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The Alestle

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

Thinking about
changing your major?

To help weigh your options, see
Lifestyles, page 8

Thursday, January 11, 2007

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Andy Rathnow/Alestle

Power up? Proposed utility rate hikes would impact entire area

by Zach Groves
Alestle News Reporter

Although recent Illinois electric rate hikes will not affect students' tuition or fees, they will still have an impact off campus.

The Illinois State House of Representatives recently voted to continue the 10-year freeze on electric rates, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The rates were expected to go up at least 55 percent last week.

However, the State Senate closed a lame-duck session Tuesday without voting.

Illinois has kept the rates constant with state government backing since 1997, but Ameren spokeswoman Erica Abbett said the Illinois rate hike was only a matter of time after the electric rate freeze contract expired.

"The Ameren Illinois utilities do not own their own generation, so they have to buy electricity to serve our customers on the open market," Abbett said.

Abbett said that inflation would come into the mix as well after a 10-year freeze.

"That is when we had to begin purchasing electricity at today's prices," Abbett said. "That is where customers are seeing the increase."

On campus, however, there is minimal inflation, according to Facilities Management Director Bob Washburn.

"There will be a minor impact on fees and no impact on tuition," Washburn said.

Washburn said that SIUE made a request for proposal with the consortium, also consisting of Eastern Illinois University, Western Illinois University and Illinois State University. The request padded the increase as the university will pay 15 percent for the next two years.

He said had SIUE not filed that request, the school would have seen a 40 to

80 percent increase.

Morris University Center Director Mary Robinson said that it is unknown how much of an impact the hike will have on student fees, which pay for the student center.

"Hopefully it won't, but we'll see," Robinson said.

Reports add that Illinois' power is still cheaper than states such as California and New York.

The anger toward Ameren's proposed rate increase was felt in the Illinois hearings, which took place last month.

While St. Louis and Metro-East Ameren customers protest the utility company for its proposed rate increases, students are also showing their distaste.

Junior elementary education major Marshall Todt said if Ameren wants to increase the rates, then it needs to put more work into keeping the power on.

"If they want to charge more, they need to do more service first," Todt said. "They will reap the benefits later."

Todt said he feels that if Ameren invests more money in improving the power lines and a power outage prevention system, then customers will be more than happy to increase their monthly payments.

Ameren recently proposed a plan to improve the power line situation by boosting the budget by \$15 million and possibly more to install the power lines underground and other efforts to prevent power outages.

Between the July thunderstorms and late November ice storms, more than 500,000 people during the summer and more than another half a million during the winter between Missouri and Illinois were

Former SIU Trustee sentenced to one year

by Zach Groves
Alestle News Reporter

Last week, Former Southern Illinois University Trustee and Alton banker Mark Repking, who was originally sentenced to one day in prison for mishandling bank funds, had his sentence increased to one year.

Repking was convicted of hiding taxable income from the government and fabricating a customer's account to get money to build unspecified projects, according to the Associated Press.

U.S. District Judge Michael Reagan gave Repking the one-day sentence last January, but had to re-sentence him in November because a three-judge panel of U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals deemed the sentence to be too soft.

Repking pleaded guilty in October 2005 for creating a false bank report and tax return and for misusing more than \$500,000 for personal items such as renovating his vacation home in Florida and credit card bills.

He also admitted illegally fixing the bank's books from September 2002 to February 2003 to show that Harold "Hank" Hart Jr., a customer, had more than \$350,000 in construction bond

coverage for the projects.

Repking stepped down from his positions as the Liberty Bank president, which he founded in 1994, and as a Board of Trustees member in 2003, when allegations surfaced.

Assistant Public Affairs Director Bethany Forsythe declined to comment on Repking's situation and deferred all questions to the offices of SIU President Glenn Poshard and the president's communications director, Michael Ruiz.

Calls to Ruiz's office were not immediately returned.

Current Liberty Bank President Dale Blachford declined to comment on the bank's reaction to the sentencing, but said the bank is doing fine.

"(They) will have some impact on the psyche of the employees and the customers," Blachford said of the allegations and sentencing. "From a financial standpoint, the bank has not suffered any losses."

Reagan also sentenced Repking to three years supervised release, 900 hours of community service and what was originally \$100,000 in fines was downsized to \$25,000 in lieu of the increased sentence.

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Gift card transactions end in employee arrest

by Kevin Eagan
Alestle News Reporter

A former Morris University Center custodian has been charged by police for allegedly adding approximately \$550 worth of transactions to Starbucks gift cards after hours.

Ronald Cotton was caught on Dec. 6, 2006, after surveillance cameras allegedly found Cotton running transactions on the cards, according to SIUE Police Lt. Kevin Schmoll. Cotton was apprehended for questioning that evening.

SIUE Police issued a warrant for Cotton's arrest Dec. 7, 2006. He was turned over to the Madison County Sheriff's Office, who charged him with a Class 3 felony for theft over \$300.

He was released by a Madison County judge shortly afterward, but has been subpoenaed to appear for a trial in late January or early February.

The cards were being used to take money over several transactions, but were not noticed until a university auditor discovered discrepancies in Starbucks' budget. The transactions were traced to after-hours.

"We were able to determine that



Katy Hartwig/Alestle

the transactions took place after-hours, and used the surveillance videos to find out who ran the transactions," Schmoll said.

Morris University Center Director Mary Robinson explained that it was her understanding the suspect added money to his own cards after hours.

"It's my understanding they were not gift cards that were stolen," Robinson said.

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Police Reports

12-19
Police issued Chance Strader a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on North University Drive.

Police issued Jason Lash a citation for speeding on North University Drive.

Police issued Cody Adams a citation for speeding on New Poag Road.

12-20
Police issued Tracy Jacobson a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

Police issued Jeffrey McCoskey citations for disobeying a stop sign and the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle at South University Drive and University Park Drive.

12-22
Police responded to Evergreen Hall involving construction materials missing and possibly stolen from the site.

12-23
Police responded to a report of a struck deer on New Poag Road. SIUE Police and Edwardsville Police went to the scene and put the animal down.

Police issued Nicholas Bezzell for disobeying a stop sign at New Poag Road and Bohm Road.

Police issued Vibahavasu Tangutoori citations for disobeying a stop sign on South University Drive and South Circle Drive turnaround, having no valid driver's license and the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. Tangutoori was processed and released.

12-24
Police arrested Victor J. Ahart for driving under the influence. Ahart was taken to the station, processed and transported to Madison County Jail. His vehicle was towed.

Police issued Travis Miller a written warning for speeding

and a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive at P2 Road.

12-26
Police issued Neil Harrison a citation for the operation an uninsured motor vehicle on East University Drive.

12-27
Police were informed by Madison County Jail that Todd Randle was in custody at its jail in Granite City on charges from Dec. 21. Randle was arrested on two SIUE warrants for failure to appear for the operation of an uninsured vehicle and speeding. The warrants were cancelled and Randle could not post bond.

12-28
Police issued Matthew Fields a citation for speeding on University Drive near P2 Road.

Police responded to an accident involving a deer on University Drive near Prairie Hall. The person's vehicle was operable after striking and killing the deer.

12-29
Police issued Chennel Barksdale a citation for speeding on South University Drive at Woodland Hall parking lot.

12-31
Police issued Nami Sharifzadeh a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on North University Drive at Lewis Road.

Police responded to a Collinsville Police report to pick up Melodi Rogers on an SIUE warrant for failure to appear and the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. Rogers was transported to the station and was processed. Rogers was unable to post bond, \$5,500 with 10 percent applying, and was transported to the Madison County Jail.

1-01
Police arrested Michael Frizzo for driving under the influence and was taken into custody and transported to

the SIUE Police Station. He was processed, posted bond and was released. Police also issued Frizzo citations for improper lane usage and the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

1-02
Police cancelled Michael Irby's warrant for driving on a suspended license. Irby posted \$300 bond at the Livingston Police Department and was given a court date for Jan. 24.

1-03
Police issued Lora Griffin a citation for speeding on South University Drive near University Park Drive.

Police issued Aaron Sester a citation for speeding on South University Drive in the Woodland Hall Parking Lot.

Police issued Michael Westbrooks a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle and a written warning for one headlight on North University.

1-04
Police issued David Turner a citation for speeding on University Drive.

Police issued Michael Johnson a citation for speeding on University Drive.

Police issued Jesus Cadena a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

1-05
Police issued Anthony Roylance a citation for speeding and the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive. The citation for no insurance was voided after proof was provided.

1-06
Police issued Nicholas Allen a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

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New law calls for carbon monoxide detectors

by Kyle Wiese

Alestle News Reporter

Governor Rod Blagojevich has passed a new law to help curb the dangers of carbon monoxide in the Illinois.

According to the State of Illinois Web site, www.il.gov, the new law, which took effect Jan. 1, requires all buildings that use fossil fuels and have sleeping rooms or have an attached garage to have an approved, operating carbon monoxide detector installed within 15 feet of any sleeping area.

The law states any building with more than one dwelling unit, such as an apartment building, must have a carbon monoxide detector in each unit. Building owners are responsible for the installation of the detectors, but tenants are responsible for maintenance.

City of Edwardsville Fire Chief Brian Wilson advises installing a carbon monoxide detector as soon as possible.

"I would recommend installing a detector that is both electric and battery powered, in case of a major power outage," Wilson said. "These detectors can be found at any local hardware store, with the price ranging from \$30 to \$50."

Wilson and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer tips for avoiding the build up of carbon monoxide.

"The most important things I can advise is to never leave candles unattended or run a generator from inside your garage," Wilson said. "Never try to heat your home with a gas range or oven, as

well."

The CDC also advises against using any type of vehicle inside an enclosed area.

The CDC Web site, www.cdc.gov, defines carbon monoxide as an odorless, tasteless gas that can build up if fossil fuels, such as gasoline, wood, coal and propane, are burned incompletely. This buildup of gas can be hazardous to health. According to the CDC, approximately 500 people die every year in the U.S. because of accidental exposure to carbon monoxide.

The CDC Web site states that the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include dizziness, nausea, headache, coughing, irregular heartbeat and pale skin with cherry-red lips and ear tips. After prolonged exposure to the gas, death can occur. Visit www.cdc.gov/co/guidelines.htm to find out more about carbon monoxide poisoning prevention.

According to one university official, SIUE is doing its part to make sure all the campus residence buildings meet the guidelines of the new state law.

"There will be carbon monoxide detectors placed in all living units of the residence halls and Cougar Village; however, there will not be any placed inside any classroom buildings," Facilities Management Director Bob Washburn said.

The risk of carbon monoxide poisoning applies to all area residents, both on and off campus.

"All residents need to take the proper precautions necessary to avoid the buildup of carbon monoxide," Wilson said.

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AMEREN from pg. 1

without power.

Senior speech communication major Candace Viessman, who lost power during the ice storm, said the general rate hike is "rather ridiculous," but would pay more to move the power lines.

"For that, I would be in favor ... St. Charles (Mo.) has those," Viessman said.

Junior sociology major Kyle Suchomski said Ameren is not taking full responsibility for its power restoration efforts after the storms.

"They are shifting the blame to maintain the power lines better," Suchomski said.

Senior speech communication major Jenny Burns said response to the public criticism on Ameren's service after the storms was a bit harsh. However, she said that the utility should focus more on fixing its budget by trimming its costs.

Burns lost her power from the ice storm for more than a week.

"I saw them working out there," Burns said. "They were working as hard as they could. Their lives were in more danger than I was. They should spend less on their advertising."

As for the vote to continue Illinois' electric rate freeze, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that Illinois Senate President Emil Jones opposed it because the utility industry could go bankrupt.

Viessman said the company has too high a budget to be at that level.

"I don't think it will hurt Ameren ... it is too much of a monopoly," Viessman said.

Todt said the freeze may appear as beneficial at first, but it could put Ameren out of business.

"While Ameren rates are frozen, losing a penny a kilowatt hour, they would

lose money," Todt said. "It is a double-bladed sword. Rates cannot be frozen, but they cannot be raised."

The Belleville News-Democrat said that Ameren was trying a three-year plan for Illinois customers facing tougher times with the increase, which would be up to eight cents per kilowatt hour. They can pay a smaller percentage of the increase each year with interest.

Abbett said despite a proposed increase on the Missouri side, the St. Louis area still has a bargain with the proposed rates compared to the rest of the U.S.

"Electric rates are almost 37 percent below the national average," Abbett said. "St. Louis has the second-lowest electric rate of any major metropolitan area in the nation."

AmerenUE suggested that it raise its rates in Missouri by at least \$361 million a year in response to fuel, coal and employee health care costs. Additionally, it has not raised rates since 1987 and for nearly 20 years reduced rates while spending nearly \$3 billion dollars to improve power lines and other equipment.

Ameren left the plan up to the Missouri Public Service Commission to approve. The organization has until late spring to make a decision.

The Missouri PSC in the last two weeks has led hearings throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area for customers to give their opinions on the possible increases. More than 150 people on average attended the meetings and grabbed headlines with their heated comments and demands that cuts be made instead.

Zach Groves can be reached at alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.

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

Important Note:

The Office of the Registrar would like to remind all students to take a moment to review their addresses on Cougarnet at <http://www.siue.edu/COUGARNET>. We strongly encourage you to maintain accurate address information in order for you to receive important University correspondence.

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Photo Illustration by Katy Hartwig/Alestle

In case of fire

by Catherine Klene
Alestle News Reporter

At 2:45 a.m., the earsplitting screech of the fire alarm jolted residents out of bed.

Bleary eyed, they stumbled about the room, searching for their student IDs and shoes.

They surged out into the halls and down the fire escape, flooding the grassy yard with a mass of sleepy, pajama-clad college students.

Last semester, similar situations occurred six times at SIUE's three residence halls.

While there were no actual fires at SIUE last semester, the University of Missouri-Rolla recently had a small fire in one of their residence hall cafeterias.

No one was injured and little damage resulted, but over 100 students were forced to evacuate the building.

Housing Director Michael Schultz discussed the fire plan should the alarms sound at SIUE's residence halls.

The entire building is evacuated, Schultz explained. The alarm automatically contacts the SIUE police, who in turn alert the fire department. A building engineer also reports to the residence hall.

"While the building is being emptied, (residence hall) staff will look and check to see if there is an actual fire or what the cause of the alarm might be," Schultz said.

The staff then informs all parties who respond to the alarm of the cause. Once this is confirmed by the fire department, the building engineer will reset the alarm.

Once the fire department issues the "all clear," residents and staff will be allowed back into the building.

Although no actual fires have occurred in the residence halls, several cases of microwave misuse have led to smoke, triggering alarms.

"We had a bigger issue this past fall than we had in the past," Schultz said. "There have been some dumb things that students have done."

Freshman James Matz, a Prairie Hall resident, experienced some of the late-night fire alarms last semester and said he was never sure of the cause.

"It's kind of like the 'boy who cried wolf' situation," Matz said. "You don't know if (the fire) is real or it's a baseball or pizza rolls."

Another Prairie Hall resident, freshman Michelle Mathews, agreed.

"Generally, they've all been false. It does worry me, but I don't panic as much as I should," she said.

Causes of past fire alarms range from burnt popcorn to an attempt to dry a baseball in the microwave.

Schultz said University Housing has a strict no-tolerance policy for any student who misuses or

tampers with fire equipment.

"For instance, if someone uses their sprinkler or their smoke detector as a hat rack, they've taken away the function of that and put everybody in the building in jeopardy," Schultz said. If caught, "their residency will be terminated."

Last semester, a group of students were removed from Bluff Hall for intentionally setting off a fire alarm at 2:30 a.m. by placing aluminum cans in a microwave.

In addition to an emergency fire plan, different methods of fire prevention are implemented in the residence halls.

All residence halls are equipped with full sprinkler systems and, according to Schultz, SIUE is the only Illinois public university with this feature.

The residence halls also have addressable fire alarm systems.

"If there is smoke or a fire that is happening at a particular location, it will tell us at our panel and at the police department exactly where that fire is," Schultz said.

There are also smoke detectors in each room and fire extinguishers are located throughout the buildings. Tamper-proof covers are installed over all fire alarm pull stations. Potentially hazardous items such as candles, halogen lights and open range cooking devices are not permitted in the residence halls.

"Our staff, both our resident assistants and our full-time resident life staff, are trained at the beginning of the year on how to handle emergency situations," Schultz said.

Fire procedures are discussed at the first wing meeting of the year, where residents are told where to evacuate to and what to bring with them.

Fire drills are not part of the introduction to resident life.

"We have not done planned fire drills," Schultz said. "We figure that during the course of the semester the alarms will take place and we use that as a drill. So if we see an issue when that happens, then we will address it."

Because of the numerous fire-prevention methods implemented in the residence halls, Mathews felt she was adequately prepared for a fire emergency.

"We discussed (the fire plan) when we first got here," Mathews said. "I don't feel unsafe. All the alarms are really loud, and there are obvious smoke detectors in every room."

Schultz agreed.

"I feel that students are prepared, and they are protected better here than in any other public institution in Illinois," Schultz said.

Catherine Klene can be reached at alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.

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OUR PRICES AND SELECTION WILL SHOCK YOU

Search for SIUC chancellor begins

by Holly Meyer
Alestle News Reporter

A nationwide search for a new Southern Illinois University Carbondale chancellor is now underway.

“(Southern Illinois University) President Glenn Poshard sent some 600 letters to presidents and chancellors,” Vice President for Academic Affairs John S. Haller Jr. said. “Advertisements (for the position) are out beginning this week.”

Haller said there is also a Web site devoted to the chancellor search.

In early November, former SIUC chancellor Walter Wendler was removed from his duties as chancellor and reassigned as an architecture professor. Since then, SIUC Provost John Dunn has been acting as interim chancellor.

To narrow down the candidate recommendations and applications, Poshard has formed the Chancellor Search Advisory Committee to relieve Dunn from the interim position.

“President Poshard consulted various constituent groups soliciting a slate of potential

committee members,” Haller said.

The 16-person committee chaired by SIUC professor Susan Ford hopes to find a new chancellor before the end of the spring semester, Haller said.

According to Haller, the committee is working with a search firm, Hollins Group Inc., to find potential candidates. The committee will begin considering candidates in early February.

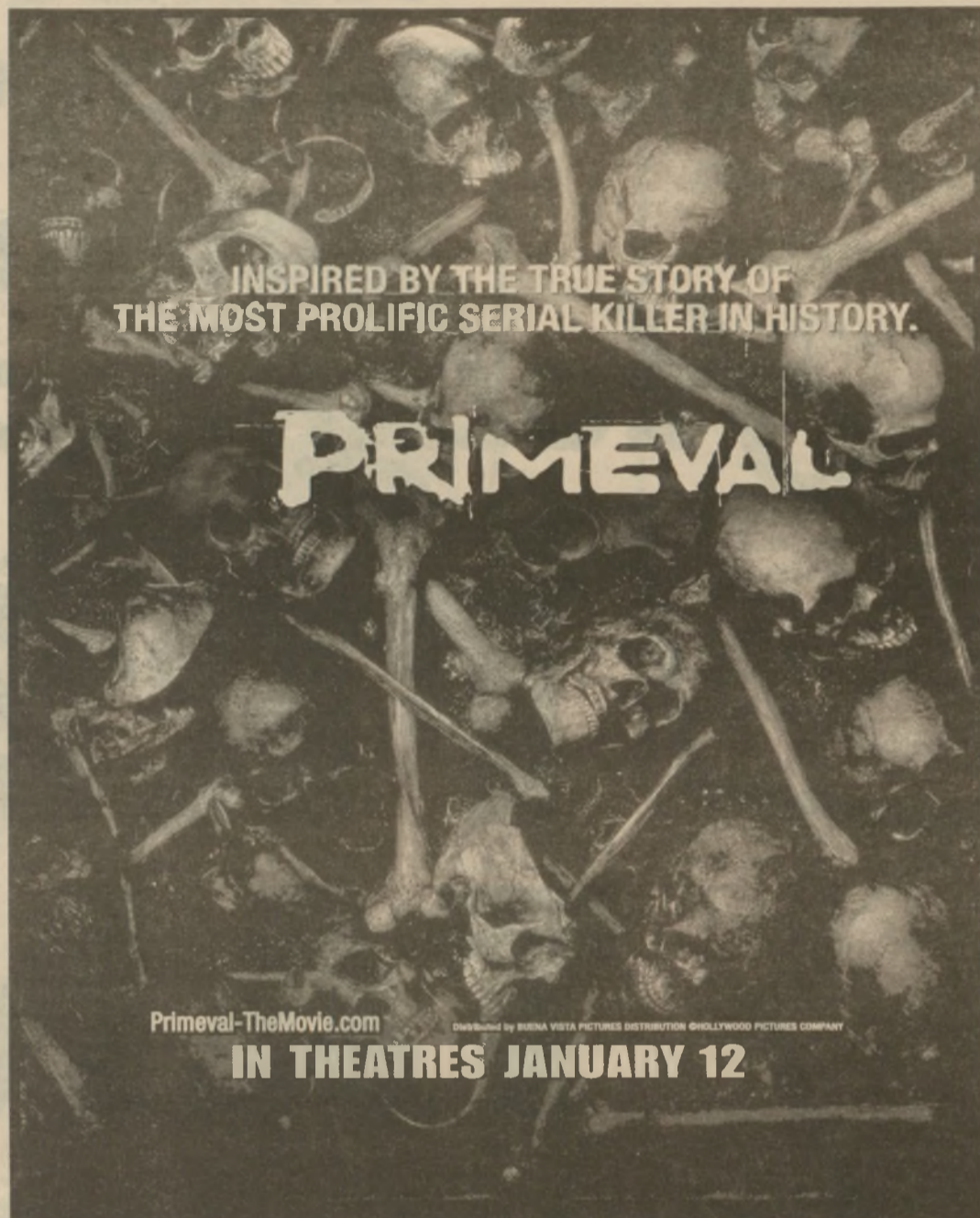
“They will narrow applications down to a small group of semifinalists in March,” Haller said. “They will be interviewed at an off-campus site, probably in St. Louis.”

The group of semifinalists will be narrowed down to an even smaller group of finalists.

“They will be invited to campus in late April with the expectation that a chancellor will be chosen prior to the end of classes,” Haller said.

According to Haller, if a chancellor is not chosen before the end of classes as expected, Dunn will continue to perform as interim chancellor.

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Emeritus philosophy professor dies at 75

by Emily Siemer
Alestle News Reporter

Edwin G. Lawrence, emeritus philosophy professor at SIUE from 1969 to 2002, died Dec. 27 under hospice care in Nebraska. He was 75.

Before commencing his 33-year career at SIUE, Lawrence taught at both Purdue University and Valparaiso University. At SIUE, he taught both philosophy and Greek.

Philosophy Department Chair Margaret Simons remembers Lawrence as “one of the most beloved members of the department.”

Encouraging to everyone,

Simons added that Lawrence was “really very special.”

During his tenure at SIUE, Lawrence received a fellowship from the Ohio State University to further his studies on Aristotle. He was also a volunteer who worked with the mentally disabled.

As a hobby, Lawrence both played and made violins. He had performed with the Southern Illinois University Symphony and symphonies in Belleville, Kirkwood and Clayton.

A memorial service was held Jan. 6 in Edwardsville.

Emily Siemer can be reached at alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.

Trustees to meet today

by Holly Meyer
Alestle News Reporter

The Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees will meet at approximately 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11 in the Morris University Center’s Meridian Ballroom.

On the agenda for Thursday’s meeting is the possible relocation of Textbook Services, University Bookstore renovation and repairs and improvements to the Vadalabene Center.

The board will also discuss the

project and budget approval and the authorization for executive committee to award contracts for the dispensing and sterilizing renovation at the School of Dental Medicine Clinic in Alton.

In addition, the board will also discuss the approval for executive committee to award contracts for the North University Drive intersection improvements and construction “Build Out” of the chemistry lab.

Holly Meyer can be reached at alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.

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Letters may be turned in at the Alestle office located in the Morris University Center, Room 2022 or via e-mail at alestle@gmail.com.

All hard copy letters should be typed and double-spaced. Letters should be no longer than 500 words.

Please include phone number, signature, class rank and major.

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

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

We reserve the right to reject letters.

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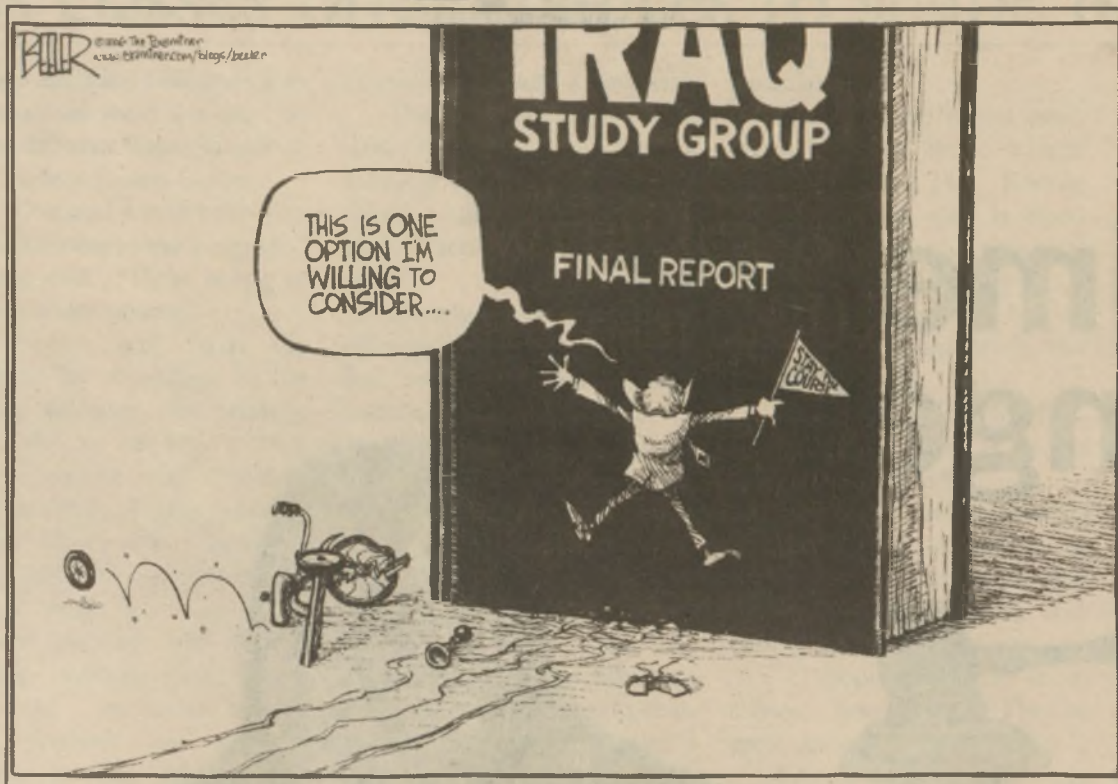
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Have a comment? Let us know!

Send us an e-mail: alestleeditor@gmail.com
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Writer believes more troops needed

President Bush brought a new plan forth Wednesday night on how to handle the sinking ship of the War in Iraq.

While many may look at the issue as if Bush has quite a few options to consider, he really only has a limited number of choices to take into account.

Bush has three plans of actions he can take: stay the course at the current rate occurring, pull the troops out or send a new surge to try to help suppress the violence. Realistically, though, he only has one option, with the first two choices not being possible.

The handling and management of the war so far

has been poor, as felt by many Americans. There were many misunderstandings of the area that should have been thought out better before taking a course of action.

What many need to realize is that we can't go back in time to change the actions that have been taken so far. It doesn't let Bush off the hook for the state the government is currently in, but it does not mean that America can keep playing politics and the "blame game," as it is time that a new action is put forth into the plan on how to win the war.

The recent elections were a reason that no new progress has been made. The majority of Democrats are strongly opposed to sending in more troops, yet will not say that Iraq is a lost cause.

It's obvious that the current plan is not working. Troops keep

dying and resentment toward the U.S. continues to grow.

Just counting our losses and leaving the area is also not a good idea. The country will just further destabilize, and we will face global blame for its condition and have no choice but to go back there in the future and start from scratch.

It is possible that sending more troops to Iraq won't improve the situation, but it is the only legitimate chance at stabilizing the area and bringing troops home without the chance of them going back in a few years.

The bottom line is that the current plan is not working. Pulling out troops would not be a smart move, either. Sadly, the only real choice is to send more troops.

Justin Gibson can be reached at alestle@gmail.com or 650-3527.

Troops need to come home soon

In 2003, President George W. Bush and his administration spearheaded U.S. troops in an onslaught against Iraq. He



Holly Meyer

World Trade Center.

The Bush administration accused the late Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein of harboring weapons of mass destruction, which apparently is grounds for invading a country. Against the

dissent of the United Nations, U.S. troops entered Iraq in 2003 with no exit strategy and no thought to the damage they would be wreaking across the religious segmented nation.

After the rumor of the existence of weapons of mass destruction turned out to be a big fat lie, the Bush Administration changed its focus to Saddam Hussein himself. On the charges of genocide, the Iraqi president fell and fell hard. Hurray! The bad guy is dead, and the poor people of Iraq are saved. The United States is the hero once again.

If the intentions of the Bush Administration were so superhero-like, why is it that the United States has turned a blind eye toward other genocides; namely, the genocide that is

ripping its way across Sudan.

I will agree with the president on one point; staying the course is not working. However, President Bush wants to change the course of action by pouring more troops into Iraq. I disagree with this strategy entirely. Why is he not announcing an exit strategy? The taxpayers have poured approximately \$300 trillion into the war. Why does the president want to spend more money and risk the lives of more troops?

The country of Iraq is at war with itself. There is no hope for a resolution any time soon. Let's not let this war turn into another Vietnam.

Bring the troops home!

Holly Meyer can be reached at alestle@gmail.com or 650-3527.

Nonsmoker encourages changes on campus

I am sending this e-mail in regard to the "Nonsmokers" article written by Justin Gibson in the Jan. 9 issue.

I am so thrilled that someone has finally addressed the issue of all the nonsmokers having to be subjected to walk through clouds of smoke when entering or exiting buildings.

I actually used to be a smoker through my high school and undergraduate years and I was very fortunate to be able to quit without any great difficulties.

When I did smoke, I was always courteous of others. I never smoked in crowded areas and I always made sure I was not bothering anyone before I lit up.

I am so shocked at how rude some smokers can be by just clogging up main walking and standing areas with their pollution. I understand that smoking is a personal decision and I don't criticize people for doing so, but they should also understand how irritating it can be for all of those who don't smoke.

I would be in total favor of the campus assigning designated smoking areas that are not in front of every entrance to every building. I appreciate this article and I hope that some positive things will come of it.

Tiffany Henley
Education
Graduate Student

Have any opinions or questions that you want shared?

Contact
Opinion Editor
Justin Gibson
at 650-3527 or
alestle@gmail.com

Please include
phone number,
signature, class
rank and major.

Is it time for a change?

*Picking a
major may be
a daunting
task, but
changing a
major doesn't
have to be.*



Photo illustration by Andy Rathnow/Alestle

By Maggie Willis
Lifestyles Reporter

It can start in childhood with "What do you want to be when you grow up?" In high school, the question mutates to an even more dreaded question: "What are you going to major in?"

Students like senior English major Amber Meyer know choosing a major is a weighty decision.

"You're basically making a life decision here," said Meyer.

However, many are feeling even more pressure to make this life-changing decision just after entering college.

Despite stress for students to choose a major early in their college careers, declaring a major quickly may not be the best route to take, according to Academic Counseling and Advising Director William Hendey.

"Advisors would like to see students take more time and experience different areas," Hendey said.

Fresman graphic design major Juan Hurtado agrees the decision is too complicated to

take lightly.

"It's difficult to project what you want to do in 10 years," Hurtado said. "Most people are confused. They don't really know what they want to do with their lives."

Rather than declaring immediately, Hendey suggests students explore their options.

"I think a very good source to use is the Career Development Center. It's very under-utilized," Hendey said.

Located in room 3126 of Founders Hall, The Career Development Center offers a variety of tools to help students with their potential career or major, such as the Career Development Course, job market information and personality, interest and aptitude testing.

They also have helpful links on their Web site at www.siu.edu/careerdevelopmentcenter, including a Web site that helps link majors with potential careers.

"It's just excellent information," Hendey said. "That office can be really, really useful."

However, waiting for

consultation until junior or senior year might be too late.

"The earlier students use (the Career Development Center), the more helpful they can be," Hendey said.

The Career Development Center can help students avoid switching their major several times and gaining an additional semester or two of college in

**"An extra
semester or two
compared to
forty years of
work isn't
much."**

-William Hendy, Director
of Academic Counseling
and Advising

the process.

However, not all students wishing to change their major need fret; if done early enough or to a closely-related major, students most likely won't incur any serious consequences.

"A major like sociology probably wouldn't necessitate extra time, unless done really late," Hendey said. "It only requires 36 semester hours and no minor."

Nonetheless, while time and money need to be considered, they are not necessarily the most important thing for students to reflect on.

"An extra semester or two compared to forty years of work isn't much," Hendey said. "It's better to find (a major) that really suits you."

Hendey warns, though, that not all majors are created equally. Some majors have many requirements, some have few. Some are selective, taking only a set amount of students per year, others are not.

Upon finding out which major suits them best, students must visit the department of their intended new major and complete a Major Approval form in order to change majors. "The complication comes in with the requirements, but the process itself is pretty straightforward, pretty easy," Hendey said.

Undeclared undergraduate

students, on the other hand, need apply for a major through Academic Counseling and Advising, located in Room 1315 of Peck Hall.

Ultimately, though, choosing a major is simply a part of the college experience, a step towards finding and understanding one's values and goals, and perhaps finding oneself along the way.

In a world where change is the only constant, the importance of the perfect major pales next to the need for critical thinking and evaluation, adaptation, and capacity to learn.

"Most people are going to have to change their careers at some point in their life," Hendey said. "The best thing you can do is make yourself the most effective learner you can."

For more information on majors and career options, go to www.siu.edu/ADVISING or <http://www.siu.edu/careerdevelopmentcenter/index.shtml>.

Maggie Willis can be reached at alestlifestyles@gmail.com or 650-3531.

Focus on fitness: new fitness classes offer chances to shape up in '07



Steve Berry/ Alestle

A student works out in the fitness center

by Laura Cooper
Lifestyles Reporter

A new year is off to a running start, and with it New Year's resolutions to get in shape. Students are not without hope, however – the Student Fitness Center can assist with the task.

Campus Recreation and

Fitness Assistant Director Chris Koenig said there is a drive to bring different fitness classes to the Student Fitness Center.

"Our goal was to bring in a new freshness to the program," Koenig said. "We're trying to offer a wider variety."

Women will have the opportunity to engage in the course offerings. New classes, especially for women, include belly dancing and women's weight lifting. Koenig said the weight lifting class is going to be a two-month program, and will try to get rid of the myths women associate with weight lifting. Koenig said it's a common misunderstanding that women can become bulkier as they lift weights. That's not true, according to Koenig – the female body is more likely to be toned from pumping iron.

Funk and couples salsa are the new dance classes added to the schedule and are offered to spice up the normal fitness routine.

"I think it's a great alternative

to a typical workout," Koenig said.

These are just some of the classes that are part of CougarX Aerobics, which include yoga, pilates, step challenge and group aerobics certification classes.

Koenig said that yoga offerings have been stepped up due to its popularity with students.

"The one in the morning has always been popular," Koenig said.

Another yoga class is available in the evening, focusing on helping students reduce the stress of college life.

Grappling, a new class that involves building fighting skills and self-defense, will replace a previous self-defense class.

"We had boxing last semester," Koenig said. "Now we're trying something new."

Group PT (personal training) is also available, which is for students who want to focus on one area of fitness.

Koenig said a personal trainer runs the class and there is more personalized help than

a regular class.

Classes range from a small group of 10 or 20, to a large group of 130 to 140. Koenig said a popular class is Hard Core, which averages about 60 to 70 people. The fast-paced style of the fitness class helped draw in large numbers in the past, Koenig said.

"People really like the Hard Core class because it is so quick," Koenig said.

The class is for 30 minutes and focuses on building strength and balance in the lower back, abdominals and glutes.

"I hope people try these classes," Koenig said. "They're great classes."

Fitness classes are no longer confined to the Student Fitness Center. Group X is an aerobics class that takes place in each residence hall.

"Each hall has a class once a week," Koenig said.

Residence hall classes are at 7 p.m. from Monday to Wednesday. Monday classes are at Woodland Hall, Tuesdays are

at Prairie Hall and Wednesdays are at Bluff Hall.

The new schedule is meant to be more convenient than the previous set-up, according to Koenig. Before, classes were given once a week at one residence hall. The new year has brought new changes to the plan and now each residence hall will be visited during the week. Koenig said there will be more information on the residence hall classes in the next few weeks.

All classes are free, except belly dancing, which is \$10. Registration is open for the classes, and Koenig said it will end when the classes are full. Students that fail to register before classes are full will be placed on a wait list.

For more information on other fitness services the Student Fitness Center has to offer, visit siue.edu/crec.com or call 650-5718.

Laura Cooper can be reached at alestlelifestyles@gmail.com or 650-3531.

The 5 hot SIUE stories of 2006

5

Student Senate trip expenses

After the SIUE Student Senate passed a measure to allocate up to \$11,000 for a leadership conference, the Friday, Nov. 3, senate meeting drew the largest crowd in recent memory. Several students shared their opinions on the subject at the meeting. The senate changed their travel plans, opting instead to attend a conference in Oregon to save \$4,000.

4

Facebook fiasco

SIUE student Michael Turk was cited for violating the university's conduct code after creating a Facebook group which identified another student as allegedly participating in sexual acts with members of the group. The event fueled an already growing debate of privacy and free speech on the Internet. Some students protested with signs displaying "save Turk" in front of Rendleman Hall. Some also wrote to the Alestle, expressing their opinions concerning Turk's conduct.

3

Arrests made at American Legion party

In November, 23 students were arrested by law enforcement officials for underage drinking at the American Legion Post 199 in Edwardsville. While the arrestees did not receive additional discipline from the university, the news gained the attention of the campus and sparked conversations about drinking on and off campus. Since the arrests, the City of Edwardsville passed an ordinance requiring parties of 150 or more to register with the city 10 days prior to the gathering.

2

New Southern Illinois University president

Former Illinois gubernatorial candidate and U.S. Congressman Glenn Poshard was sworn in as the seventh SIU president on Sept. 28. In his first town-hall style meeting with students, faculty and staff, Poshard told the crowd that SIUE "can't keep up with the growth," but new buildings would be built in time. Poshard also said he was attempting to increase funding to the university.

1

The triple storms of 2006



Megan McClure/ Alestle

A Cougar Village resident chisels at ice to free his car after the ice storm of 2006.

Not one, not two, but three destructive storms slammed into the Metro-East in 2006, bringing with them a slew of damage and power outages. The first two occurred on July 19 and 21, which resulted in bouts of lost power for the campus and Cougar Village. The SIUE East St. Louis campus suffered extensive damage, and classes were cancelled for one full day and one half-day. Some areas of St. Louis lost power for up to a week after the storm.

The end of summer would not mark the end of SIUE's weather woes. As fate would have it, the conclusion of the hottest story of the year ends on a cold note. On the evening of Nov. 30, a winter storm front brought a heavy layer of snow and ice to the Metro-East area, bringing down trees and power lines, closing many city streets and making travel hazardous. Classes were cancelled for the following day, as power for much of the area was severed. The power outage was a near-dangerous experience for many residents on campus and off, as temperatures dropped below freezing and heating was unavailable. Electricity was not restored to Cougar Village until Monday, Dec. 4, but some area residents did not see improvements for several more days.

What do you think was the biggest story of 2006? Read up on last year's events and voice your opinion at www.thealestle.com.

Track and field season heats up

Sawyer leads women in 2007

by Matthew Bruce
Alestle Sports Editor

The SIUE women's track team got a taste of national prominence last season. Now the Cougars are back and they are hungry for more.

"We're much stronger, more determined," SIUE senior Tairisha Sawyer said. "We have a lot more talent this year. Everybody this year, I believe, will be able to do a lot for the team."

The Cougars are coming off their best national finish ever, running to a seventh place finish last season at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships.

Now a new saga unfolds for SIUE as the 2007 season gets underway Friday when the team heads to Columbia, Mo, for the Missouri Invitational.

"In a way it definitely boosted our confidence and it gave us higher goals to achieve as a team," Sawyer said of the historic season. "We do eventually want to finish higher – in the top four."

Seven freshmen will join the team, helping the Cougars' cause of reaching new heights.

Juliet Alrich, a Class AA runner-up in the Illinois High School State Tournament last year, comes to SIUE to provide a lift primarily in the 400-meter dash and other sprinting events.

"Juliet Alrich was a big recruit that we had. She's been doing really well training-wise," SIUE assistant coach Ben Beyers said. "We'll just kind of float her all over the place until we find out where her true strengths are and then go from there."

Also joining the Cougars is freshman long-distance runner Kayla Brown, who has already shown her merit leading the SIUE cross

country team in the fall.

"I know Kayla Brown is a big addition," Beyers said. "She had a big cross-country season so we're looking at her to be able to come in right away and carry some of her success from the cross-country season into the track season."

SIUE's other new comers are Megan Dennis, Michelle Friedland, Heather Hackle, Jennie Satterlee and Ella Wayne.

"We've got some good freshmen this year," Beyers said. "You never know with the freshmen how well they're going to do until they run in a few weeks."

The Cougars lost just three seniors from last year's team, with the biggest blow coming in the throwing events with the departure of All-American Holly Noller, who captured a gold medal at last year's national tournament.

"We're going to have to have somebody step up and replace those points," Beyers said. "If we can pick up some points in the distance events, that would be a good thing. And I think we have the girls with the talent to do it this year."

Leading the class of returnees is Sawyer, an All-American sprinter and the defending Great Lakes Valley Conference Player of the Year.

"Tai's (Sawyer) an athlete that's done almost everything you can do," Beyers said. "She's got every single sprint record, pretty much every relay record. She's been conference athlete of the year numerous times. She's won conference a lot, she's multiple-time All-American. She's done almost everything you can do in a career. So if you want to start at the top, you'd probably have to start



Courtesy of SIUE Photo Services
(Above) SIUE senior Valerie Simmons hurdles toward the finish line during the Cougar Classic at Korte Stadium last season.



Katie Groth/Alestle
(Above) SIUE sophomore Brent Rehkemper glides through the air on a long jump during the Cougar Classic track and field at Korte Stadium last season.

Men lose seven, add eight more

by Matthew Bruce
Alestle Sports Editor

For the SIUE men's track and field team, last season was a thrill ride.

The Cougars garnered their best finish ever, taking seventh place at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships in May.

Now SIUE will try to take things to the next level as it begins the 2007 season Friday in Columbia, Mo., at the Missouri Invitational.

"It was fun last year. We got a lot of recognition," SIUE Assistant Coach Ben Beyers said. "When we finished seventh last year, we had a lot of coaches coming up to us, congratulating us and recognizing that SIUE has come a long way. Just a few short years ago we were middle-of-the-pack in our conference, so I think SIUE is definitely getting some recognition on the Division II level. No doubt about it."

The Cougars add eight new recruits to a team that finished with six All-Americans last season. In the freshmen class, Jeremy Puckett and Nicholas Harold take the reins in sprinting events, Sean Gosewich, Marcus Evans and Stephen Burgess join SIUE for the middle-distance events, Cory Hopkins hits the field for jumps and Eric Mammoser adds muscle to the pole-vaulters.

"They're all looking really good," Beyers said of the cast of freshmen. "We've got a lot of really solid guys. We've just to get some meet experience in them and see how well they'll respond to that."

"We look at our freshmen right away," Beyers added. "We give them a chance when they step foot on campus to be a productive part

of the team. And if they can handle it then we're going to throw them to the fire right away."

Scott Block, a transfer from the College of DuPage, gives the Cougars a spark in throwing events. Block is a high school Class A state champion in 2003 in the shot put and was a national qualifier.

"He should come in right away and do big things," Beyers said. "I know we're looking at him as a national qualifier off the bat. So he's, probably on paper, our top newcomer. We're really excited to get him out there and keep the tradition of our strong throwers."

SIUE lost seven players to graduation from last year's squad, including All-American javelin thrower Phil Freimuth and All-American discus thrower Steve Landers.

"We've got some big shoes to fill because those seniors that we had last year were veterans, they were super-talented, they had great work ethics and they were just tremendous positive forces for the team," Beyers said. "So we've got to find other people to fill that void and I'm confident that the guys we have on the team will be able to step up and do that."

Leading the group of returning players to the team is sophomore sprinter Kyle Rose, junior pole vaulter Anthony Weber and senior middle distance runner Cody Ellermeyer. Weber garnered All-American status in both the indoor and outdoor championships while Rose dashed for All-American status at 400 meters outdoors and Ellermeyer became an indoor All-American.

Senior All-American distance runner Brian Taghon comes back to give the Cougars a

Intramural basketball is on the horizon

Men's, women's rec, open and coed leagues offered

by Mallory Hensley
Alestle Sports Stringer

Going back to school means returning to the stress of studying and the temptation of Pizza Hut and Taco Bell.

Students who feel overwhelmed by the new class load or depressed because of the "freshman 15," have no fear. A solution is looming in the horizon. The fitness center's intramural basketball leagues kick off their seasons just around the corner.

To accommodate the large number of students interested in basketball, the Intramural Office created several leagues: the men's and women's Recreational leagues, the men's and women's Open leagues and the CoRec League. Each league consists of teams of various backgrounds and skill levels.

"The basketball league is our biggest league, as far as the number of participants that we have. Last spring, we had over 40 teams," Campus Recreation Assistant Director Keith Becherer said. "We definitely promote and want to get the word out about this program. It's an excellent

opportunity for the students to socialize and come out and blow off some steam."

The action starts Jan. 23 and runs throughout most of the spring semester. Games are held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights in the Student Fitness Center.

"We had a big increase in interest last year," Recreational Programs Graduate

Assistant Richard Chadwell said. "We're looking to get more teams this year."

Next year, when the new residence hall is complete, we're looking to get another big increase."

If a team is craving even more competition, they have the chance to qualify for an extramural tournament. All the colleges and universities in Illinois send their intramural champions to compete against each other in a statewide tournament.

Because the tournament is in February, SIUE is sending the teams that won the pre-season tournaments in December. The Black Panthers and Team A have the first option to go this year in the Men's Open League and the CoRec League, respectively.

Last year, SIUE's team, United, traveled to Chicago for the tournament in the Men's Open League, where the team won second place. Team

Schmegma represented the SIUE women in the Open League and tied for third in 2006. The winning teams from last season were comprised of the Black Panthers, Team A, Team Schmegma and SigPi.

Intramurals have a number of benefits to the players.

"Most directly, people benefit from the physical activity. Aside from that, there are many benefits that the students don't necessarily see. For instance, they learn to manage their time and to deal with disagreements. It also has social benefits. It brings a lot of students together outside of the classroom," Becherer said.

The regular season consists of five games that run over six weeks. To advance to the playoffs, a team must have a high sportsmanship rating.

"We use a 10-point scale. The officials, court supervisors and the opposing teams all sign off on the sportsmanship rating at the end of each game. That's a neat thing that we do. A team who doesn't have a great record can get into playoffs, and teams who have bad attitudes can be knocked out. I think that encourages good behavior and evens up the playing field," Becherer said.

The registration deadline is Jan. 17. All students are eligible.

IM BASKETBALL/pg. 14

WOMEN from pg. 10

with Tai.

"She was running phenomenally at the end of last year, so we've just got to try to keep her healthy and try to get her back to that," Beyers added. "If we do that, I think she'll have a very successful senior year."

Also back is sophomore All-American Deserea Brown, who

ran to the GLVC Freshman of the Year award last season.

outdoor championships last season. "The 4x400 should be strong once again," Beyers said. "We've got most of those girls coming back. And obviously, when you're adding a couple of girls like Juliet Alrich this year, then we're really looking at trying to do even bigger things than we did last year."

Sawyer, Brown, senior Valerie Simmons and sophomore Angel Royston powered the four-man crew last season as it raced to numerous first-place finishes.

"It's really an honor to run on our 4x400 team," Sawyer said. "You have to work hard to even get on the 4x400 team. So you're constantly working hard every day to make sure that you can be one of the top four fastest runners."

Beyers said SIUE would look to return home from the national championships with a trophy this season.

"Obviously, we'd love to do better than seventh," Beyers said. "In order to do that, we'll definitely have to improve from where we were last year," Beyers said. "That's a tough goal to reach. But so far, we've made major strides every year and, barring injuries, we should be able to progress even more this year."

Matthew Bruce can be reached at alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.

"We should be able to progress even more this year."

-Ben Beyers,
SIUE assistant coach

ran to the GLVC Freshman of the Year award last season.

"She's a sophomore, but she definitely has some leadership skills and a lot of good things to say when it's time to pump the team up," Sawyer said.

Senior Callie Glover looks to step up to fill Noller's void in the throwing events. Glover was an indoor All-American last season in the weight throw.

Also back in full swing is the 4x400-meter relay team, which brought SIUE All-American status at both the indoor and



SIUE
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618-650-BFIT
www.siu.edu/CREC

Spring Basketball

Games will be played Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday nights based on preference and the number of teams. These leagues range from just having fun to very competitive leagues where pride is on the line. The Rec league is intended for the less competitive basketball player of all skill levels. Those individuals who do not have a team may post their names on the free agent board located by the Intramural & Club Sports Office.

Coed Leagues

Recreational Leagues

Open Leagues



Registration Due:
Wednesday, January 17

Captain's Meeting:
Thursday, January 18
4:30pm VC 2001

Fees (Per Team):
\$20.00 Entry Fee
\$20.00 Forfeit Fee

Sign up at the SFC Reception Desk. For more information, call Richard at 650-3245 or visit us at www.siu.edu/crec

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Student Leadership Development Program

MODULES

Student Leadership Development Program & Volunteer Services

SLDP Orientation
January 17, 2007
4:30 p.m.
Suzanne Kutterer-Siburt
Assistant Director SLDP
Peck Hall Computer Lab 1410

Modules

1/16/07
Module 1, 2:00 p.m.
Leadership Characteristics: You are a Leader!
Richard Fleming
RGCA, Board Room, MUC

1/23/07
Module 2, 2:00 p.m.
Civic Responsibility & Citizenship
Anthony Vinson, Coordinator
Emergency Services, E. St. Louis, IL
Board Room, MUC

1/23/07
Module 12, 6:30 p.m.
Goal Setting & Delegating Effectively
Anitra Nevels, Sr. Business Manager
AT&T, Board Room, MUC

SLDP Reminders....

Volunteer Projects
January 13 - Angel Food
January 20 - St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store, E. St. Louis, IL
January 28 - Share Food, Granite City, IL
January 30, 31-February 1 - Voter Registration Drive, MUC
February 3 - St. Vincent DePaul, E. St. Louis, IL
February 3 - Computer Rehab, Washington Park, IL
February 24 - Share Food, Granite City, IL
Stephen Covey's Seven Habits of Highly Effective People® January 25, Korte Room (2407), Founder's Hall.

Volunteer Fair, January 31, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Goshen Lounge, MUC

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

Bonds may want to come to St. Louis

by Andrew Baggarly
San Jose Mercury News

(MCT) – Barry Bonds and Albert Pujols, back to back? It's more than a fantasy league lineup – and more than a rumor.

St. Louis Manager Tony La Russa approached Bonds' agent, Jeff Borris, Wednesday night and requested a meeting with the seven-time most valuable player.

"I want to talk to your guy," La Russa told Borris, outside a steakhouse at the Walt Disney World Dolphin resort. "Where is he? I want to talk to him."

Bonds, a surprise arrival Wednesday morning, met with an undisclosed party and left the premises shortly after noon. He did not join Borris in a three-hour session with Giants officials in the afternoon, and it was unknown whether Bonds would return Thursday.

Asked if he met with Bonds, Cardinals General Manager Walt Jocketty shook his head, but gave what could be interpreted as a roundabout answer.

"We're trying to get our pitching in order first," Jocketty said.

La Russa made his request with Borris in the presence of a San Jose Mercury News reporter, then the two men spoke privately for several minutes. Afterward, Borris appeared shaken when asked whether Bonds had met

with Cardinals officials earlier in the day.

"I won't confirm or deny that," Borris told the Mercury News.

Sources close to the process said the Bonds negotiating team might not be using the Cardinals

Cardinals' need for a left-handed hitter and outfielder. Strange as it may sound, Bonds could be considered a defensive improvement over current left fielder Chris Duncan, who misplayed several balls in the playoffs.

"The only marching orders he's given me is to go somewhere he can win a World Series."

-Jeff Borris,
Barry Bonds' agent

as a mere ploy to extract more money from the Giants. Borris has stated repeatedly that Bonds has prioritized playing for a contender.

"The only marching orders he's given me is to go somewhere he can win a World Series," Borris said last week. "All he talks about is that ring."

The Cardinals, fresh off their World Series victory, will get their rings opening day and should be a contender to repeat. The Giants, who just lost ace right-hander Jason Schmidt to the archrival Los Angeles Dodgers, have much more work to do.

Bonds would fit the

A source close to La Russa said he doubted that he would welcome Bonds. But La Russa is known for fiercely defending the 25 players on his roster, no matter how much scrutiny they come under. And Cardinals fans are among the most supportive in sports.

La Russa continues to defend Mark McGwire, another slugger whose reputation has been destroyed by his connection to the steroid era. As recently as a week ago, La Russa said McGwire should be voted into the Hall of Fame.

"I've watched him for years and years and years work out and take care of himself, and if any of



J.B. Forbes/St. Louis Post-Dispatch

San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds reacts to a call from home plate umpire Ed Rapuano during game action against the St. Louis Cardinals. The Cardinals defeated the Giants, 6-1, at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, Missouri, Saturday, September 16, 2006.

us do that, we get bigger and stronger," La Russa told the Associated Press.

Bonds and Pujols would form one of the most accomplished 1-2 punches in history. Pujols is the only player in baseball history to finish in the

top five in the MVP balloting in each of his first six seasons.

Even before the Cardinals emerged, the mere sight of Bonds at baseball's annual swap-fest was a fascinating development. He didn't fit the profile of most job-

BONDS/pg. 14

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6:00PM

Place:
MUC Conference Center

More Information:

All registered SIUE students in teams of 5 are eligible to participate. All participants receive a FREE T-SHIRT. FREE FOOD at the event! Prizes for first, second, third, fourth, and fifth place. The winning team gets to represent SIUE at the Regional College Bowl championship at the University of Notre Dame in February. For more info, email Chris at cworric@siue.edu



Campus Activities Board

Registration Due:
Wednesday, January 17

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\$3 you-call-it well drinks 9-12
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Wings - 20 cents each 9-11

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MEN
from pg. 10

punch in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

"Taghon is kind of the leader of the distance area," Beyers said. "He's a guy we're really looking at having a great season. I know he's really excited to be back this year and we're obviously ecstatic that he's there for us because we're going to definitely count

on him a lot this year."

Also returning for his senior season is 400-meter sprinter and hurdler Jonathan Bannister, who was slowed by injuries last season.

"We've got a lot of really talented guys, guys that have been to nationals and done big things and done big things at the

conference level as well," Beyers said. "We lost a couple of guys that are definitely going to hurt. But with our newcomers and the guys that are coming back, we have a potential to be even stronger than we were last year."

Matthew Bruce can be reached at alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.



Katie Groth/Alestle

SIUE sophomore Nick Schaecher grazes the bar while clearing a high jump during the Cougar Classic track and field meet at Korte Stadium last season.

Morris University Center Upcoming Events

Starbucks Late Night Espresso

January 11
8:00pm - 11:30pm

Relax & enjoy live performance by *David Wiatrolik*
Located main level of MUC

Starbucks open till 2:00am

Goshen Showcase

January 11
11:00am - 1:00pm

Enjoy live performance by *Bryan Harrison*
Goshen Lounge

University Restaurant

Thursday Steak Special for \$7.25 (+Tax)

Choice Sirloin Strip Steak

w/Baked Potato available every Thursday
from 11:00am - 2:00pm

Located upper level of MUC

Daily Specials available

Monday-Friday

11:00am - 2:00pm

Lunch With A Professor

January 17

12:00pm - 1:00pm

MUC International Room (upper level)

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THE HOLIDAY (PG-13)
DAILY 7:00; SAT - MON MATINEE 2:00

HAPPY FEET (PG)
DAILY 6:30; FRI & SAT LATE SHOW 9:10;

SAT - MON MAT. 2:15

ERAGON (PG) DAILY 6:45;

FRI & SAT LATE SHOW 9:20; SAT - MON MAT. 2:30

EASTGATE CINEMA—EAST ALTON
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ARTHUR & THE INVISIBLES (PG)

DAILY 4:10 6:30; FRI - SUN LATE SHOW 9:00;

SAT - MON MATINEE 1:40

STOMP THE YARD (PG-13) DAILY 4:20 7:30;

SAT - MON MATINEE 1:30

HAPPILY N'EVER AFTER (PG) DAILY 4:50 7:15;

FRI - SUN LATE SHOW 9:30; SAT - MON MAT. 2:10

CODE NAME: THE CLEANER (PG-13)

DAILY 4:40 6:50; FRI - SUN LATE SHOW 9:10;

SAT - MON MATINEE 2:00

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG) DAILY 4:30 7:00;

FRI - SUN LATE SHOW 9:40; SAT - MON MAT. 1:50

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13)

DAILY 4:00 6:40; FRI - SUN LATE SHOW 9:20;

SAT - MON MATINEE 1:15

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STOMP THE YARD (PG-13) 2:20 5:10 8:00

PRIMEVAL (R) 1:30 4:00 6:30 9:00

ALPHA DOG (R) 1:10 4:20 7:00 9:50

CHILDREN OF MEN (R) 2:10 4:50 7:30 10:10

HAPPILY N'EVER AFTER (PG) 2:00 4:10 6:45

FREEDOM WRITERS (PG-13)

12:40 3:30 6:40 9:30

CODE NAME: THE CLEANER (PG-13) 9:10

DREAMGIRLS (PG-13) 1:50 5:00 8:10

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG)

1:40 4:30 7:10 10:00

WE ARE MARSHALL (PG-13) 9:20

THE GOOD SHEPHERD (R) 12:30 4:15 7:40

ROCKY BALBOA (PG) 1:45 4:40 7:20 10:05

THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13)

12:50 3:40 6:50 9:40

CHARLOTTE'S WEB (G) 1:20 3:50 6:20

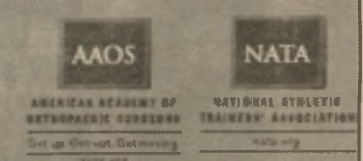
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their story their words

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 PRODUCED BY DANNY DEVITO MICHAEL SHAMBERG STACEY SHER BASED ON 'THE FREEDOM WRITERS DIARY' BY ERIN GRUWELL
 SCREENPLAY BY RICHARD LAGRAVENESE
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Appetizers
Lunch & Dinner
 Sushi • Noodle • Sake
 Chicken • Steak • Seafood

Menu Items Subject To Change

DINE-IN or CARRY OUT

BONDS
 from pg. 12

seekers at the industry's annual convention, most of whom arrive with acne, an ill-fitting suit and a kiss from mom.

Instead, Bonds arrived as an out-of-work 42-year-old with 734 career home runs.

Borris said last month that some ownership groups had requested meetings with Bonds. White Sox Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf was one of few club owners known to be in the building Wednesday, but said he didn't plan to speak with Bonds.

"We have a designated hitter, and a good one," said Reinsdorf, referring to Jim Thome.

Sources with the A's, Los Angeles Angels, Dodgers, San Diego Padres, Texas Rangers, Baltimore Orioles, Boston Red Sox, Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Seattle Mariners - all teams loosely rumored at different times to be open-minded - confirmed that their clubs did not take a meeting with Bonds on Wednesday.

Many agents and club executives milling about the lobby viewed Bonds' arrival as a stunt that smacked of

desperation. The fact that ESPN cameras just happened to be set up in time for his early morning entrance only heightened those suspicions.

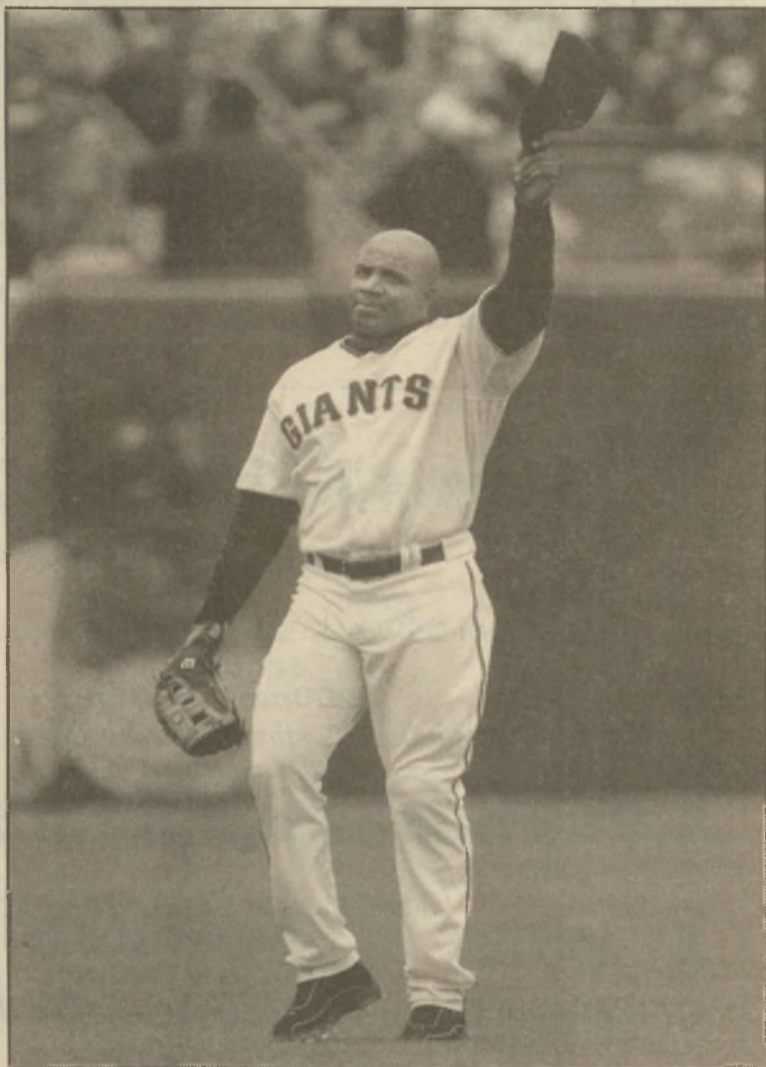
Giants General Manager Brian Sabean declined to speak about Bonds; the club was said to be unmoved by Bonds' arrival.

Borris would not characterize Wednesday's session with the Giants - by far the longest in what has been a highly postured negotiation. He said he expected to have further talks with the Giants before returning to California today.

The Giants expect Bonds to take a pay cut from the \$18 million he made last season but are said to be comfortable they have the desire and the resources to give him a guaranteed number that would exceed anything he would receive elsewhere.

But if Borris is telling the truth, the Giants might not have what Bonds truly wants.

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Nader Khouri/Contra Costa Times
San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds waves to the crowd as he takes to the field in the first inning in what could be his last game as a Giant against the Los Angeles Dodgers in San Francisco, California, Sunday, October 1, 2006. The Dodgers defeated the Giants 4-3.

IM BASKETBALL
 from pg. 11

To sign up, players must stop by the front desk in the Vadalabene Center. There is a \$20.00 entry fee per team.

For those who are looking for teammates, there is a "free agent" board. Individuals who are looking for a team to play on and teams who are not quite full are paired up in hopes of creating a quality team.

"Teams that have at least 75 percent of the teammates living in a residence hall or

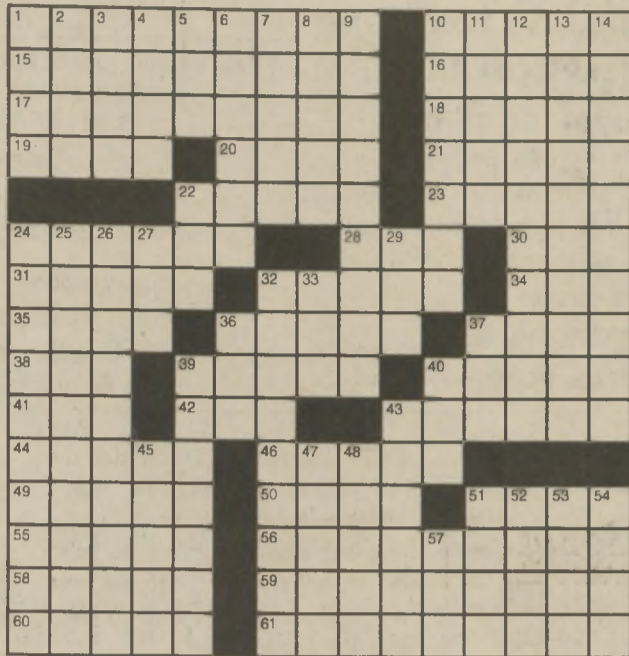
Cougar Village will have their entry fee paid for by University Housing. They just have to get that signed off by a staff member working where they live," Becherer said.

Mallory Hensley can be reached at alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

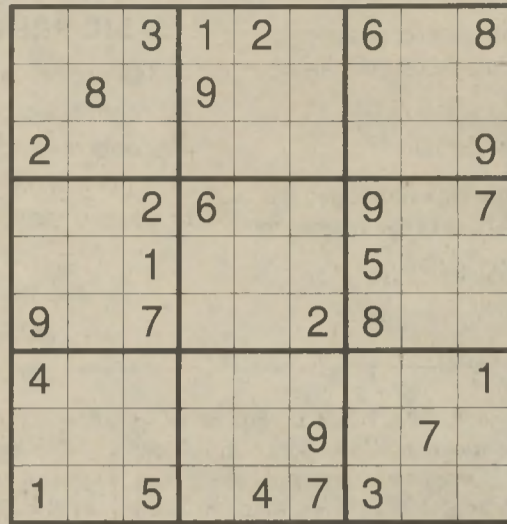
- ACROSS**
- 1 Employee crime
 - 10 Scraping tools
 - 15 Big cheese
 - 16 Soviet collective
 - 17 Pain medication
 - 18 Close shave
 - 19 Togo's capital
 - 20 Boulder
 - 21 Swing a thurible
 - 22 "___ of God"
 - 23 Make sense
 - 24 Cinematic wolf man
 - 28 Building wing
 - 30 New World monkey
 - 31 Brogan binders
 - 32 Little nails
 - 34 Mil. branch
 - 35 Author of "The Nazarene"
 - 36 Abstains from eating
 - 37 Mayberry boy
 - 38 Seashell seller of rhyme
 - 39 Fender flaws
 - 40 Cars
 - 41 Remote ctrl. button
 - 42 Order form abbr.
 - 43 Negatively charged atoms
 - 44 Val d'___, France
 - 46 Solidarity
 - 49 Apple discards
 - 50 River of NYC
 - 51 Ballplayer Moises
 - 55 Pavlov and Lendl
 - 56 Lionel products
 - 58 Stiff bristles
 - 59 Oolong shipping containers
 - 60 Current vogue
 - 61 Moving stairway



- DOWN**
- 1 Romance lang.
 - 2 Kiddy taboo
 - 3 Junk e-mail
 - 4 Adjective-forming suffix
 - 5 Hammar skjold of the U.N.
 - 6 Vigor
 - 7 ___ and the Argonauts
 - 8 In reserve
 - 9 Passenger places
 - 10 Scamps
 - 11 Bowshaped
 - 12 Doesn't back down from
 - 13 School of thought
 - 14 Tired state
 - 22 DDE's rival
 - 24 Alexander Pope, e.g.
 - 25 Has an open discussion about
 - 26 Step up the pace
 - 27 Bk. after Ezra
 - 29 Mormon abbr.
 - 32 Bench built into a wall
 - 33 Queue after Q
 - 36 Fixed charge
 - 37 Assent, in Aix
 - 39 Decked out
 - 40 Even one
 - 43 New York prison
 - 45 French historian
 - 47 Nostrils
 - 48 Author Asimov
 - 51 Under sail
 - 52 "___ we forget..."
 - 53 Italian eight
 - 54 Cold War foe
 - 57 Org. of Flyers and Jets

SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham



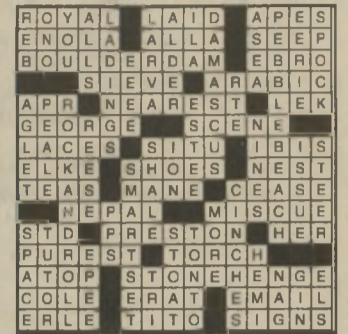
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Thursdays's Answers

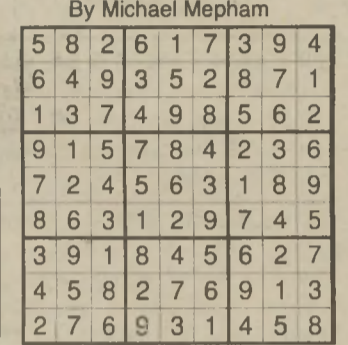
THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham



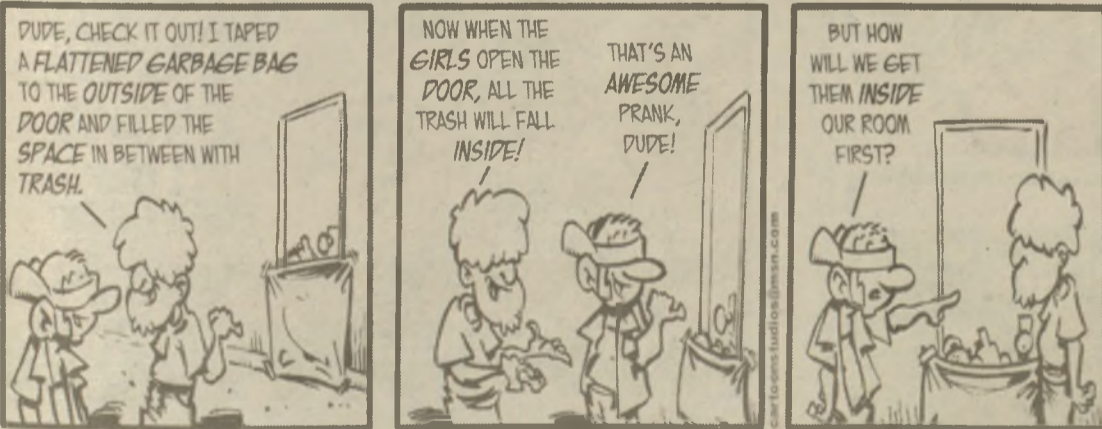
A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner



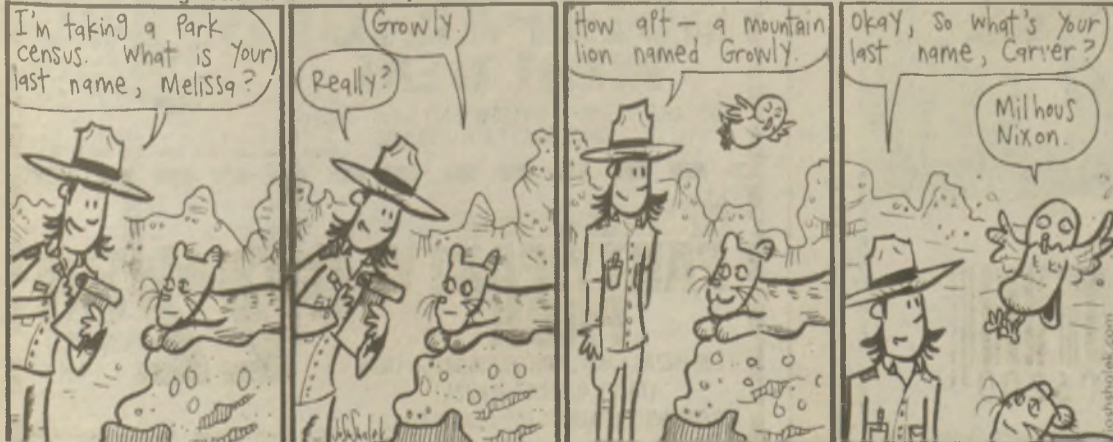
Two Dudes

by Aaron Warner



Welcome to Falling Rock National Park

by Josh Shalek



"I'm afraid you have a compound, compound, compound fracture, fracture, fracture, fracture."



Lassie covers her hindquarters

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