Modules

Module 15, 2:00 p.m. Community Change: What a Leader Needs to Know Rudy Wilson, Assistant Provost for Social & Cultural Diversity, SIUE Board Room, MUC

9/28/04

Module 5, 6:30 p.m. **Group Process** Capt. Carla Hughes Army R.O.T.C., SIUE Student Fitness Center

10/5/04

Module 6, 2:00 p.m. Assess Your Service & Leadership Style Renee Johnson, Community Development Board Room, MUC

Module 16, 6:30 p.m. Developing Self-Esteem Megan Edmundson, Prevention Specialist Chestnut Board Room, MUC

SLDP Reminders....

Volunteer Projects
September 25 – Snare Food Co-op, Granite City, IL October 2 - St. Vincent dePaul Thrift Store, E. St. Louis, IL October 23 - Share Food, Granite City, IL. October 30 - Computer Rehab, Washington Park, IL

For more information and the calendar, contact the Kimmel Leadership Center at extension 2686 or visit the website at www.siue.edu/KIMMEL/SLDP

Have a comment? Send a letter to the editor. alestle_editor@hotmail.com



See how students rate SIUE

From freshman orientation to walking at graduation, students' opinions are analyzed to determine what they think about the university. Assessments offer students the opportunity to voice their opinions on such topics as teacher effectiveness and extracurricular activities

EMILY TAUL
LIFESTYLES STRINGER

SIUE students' recent end-ofsemester assessment has once again brought about appealing thoughts to professors, their curricula, and how SIUE rates

The myth of students giving professors better evaluations if they give higher grades was resolved by the results of the last response to assessment questions.

First, students evenly agreed and disagreed that professors who grade easier receive higher evaluations.

Students also said that they learned more from the professors who graded them harder, personally, than those who graded easier. The last point made was students believed they learned more from professors who reviewed

graded their papers and assignments more quickly.

Graduating students provided this information on the backside of their "marching card" prior to their processional. Their 90 percent response rate stated some of their thoughts of the educational process at SIUE over the last few years.

Just as Douglas Eder, director of Undergraduate Assessment and Program Review, believes, the student assessment is the process of monitoring their learning process, not the professors teaching

"The SIUE assessment process consists of three tests, when the students come in, one at the middle point and 'the assessment jewel,' the senior assignment," Eder said.

There are numerous reasons that SIUE attracts students, the top being, as Eder said, "location, price and quality."

"One main reason students should be attracted to SIUE is the production of students with the predictors of success," Eder said.

He also thinks the best assessment of the true student beliefs of SIUE academics is the senior assignment. By attending these assessments, Eder can get a true feel, The following question was included on the
Marching Card Assessment
Commencement of Summer, 2004
Total number of undergraduate respondents = 188
(90% response rate)

1. Overall, SIUE students give higher end-of-semester evaluations to professors who grade easier.

Because only two baccalaureate nursing students graduated this term, nursing results are not included in order to protect the privacy of the respondents.

attraction to SIUE was its reasonable price.

Mitchell, who has not had the opportunity to assess his professors yet said, "I am looking for a teacher who explains themselves well, especially in class lectures, which will show in my teacher evaluations."

Students also have the opportunity to assess each teacher after the end of each semester.

"I take the evaluation process seriously, but

e s p e c i a l l y
depending on
my opinion of the
teacher and class,"
Derrick Clem, a
s o p h o m o r e
pharmacy major, said.

"I take the e v a I u a t i o n s seriously, not only if I don't like my teacher, because I don't want to sneer at someone who did a good job," Paul Gibson, a senior mechanical engineering major, said

The senior assignment that is expected of every graduating student is an engagement between the student and his or her professors. Its use is to make their knowledge and curriculum visible, and helps professors assess themselves and their students.

Every assignment is different, but they all share the same goal of assessing a student's knowledge and creativity through curriculum. The senior assignment caps a bachelor's degree at SIUE.

Mike Harman, a senior computer science major, is presently working on his own senior assignment.

"It consists of an add-on to the Financial Aid department Web site," Harman said. "I am five weeks into it and I have until the end of next semester. I believe it is a good test of my knowledge, and while I'm learning more in class to develop the project further, the project itself is a learning process."

Different departments have better techniques and management with the assignment, but the important factor, according to Eder, is that teachers learn about themselves as professors, just as much as they do their students.

For comments or questions, contact Eder at Undergraduate Assessment, Box 1300, or siue.edu/assessment.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Arts & Sciences	8	26	27	17	7
Business	4	14	19	24	1.1
Education	2	6	12	7	0
Engineering	0	6	3	3	0
Nursing	TOTAL PARTY OF THE				
Total	14	52	61	51	8

Mission Statement of the Undergraduate Assessment & Program Review The Undergraduate Research Academy

FIRST

- *To help the University and its elements answer the question, "What are we about?"
- *To help the University and its elements monitor the extent to which we are doing what we say we're doing,
- *To imbue the University and its elements with the scholarship of assessment so that assessment responsibility is distributed, improvements occur, and reflective practice becomes the norm.
- *To achieve the three goals above with integrity and in an atmosphere of trust so that shared enjoyment of teaching and learning flourishes.

SECOND:

- *To marshal and distribute substantial support for assessment activities,
- *To engage and celebrate students for their active participation in Assessment and Academy processes,
- *To model reflective practice through the work of individuals, teams, committees, and academic units,
- *To seek and respect diverse opinions,
- *To generate an environment wherein leaders and practitioners of assessment relish the pleasures of reflective, effective feedback.

and assess SIUE himself.

As director of the campus assessment program, Eder gives two reasons for testing colleges.

It is first a way for the professors to find out if they are demonstrating what they want in class. And second, it appeals to exterior agencies looking for statistics

and data.

The first chance students get to rate SIUE is when they come into the school as freshmen. The questions asked of them are typical, distance of home, income, means of tuition payment and so on.

Kristopher Mitchell, a freshman who is undecided in his major, said his main

Keillor's appearance draws sold-out crowd

SARAH PETERSON LIFESTYLES REPORTER

The man whose voice has captivated Americans for more than 30 years was revealed as a down-to-earth human, although his storytelling may not have anything to do with reality.

Garrison Keillor, best known for his National Public Radio show "The Prairie Home Companion," kicked off the Arts & Issues season Tuesday with song, poetry and stories.

"I didn't immediately recognize him, but I recognized his voice," said Sue Vandegrift, wife of Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift.

Although this thought may have been shared by many, it didn't take anyone long at the pre-performance reception to figure out that the man dressed in a sport coat, jeans and bright red tennis shoes with hair hanging down over his eyes had to be

When the chancellor asked him if the shoes, as well as his red tie, had anything to do with the SIUE school colors, Keillor responded that he was either astute or else very lucky. Keillor later said he's been wearing a red tie for years and that the shoes just sort of came

It is well known that he considers himself to be shy, much to the surprise of his listeners, but he is as he says. The softspoken man dealt with asking for autographs of his 12 books and various compact discs, always taking time to Garrison Keillor



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.COMMENCEMENT.HARVARD.EDU description of

listen and never in a

While one would typically consider at. evening entertainment to be a "show," nothing Keillor did could be considered "showy." He began sharing his rich bass voice with a simple rendition of "Git Along, Little Dogie," but quickly moved storytelling.

Most tales of Lake Wobegon were probably as fictitious as the town itself, but in true Minnesotan style the Norwegians Lutherans - mostly the same people anyway were on the losing end of the tales. The loudest laugh came from a Norwegians as people being "embarrassed even to hear a word like intersection."

The association between smells and memories often came up as he talked, but most vivid were his descriptions of winters in the North for the folks in Southern Illinois who he said only experience fall until spring

"In Minnesota, winter is when nature makes a couple of serious attempts to kill us,' Keillor told the sold-out audience in the Meridian Ballroom.

In spite of primarily having what Arts & Issues Coordinator John Peecher calls a "baby boomer" and "Lands' End" crowd, Keillor took some time to speak in general terms to the college students.

He playfully warned that being stuck in radio for 30 years as he has with no other career options is "something that may happen to you, young people, if you don't keep your job skills

St. Louis jazz band lightens CAB PLANS FOR FRIGHT FEST up Goshen Lounge Monday TO SPOOK MORE STUDENTS

AMBER ERNST LIFESTYLES STRINGER

Funky jazz will fill the Goshen Lounge from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday during the Goshen Showcase.

The jazz band, Farshid etniKo, will entertain students with a free concert.

"This semester we have been very fortunate in contacting and hiring well-known musicians from the St. Louis area," promotion/marketing graduate assistant Tolun Ozarslan said.

"I have found that the Goshen Showcase is a great way to provide a little stress relief for the busy students of SIUE," Ozarslan said.

According Farshid farshidetniko.com, "Latin jazz and world music influence bring the audience a new experience listening and dancing pleasure.'

The five-member band uses drums, acoustic guitar, percussion, mandolin, harmonica and electric bass to create a unique sound.

"Extremely talented and versatile musicians, Farshid etniKo combines gypsy jazz, Latin and world music to create unique sounds from original creations to jazz standards and songs with a Latin flavor and Persian touch," according to a 2002 review in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The nearly four-year-old group has released two albums, "Nightmare in Heaven" and

"Circle of Nomads."

According to the Web site, the later CD represents "our most recent musical explorations."

The group has performed in many festivals and has opened concerts for artists such as Greg Adams, Cassandra Wilson and Angelique Kidjo at The Pageant in St. Louis.

"It's no stretch to say Farshid etniKo has a unique sound. The band melds Latin jazz with world music. instrumentation is precise and pulsating," a Suburban Journal review once said.

For more information about the band, visit the Web site or contact Farshid etniKo by e-mail at farshidetniKo@yahoo.com or by phone at (314) 647-4288 or

AMBER ERNST LIFESTYLES STRINGER

The annual SIUE trip to Fright Fest at Six Flags St. Louis theme park is coming up Oct. 23. This will be the third year this trip has been available to SIUE

"I didn't attend last year but

am hoping to make it out this there уеаг, " sophomore Katie Costigan

This event is cosponsored by t h e

Recreation Chair Wesley Copper and the Family Programming Chair Erika Sanders.

"Last year's turnout was so available. Students simply need good that we had to order more tickets. We are hoping for a large turnout again this year," Copper

According to sixflags.com, "for horrifically frightful days in October, Six Flags St. Louis hosts the

Midwest's largest most diverse Halloween extravaganza. Fright enjoy themselves while still Fest offers Halloween excitement ranging from bone-chilling thrills to family-oriented festivities. Fright Fest will be presented Oct.

8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31.1

Thanks to Campus Activities Board, students can buy tickets at a discounted price of \$10 per

However, students are limited to buying only two tickets per student I.D.

Students can purchase

"Last year's turnout was so good that we had to order more tickets..."

> ~ Wesley Cooper, CAB Recreation Chair

tickets at the Morris University Center's Information Center.

Transportation is also

to sign up on the bus list at the Information Center purchasing the ticket.

The current plan is to leave the MUC meter lot at 10 a.m. and meet to leave Six Flags at 10 p.m.

> "The purpose for this event is students

getting their education," Copper

For more information, e-mail CAB at cab@siue.edu.

International Film Fest continues with Latino theme about women

KARA SCHUFFERT LIFESTYLES STRINGER

The International Film Fest series will feature its third film, "Real Women Have Curves," Monday, Oct. 4, in the Abbot Auditorium.

This Campus Activities Board event not only offers a free movie presentation accompanied by free popcorn and soda, but also makes available an occasion to be culturally educated through

Melanie Rodrigues, the multicultural programs chair of

the CAB, says that watching the selected films gives students, faculty and staff the opportunity to appreciate the trivial things that we take for granted as there are other cultures that are not as fortunate as us.

"'Real Women Have Curves' is a movie that defies all the and common stereotypes towards misrepresentations Latino women," Rodrigues explained. "It shines a new light on their lives and portrays them as deeply motivated and hardworking women."

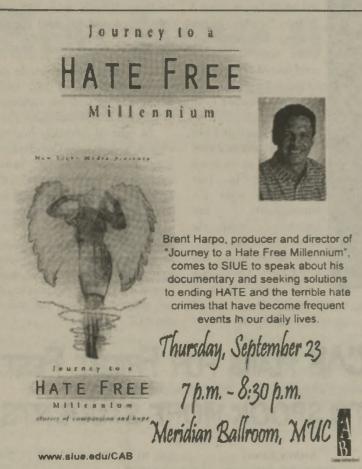
Rodrigues said that the

motion picture, based on the play by Josefina Lopez, is one of the few movies today that features minorities in substantial

This is a film that gives its viewers a glimpse of a day in the life of a Latino woman in a film that contains both drama and

Rodrigues said that there was a large turnout for the last film, "Shrek 2," and they hope for the same great crowd for the upcoming international movies. For more information, contact the CAB at 650-2686.





Next Livewire serves as prelude to Chingy

THOMAS C. PHILLIPS III
LIFESTYLES STRINGER

After hosting three Livewire concerts to kick off the fall semester, Campus Activities Board is slowing down and hosting one free concert from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 5 in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

Rhythm and blues and hiphop artist Jerry Jackson will perform as this year's fourth performer in the Livewire series.

Jackson, formerly of the band BY Request, is attempting a shot toward a successful solo career. He sings and plays guitar accompanied by backup vocalists.

Jackson is also performing to build a buzz for the upcoming Chingy concert scheduled for Friday, Oct. 29.

CAB representative
Michelle Charbonnier said the
concert should be a lively
experience for all who attend.

"Jerry Jackson is a very talented performer, and we had the opportunity to see him perform last year with BY Request," Charbonnier said. "I hope people get the chance to come out and see him perform."

Charbonnier added that having an R&B and hip-hop act, CAB hopes to entice big concertgoers and that these concerts will promote other Livewire events.

"We hope this gets people excited about the Chingy concert," Charbonnier said. "And for those who have never been to a Livewire event, come by and check us out. It's fun and entertaining for all."

For more information on Livewire events, contact C harbonnier at astpenguin4888@yahoo.com, or contact CAB at 650-3371.

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Divine Nine Informational

Guest Speaker: Lawrence Ross (Author of the Divine Nine)
Alpha Phi Alpha Iota Phi Theta Omega Psi Phi Phi Beta Sigma Kappa Alpha Psi



Alpha Kappa Alpha Delta Sigma Theta Zeta Phi Beta Sigma Gamma Rho

When: Monday, September 27

Time: 7:00 P.M

Place: Conference Rooms in UC



Kallie Harrison impressive on and off the golf course



AUBREY WILLIAMS/ALESTLE

Kallie Harrison attempts a putt at the Cougar Classic earlier this season. Harrison's excellent play on the golf course has helped both her and her team reach impressive goals this season.

> **ZACH GROVES** SPORTS REPORTER

In her second year with the

force in National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II golf.

Last season Harrison women's golf program, established a school record sophomore Kallie Harrison has shooting a 79.9 per match, per established herself as a driving 18 holes and helped lead the

team to its first Great Lakes Valley Conference championship. So far this season, Harrison has unloaded on the fairway, shooting a 77.2 per match, per 18 holes and winning the Cougar Classic.

Harrison believes that her drive to succeed and her modest style of play come from playing on an all-boys golf team at St. Teresa High School in Decatur, where she played varsity golf all four

"Coming from a boys team in high school, I sometimes look at (my achievements) individual's perspective," she said. "It's not the best way to look at it, but I just do what I need to do to make myself better. Last year, in trying to play my best and do my best out there, I think that made a statement to the other girls and it (raised the bar). If I want to keep my playing spot, I'm going to have to step it

Harrison's goals and her teammates' motivation push her to play better each time she steps onto a course.

"This weekend (the Illinois Wesleyan University Classic), I had certain goals going into this tournament that I wanted to accomplish," she said. "I didn't play as well as I wanted to, but I had my teammates to back me up. That was great, as I really needed this and appreciated it. The girls and I get along so well and it's just awesome."

Harrison started swinging the clubs when she was 7 years

"My parents (belonged) to a country club and exposed me and my sisters to golf," she said. "We began in the junior golf program and we'd (shoot) five holes to start and then go out and play. I started playing serious when I was 14, and I played tournaments in the summer and became addicted. I worked hard at it over the years and started to enjoy it. Now, I can't get enough," Harrison said with a laugh.

Her passion translated into victory as she placed second at the regional championship her sophomore year of high school, and won it the following year.

Harrison claims her best finish was when she took 18th at state that year. Eventually, SIUE took notice of her talent.

"I was offered more scholarships here and I'm also here on an academic scholarship, which was a big help to my parents as I want to study pre-med," she said.

Not only is Harrison a leader on the golf course but she also intends to be a leader in the classroom.

"I'm still deciding between several major fields, but radiology has come up a lot," she said. "I know I'm going to med school, but I still want to do some more job shadowing."

Throughout her golf career, she has looked up to many legends. She said her favorites are Tiger Woods, Ernie Els, Vijay Singh and Annika Sorenstam.

"In eighth grade, I got to meet Vijay," she said with a laugh. As for Woods, she said she is impressed with "how he overcame racial barriers to take it to where people were taking (golf) seriously."

One would think all this success would go to her head but modesty is Harrison's

"I'm the kind that does not linger in success very long," Harrison said. "After I won our home tournament (Cougar Classic), people looked at me

see HARRISON, page 14

Former Cougar Baseballer Rakers makes it to the "Bigs"

JONG CAMBRON SPORTS REPORTER

Roger "The Rocket" Clemens, Derek "Mr. November" Jeter, Randy "The Big Unit" Johnson and SIUE alumnus Aaron Rakers. What do they have in common?

Rakers, 27, of Trenton, joined an elite group of professional Major League Baseball players when he pitched in his first game in the majors Sept. 8.

Rakers played for the Cougars for two seasons starting in 1998. He ended his

two-year career with 192 strikeouts, which is good for fifth place on the SIUE's alltime list. He is also only one of players SIUE to register more than 100 strikeouts in one season. Raker struck out 109 players in fewer innings in 102 1999

"He was absolutely an allstar," head coach Gary Collins

Collins described Rakers as one of the best go-to pitchers he knows.

"If I needed a big game see RAKERS, page 14

Hockey looks to build on success

JONG CAMBRON SPORTS REPORTER

The SIUE Cougar Hockey Club skated to the best record in finishing 25-6-0.

Mid-America Collegiate Hockey Association championship after finishing first in the conference.

But the Cougars' success did not guarantee a spot in the prestigious national tournament. There are more than 110 teams in the American Collegiate Hockey Association Division II and only 16 made the national tournament.

According to head coach Larry Thatcher, playing in the national championship

difficult to accomplish.

The ACHA only takes four teams from the Cougars' division, the Central Division. which has more than 70 club history last season, registered teams. Last season, the Cougars finished 10th in the The team won 80 percent of rankings, which rely heavily on its games and took the strength of schedule, good wins and bad losses.

> Thatcher is a voting member of the ranking committee and said he sometimes does not understand how the system works.

"It's very subjective and the power rankings are real unscientific," Thatcher said.

The team has scheduled several tough opponents for the upcoming season to help raise its power rankings. The Cougars will face Miami University, the University of Ferris Oklahoma,

University, Central Michigan University and the University of Kentucky.

The five teams finished in the top 10 in the power rankings last season. Miami and Central Michigan qualified for the national tournament last season. The University of Oklahoma is a Division I club.

Thatcher hopes challenging schedule will open some eyes of the voters and help the team reach its longterm goal of moving up to Division I.

The club held tryouts in late August and 43 people came out. Many of the students were returning players. No cuts were made, and the players were split into varsity and junior varsity teams.

> Thatcher is relying on see HOCKEY, page 14



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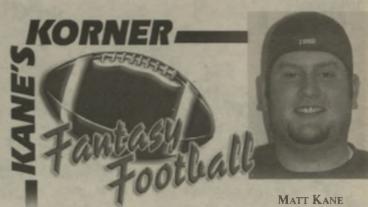
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Last week I said that if the Kansas City Chiefs could figure out a way to stop the run, they could be a Super Bowl contender.

DeShaun Foster of the Carolina Panthers apparently didn't read the column. He ran all over the KC defense and picked up 174 yards Sunday.

Therefore, this week I am saying the Chiefs defense is easier to score off of than Courtney Love on prom night. Anytime your running back is up against KC, make sure he is in the starting lineup of your fantasy football team.

Houston Texans running back Domanick Davis will get a chance to run against that doormat of a defense in Week 3. Davis is what the kids call a complete back. He runs fast, catches well, blocks guys 50 pounds heavier and probably cooks a mean chicken parmesan.

In two games this season Davis has 165 rushing yards as well as 165 receiving yards. So not only does he have great versatility, but also he is a playmaker who should run wild against the Chiefs in Week 3.

In Week 2, the St. Louis

Rams gave up 109 rushing yards to Atlanta Falcon quarterback Michael Vick.

In Week 3, the Rams face another scrambling quarterback in Aaron Brooks when the Rams take on the New Orleans Saints in St. Louis. Brooks may be passing even more because running back Deuce McAllister is out for four to five weeks with a high ankle sprain

For those of you who are looking to the Indianapolis Colts to boost your standing in your league, here is a word of caution.

Colts Coach Tony Dungy is one of the best defensive minds in the game today. This is his third year as head coach. This year, however, injuries are killing the secondary in Indy.

In Week 3, the Colts face Brett Favre and the Green Bay Packers. With three of the four starting secondary sidelined with injuries, Favre should have a huge day.

How's your fantasy team doing? Are you hitting the pits or are you at the top of your league? Let me know at kaneskomer@hotmail.com.

That's all from Kane's Korner.

Volleyball sweeps McKendree College

ZACH GROVES
SPORTS REPORTER

Teamwork and hard-played defense were the keys for the volleyball team as it swept McKendree College Tuesday night in Lebanon.

The Cougars played without junior outside hitter Kindra Westendorf, a defensive catalyst who was nursing an injury, but the other outside hitters stepped up with power to record 56 digs.

Head coach Todd Gober mixed the lineup a little bit, and was impressed by the results.

"We (played) the way we hoped we would, and that night we could use a different number of combinations. No matter what lineup, we were still executing."

These changes proved to be big defensively for outside hitters juniors Allison Buss and Shannon Winkeler as well as sophomore Beth Degreef. Degreef led the way with 18 digs while Winkeler notched 12 and Buss chipped in with 10.

"Beth swung outside this time (in place of Westendorf) as well as Allison, and giving us confidence at the position. "We do have depth," Gober said.

Gober also believed the Cougars improved their play by "everyone getting into the game.

"(Sophomore middle hitter)
Jamie Jones did a really nice job
and (sophomore opposite hitter)
Melissa Spann did a great job
on the right side. Those two
made a lot of aggressive swings,
and the defense won it for us,"
Gober said.

According to junior middle hitter Tina Talsma, the game was fun, and also good preparation for the team's matchup against conference rival, the Northern Kentucky University Norse.

"McKendree came out see VOLLEYBALL, page 14

Women's soccer on fire heading into homestand

TRAVIS L. ROSS ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

After shooting the lights out against Kentucky Wesleyan and winning a grudge match at Southern Indiana, it looks like the women's soccer team has finally found its stride.

"It's a big confidence booster," head coach Lynda Bowers said. "Last year we were on a roll until we hit conference play, where we just

The Cougars blistered the Kentucky Wesleyan College Panthers 6-0. Six different players accounted for all six

Bowers said the 2-1 win over the University of Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles was anything but smooth. Senior Ann Crawford netted both goals for the Cougars and was tabbed Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Week for her efforts.

"It was an absolute rugby match," Bowers said. "They came out foaming at the mouth because they had been without a win in a while. We came out a little slow, but we came out after halftime and scored two quick goals."

Bowers said in a match like that she's just glad nobody got

"I think they carried four people off of the field and one in an ambulance," Bowers said. "We were just really fortunate that nobody on our team got ejected or hurt."

According to Bowers, her team isn't going to let its threegame winning streak in which the Cougars have outscored opponents 9-1 go to its

"I feel like every time we enter a game or practice there's something we can improve on," Bowers said.

And, Bowers said the biggest thing they're working on is getting everyone involved in the offense.

"We don't have that one dominant striker so we are looking for a little bit of creativity when it comes to scoring goals," Bowers said. "We are working on having a good buildup out of the back. We are trying to create number advantages."

The 4-3 Cougars will gear up for a three-game homestand that kicks off against the Indianapolis University Greyhounds at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Ralph Korte Stadium. The Cougars will square off against Northern Kentucky University Norse at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Ralph Korte Stadium.



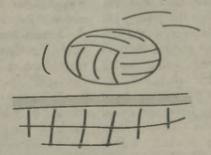
PHOTO COURTESY OF SIUE ATHLETICS

Ann Crawford chases down a ball in a recant game. Crawford was named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Week last week after she netted both of the Cougars' goals in a 2-1 victory over Southern Indiana.

Contact Sports Editor Eric Crain with questions at ericcrain@yahoo.com



Free Admission to SIUE Volleyball



The SIUE Women's Studies Program and SIUE Athletics are sponsoring a community service project on Wednesday, Sept. 29 to benefit the Oasis Women's Center, a shelter in Alton for victims of domestic violence. On September 29, anyone who gives a donation of personal care items (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, or disposable diapers) or kitchenware will receive free admission to the SIUE women's volleyball match against...

> Southern Indiana 7 p.m. Vadalabene Center.

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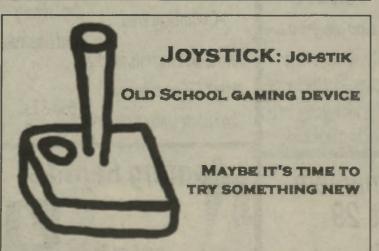
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HARRISON

from page 11

and said, 'Wow, you won by 16 shots, that's amazing,' but because I did it, it's not that big of a deal. After one step, I move onto the next, which is to win the conference championship. As a team, I want us to defend our title (the GLVC Championship)."

No matter what Harrison does in the future, she still wants to keep on playing golf, and has her sights set attending the Master's Championship one

GLVC As the Championship draws near, Harrison and her teammates

more than ready to take on their competition in an effort to win it all

As far as playing on the Ladies Professional Golf Tour in the near

"It has crossed my mind," Harrison said.

HOCKEYfrom page 11

returning players Sean Walls, John Greffet, Jason Walker and Jason Perniciaro to provide the explosive offense that was seen last year. Walls led the team with 90 points last

"Goaltending is key, but we have such a powerful offense," Thatcher said.

Andrew Kuehnel was given the net duties last year and responded by leading team to championship.

There is no pressure on the team to repeat last year's

However, the players do have to meet educational requirements. Players have to maintain a 2.0 grade point average and carry at least nine credit hours, according to ACHA rules.

"The guys are so laid-back, they have a good time," Thatcher said. "They do want to win, so they don't take it lightly."

RAKERS

from page 11

won, he would be one of the few I would turn to," Collins said.

Rakers said he matured mentally at SIUE after transferring from a community college.

"You grow up and you learn how to handle situations," Rakers said. "I also had a great college coach."

The Baltimore Orioles picked up Rakers as the 697th pick in the 23rd round in the 1999 draft. He signed his first contract almost two weeks after the draft and reported to the Bluefield, W.Va., Orioles. Bluefield is the home of the Baltimore Orioles Rookie League team in Appalachian League.

Rakers climbed up the minor league ladder, reaching the Ottawa Lynx in 2003. Ottawa was Rakers' last step in the minors.

In AAA minor league baseball, Rakers averaged one strikeout per inning with an ERA under 3.00 for Ottawa in 2004. With six seasons of professional experience under his belt, Rakers finally received the most important call in his life from the Baltimore Orioles.

"It's been my goal to make

surprised by the call. No one in the Orioles organization had given him a definite answer about a promotion to the big leagues.

"He earned it," Collins

On Sept. 8, Rakers was brought into the seventh inning in a game against the Minnesota Twins, a game being televised nationally on ESPN. The Orioles were down 7-0, and Rakers said he felt nervous.

"There was no way to fight it," Rakers said. "It's pretty overwhelming."

Lew Ford calmed Rakers' nerves a notch when he grounded out to become the first official out of Rakers'

Next, former All-Star Torii Hunter greeted the rookie by singling to left. The next two batters also singled, bringing in one run. A groundball then became the second out, putting runners on third and first.

Only one more out was needed to end the inning, but Michael Cuddyer would not accommodate and hit the third single of the inning, which scored another runner.

The last out was registered when Terry Tiffee grounded one inning pitched, Rakers ninth innings," Rakers was somewhat gave up four hits and allowed said.

two runners to score.

"Mistakes are hit farther than in college," Rakers said. "You can make mistakes in college and get ground-outs and fly balls, but not in the majors."

not as bad as he'd feared. He also said the players are so much better in the major "He did fair in the first

Rakers said his nerves were

game of his career," Collins Ten days later facing the

same team, Rakers recorded a 1-2-3 inning, including an Augie Ojeda strikeout.

"I don't get scared because I want to face the best," Rakers

The one player he especially wants to face is Barry Bonds, a six-time winner of the most valuable player

"It's more of a challenge to face the best and you want to play against the best in the majors," Rakers said.

Rakers hopes to finish the year on a high note and make the team during spring training next year.

"I want to try to compete for a job as a setup guy and the big leagues ever since I was into a fielder's choice. With pitch the seventh, eighth and

VOLLEYBALL. from page 12

had excellent defense, which is last two weeks to prepare." what won it for us. We played stepped up," she said.

strong, but we just had fun. We been practicing hard for the Junior middle hitter Heather

Even though defense was hard and had everybody the theme for the Cougars that don't have digs in the game kills were spread out as almost every player had a kill. excitement as we have kills to lead the team. Heights in Kentucky.

Bonde finished behind her with

Talsma recorded involved, it was awesome. night, they were not shy about highest percentage in kills Several players who usually putting points on the board. The attempted/earned when she nailed eight of 10.

The Cougars continue their "Mentally and physically we Winkeler continued her road trip to take on the Norse of are ready for Northern dominance on both ends as she Northern Kentucky University Kentucky. I can feel the also put up 13 at 7 p.m. Friday at Highland

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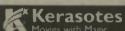
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Daily 5:00 7:20 Set/Sun Matinee 2:30
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