

Index

News1-2
Opinion3
Lifestyles4
Sports5-6
Puzzles7
Classifieds8

The Alestle

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

Professor reflects on Tiananmen Square experience
See Lifestyles



Wednesday, May 30, 2007

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Andy Rathnow/Alestle
Alton resident Denny Doerr purchases gasoline at a local filling station Tuesday, May 22.

Pain at the pump

Protests of summer gas prices fail to impact situation

by Holly Meyer
Alestle Managing Editor

High gas prices did not stop traffic over the Memorial Day weekend, a popular time for driving.

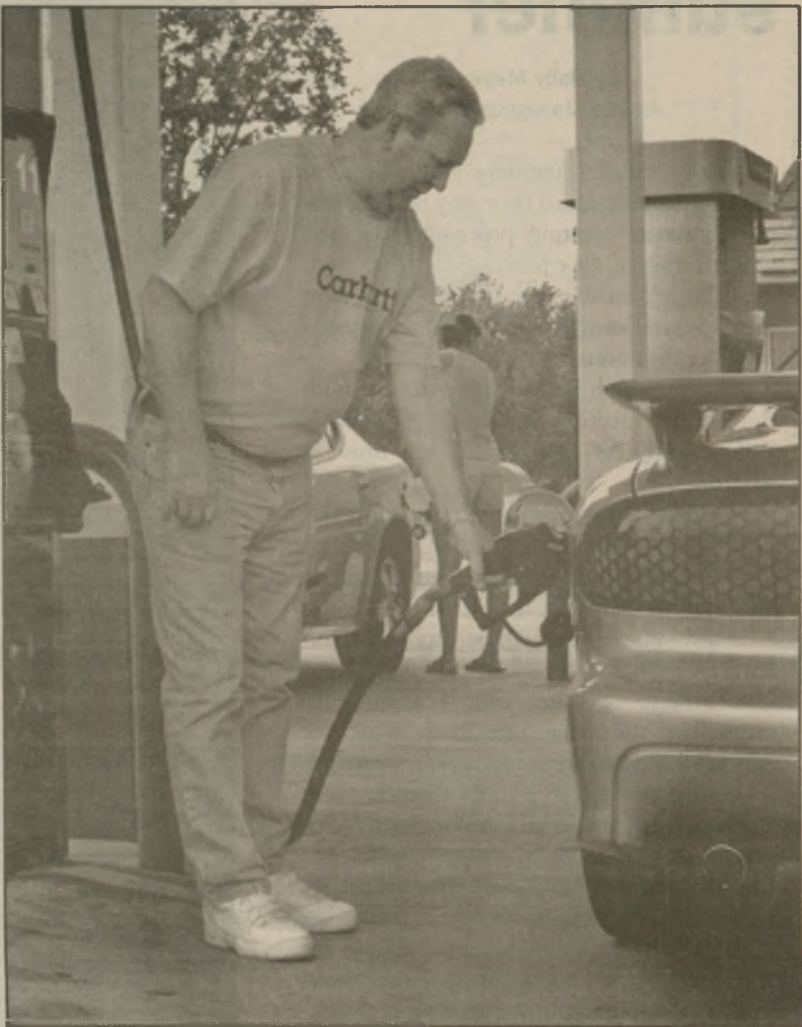
SIUE senior Nathan Payne spent about \$60 in gas on a camping and canoeing trip to Eminence, Mo. For him, having fun outweighed the impact of gas prices.

"I wanted to have a good time," Payne said.

Even though he is not staying off of the roads, Payne hopes for a change in prices.

"I wish they'd go down," Payne said.

The hike in gas prices has spurred grassroots attempts to lower them. The most recent was an unsuccessful "gas out" on May 15, promoted through Facebook and other



Web sites.

Despite the 100-plus Facebook groups and events promoting the protest, staying away from the gas pumps on May 15 did not have an effect on gas prices, which have surpassed the \$3.30 mark and keep climbing.

Ron Boyer, owner of Ron's Shell Service Station in Edwardsville, said he did not see any decrease in sales on May 15.

"It was the best day we had," Boyer said.

Jeremy Wright, clerk at GasMart #41 in Edwardsville, said he did not notice a decrease in customers on May 15 either. In fact, he said they were "actually pretty busy."

The QuikTrip in Edwardsville also did not see any affects of the gas out, according to Store Manager Sandy

Schoenleber.

"I think most people think it's a foolish idea, most of my customers do," Boyer said. "It's not going to do any good to do a one day thing."

Wright said people are going to buy gas when they need it.

"It's not going to work," Wright said. "If you're on 'E' you're going to fill up."

The economics of supply and demand have thwarted protest attempts as it has in the past, according to economics and finance professor Rik Hafer.

Hafer said the logic behind the gas out day is that by not buying gas on one day the oil companies will lose

GAS PRICES/pg.2

Internal search for new assistant provost begins

by Angie Thomas
Alestle News Reporter

The SIUE community is looking internally to fill the new Assistant Provost for Faculty Development and Diversity position.

Paul Ferguson, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, said the position opened after former Assistant Provost Rudy Wilson retired in March.

"The position has changed a bit," Ferguson said. "We feel it is critically important to build education in the best possible way."

The position's responsibilities include the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty.

"The change is a way to create and develop programs to retain faculty, develop teaching skills and interact with students," Ferguson said. "They are to be a point person to insure faculty is the best possible fit for students."

As well as recruiting diverse faculty, the new Assistant Provost will help examine faculty reviews and help facilitate the review of tenure.

"There has been lots of interest in the position," Ferguson said. "It has been very well-received."

Junior Jeremiah Beckley thinks a position to insure diversity among faculty is a necessary post.

SEARCH/pg.2

Suspect in bike trail attack still at large

by Kevin Eagan
Alestle News Reporter

Edwardsville Police are still on the lookout for a man who attacked a female jogger on May 20 on the Madison County Bike Trail near University Park.

Jimmy Joe Huston, 26, of Glen Carbon, was identified by the Edwardsville Police Department as the alleged suspect. Madison County State's Attorney William A. Mudge filed unlawful restraint charges against Huston later that day.

Edwardsville Police Lt. Scott Evers said they have received many calls from the public but have not yet found Huston, who allegedly fled the scene after

the assault on the 28-year-old Edwardsville woman.

"We've gotten many calls and are following leads, but we're still trying to find (Huston)," Evers said.

Huston was identified as the alleged suspect, due in part to the victim's memory of her attacker. Edwardsville Police were able to identify Huston after the victim recognized him from police photographs.

Huston was out on bond for a burglary charge in Glen Carbon at the time of the attack.

The assault occurred around 12:30 p.m. on May 20 as the victim was jogging

HUSTON/pg.2

Police Reports

5-17

Police issued Michael Hilmes a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Griffin Baer a citation for disobeying a traffic control device on South Center Court.

5-18

Police met with subject who reported to have their car hit by another vehicle in Lot 5.

Police issued Dena Marshall a citation for speeding on Stadium Drive.

5-19

Police reported graffiti in the tunnel bike trail between Alumni Hall and Birger Hall.

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

5-21

Police met with drivers of vehicles that were in a two-vehicle collision in Lot 4.

Police issued Kayla Cook a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Whitney Sipes a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

5-22

Housing reported a vehicle parked in the grass near Cougar Village building 526. Police spoke to the owner of the vehicle and the owner moved his vehicle.

Police issued Eric Fabry a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Nathan Ward a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

5-23

Police took a report of interior wall damage in East St. Louis Higher Education Campus Building A, room 2002.

Police took a walk-in report of a theft of license plates in the Bluff Hall parking lot.

5-24

Police responded to Cougar Village Building 506 regarding damage to property.

Police responded to the bike trail tunnel between Alumni Hall and Birger Hall regarding graffiti on walls.

New senate holds first meeting of summer

by Holly Meyer
Alestle Managing Editor

The new members of Student Government stumbled their way through the proper senate meeting procedures at their first meeting of their term.

Though most of the senators were new, they accomplished everything on the agenda in under 30 minutes.

Even though he had some trouble with the senate meeting terminology, Senator William Krause is enjoying his time as senator.

"I like the feel of this," Krause said. "Us new senators have a few kinks to work out."

Student Body President Laurie Estilette has high hopes for the new term.

"I think this year will be very effective," Estilette said.

Estilette said her No. 1 goal is to encourage the senate to work with the administration to ensure the students are the administration's first priority. Estilette said she is pushing the senators to be the voice of the students.

"If we do that everything else takes care of itself," Estilette said.

The senate approved a travel request for Sigma Pi for University Career and Leadership Training in the amount of \$185.

A program request for \$4,700 was approved for Alpha Kappa Lambda's 7th Annual Back-to-School Concert.

The next senate meeting will be at noon on Friday, June 22, in the Morris University Center's Board Room.

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

GAS PRICES

from pg. 1

money and lower the gas prices.

SIUE junior Becca Vance joined one Facebook group in support of the gas out. However, she did not remember whether or not she pumped gas.

"I was like, if I remember I remember," Vance said. "It was not on my agenda."

Even though she was not a strong advocate of the gas out, she said it was a way to make a statement.

"It lets us speak our minds and say 'hey, you guys are ripping us off,'" Vance said. "We're going to do something about it."

Hafer said not buying gas and still driving on one day means the driver just has to buy gas on another day. The consumer is not reducing the demand for gas; instead,

SEARCH

from pg. 1

"It is important that there are more ethnically diverse professors at SIUE," Beckley said. "It provides a better sense of the real world, which is made up of all different types."

Beckley hopes that the new assistant provost will do more to recruit professors from all over

the world.

Ferguson said the position will be filled by July 1 and hopes the new assistant provost will bring fresh ideas to the office.

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Slide into summer



Laura Lengyel/Alestle

Six-year-old Jayla Parker scoots down the slide at Cougar Lake Pool Friday. The pool, which opened for the season Friday, will be open from noon to 6 p.m. through Sunday, Aug. 19. From Monday, Aug. 20, to Monday, Sept. 3, the pool will be open from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily. In addition to normal operating hours, the pool hosts Family Night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Monday and Student Night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Tuesday.

they are just waiting a day to buy it.

"I've been in this business for 45 years," Boyer said. "I've seen it come, and I've seen it go. It never works."

SIUE junior Joseph Douglas agreed a gas out like the one on May 15 would not work.

"If five million people didn't pump gas today, they'll pump gas tomorrow," Douglas said.

If instead of not buying gas on May 15 everyone took an alternative mode of transportation, such as a bus or bicycle, the day would have had more of an effect, Hafer said.

If drivers really want to make an impact on the gas prices, they have to reduce their

consumption, Hafer said.

Douglas did not think a decrease in the gas consumption was likely.

"It's go, go, go," Douglas said. "A bike is not going to get you to St. Louis in 20 minutes."

Facebook groups and event announcements are already popping up for more gas outs later in the summer.

"I think it is something that has been going on for a number of years," Hafer said. "It just has more credibility now because gas prices are higher."

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HUSTON

from pg. 1

alone on the trail bordering University Park near Route 157.

According to police reports, the jogger was forced off the trail into a ravine, where she resisted her attacker and escaped with minor injuries.

The SIUE Police Department also sent an officer to aid Edwardsville Police in looking for the suspect after the assault.

Despite receiving several calls from the public, Evers said they are

still in need of more information in locating Huston.

Anyone with any information on the attack is urged to call Edwardsville Police Lt. Scott Evers at 692-7526.

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The Alestle
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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.

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The Alestle is seeking guest columnists and cartoonists to help contribute to the newspaper

Contact
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And down the drain goes personal responsibility

Personal responsibility ... what's that? Lets face it, our society is a waiting room for someone's own negligent behavior to warrant a frivolous lawsuit to simply throw the blame on someone else. What happened to being held accountable for your own irresponsibility?

If you go to McDonald's and become overweight, you can sue. If you ignore the Surgeon General's Warning about smoking and get lung cancer, you can sue. If you make the choice to drink too much, you can go after the alcohol provider and sue.

In 2002, two overweight teenage girls in New York who

ate McDonald's numerous times a week for a few years blamed the restaurant for their obesity and sued them. The girls and their parents both claimed that they were unaware how fattening the food served at McDonald's was, as if they lived in a cave. Apparently the girls' addictive behavior can only rest solely on the shoulders of the restaurant that gave them the food, and not on theirs for visiting the establishment several times a week. McDonald's must have come to their homes, strapped a leash on them, and led them down to their restaurant. I mean that's what they do to you, right?

Big tobacco companies are being sued constantly for those who picked up the destructive habit and hence developed respiratory problems such as lung cancer. Smoking is around because we live in a capitalist America where everyone has

personal rights, like it or not. A few years ago a jury awarded a widow \$350,000 after her smoker husband died of lung cancer, even though he had a lifetime habit and smoked till the day he died. What person is unaware that smoking is destructive? So are we now allowed to stick a killing "stick" in our mouth every day of our lives and then be surprised when we die?

More recently, when St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Josh Hancock was killed in a car accident, the only reasonable action was to sue the restaurant that served him, the tow truck company that attempted to move a stalled car from the side of the road and the person who owned the stalled car. Who cares if Hancock was ultimately the one who chose to drink over twice the legal limit and drive? Who cares if Hancock was the one

who reportedly decided to use his cell phone while driving? Who cares if Hancock had marijuana in his SUV? Someone else *has* to be blamed, right?

We all need to start taking responsibility and stop looking to shift fault on someone else when all along we are the ones who choose our own fate. Why blame the teacher when you fail the class that you never studied for? Why blame someone else for your failure when you never put any effort forth to achieve success? Why blame the police for targeting you and pulling you over even though you were the one who chose to drink and drive?

Here's an idea, do the unthinkable, take responsibility and blame yourself.

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Summer housing warrants better accomodation

University Housing does a lot to make the lives of campus residents easier: they match roommates by compatibility, let students request specific roommates by filling out paperwork, and try to keep students from having to move farther than needed.

Thanks to the efforts of the housing staff, moving into the residence halls for the first time, or moving from the residence halls to Cougar Village, goes smoothly for most students. However, for a few unlucky students, the resident housing process can be quite the ordeal.

Some students do not have a home for the breaks, in which residents of Woodland, Bluff and Prairie halls are, in a sense, kicked out. Students with distant homes, bad relations with their parents or jobs in the Edwardsville area simply may not be able to go home.

Even students who choose to live on campus during the summer are forced to leave for two weeks, unless they meet certain requirements. Unless a student already lived in Cougar Village and chose to homestead, has a class that begins in the two-week break period, has an on-campus employer fill out paperwork or has express permission from the Associate Director of Housing, that student cannot live anywhere on campus for two weeks.

Normally, if a student is in a

true bind, the Associate Director will let them move early, as long as the student submits a request at least two weeks prior to the semester. However, information regarding early move-in is not widely known among the student population and students may not realize what steps they need to fulfill. Those students are left scrambling for shelter.

Students with parking permits can park in corresponding lot and sleep in their car if they want, but cannot live in one of the many empty Cougar Village apartments or residence hall rooms. Because I didn't know the correct process and requirements for moving in early, I was forced to sleep behind Bluff Hall in my car. If it hadn't been for a friend express-mailing his apartment key to me, I would have had to sleep there for the

entire two weeks.

Moving out of the residence halls is stressful enough without students having to worry about storing their belongings and finding a place to sleep for two weeks.

While Housing has good reasons for asking students to vacate campus premises, such as cleaning the residence halls and Cougar Village apartments, they need to get adequate information out to students about moving in early so they don't leave students homeless. The University Housing Web site needs to inform students of break periods in which they will be forced out of residence halls and tell students what to do if they have nowhere to go.

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Justin
Gibson



Maggie
Willis

Reflections of Tiananmen Square

by Catherine Klene

Alestle News Reporter

As the controversial war in Iraq enters its fifth year, educational leadership professor Tianlong Yu said he was disappointed with seeming apathetic nature of U.S. college students.

"I feel there is a silence," Yu said. "We need to educate the public and educate ourselves."

Yu said that as public intellectuals, university students have an obligation to lead society in speaking either for or against the war in Iraq.

Yu speaks from experience. As a college student in China, he participated in the historic 1989 Tiananmen Square student protests.

"Tiananmen Square was a huge event in my life," Yu said. "It was more important than anything else."

Tiananmen Square did not begin as a protest against the government, Yu explained, but rather as a memorial service to pro-democratic government leader, Yaobang Hu, who had recently died on April 15, 1989. As the deputy secretary of China's central communist government, Hu spoke for a democratic Chinese society.

After his death, over 200,000 Chinese college students gathered in Tiananmen Square — the world's largest public square located in Beijing, just outside the gates to China's historic Forbidden City — for a large memorial service.

When the services ended, Yu said, the protests began. Students refused to leave the square, crying out for an end to corruption and for the democracy Hu and so many university students valued.

"Government corruption was really behind the cause of the Tiananmen Square movement," Yu said.

At the time, Yu was a student at a university in northeastern China. Still, he said even before he traveled to Beijing, he was fully involved in the protests.

"We went to demonstrations almost every day," Yu said. Yu said he and fellow students often went to government headquarters and attempted to speak with them. He said they also went to factories to educate workers about the current government and democracy.

Eventually, Yu felt the draw of the Beijing protests, and in late April 1989, he journeyed to Tiananmen Square. The movement had grown immensely, and Yu said it was no longer only Beijing students occupying the square.

"Every major university had a station in the square," Yu said.

Yu explained that what began as a student movement quickly escalated to a popular movement. Media flocked to the demonstrations and spread it to the world.

"It was the largest pro-democratic movement in the history of China," Yu said.

To commemorate the event, Yu took a white, sleeveless T-shirt and had demonstrators sign it, giving names to a part of history. Today, the shirt is covered in tiny Chinese characters, and Yu called it "the most precious gift I have."

Shortly before June 4, Yu left Tiananmen Square. "I sensed something coming," he said.

Yu's suspicions proved correct. After many failed negotiation attempts, the government declared martial law, and on June 4, 1989 tanks rolled into Tiananmen

Square. Chaos erupted.

According to the Chinese government, 241 people died that day, including 36 Beijing college students and 20 troops. "Most death occurred in other places, not Tiananmen Square," Yu said.

However, the death toll is still disputed. Several counts exist, and many estimate the number to be higher than the reported 241. Yu said a former colleague told him she saw "piles of bodies on June 5."

Yu said the impact of the violence was not limited to China. "It shocked people in the world," Yu said.

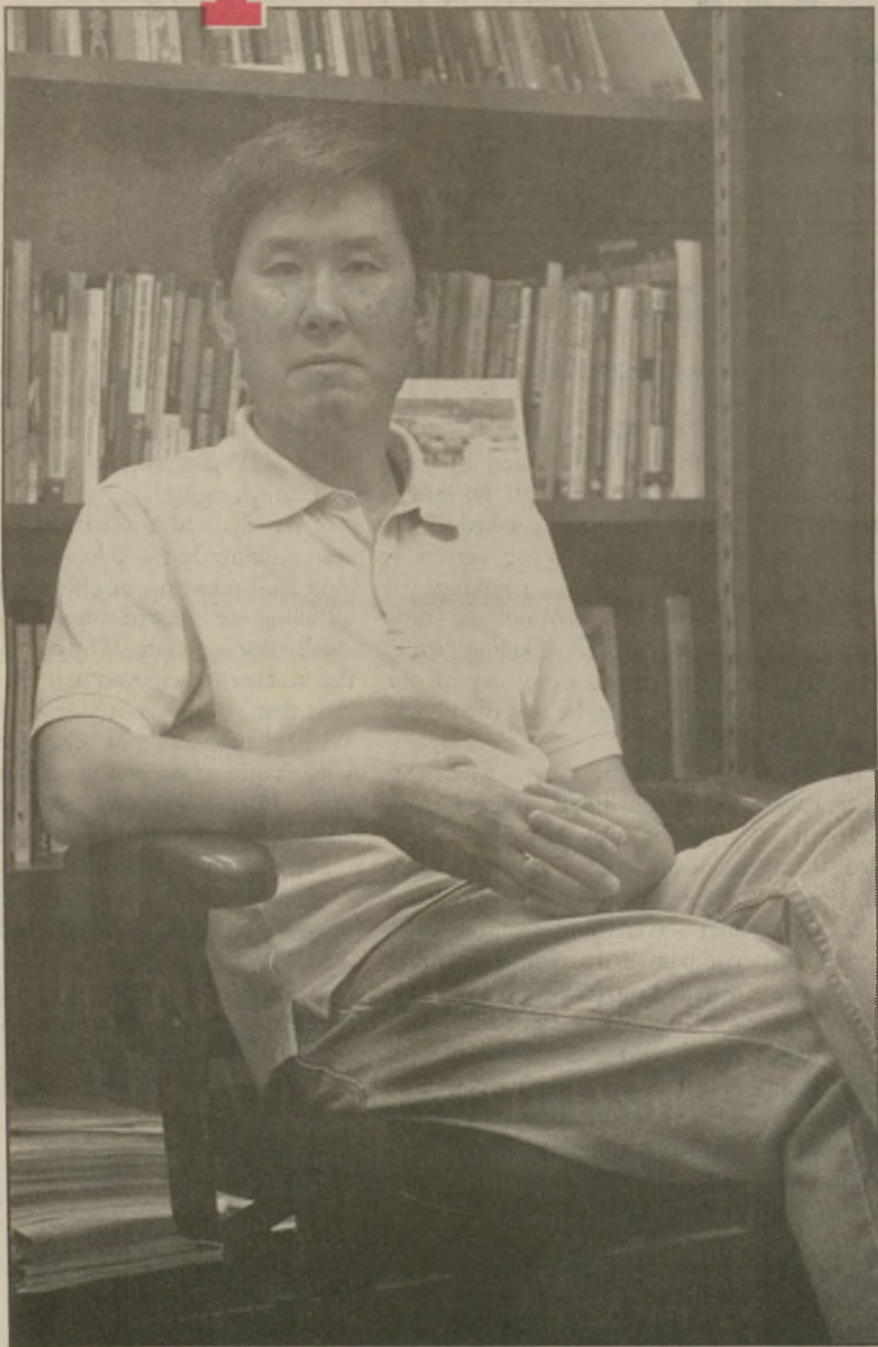
Stunned that the Chinese government used violence on its own people, the U.S. passed a law shortly thereafter, allowing many Chinese students to stay in the United States.

Although the military crackdown ended the movement, Yu said the demonstrations were not in vain. "It left a very important historical legacy," Yu said.

The Chinese government toughened its stance on government corruption and began

"Tiananmen Square made me an activist."

- Tianlong Yu, assistant professor, Department of Educational Leadership



Laura Lengyel/Alestle

SIUE assistant professor Tianlong Yu took part in the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989 as a student protester. June 3 marks the 18 year anniversary of the government silencing of protestors at Tiananmen Square.

Eighteen years after the Tiananmen Square protests, SIUE professor Tianlong Yu talks about his experiences as a student protestor and his hope for more political activism among college students.

to listen to its people more. Yu said many people like the current government, although it "still rejects radical political reform."

While the student protests changed the face of Chinese politics, Yu said Tiananmen Square changed him as well.

United by a cause, Yu said he learned about himself and what it means to make a difference. "Tiananmen Square made me an activist," Yu said. "I learned about participation and activism."

When he took a position at SIUE a year ago, Yu was struck by the lack of student concern over the war in Iraq. "I have never seen any protests on campus," Yu said.

Yu said he recognizes that college students in the U.S. have more priorities to juggle. "We are in different societies, we have different expectations from society," Yu said.

Yu said that when he was a student, he had more time than most American students. "We had time to consider and to be active," Yu said. "(Students here) may have too much to consider."

Still, Yu said students do not need to storm the White House to make a point. "To demonstrate, to be active doesn't mean you always have to go to the streets," Yu said.

Educating others and creating awareness can make an important impact on the world, Yu said. Yu encouraged SIUE students to raise their voices, whatever they have to say.

"Collectively, I believe we can achieve something to make a difference," Yu said.

Catherine Klene can be reached at alestlelifestyles@gmail.com or 650-3531.

NCAA Division II Track and Field Championships



Alicia DeShasier throws the javelin during a practice earlier in the year. DeShasier finished tenth in the javelin throw at Nationals in North Carolina.

Courtesy of SIUE Sports Information

The finish line

Women finish tenth, men end at No. 25, Brown earns five All-American awards

by **Anthony Patrico**
Alestle Sports Editor

SIUE finished tenth in the nation out of a field of over 50 competitors this past weekend during the Division II Women's Track and Field National Championship in North Carolina. The men's team finished 25th at the end of the weekend event.

Leading the women to the tenth place finish was sophomore Deserea Brown. Brown earned five All-American certificates at the tournament. After placing second in the heptathlon, Brown would run the 4000-meter hurdles, the 400 meters and ran in both the 400-meter and 1,600-meter relays. Brown's best finish was third in the 400-meter hurdles.

The 1,600-meter relay team, which included Brown along with freshman Julie Alrich, senior Tairisha Sawyer and sophomore Angel Royston, finished third overall with a new school record, finishing in a time of 3 minutes, 38.94 seconds.

Senior Callie Glover finished seventh in the hammer throw with a toss of 173 feet, 5 inches.

The team put up another SIUE school record in the 400-meter relay team. Their seventh-place finishing time of 46.30 seconds was the fastest run in school history.

Senior Lindsey DeFevers, who competed in the discus throw, and Alicia DeShaier, who threw javelin in the competition, both finished 10th in their events.

The SIUE men's track team finished 25th on Sunday. Junior Kyle Rose broke his own school record in the 400 meters.

"I would have liked to finish a little bit better," Rose said. "We wanted to score points in every event that we qualified for."

Rose, who competed in several events, broke his school record after finishing with a time that was one-tenth of his, and the school's previous record of 46.22 seconds.

Joining rose on the 1600-meter, sophomore Chris Littleton, sophomore

Chris Wright and senior Jonathan Bannister, finished sixth in the event, but had a time good enough to beat the school's record, which they set earlier in the year. Their finishing time was 3 minutes, 8.62 seconds.

"Our relay time breaking the school record by almost a full second was a big thing," said Rose. "The team had a lot of good performances."

Sophomore Scott Block finished seventh in the discus after a throw of 50.31 meters.

The Cougars will wait until the fall season gets underway. Many of this season's stand outs will be returning to the Cougar track team, including Rose.

"It's like a cycle that goes around each year," Rose said. "When the fall comes back around, everyone needs to hit the road running."

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"You have to give it up to Deserea (Brown).
She had a full plate and really performed well."

-Kyle Rose, junior

Golfer finishes No. 41 in D-II

by **John Earnhardt**
Alestle Sports Reporter

SIUE's best golfer headed to the NCAA Division II Championship in Michigan. Senior Kyle Lickenbrock finished the golf season by placing in the top 50 at nationals.

Lickenbrock, from Freeburg, Ill., finished No. 41 in the tournament last week. This year's finals featured over 110 male golfers. Six other golfers tied with Lickenbrock.

Lickenbrock shot an 83 in the final round, bringing his finishing total to 229. Christian Ries, from Columbus State, won the individual national title by finishing with a total of 214.

Barry University, a college in Florida, won the overall team title. They beat out Columbus State by two strokes.

Lickenbrock was the only SIUE men's golfer to finish in the top 100 at the tournament.

During the regular season, Lickenbrock led the team with a 73.1 scoring average in 23 rounds. He also shot a season-low 67 to win the Cougar Classic. Lickenbrock finished with honors on the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference Team after finishing tied for fifth in the GLVC tournament. His low of 67 was the best on the SIUE men's team this year.

SIUE recently signed two high school standout golfers for the upcoming fall season. Neil McCarty, from Arizona, and Tyler Link, from Springfield, will join the Cougars this year.

McCarty finished 11th in the Arizona state high school tournament. He also qualified for the Regional tournament.

Link, who played for Springfield College, a junior college in Illinois, was a national qualifier and medaled at the Region 24 preview.

The golf team finished 3rd at the GLVC tournament and now looks toward next fall where they will head back to the links to try and get to the top of the GLVC leader board.

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Illinois basketball star to face 15 days in jail

by Neil Milbert

Chicago Tribune (MCT)

URBANA, Ill. — Illinois basketball player Jamar Smith began serving a 15-day jail sentence Thursday, immediately after pleading guilty in Champaign County Circuit Court to aggravated driving under the influence.

Under the plea agreement negotiated by Smith's attorney, Mark Lipton, with Champaign County State's Attorney Julie Rietz, charges of leaving the scene of an accident were dropped.

Smith was driving a vehicle his grandparents owned when it skidded off a snow-slickened Champaign street Feb. 12 and struck a tree, seriously injuring his passenger and teammate, Brian Carlwell.

Smith drove back to his apartment after the crash, leaving the unconscious Carlwell inside the severely damaged car. After a resident of the apartment complex called 911, Carlwell was taken to Carle Foundation Hospital, where he was treated for a severe concussion. Two hours later, Smith went to the hospital, where he was treated for a slight concussion and underwent a blood alcohol test.

In addition to the jail sentence, Champaign County Circuit Court Associate Judge Richard Klaus imposed these

penalties and conditions: \$850 in fines and \$150 in court costs and crime lab fees; 100 hours of community service during the next 20 months; 20 months probation; random blood and urine tests; 75 hours of substance-abuse treatment; and attendance at a victim-impact panel.

If Smith tests positive for alcohol or drugs during his probation period, he will be subject to further penalties. Because of the DUI arrest, Smith's driver's license has been revoked for at least 18 months.

Smith's grandfather, Leroy Smith of Peoria, who accompanied him to court, declined to comment.

Jamar Smith, who is to begin summer school June 11 at Illinois, issued the following statement through the university's sports information office:

"... I am deeply remorseful for everything that happened. I sincerely apologize for my actions, and for the negative light that I have brought to my family and friends, the university and the basketball program. ... I have thought long and hard about the poor choices I made that night. I can't go back in time and make it go away, but I can do something about it from this point on. ..."

Coach Bruce Weber declined comment but issued a statement, saying, "We will need time to

examine the facts and work with (athletic director) Ron Guenther and the university administration to bring closure to this situation."

Rietz said the sentence was "fair and typical."

"Certainly we took into account his age (19), prior history - only one minor traffic offense - and his rehabilitation potential," she said. "The jail sentence is a part of the message being sent."

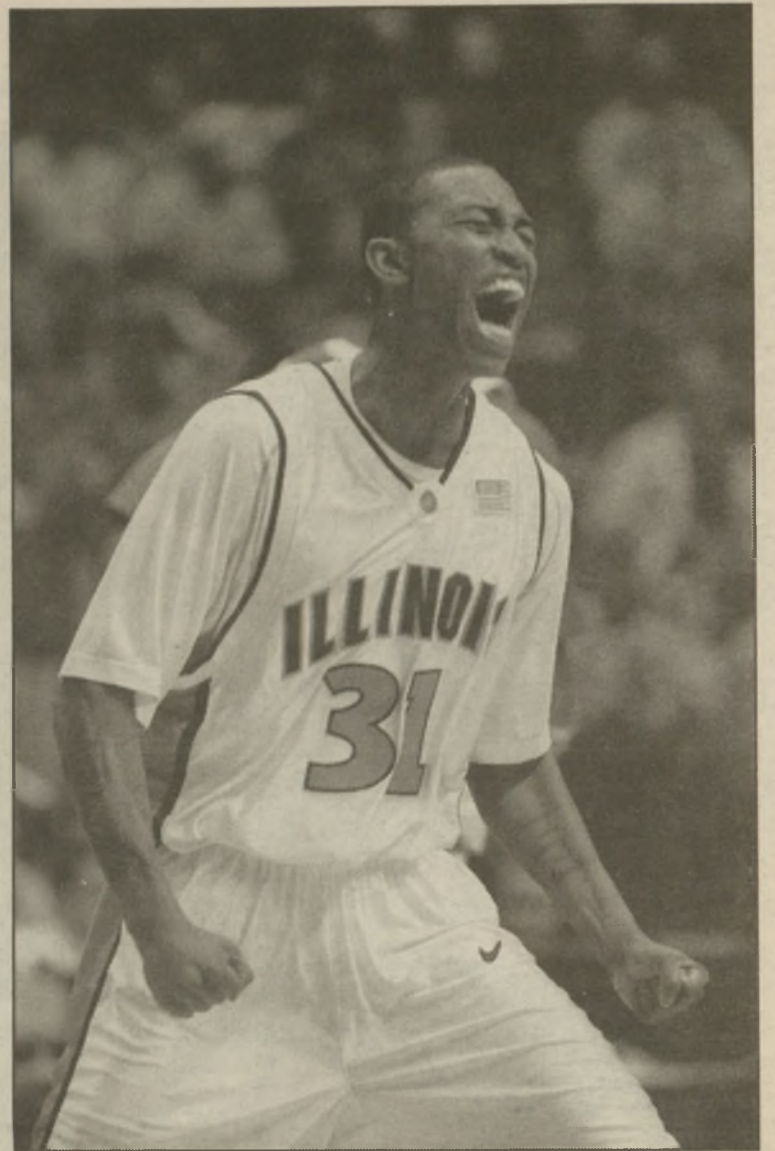
Earlier Thursday, an Aug. 20 Champaign County Court trial date was set for another Illinois athlete, Derrick McPhearson, a football wide receiver facing a felony residential burglary and theft charge after being arrested March 11.

Champaign police arrested McPhearson, 20, of Hyattsville, Md., and fellow wide receiver Jody Ellis, 20, of Evanston, when stolen wallets, laptop computers and other electronic devices were found in Ellis' car after it was involved in a traffic accident.

Ellis agreed to a plea bargain when he appeared in court May 4. He is scheduled to return to court on June 11 and enter a guilty plea.

Coach Ron Zook dropped both players from the team following their arrests and they aren't expected to return to the university.

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Jim Prisching/Chicago Tribune/MCT

Illinois' Jamar Smith celebrates a huge three against Air Force during Illinois' 78-69 win over Air Force at Cox Arena in San Diego, California, in the first round of the NCAA tournament, Thursday, March 16, 2006.

Weighing the price of human life

by Anthony Patrico

Alestle Sports Editor

The loss of Josh Hancock shook not only the St. Louis Cardinals organization, but also had an effect on the fans of baseball, the fans of the Cardinals and the entire Major League Baseball.

Hancock was involved in a fatal car accident in late April. Hancock's car crashed into a tow truck assisting a stalled motorist in the early hours of the morning. His blood alcohol level was twice the legal limit.

When a man of such an early age tragically dies, those who mourn look back to remember the life that he lived.

Hancock was a journeyman pitcher who pitched on four teams before finding a stable fit with the Cardinals. Hancock pitched in both the division and the league championships as the Cardinals won the World Series last year.

The tragic event has had major effects on the league. Many clubhouses have banned alcohol for the remainder of the year. Many teams throughout the league have also discussed the possibility of banning alcohol in their clubhouses indefinitely.

A man's life could quite

possibly turn into a media spectacle in a matter of a few weeks.

Hancock's father has recently filed suit against Mike Shannon's restaurant claiming that the bar served Hancock drinks well after he was intoxicated.

Other defendants also include Eddie's Towing, the towing company that was assisting the motorist, the individual tow truck driver and the motorist the tow truck driver was assisting.

A life that would be celebrated may now be turned into a circus. Josh Hancock was a 29-year-old man who, in my opinion, knew when enough was enough. A man who had self-control of the speed of the ball, the movement of the ball, and most of all, his decisions.

I do believe that bars need to take a stronger stand on monitoring the intake of alcohol, but their job title is bar tender, one who tends bar. Their job is to get drinks to someone who wants one. It's a very simple job.

Hancock's passing is a very unfortunate event and that the Cardinals, and the MLB did a very good job in keeping his memory alive and placing him to rest. However, Hancock's father is now undoing everything

correctly done by the league.

The life of Hancock is now going to be put into the major spotlight and every little issue is going to be pulled out of his life.

The fact is that two nights previous to the fatal accident, Hancock was drinking in Sauget, Ill., and got into a minor car accident, but was let go by the police. In Hancock's car there had been a small trace of marijuana. Did Hancock have a drug problem? Did Hancock have a drinking problem? If so, did Hancock's father know about his problem and not act upon it? Did Hancock have the problem and his father not know about it?

Regardless, the loss of a man is now being made into a spectacle in the hunt for money. No dollar amount can equal a loss of a human life. The life of Josh Hancock will now be remembered as the media circus created by his father.

Josh Hancock was a man who made a mistake and will never be forgotten. The loss of this Cardinal pitcher will always be remembered within the Cardinal family. In his family, the issues seem to only be getting started.

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

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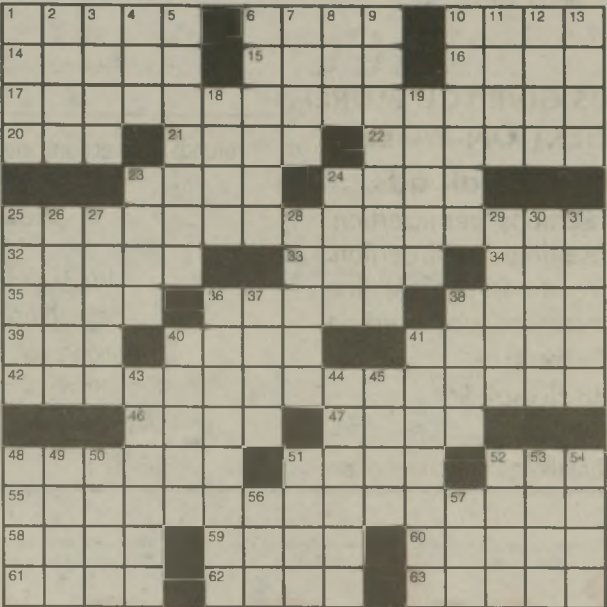
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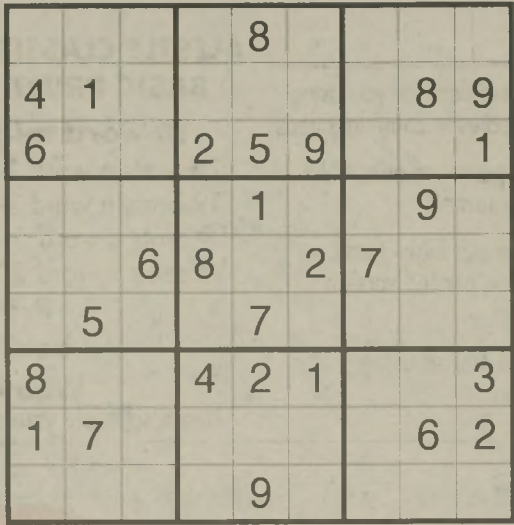
THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS
- 1 Pedro's pop
- 6 "Pursuit of the Graf
- 10 Skip over
- 14 Flu type
- 15 British Conservative
- 16 Vegas rival
- 17 One Lee
- 20 Snaky curve
- 21 Part to play
- 22 Past and future
- 23 Become a father
- 24 Bjorn of tennis
- 25 Two Lees
- 32 Turner and Cantrell
- 33 Goes bad
- 34 Internet address
- 35 Old atlas initials
- 36 Broadway hit
- 38 Irish Rose's lover
- 39 Fr. holy woman
- 40 Pack away
- 41 Foreign
- 42 Two Lees
- 46 Cafe au
- 47 Standing rules, for short
- 48 Steep slope
- 51 Farm tower
- 52 OSS successor
- 55 Three Lees
- 58 Racetrack ribbon
- 59 Wallach and Whitney
- 60 Sportscaster Jim
- 61 Assist a wrongdoer
- 62 Presley hit of 1958
- 63 Re-create blank tape
- DOWN
- 1 Ashen
- 2 Yard sale caveat
- 3 Shovels
- 4 Fan's sound



- 5 Ways in
- 6 Purloined
- 7 Skin opening
- 8 Hesitant syllables
- 9 Upper canine
- 10 Citrus fruit
- 11 French seas
- 12 Regarding
- 13 Playthings
- 18 Lively circle dance
- 19 Kitchen seasonings
- 23 Reminder of an injury
- 24 Male sibs
- 25 Show embarrassment
- 26 Jamaican cultist
- 27 Family of Indy winners
- 28 Haggard
- 29 Harp on
- 30 Attempted
- 31 Actress Verdugo
- 36 Divested
- 37 Castle ringer
- 38 Pub pints
- 40 Chicago tower
- 41 WWI battle site
- 43 Celestial orbiter
- 44 Most arid
- 45 Actor Lugosi
- 48 Como Usted?
- 49 Use a stiletto
- 50 Cod or Fear
- 51 Anatomical covering
- 52 Biblical miracle site
- 53 Common bus endings
- 54 1958 Pulitzer Prize winner
- 56 Worldwide worker's grp.
- 57 Patriotic org.

SUDOKU By Michael Mepham



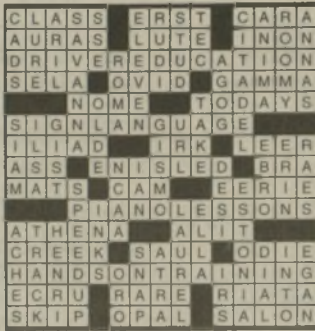
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Wednesday's Answers

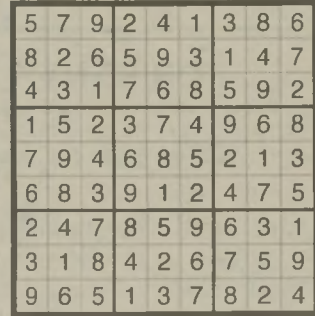
THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham

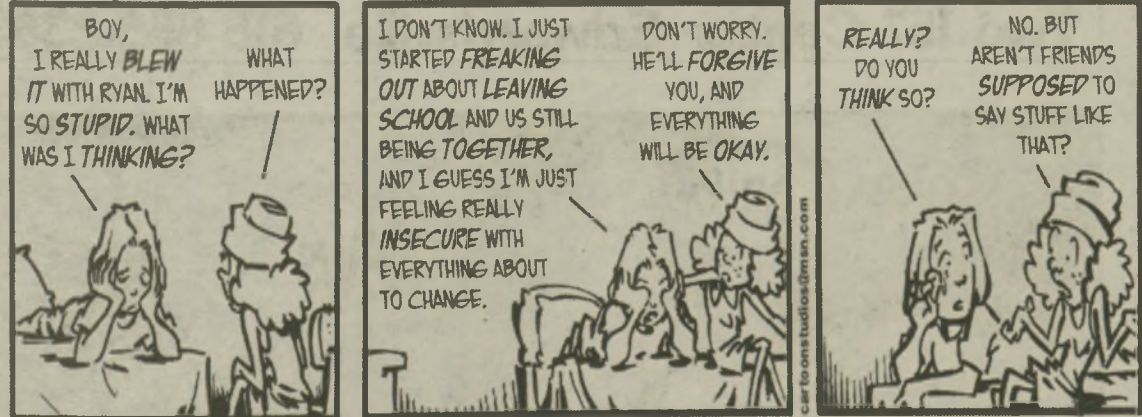


The Family Monster by Josh Shalek

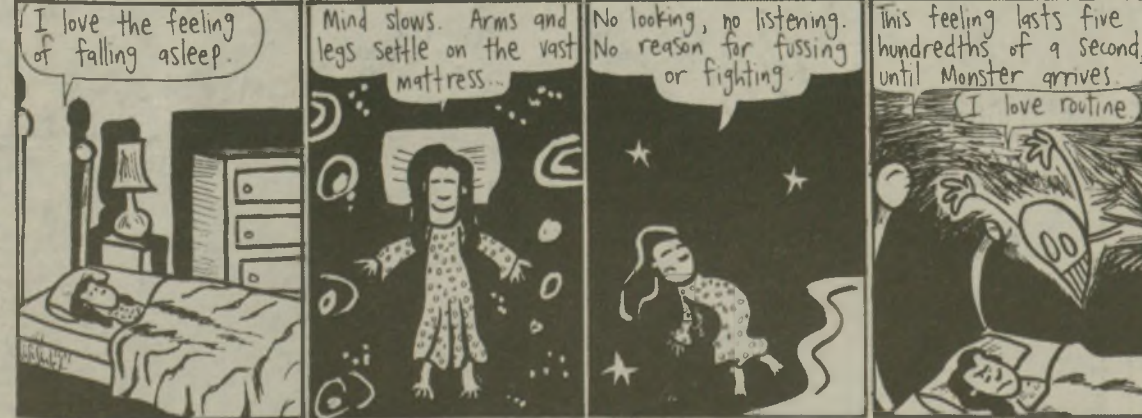


Goodnight, for now: www.joshshalek.com kid_shay@joshshalek.com

A College Girl Named Joe



The Family Monster by Josh Shalek



Postcards from Boulder: www.joshshalek.com kid_shay@joshshalek.com



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