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The Alestle

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

Basketball teams honor seniors
See Sports



Tuesday, February 27, 2007

www.thealestle.com

Vol. 59, No. 44

Funeral for area soldier today in Ballroom

by Catherine Klene
Alestle News Reporter

Ryan Garbs, 20, of Edwardsville, killed in crash in Afghanistan

Funeral services for Spc. Ryan C. Garbs, 20, will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom.

Garbs was a member of Company B, 3rd Battalion in the 75th Ranger Regiment stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. Garbs was serving in Afghanistan when he was killed in

a helicopter crash Feb. 18.

Garbs' mother, Jill Anne Garbs, is a professor at Lovejoy Library.

Garbs joined the army after graduating from Edwardsville High School in 2005.

Edwardsville Superintendent Ed Hightower said Garbs was an "outstanding young man" during his time in high school.

"He gave so much to so many people, even when he was in school," Hightower said. "It's a very tragic situation, and our

hearts and prayers go out to his family, friends and all those who associated with him."

Administrative Services Director Bob Vanzo said from 6 a.m. until the end of the funeral Parking Lots B and C will be reserved for the funeral procession and guests. Vanzo said he expected roughly 650 people to attend the services.

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

Spirit of Africa

Steve Berry/Alestle
A dancer, performing with dance group Spirit of Angela, participates in Africa Night festivities Saturday in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom.



For more Africa Night photos, see Lifestyles

Vice Chancellor stands by snow day decision

by Catherine Klene
Alestle News Reporter

The temperatures may be warming, but many students and faculty are still steamed about SIUE's decision to remain open during the Feb. 13 winter storm.

Despite complaints, Vice Chancellor for Administration Kenneth Neher is sticking by his decision to keep SIUE open.

"As the day unfolded, it turned out to be the proper decision," Neher said.

Many students and faculty felt the university should have closed its doors due to inclement weather. Neher said his office received many calls from concerned students, parents and faculty.

"Some of them were quite nasty," Neher said.

The university's policy is to remain open, Neher explained, except in extreme conditions. "Three inches or so of snow would not normally be tripping my trigger to close the university," Neher said.

Neher said students should exercise good judgment when deciding whether or not to attend classes.

"I had parents call wanting to treat (their) children like children," Neher said. "By definition, students here are adults."

Neher said that as adults, students are capable of deciding whether or not they can make it to classes.

With 3,000 residential students and many more living in nearby, off-campus apartments, Neher felt many students should have had the opportunity to attend class.

"Classes should have been available to them," Neher said. "We've become much more a residential campus and much less a commuter campus."

Neher explained his process when deciding if inclement weather warrants university closure.

At 4:30 a.m. Feb. 13 Neher

SNOW/pg.4

Application numbers increase by 1,000

by Zach Groves
Alestle News Reporter

While SIUE is praising the increase in application numbers, some students are wondering if the university is biting off more than it can chew.

Admissions and Enrollment recently reported that as of Feb. 15, more than 5,900 prospective freshmen had applied to the university, an increase of 1,000 applications over last year.

"We are still accepting applications and admitting students," Assistant Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Scott Belobrajdic said.

Graduate student numbers are up as well. Their number recently surpassed 819, according to a press release, which is

a jump of 174 compared to the year before.

Belobrajdic said he believes the continued increase results from a mix of elements such as marketing, cost-effective tuition and word of mouth.

"High interest levels (record applications) and strong enrollment numbers are usually an indication that students are having a very positive experience on campus," Belobrajdic said. "I would add that expanded recruiting efforts, facility updates and expanded marketing initiatives such as the 'e' campaign definitely help to attract initial student interest."

With the growing number of students and even larger number of applicants, some are questioning SIUE's priorities.

"They need to resolve the parking issues before they take more applications," junior political science major Daniel Petty said. "Freshmen should not have a car their first year."

Other students like the idea of a growing campus, but ask that enrollment numbers be considered as well, especially for those who are close to graduation.

Senior speech communication major Kristin Koester said she thinks the attention the university is getting is beneficial.

"I think it's good more students are applying since SIUE used to be known for its seclusion and small classes."

However, Koester also said there needs to be a balance between the number of enrolled students and faculty members.



Photo illustration by Andy Rathnow/Alestle

"Once you start getting into your core classes, space runs out. It makes it (enrolling) more difficult," Koester said.

Junior speech pathology major Whitney Bichsel said, "I think it is a

APPLICATIONS/pg.4

Police Reports

2-20

Police issued Jennifer West a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Jamie Lawson a citation for speeding on Northwest Entrance Road.

Police issued Christopher Theodorakis a citation for speeding on Northwest Entrance Road.

Police issued Eskindir Yehwalawork a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on South Circle Drive.

Police issued Heather Moles a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police responded to a traffic accident involving multiple vehicles on Stadium Drive at South University Drive. Police reported that a 21-year-old female at the sight of the accident complained of head pain, and an ambulance was dispatched. Police issued Craig Heinzmann a citation for failure to yield at an intersection.

Police issued Lauren Woolard a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

Police issued Ryan McKinney a citation for driving without a valid driver's on South Circle Drive.

Campus Scanner

SIUE East St. Louis Center Performing Arts Company: Feel the beat with this regionally-recognized dance group as they perform African and Caribbean dances from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tuesday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge. For more information, contact Steve Sperotto at ssperot@siue.edu.

Black Heritage Month Student Talent Show: Watch fellow students show off their singing, dancing, poetic and musical talents from 7 to 10 p.m. Tuesday in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom. For more information, contact Steve Sperotto at ssperot@siue.edu.

Morris University Center 40th Anniversary: Celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Morris University Center with cake, confetti, a mime, giveaways, speakers and various other events all day Wednesday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge. For more information, contact Debbie Goestenkers at 650-2305.

Just for Laughs - Tracy Ashley: Laugh, giggle, chortle and chuckle at the antics of comedian Tracy Ashley from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the Cougar Village Commons Building. For more information, contact Chris Worrick at cworrick@siue.edu.

Tae Kwon Do Club: Learn the defensive art of Tae Kwon Do from 8 to 10 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Fitness Center's Gymnastics Room. For more information, contact Joe at jheaton@siue.edu.

Live Wire: Jam out to the music of the up-and-coming musician Sarah Peacock from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge. For more information, contact Michelle Charbonnier at mcharbo@siue.edu or visit siue.edu/CAB.

Starbucks Late Night Espresso: Unwind with live performances every Thursday evening from 8 to 11:30 p.m. in the Morris University Center Starbucks. For more information, contact Mathias Akuoko at makuoko@siue.edu or Debbie at 650-2305.

Time Management: Learn how to effectively manage all the demands placed upon students from 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday in Peck Hall, Room 3117. For more information, contact Valerie McClinton at vnelsn@siue.edu or call 650-3701.

Entrepreneurship Week to celebrate innovation

by Holly Meyer
Alestle News Reporter

Entrepreneurship Week has come to SIUE, and it is being celebrated with activities throughout the week both on and off campus.

The nationwide festivities started at Stanford University in California on Feb. 23 and include festivities in Washington, D.C., as well as New York, according to the Web site, www.entrepreneurshipweekusa.com.

According to Kristine Jarden, director of the Southwestern Illinois Entrepreneurship Center located on campus, events are being celebrated now through Friday with events at SIUE, Granite City, Edwardsville and St. Louis Community College.

As part of SIUE's celebration, the Ultimate Pizza Cook-off will begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Woodland Hall and continue to 9 p.m. The competition, an individual or two-person team event with a \$100 prize, involves cooking the most creative and best-tasting pizza.

Another event will take place at the River's Edge Enterprise Center in Granite City. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday to celebrate the opening of additional office incubator suites, which help new companies develop successfully.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP/pg.4

LIVEWIRE

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Amy Leange/Detroit Free Press/MCT

Wayne State University adjunct instructor Eric Russell applied to the University of Michigan Law School but was rejected.

University of Michigan applicant pushes to keep gender, race out of admissions

by Kristen Jordan Shamus
Detroit Free Press (MCT)

DETROIT – Eric Russell didn't get his wish: he didn't get admitted to the University of Michigan Law School next year.

But that is OK with him – as long as his rejection was without consideration of his race or gender.

Russell, a 30-year-old white Auburn Hills, Mich. resident, got word recently that his admission to the law school was denied. He said he is prepared to believe the university followed Proposal 2 – which bans the use of race or gender in making admissions decisions.

"The university stated publicly that they're in compliance," he said Feb. 15. "I'm going to take them at their word until anything to the contrary surfaces."

But he said he'll keep fighting to make sure Proposal 2, approved by voters in November, remains the law of the state.

A soft-spoken and reserved instructor of Spanish and German at Wayne State University, Russell is the latest in a line of people who have fought to end affirmative action in the state's university admission policies, a stand that places him in the company of Ward Connerly, Barbara Grutter and Jennifer Gratz.

He remains a party in the federal case challenging the Nov. 7 referendum's constitutionality, with Russell defending the ballot question and saying he believes the issue of fairness outweighs the need for affirmative action. The American Civil Liberties Union, the NAACP and the group By Any Means Necessary are among those challenging the constitutionality of the ban, arguing it only made it onto the ballot through voter fraud and that it is, on its face, discriminatory. A scheduling conference is set for March 21 before U.S. District Judge David Lawson in Detroit.

At issue for Russell is the fundamental right of voters to have their will carried out.

"People were very angry about this," he said. "People who were not even applying to the University of Michigan were very upset, and I was too."

Russell's belief that the issue comes down to a question of fairness notwithstanding, affirmative action supporters say the referendum – and the fight to implement it, represented by Russell – comes down to racism.

"He's a front man for segregation, and that whatever he's saying, the truth of the matter is that he's aiming to exclude thousands of black and Latino students from the universities of this state," By Any Means Necessary spokeswoman Shanta

Driver said.

"The real heroes are the Latino and black students who are standing up for their rights, building a new civil rights movement and demanding equality."

After the election, Russell said he was outraged to hear University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman pledge to fight the ban.

"I believe she was slapping the voters in the face, and the applicant pool as well," Russell said. "To me, her underlying message was ... essentially we'll do anything we can to not follow this."

After that, Russell sought out Terence Pell, president of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Individual Rights, to represent him in a lawsuit Russell filed in Washtenaw County Circuit Court seeking an order requiring the university to immediately comply with the ban. As someone with an application to Michigan's law school, he had standing to file in court.

Last month, the University of Michigan announced it would comply with the referendum, leading Russell to drop that lawsuit.

The federal case is pending. He is the only individual mentioned in the case on the side supporting the ban, while the By Any Means Necessary has more than two dozen opposing it.

"I'm not suing for admission. I'm suing for equal treatment under the law without regard to race," Russell said several weeks ago. "If they reject me because my GPA is too low, because my test scores are too low and they don't think I'll be able to cut it in their program, then so be it."

Last fall, Russell got involved with Proposal 2 by volunteering in the campaign headed by Gratz and Connerly, who pushed and passed a similar ballot issue in California a decade ago.

Russell said he just wanted to support a cause he believed in.

"I am a newspaper reader, and a news consumer, so I knew that it was out there, and I have interest in what goes on in my country, in my state," he said.

Russell wrote letters to various newspapers, supporting the ban.

Russell said he plans to attend Wayne State's law school next year, and that he'll try again for admission to the University of Michigan through a transfer.

"What is most important to me is that my original application and my transfer application are processed under the new law – that no matter when I apply, I receive fair consideration," he said.

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APPLICATIONS

from pg. 1

positive thing for students to be interested, but that means a higher student-to-professor ratio."

Housing is another concern of Bichsel's.

"With living arrangements, it is hard to find a place on campus," she said.

Belobrajdic said he suggests students on campus apply for housing as soon as possible to avoid that problem, even with Evergreen Hall scheduled to

open in fall 2007.

"We will have more 'beds' available on campus this fall, but we anticipate more interest," Belobrajdic said.

"If we manage our growth, it should do nothing but add to the richness of the student experience here," Belobrajdic said.

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

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

from pg. 2

The final SIUE event in relation to Entrepreneurship Week will be a seminar about alternative energy. The Bio Diesel Basics seminar will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday. It is an installment of a three-part seminar series about methane, wind and wastewater as energy sources as well as solar power. As part of the \$20 seminar, a panel of experts will discuss bio-diesel technology and trends in the region. The seminar will take place at the Technology and Management Center in University Park.

The St. Louis Regional

Entrepreneurship Educators Resource Fair will be the last local event for the week. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the St. Louis Community College Forest Park Campus, the fair will feature workshops and booths geared toward helping entrepreneurs get their business ideas off the ground.

Innovative Trivia Night, the Race to Entrepreneurship and the E-Shirt Challenge took place earlier in the week.

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

SNOW

from pg. 1

consulted with Facilities Management and SIUE Police to determine road conditions on and off of campus. Neher said he also based his decision on KSDK Channel 5's weather forecast.

"At the time that we would normally make a decision, it was fine," Neher said.

Neher said he decides early in order to notify students and faculty as soon as possible.

"If things go bad during the day, things get more complicated," Neher said.

Neher explained many faculty and students are already on campus, and he must decide whether it is better to send them home immediately or to wait and see what the weather will do.

"If things were to get really bad during the day, are we better off sending people now or will it be better later?" Neher said.

At 4:30 p.m., the weather and road conditions were much better ensuring a safer commute for faculty and students, Neher said.

He did make the call to cancel evening classes due to high winds and blowing snow. That decision was made at 2 p.m., Neher said, to allow plenty of time for the word to get out to students and faculty.

Neher said when determining road conditions off campus, SIUE Police consults with the Illinois State Police in Collinsville.

Illinois State Police media liaison Ralph Timmins said SIUE would consult with the

operations shift commander on duty for weather related incidents. When evaluating weather conditions, Timmins said the state police look at the number of traffic incidents and road conditions reported by motorists.

According to Timmins, there were 85 traffic accidents within District 111 during the first 10 hours of the storm and 247 by the end of the day.

Neher confirmed that Facilities Management Director Bob Washburn was involved in a weather-related traffic accident in University Park on the day of the storm.

"In University Park, the responsibility for snow removal ... rests with the city of Edwardsville," Washburn said. "Whether they had done that or not, I don't know."

Washburn could not be reached for comment.

Timmins is also an instructor at Lewis and Clark Community College, where classes were canceled.

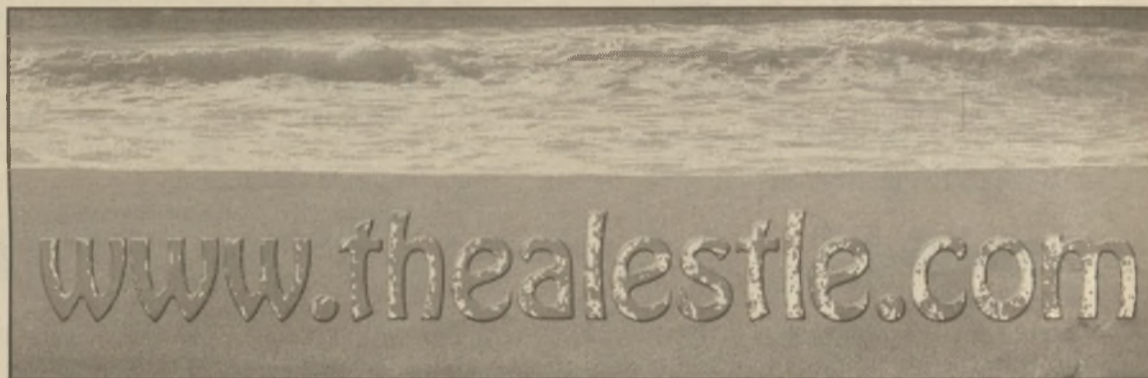
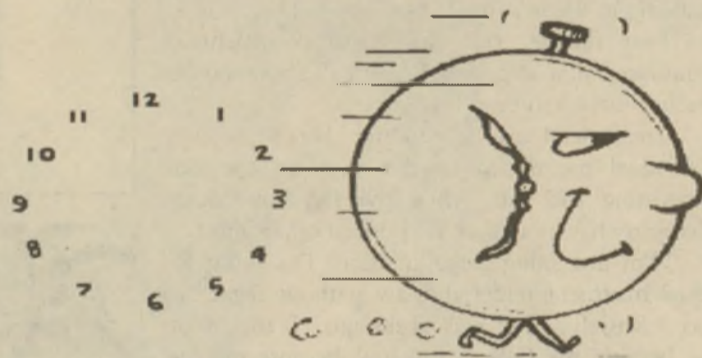
"I think it was a wise decision to cancel classes," Timmins said.

He added that it is a difficult decision to make. Meteorologists are not always right, Timmins said.

"It's a tough call," Timmins said.

The SIUE inclement weather policy can be found online at siue.edu/POLICIES/2c1.html.

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

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The editors, staff and publishers of the Alestle believe in the free exchange of ideas, concerns and opinions and will publish as many letters as possible.

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

About the Alestle:

One copy of the Alestle is no charge. Additional copies cost 25 cents.

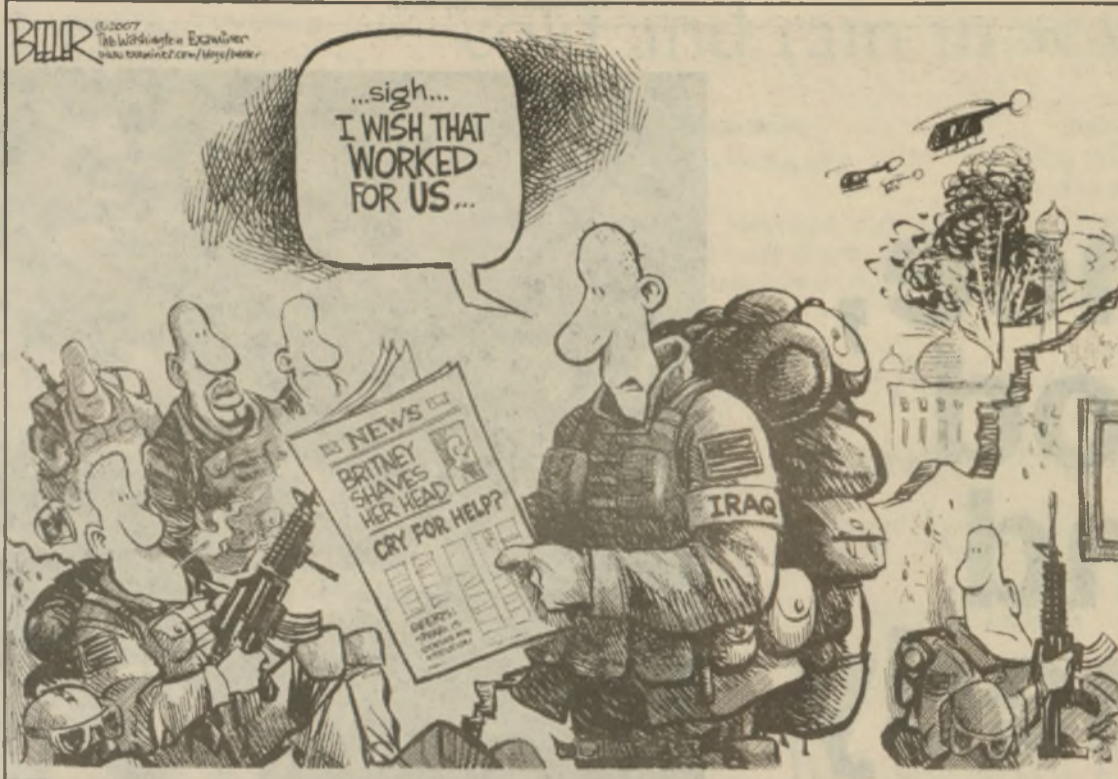
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Have a comment? Let us know!

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Open letter written to rude parkers

Dear Rude Parkers,

You know who you are. Most likely, you are a person who has absolutely no concept of the length of your hood, which causes you to leave four feet between your front bumper and the parking line. Perhaps



Emily Siemer

you are spatially challenged. I can accept that. Here's a tip, then: Go until you cannot see the line. If you do this, I will not, in turn, be forced to thread the needle between you and the person behind and across the drive, who, very often, happens to be equally spatially challenged.

More rare, yet also much more annoying, are those of you

who take up more than one space. With my own eyes I have seen a single vehicle occupy four - yes, four - parking spaces. One question - are you blind? If not, what exactly is your problem? I'm left only to assume that you don't want dings or scratches on your car. Hey, I don't either, but I still park responsibly so that others don't have to walk in from Sgt. Pepper's. Work with us, okay?

Then there are you Close Parkers. It is you who cause the behavior of the aforementioned space-hogs, who must have such a deep-seated fear of having to enter their car using a shoehorn and Astroglide that it causes them to make erratic decisions. I would suggest the arm test for you: when parked, reach out the window of your car - if you can change the gears of the car on your left, you're too close.

Finally, there are you

baffling characters who back into spaces, thus forcing you to have to go the wrong way down the drive when it comes time to depart. Why? You appear to be a proficient parker - why not aim it the right way and lessen my risk of having to slam on the brakes because you fail to understand directional parking dynamics?

Thanks for listening, Rude Parkers. I've hopefully helped you to make better parking decisions, and at least raised your awareness of how inconsiderate you can be. If you can do just a little better, I'll overlook your blasting the Backstreet Boys at 95 decibels.

Sincerely,
Emily Siemer

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

More ethics test problems arise

Last semester, employees at SIUE were forced to take an "ethics test" by a deadline or face disciplinary actions up to termination of employment. Unfortunately for 96 SIUE employees, they were told they took the test too quickly.



Justin Gibson

Since then, grievance has been filed against the Executive Inspector General by the Faculty Association, which is part of the Illinois Education Association/National Education Association.

There are many more issues that come to mind, though, for student workers that also are being affected for taking their test too quickly. I am one of the

unlucky ones.

One problem is the timeliness in how student workers received their packet of information stating that they completed the training too quickly.

I received my letter and packet of information Thursday, Feb. 22. The letter said a signature would be required saying the recipient read through the "Ethics Packet for Non-Compliant Employees." The signature would have to be returned to the Student Employment Office by Friday, Feb. 23, or the recipient would be terminated. I guess I should thank God I have late classes on Thursdays and wasn't sick, because if I wasn't on campus I would have been fired.

Even more upsetting was the fact that the letter and packet of information was dated Dec.

22, 2006. Does it take two months to send out vital information to employees asking them for their cooperation in a timely manner when we aren't receiving it? The Student Employment Office said 80 students received their letters this late.

The handling of the non-compliant employees who took the ethics test too quickly has been poorly done. The packets of information were handed out in an ill-timed way that could have caused problems for some students who were not present on campus Thursday afternoon. Sort of ironic that the people reprimanding employees about their time problems seem to have some also.

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

Black history needs more appreciation

From W.E.B. DuBois to



Kevin Eagan

Louis Armstrong to Maya Angelou, the essence of what it means to be an American in the 21st century has been shaped by African-Americans.

Yet it has taken more than 250 years of American history for us to finally start recognizing the contributions of African-Americans to our society, and we still are not quite there.

Black History Month is a time to celebrate not only the diversity we share as Americans, but also to recognize that our past was turbulent. It was only 40 years ago that the Civil Rights movement started to break through the oppression of a white-dominated American society.

For America, it takes one month a year to remind ourselves of the rich history and culture that has shaped what America is and is becoming in our world. Even though we set aside February as Black History Month, we should remember the contributions African-Americans have given America throughout the year.

Black History Month is more than a celebration of one group of Americans. It is a celebration of what it means to be American, because many of the foundations of American culture are shaped by African-Americans. Our music, art, literature and philosophy are rooted in black history.

As we come to the end of February and the end of Black History Month, we should not forget the contributions African-Americans have made to our society. And we should not forget that African-Americans have helped make America what it is in more ways than our society often thinks.

As we move further into the 21st century, let's hope that our history books start to tell more of this rich heritage to future generations.

Kevin Eagan can be reached at alestle@gmail.com or 650-3527.

Correction: In the column "Food hours should be extended," in the Tuesday, Feb. 6, edition of the Alestle, it was incorrectly stated that Taco Bell is open until 10 p.m. Rather, Taco Bell is open until 11 p.m. on extended hours. The Alestle regrets the error.

Dance, food and comedy

Black Heritage Month continues with talent show and Comedy Central comedian for finale

by Kyle Wiese

Alestle News Reporter

Performance is a large part of black culture, and this time SIUE students will get a chance to do some performing of their own.

The Campus Activities Board is hosting the Black Heritage Month Talent Show at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom.

This year's show will be similar to those performed in the past, with acts consisting of singing, dancing and even some

Not only is the event significant in and of itself, but Banks also hopes to end another successful Black Heritage Month on campus as the month of February comes to a close.

"This going is to be one of the last events of Black Heritage Month, so we're all hoping for a good show and a large turnout," Banks said.

The final event that the university will host for Black Heritage Month will be the performance of "Just for Laughs" featuring comedian Tracy Ashley.

The performance will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the

"We want to show the different sides of African-American culture..."

rap performances.

The theme of the show is the same as one of the most important themes of this year's Black Heritage Month: finding oneself.

"We want to show the different sides of African-American culture through singing and dance, and that goes with our theme of revealing identity and expressing consciousness," event coordinator Amanda Banks said.

Cougar Village Commons Building.

Ashley has performed on HBO, NBC and Comedy Central, and she will share her experiences of growing up in the South and the hard work she has put in to getting where she is today.

For more information on remaining Black Heritage Month events, visit the CAB Web site at siue.edu/CAB.

Kyle Wiese can be reached at alestlelifestyles@gmail.com or 650-3531.



Above: More than 100 attended Africa Night on Saturday and were greeted with authentic African cuisine and dance. Steve Berry/Alestle

Don't put off reading this

by Emily Siemer
Alestle News Reporter

Midterms. If this strikes fear and trepidation in your heart, you are not alone. Wasn't it just a few weeks ago that we came back from Winter Break?

If you find yourself with too much to do and too little time, you are not alone. Sophomore Lacey Merrill is a full-time student with a job on the side. Managing her time, particularly around midterm and finals weeks, can be a challenge.

"I tend to put things off to the last minute, and then stress because I put it off for so long," Merrill said.

If this sounds like you, then you are not alone. But help is just around the corner – tomorrow, in fact.

Academic Counseling and Advising is hosting a presentation on time management at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 28 in Peck Hall, Room 3117. You won't want to put this off.

Academic Advisers Shannon Hennessey and Tessa Keys will present strategies to help students better manage their time.

"At this point in the semester, it will help students who aren't on track get themselves organized," Hennessey said.

One of the greatest challenges for students is balancing their academic, social and work life.

According to Keys and Hennessey, no longer having their parents supervise how time is spent can leave some students wasting a lot of a precious commodity.

Taking time out to study is often bumped off the list of priorities, particularly when a student is relishing in the newly found freedom of parent-less time management.

Keys hopes to impart on students the importance of "learning how to balance things out, and set aside time (for studying) every day." She wants students to realize that studying should be a built-in facet of their schedule, not just something they do on the side.

Hennessey will speak about how students spend their time, and how this allotment reflects, or fails to reflect, their values.

The time management presentation is geared to "help students not only manage their time, but to find balance," Hennessey said.

"We want students to be successful and feel successful ... so that they don't pull their hair out," Keys said of the overall goal of the session.

For more information, contact the Office of Academic Counseling and Advising at 650-3107.

Emily Siemer can be reached at alestlelifestyles@gmail.com or 650-3531.

Students hit the slopes, brave cold and rain in search of fun

by Maggie Willis
Alestle Lifestyles Reporter

Big, lolling hills blanketed with snow stretched out in almost every direction, a stark white contrast to the dark hills on the horizon of the gray, cloudy sky.

The ski lift ascended one of these snow-covered hills, angling across the overcast sky to deliver its occupants and their rental gear to the top of the ski trail as rain poured over the landscape, mixing with the snow to form speed-inhibiting slush.

While this may sound like a faraway ski lodge in the mountains, it can actually be found near Six Flags in Wildwood, Mo., about an hour away from campus by bus.

Graduate assistant Chris Worrick was one of about 30 participants from SIUE to hit these slushy slopes at the Hidden Valley ski resort Saturday, Feb. 24 in a Campus Activities Board-sponsored event.

This semi-annual trip has been happening for a few years, but this year was a little different than in the past.

"It was pretty cold and the rain made skiing a lot slower," Worrick said. "It wasn't a very good day for it, so it was kind of disappointing."

Many of the skiers took long breaks from skiing and found sanctuary from the weather in the ski lodge.

"Since it was so rainy and cold, a lot of people hung out in the lodge and socialized," Worrick said.

The lodge held all the expected amenities: a food court, televisions, a bar and two sitting areas for weary skiers.

However, the lodge's contemporary façade might have surprised a few skiers.

"It was just like a big building," Worrick said. "It didn't look like a log cabin or anything like that. It was pretty nice for the area, but nothing fancy like a ski resort in Colorado."

Still, it was worth the money, according to Worrick.

"Students only paid \$15," Worrick said. "That's less than half of what you would usually pay going yourself."

Even with the bad weather, \$15 is a price many would gladly pay for the

chance to brush up on old skiing skills or to learn to ski for the first time.

"A lot of people were new to skiing, and they seemed to have fun despite the cold and rain," Worrick said. "Even with the weather, they definitely showed interest in going again next year."

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

"A lot of people were new to skiing, and they seemed to have fun despite the cold and rain."

-Chris Worrick,
Graduate assistant

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Courtesy of SIUE Photo Services

The SIUE men's track and field team displays its trophy after winning the Great Lakes Valley Conference Indoor Championships Saturday in Crawfordsville, Ind.



Courtesy of SIUE Photo Services

The SIUE women's track and field team won its fourth straight Great Lakes Valley Conference Indoor Championship Saturday at Knowing Fieldhouse in Crawfordsville, Ind.

Clean sweeps at GLVC tourney

by Lindsay Stuart
Alestle Sports Reporter

And the tradition continues. The SIUE track team once again dominated at the Great Lakes Valley Conference Indoors meet Saturday at the Knowlings Fieldhouse at Wabash College.

SIUE men's track coach Dave Astrauskas was named GLVC Men and Women's Coach of the Year.

"My name is next to the Coach of the Year award, however I think it should be determined Coaching Staff of the Year," Astrauskas said. "(SIUE assistant track coach Ben) Beyers and coach (Eileen) McAllister both have done an incredible job of training their athletes this season and I think it should be an overall staff award."

SIUE seniors Jonathan Bannister and Valerie Simmons were named GLVC Athletes of the Year in the men's and women's division. SIUE Freshman Juliet Alrich was named GLVC women's Freshman of the Year.

SIUE men's and women's teams both

Men, women take GLVC indoor title together ... again

finished first out of eight schools, continuing the tradition of domination at the GLVC Indoors meet.

"On paper before the meet, we were basically seated to win the meet," Astrauskas said. "However, you never win a conference championship on paper. You have to go through each event and see how well you do, and fortunately our kids responded and did as well as they have been doing all year long and that put us on top."

In addition to winning Athlete of the Year, Bannister finished first in the men's 400-meter dash with a time of 48.69 seconds, followed closely by SIUE junior Kyle Rose with 48.98.

"Jonathan has been known to rise to the occasion in big meets and this meet

was no different than any other," Astrauskas said. "He ran a very good time in the 400, which will be close in getting him into the national meet. He also did well in both the hurdle races and scored a lot of points for our team."

Rose also placed first in the 200 with a 22.01.

The SIUE men finished first in both the 4x200 and 4x400 meter relays with times of 1:28.62 and 3:19.31, respectively.

On the women's side, Simmons placed first in both 55-meter hurdles and 200 meter hurdles. SIUE Sophomore Deserea Brown followed a close second in the 200-meter with a 27.55.

"Val helped us out and scored a lot of points in a variety of events: in the triple jump, in the long jump. (She) ran an

outstanding 200-meter time that was a qualifying time," Astrauskas said. "She also did well in both the 55 and 200-meter hurdles and broke the conference record for the 200-meter hurdles, and that's always a positive. Val did a lot of good things this weekend."

Brown, who competed in eight different events, also had a winning weekend.

"Deserea had a good, quality performance for us," Astrauskas said. "I think she did eight events and she scored in all of them. Field events, running events, she's pretty much the 'jack of all trades.'"

SIUE sophomore Scott Block won first place in the shot put event by over four feet and broke the conference record.

Sophomore Kris Kombrink also gave a good performance.

"Kombrink threw a 59-11 in the weight throw and he placed, but was only six centimeters from winning the meet," Astrauskas said. "It was nice to see him,

TRACK/pg. 10

SIUE men finish with win

by Marty Jenkins
Alestle Sports Reporter

The SIUE men's basketball team defeated The University of Missouri-Saint Louis Saturday evening 92-63 in front of a crowd of 1,300 on senior night.

The Cougars finished the season 15-12 overall and 10-9 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

"We had a great team effort and it was good for us to end the season with a win for the seniors," SIUE Head Coach Marty Simmons said. "It is going to be very hard to see the seniors go, but I am very proud of the effort that they have given me and they are going to be missed very much."

Senior forward Mike Hardiek was happy with his team's effort but upset to see the season come to an end.

"Everyone on this team has been like a family to me and it is very upsetting to see it all end," Hardiek said. "It was good to end the season on a win, but it would



Pete Ridens/Alestle

SIUE junior guard Anthony Jones, 20, scores a layup as Joe Shardo attempts a block during SIUE's 72-58 victory over the University of Missouri-Rolla Thursday at the Vadalabene Center.

MEN'S BASKETBALL/pg. 10

Women drown UMSL in season finale

by Anthony Patrico
Alestle Sports Reporter

As the SIUE women's basketball team hosted the University of Missouri-Saint Louis Riverwomen on Saturday, the Cougars also honored their senior players. Sharda Butler, Laura Witherspoon, Julianne McMillen, Jamie Kennedy and Krystal Rosengren were all recognized for their achievements in their collegiate careers.

The Cougars, who are 20-7 overall and 13-6 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, were down early as the Riverwomen went on a quick 10-0 run to open the game. The Cougars then picked up some momentum and cut away at the lead after shooting 6 of 10 from outside the 3-point arch. As the half came to a close, the Cougars closed the gap and went into halftime with a lead of four points.

"Our press helped us get going and then our offense just started clicking," junior guard Amber Shelton said. "Alli and Whit hit some huge three's to get us

going."

After shooting just 32 percent from the floor during the first half, the Cougars turned it up a notch and shot for 57 percent during the second half. Many of these contributions came from the 3-point line, helping the Cougars to the victory.

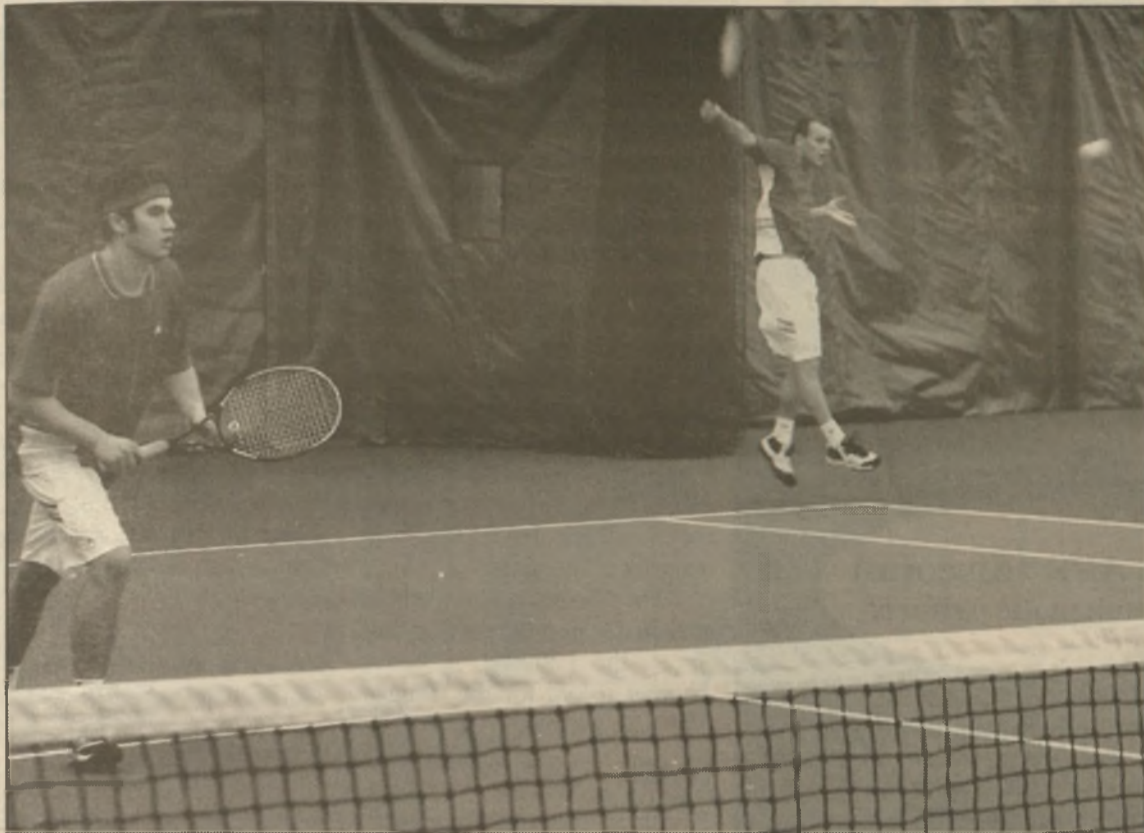
Another key to success for the Cougars could be credited to the contribution of the players off the bench. The Cougar bench players scored 41 points. Combining their efforts with those of the starters, the Cougars came out of Saturday's contest on top 86-71.

Sophomore Allison Fogle and junior Whitney Sykes both had successful nights from 3-point range. Fogle finished the night with 9 of her 15 points coming from outside the arch. Sykes netted five 3-pointers and finished the night with 22 total points. Kennedy also scored 10 points for the Cougars.

The Cougars will now switch their focus to Bellarmine University. The two teams will meet in the first round of the

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL/pg. 10

Men's tennis team nips Illinois-Springfield at home



SIUE freshman Zach Allison, left, and junior Thibaud Chevalier play a volley during the Cougars' 5-4 victory over the University of Illinois-Springfield Saturday at the new YMCA's courts in Edwardsville.

Steve Berry/Alestle

by **Matthew Bruce**
Alestle Sports Editor

The SIUE men's tennis team pulled off its first victory of the spring in nail-biting fashion with a 5-4 triumph over the University of Illinois-Springfield Saturday at the new YMCA's courts in Edwardsville.

The Cougars prevailed on

the heels of sturdy doubles play, thwarting the Prairie Stars in both the No. 2 and No. 3 matches to earn the victory.

"That was key to the victory," SIUE assistant coach Kyler Updike said. "Winning two out of the three doubles is key to most any win. A lot of the singles matches are 50-50, you may split those."

SIUE finished the doubles matches holding a 3-2 advantage over the Prairie Stars and it proved to be pivotal as the Cougars stalemated, going 3-3 through singles play.

"That was a definite positive and it definitely increased our odds," Updike said. "The guys know how much time we spend on doubles and know what kind

of a key role that plays. So it definitely helped our morale going into singles."

Junior Mike Jolly and sophomore Nicolas Garrison paired up to pound out an 8-5 victory over UIS' Conner McGowan and Eric Cromer in the No.2 match.

With the win, the duo moved to 1-1 on the season. Their performance avenged SIUE sophomore Zach Allison and junior Thibaud Chevalier's loss in No. 1 doubles.

Allison succumbed to Jose Talavera in straight sets 6-4, 6-4 at No. 2. But Chevalier, Jolly and Garrison won their matches to give SIUE a 3-2 advantage.

Chevalier won in straight sets over Stoja, while Jolly and Garrison outlasted their opponents in three frames.

"They were our players of the day for sure," Updike said of Garrison and Jolly. "Both (wins) they could attribute to our physical training. We've been doing a lot of conditioning and

"I think we physically probably had the leg up on the opposing team."

-Kyler Updike,
SIUE assistant coach

Seniors Doug Kim and Eduardo DeLaCruz followed up for the Cougars at the No. 3 double with a decisive 8-2 win over Mihael Stoja and Bruno Castaneda.

In singles, SIUE struggled early, dropping the first two matches. Kim played Prairie Star ace David Ptak close in the first set of his No. 1 match, battling to a 6-6 tie before falling 7-2 in the tiebreak. Kim went down easily in the following set 6-1 and dropped to 1-7 in singles play for the year.

those were some long matches. I think we physically probably had the leg up on the opposing team. We got into the third set and I think their guys wore down a little bit more than we did."

With the win, SIUE moved to 2-2 on the season. The Cougars hit the courts again at noon Monday when they take on Mount St. Mary's University in Orlando, Fla.

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

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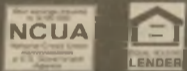
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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL from pg. 8

GLVC tournament. The Cougars gained the No. 2 seed in the West Division, while Bellarmine received the No. 3 seed in the East Division. In a previous meeting, the Cougars got the victory by a final score of 71-61.

"Bellarmine will definitely be ready for us," Shelton said. "We know we are capable of beating them, we just have to put it together on both ends of the floor."

The season has been an overall success on and off of the hardwood. A strong bond among the girls led to meshing on the court, which led to the success the Cougars have seen the majority of this year.

The Cougars recorded 20 wins in a season for the first time since the 2000-01 season. Another record for the Cougars

this season was Sykes breaking the all-time 3-point scoring record set back in 1996 by Terri Evans. Evans netted 172 in four years of play while Sykes has netted 177 in just three years of play.

"I think the most interesting thing has been our turnaround this year," Shelton said. "It has been fun to be a part of that and to get a 20-win season. We have accomplished a lot this year and put together some great team wins."

This weekend, the Cougars will head to the GLVC tournament. They will face Bellarmine in the first round. The action kicks off at noon Saturday at Roberts Stadium in Evansville, Ind.

Anthony Patrico can be reached at alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.

TRACK from pg. 8

only being a sophomore, responding well to the stiff competition and come out with a big throw."

Just like the men's team, the SIUE women finished first in both the 4x200 and 4x400 relays.

"The 4x400 is usually done at the end of the meet and a lot of the kids were tired so we didn't get to run our fastest time of the year; but we still ran a provisional time on the men's side, and in the 4x200 they broke the conference

record," Astrauskas said. "It takes all four ladies to run a very fast split in order to do something of that nature."

The SIUE track team will continue their season with the NCAA Indoors meet March 9-10 at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston.

Lindsay Stuart can be reached at alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.

MEN'S BASKETBALL from pg. 8

have been nice if we would have played our best ball earlier in the year."

Hardiek had a game high 21 points and shot 9-11 from the field. Sophomore forward Nick Arth also scored 21 points for SIUE.

Junior guard J.B. Jones had a career-high 13 assists in the game to go along with nine points. Jones also had three steals and two blocks in the game.

Senior guard Ty Johnson netted 13 in his final game as a Cougar.

"Ty has been through a lot of adversity this year and he has kept on battling and played very hard for the team," Simmons said. "He is the kind of player who is always battling and he was a very important part of this team."

The Cougars shot a scorching 61 percent from the field in the game. They also went 8-11 from the charity stripe.

"This was the best shooting performance I have seen from the team this year and I am very proud of the way they played," Simmons said.

SIUE also shot very well from beyond the arc going 10-20 in the game.

UMSL (9-18) had its problems all game against the Cougars stifling defense. SIUE forced 20 turnovers and had seven blocks as well.

The Cougars scored 18 points off of turnovers and outscored UMSL 12-0 in fast break points.

"I was very happy with our defensive effort tonight and it was good to see the players never give up," Simmons said.

The Cougars dominated the inside game and outscored UMSL 36-24 in the paint. The Cougars bench also had a big impact in the game as they outscored UMSL 20-10.

SIUE did a good job possessing the ball in the game, which resulted in only seven turnovers.

UMSL was led by senior guard Troy Slaten who had 18 points. Sophomore guard Nathan Whittaker poured in 11 points for the Rivermen.

UMSL shot 37 percent from the field.

There were three seniors who were honored Saturday night for the Cougars. Among them were Hardiek, Johnson and Clint Burris.

"Obviously we had very high hopes this year and this is not the way we thought things would turn out," Simmons said. "It is sad to know that these guys will be leaving us but I can't stress enough how proud I am of my team."

Marty Jenkins can be reached at alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.

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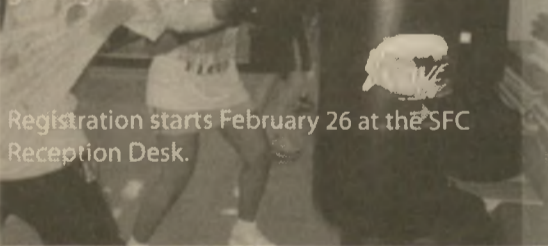


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Get ready for the days of summer with this intramural sports event. Enjoy playing softball at the SIUE Rec Plex. The three-week league will begin on Sunday, March 18. There are Mens, Womens, and Coed divisions for you to play in.

Registration Due: March 14 Fees:
Manager's Meeting: March 15 \$20 Entry Fee
VC 2001 4:30pm \$20 Forfeit Fee



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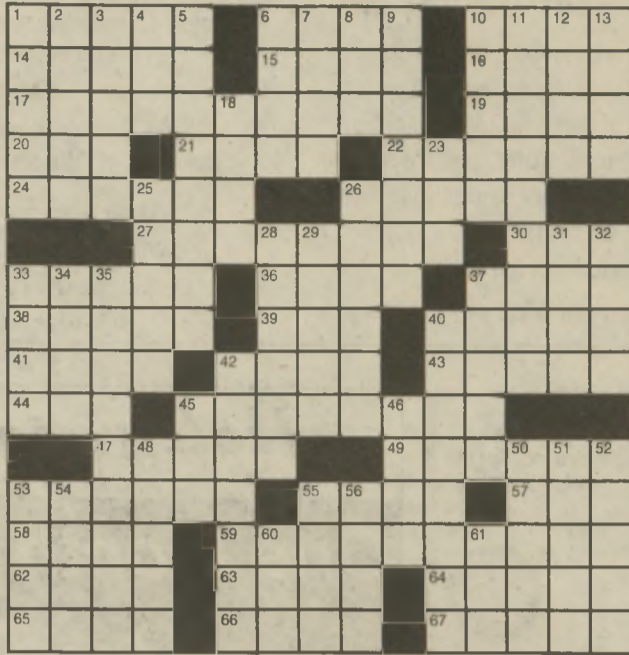
February 28
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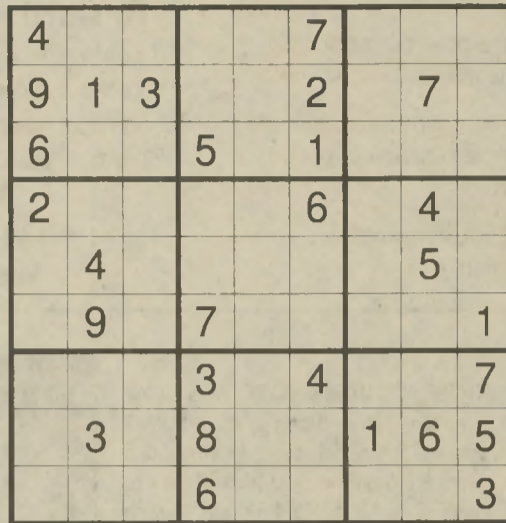
THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Gondola's waterway
 - 6 WWII battle site
 - 10 ABA member
 - 14 Cognizant
 - 15 Blow over
 - 16 Faithful
 - 17 Create letters?
 - 19 Clark's Smallville gal
 - 20 Stretch (out)
 - 21 Not well
 - 22 Examples in context
 - 24 Batted first
 - 26 According to me!
 - 27 Ex-convict
 - 30 Dixie letters
 - 33 Spoken or outspoken
 - 36 Act of immoderate indulgence
 - 37 Urban haze
 - 38 Antiknock fluid
 - 39 Loud clamor
 - 40 Froth
 - 41 Connections
 - 42 "The African Queen" screenwriter
 - 43 Actor Romero
 - 44 Defunct pol. entity
 - 45 Type of navigation
 - 47 "M*A*S*H" role
 - 49 Maintain
 - 53 Antifreeze ingredient
 - 55 Long tale
 - 57 Brewed drink
 - 58 Philbin's partner
 - 59 Colored letters?
 - 62 Enthusiastic
 - 63 Olympus VIP
 - 64 Battery part
 - 65 Snafu
 - 66 Tarzan Lincoln
 - 67 Neon and radon



- DOWN**
- 1 Sahara mount
 - 2 Fully conscious
 - 3 Bare
 - 4 Exist
 - 5 Allows to drop
 - 6 Little detail
 - 7 Gas container
 - 8 Baton Rouge sch.
 - 9 Container for bones
 - 10 Strongman
 - 11 Sad letters?
 - 12 Lilt
 - 13 Votes for
 - 18 Outmoded sound system
 - 23 Barrett of early Pink Floyd
 - 25 "Love Train" singers
 - 26 Official seal
 - 28 Boarder
 - 29 Thorn bush
 - 31 Living body
 - 32 Ripener
 - 33 Dog docs
 - 34 Elevator man?
 - 35 Red letters?
 - 37 Incantation
 - 40 Rascal
 - 42 Examine methodically
 - 45 Union-forming sentence
 - 46 "Othello" conspirator
 - 48 Schs.
 - 50 Spirit of a people
 - 51 Crystal-filled rock
 - 52 Relaxes
 - 53 Metric unit of mass
 - 54 Part of "SNL"
 - 55 Squalid urban area
 - 56 As well
 - 60 Moray
 - 61 Cell letters

SUDOKU By Michael Mepham

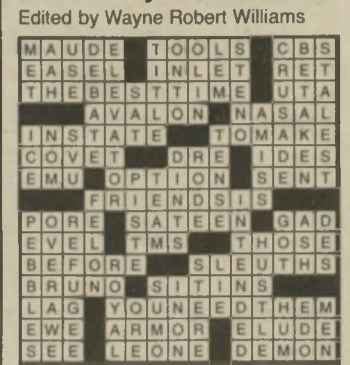


Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Thursdays's Answers

THE Daily Crossword



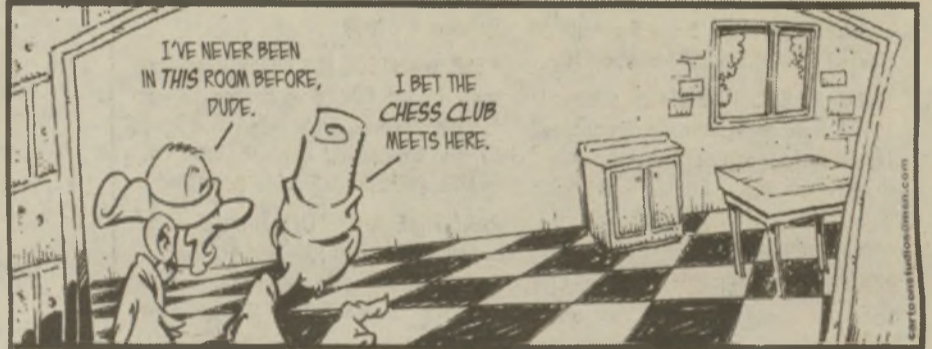
SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham



Two Dudes

by Aaron Warner



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The Department of Chemistry and the Chemistry Club announce the
31st Annual William J. Probst Memorial Lecture
Manya: A Living History of Marie Curie
Monday, March 19, 2007
7:30 pm Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center

Performance by
Ms. Susan Marie Frontczak, Storysmith

This program honors a preeminent woman of science: Madame Curie was the first European woman to earn a doctorate in the sciences; the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize (for the discovery of radioactivity); the first woman to teach at the Sorbonne; and the first person to receive a second Nobel Prize (a feat not to be repeated for another 50 years). Audience witnesses the origins of scientific discoveries we now take for granted. They re-live the remarkable collaboration between husband and wife, Pierre and Marie, companion scientists.

Student Research Symposium
Monday, March 19, 2007
3:00 p.m. Meridian Ballroom,
Morris University Center

Funds generously provided by:
Sigma-Aldrich Corporation, St. Louis ACS Women Chemists Committee, SIUE Office of the Provost, Graduate School, College of Arts & Sciences, Department of Chemistry, and Chem Club. Funded also by Student Activities Fees.

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