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The Alestle

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

**Forrester
looks
toward first
season as
head coach**
See Sports



Thursday, July 5, 2007

www.thealestle.com

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Dental students under scrutiny

by **Holly Meyer**
Alestle News Reporter

Spring semester grades for the entire Year I class at SIUE School of Dental Medicine have been suspended pending an investigation of the students' academic honesty.

"Information was brought to us in May that cast a shadow on the academic honesty of our students," university spokesman Greg Conroy said.

Conroy said he could not be specific about the information.

An anonymous letter to the editor was sent to several media outlets, including the Alestle, proclaiming the innocence of the Year I students. It was not signed, but all 52 students names were listed at the end of the letter.

"The charges against the class are unfounded and represent nothing more than a Witch Hunt among the Year I Class," the letter said. "Students question whether the facts are being manipulated in order to persecute and harass the class."

According to the anonymous letter, certified mail was sent to each member of the Year I class to inform them of the charges brought against them.

Among the eight charges listed in the anonymous letter were "the commission of academic cheating, misuse of university documents with an intent to deceive, discussions of confidential or privileged information and cheating by any method or means."

The letter states the accusations of academic misconduct are the result of a file sharing system among the dental students. Conroy said he could not

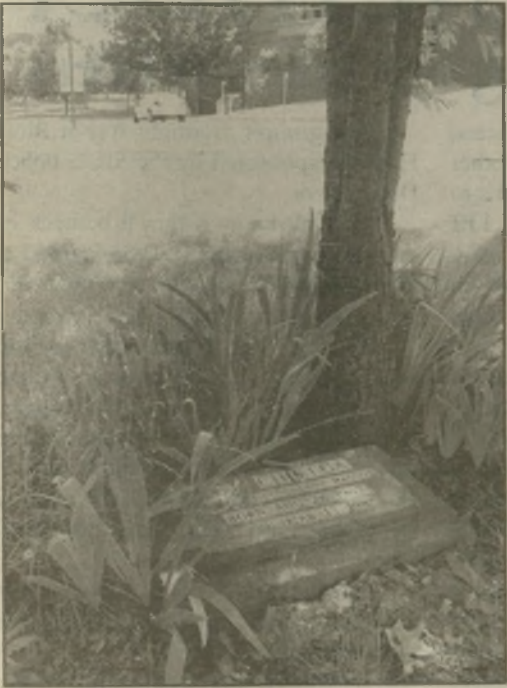
discuss this information.

All 52 members of the Year I class are required to meet with the Student Conduct Committee.

After the interviews with Year I students, the SCC will make a recommendation to Ann Boyle, Dean of the SDM. Boyle will then decide what happens to each student based on the recommendation from the committee, Conroy said.

"Personal integrity and ethical standards form the foundation of all healthcare professions, including dentistry," Ann Boyle, dean of the SIU School of Dental Medicine, said in a statement issued by the university. "This matter raises questions about the integrity and ethical behavior of Year I students and is, therefore, under

INVESTIGATION/pg.3



Steve Berry/Alestle

Above: Chimega's grave is located between the east side of Peck Hall and the pond in front of campus.

Right: Former SIUE mascot Chimega perches on a wall in front of Morris University Center (archival photo courtesy of SIUE photo services)



When the cougar left home

June 26 marked the 20th anniversary of Kyna's move from the university

by **Angie Thomas**
Alestle News Reporter

Twenty years ago, SIUE said goodbye to its beloved mascot. While many other colleges had people dressed up as furry, fuzzy animals to rile a crowd up, SIUE actually had a furry, fuzzy, very much live cougar.

According to SIUE archivist Steve Kerber, the first cougar mascot came to campus on February 19, 1968. "Chimega," as the cougar was called, had

been the pet of a man in Houston. When the man was killed in a plane crash, his family gave Chimega as a gift to the university.

"Chimega was a marvelous mascot," Kerber said, "she had a pleasant personality and was comfortable around people. She was perfect in her role."

As the original cougar aged, SIUE sought out another cougar. Kyna was purchased for \$500 when she was seven weeks old. She came to the university during August 1982.

A cougar guard was set up to take care of the mascots. SIUE alumnus Joel Lohr was part of the guard.

"We went through pretty intensive training units to learn about taking care of the cat," Lohr said, "and the training was well-administered."

World-renowned architect and former SIUE professor Buckminster Fuller designed the cougar's den. The den was a geodesic hut shaped much like the SIUE Religious Center, another campus building he designed.

"The dome was about 40 feet across and had a 75-foot run off the side of it," Lohr said.

The cats were routinely walked around the Stratton Quadrangle and campus as well as along the bike trails that run through campus.

"They liked to do the same things domestic cats do," Lohr said. "They liked to show their affection. Little cats have a sandpaper tongue; hers just happened to

COUGAR/pg.3

Police Reports

06-22

Police and the Edwardsville Fire Department responded to call of a fire between Dunham Hall and the Science Building. It was possibly caused by someone throwing a cigarette down a grated area. Dunham Hall was checked and people allowed back into the building.

Police took a report of a hangtag being stolen from a vehicle parked in Lot E.

Police met with a subject who said his vehicle had been tampered with in Lot E3. Nothing was reported stolen from the vehicle.

06-25

Caller reported obscene messages being left on her voicemail over the weekend.

Police responded to a fire alarm activated in the Science Building. Building engineers were notified, and the Edwardsville Fire Department was dispatched. Building engineers said a smoke detector malfunctioned in Room 2204. There was no fire, smoke or building damage.

Police issued Sammy Shafer a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on New Poag Road.

06-26

Police took a report of a stolen hangtag from a vehicle in Lot 4.

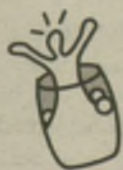
Edwardsville Police Department responded to an accident report of an SIUE Police squad car near the sewage treatment plant. The door was damaged when the officer hit a pole at the waste treatment plant.



Adolescence comes with a one-time window for building bones that will stay stronger into adulthood and beyond. That's why it's so important for young teens to "build their bone banks" with weight-bearing exercise and a diet rich in calcium. At least three cups of low fat or fat free milk plus other calcium-rich foods each day is a good rule. For more information, visit orthoinfo.org and nichd.nih.gov/milk.

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Steve Berry/ Alestle

Six-year-old Meghan Morales hands Carrie Dorwart a memort bracelet honoring Dorwart's late husband Craig. Dorwart and her 16-year-old son Keith are riding in memory of Craig, a fallen deputy of Morgan County Sheriffs Department.

A ride to remember

SIUE Police hosts group cycling for fallen officers

by Megan McClure
Alestle News Reporter

When 28-year-old Det. Craig Dorwart was killed in an automobile accident while on duty for the Morgan County Sheriff's Department in 1994, he left behind a grieving wife and a three-year-old son.

Thirteen years later, Carrie Dorwart and her now-16-year-old son, Keith, are using their experience to help the families of other law enforcement officials killed in the line of duty. They have become active in Concerns of Police Survivors, COPS for short, an organization that provides support and funds for the families of surviving family members.

"It's to give back what's been given to me," Carrie Dorwart said.

On June 27, a group of 26 cyclists and a support team stayed overnight on the SIUE campus before the COPS Ride Across Illinois 2007. The three-day, 350-mile ride, which worked its way from Alton to Chicago, took place in honor of Illinois' fallen officers.

"We rode a part of the ride last year," Dorwart said. "This is the first time we've signed on to do it all."

The Illinois chapter of COPS was founded by Jennifer Morales in 2005. Morales originally became active in COPS in Washington D.C. after her husband, Officer Marlon Morales, was gunned down while on duty with the Metro Transit Police Department in Washington, D.C.

"We came back and Illinois hadn't had a chapter yet, so we got it started," she said.

COPS offers a variety of services for officers' families, including retreats and camps for surviving family members. Events like the Ride Across Illinois are designed to recognize fallen officers and promote awareness.

Along the ride, the group -

comprised of law enforcement officers, surviving family members and other friends - stopped at various locations to recognize specific individuals. FBI Special Agent Robert Hardesty, who was killed in a training accident in Quantico, Va., in 2005, was one of those officers.

"We're going to honor him on this ride, so that will be an emotional time," Hardesty's wife, Toni Hardesty, said.

The itinerary included a detour to Indiana to recognize two officers killed during the Indiana chapter of COPS' ride last August. Indiana State Police Lt. Gary Dudley and Lake County Sheriff's Department Deputy Chief Gary Martin were killed when a freight truck struck the group's support van from behind, pushing the van into the team.

Mark Hannan of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission explained that he became involved with the Ride Across Illinois because of Dudley.

"Gary rode with us last year," Hannan said.

The cyclists teamed up with a support system that provided hospitality and transportation. Julie Page, of Waverly, was one motorist who drove the route, hauling equipment and personal items. Page enlisted to help because of her friend, Carrie Dorwart.

"They're very special," Page Dorwart said. "Wouldn't miss it. I'm going all the way to Chicago with them."

As the pack cycled its way through the Land of Lincoln, a number of individuals and groups provided aid. Throughout the course of the ride, the group slept at four universities. They were greeted and fed at various locations by different law enforcement agencies.

"A lot of local departments are helping us along the way," Sangamon County Sheriff's Department Dep. Terry Roderick, one of the route organizers, said.

The group's overnight stay at Bluff Hall was sponsored by the SIUE Police Department.

"I don't know if they'll be back in the same area again," SIUE Police Lt. Kevin Schmoll said, "but if they are, we'll do what we can to help."

During the cyclists' stay in the Metro East, the Cahokia Police Department hosted a meal. The dinner, held the night before the start of the ride, was in honor of Officer Jeremy Chambers, a Cahokia officer who was killed in an automobile accident in April 2006.

The Alton Police Department provided breakfast and police escort the next morning.

Individuals also hosted the group during their journey. Dorwart welcomed the caravan to her home in Waverly for lunch Thursday.

"We're stopping there between my house and my in-laws' house to have lunch," Dorwart said Thursday morning. "We're hosting everyone there."

Joliet Police Department Patrolman Brad Price participated in his second Ride Across Illinois in honor of his colleague, Officer John Walsh, who was killed in 2004.

"We don't want to get together for this reason. Any time an officer is killed in the line of duty, it's just tragic ... we wish we could just have the ride to ride."

Behind the somber purpose of the ride, the spirit of the event is to show support for fallen officers' families.

"It's cops helping cops helping the families," Roderick said.

At its core, the ride allows families like the Dorwarts and the Hardestys to provide inspiration and support for fellow families.

"It's to show people that we can go on," Carrie Dorwart said.

Megan McClure can be reached at alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.

Starbucks hours change

Alestle News Staff Report

If students want a Starbucks drink or treat, they will have fewer hours to do so for the rest of the summer.

According to Morris University Center Director Mary Robinson, Starbucks shortened its hours due to a lack of business.

"The University is quieter than we thought it would be," Robinson said.

COUGAR from pg. 1

be like a large file. They liked to bat a ball around and play just like she was a domestic cat, just 100 lbs. heavier."

According to Lohr, as Chimega aged, she became an even mellow cat. She died March 12, 1985 and was buried on campus. A small gravestone can be seen near the lake in front of Founders and Alumni Halls.

Theater manager Valerie Goldston came to work for SIUE's Theater Department in 1985. She remembered seeing the cougar on walks with at least four members of the guard at a time.

"You would see (the guard) walk them right through Goshen Lounge," Goldston said.

"People think of a cougar as a wild animal, which they are, but Kyna was a ninth-generation captive cougar, so she was pretty domesticated," Lohr said. "She was just like a 150-lb. house cat."

Both of the cougars' front claws were removed and their incisor teeth had been filed down so that they could not puncture skin. Eventually, even with these precautions taken, the university decided to get rid of Kyna.

In a press release on June 25, 1987, then-Dean of Students Constance Rockingham announced that Kyna would be leaving campus.

According to Lohr and

INVESTIGATION from pg. 1

investigation. We will follow our processes as outlined in our Student Progress Document to resolve the situation as quickly as we can."

Conroy said students' punishments could range from a disciplinary warning to dismissal from the school.

Students are not allowed to have legal representation during their meetings with the SCC because "it's an internal matter at this point," Conroy said.

However, Conroy said the students have access to their files and are able to review them with an attorney. The attorney is not allowed to be present during the SCC meeting, but a faculty

Starbucks will be open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Monday through Friday and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

The coffee shop used to be open until 10 p.m. on weeknights and 5 p.m. on weekends. Starbucks will operate with the modified hours until fall semester starts.

*Alestle News can be reached at
alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.*

Goldston, the student body was very upset at the decision to have the cougar removed.

"The members of the guard loved that cat. You build a relationship with them," Lohr said. "It was a sad day. I am not much of a domestic cat person, but I liked that cat. We kind of knew it was coming. Several students were there when she was taken. She wouldn't have gone if we weren't there. We did it with tears in our eyes, (but) we helped load her into the trailer."

Kyna was moved to an exotic animal farm in Metropolis. The move came just one day after the press release.

Goldston said that the administration just decided they were done and got rid of her. According to Goldston, the Alestle ran a running total of days the cougar was being kept away from the university above its masthead for a while.

All that remains of the two SIUE cougars are stories, pictures and a small headstone marking Chimega's time at the university. The geodesic den was torn down shortly after the cougar left.

"She was always loving and affectionate to those she knew," Lohr said. "They are good memories to look back on. She was a blast."

*Angie Thomas can be reached at
alestlenews@gmail.com or 650-3527.*

member is allowed to be an advisor to the student during the meeting.

The office of the Dean of SIUE Dental Medicine is referring all questions regarding this matter to Conroy.

An end date has not been set for the investigation.

"We have to be thorough," Conroy said. "We are trying to resolve this as fast as we can."

Conroy said the investigation would not prohibit students from being able to register for classes in the fall.

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

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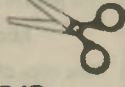




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The editors, staff and publishers of the Alestle believe in the free exchange of ideas, concerns and opinions and will publish as many letters as possible.

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:

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Have a comment? Let us know!

Send us an e-mail:
alestleeditor@gmail.com
The Alestle
Campus Box 1167
Edwardsville, Ill. 62026-1167



The Alestle is seeking guest columnists and cartoonists to help contribute to the newspaper on a monthly basis for the Fall semester.

Contact Opinion Editor Justin Gibson at alestle@gmail.com if interested.

Lack of recycling bins a critical issue at SIUE

It seems as if everything in today's society is going plastic. From the things we drink out of, to the forks and utensils we use, even the currency in today's world is turning into plastic. I feel that SIUE should have more plastic recycling bins on the campus.

As you walk around campus one sees many people carrying around plastic bottles of all sorts, and if one continues looking around on campus, one sees very few plastic recycling bins. To recycle plastic on this campus, a person would have to walk around and find the very few recycling bins that are present on campus or they would have to walk to one of the residence halls or go to Cougar Village. This is a long distance to walk to recycle, so a majority of the people

probably place their plastic bottles in the garbage cans, so they can be taken to fill the very large landfills.

Most people do not realize the great benefits that recycling has in store for this community and an even broader picture of the world. Recycling plastic is on the incline with "total post-consumer plastic bottle recycling increased by more than 187 million pounds in 2005," according to the National Post-Consumer Plastics. "The total pounds of plastic bottles recycled crossed the 2-billion-pound-per-year threshold to reach a new high of 2,102 million pounds"

This is keeping that 2 billion pounds of plastic out of all of the landfills and is returning it to the consumers. "When plastics are buried in a landfill, they occupy about 25 percent of the space," according to the Energy Information Administration.

Some may say that recycled plastics cost more than non-recycled plastics, but with the increase in petroleum prices it will soon even out or become cheaper than non-recycled plastics.

My solution to this problem would be to place the new plastic recycling bins next to the current aluminum recycling bins on campus and in the basement of the Morris University Center. Or if that is a problem, just replace the current aluminum bins with plastic bins. I do not foresee this being a problem with the campus staff and the current students here at SIUE. After several discussions with fellow students, they felt like this would be a good idea, and they felt like most students would go along with this idea. This of course is not going to make everyone recycle their bottles, but hopefully the majority of people will decide to

place their bottles in the recycling bins if they are easily accessible; which it would be, if placed in the areas that I proposed.

I feel by adding these recycling bins to the campus, it will help the students here feel like they have done something good for the environment by recycling. This would be a good thing, because that might influence them to expand their recycling to their home and it could really go a long way in helping to save the environment and expanding the life of our world.

Blake Berner
Sophomore
Pre-Medicine

Minimum Wage Hike Leads to Problems

After the news that minimum wage will increase from \$6.50 an hour to \$7.50 an hour, many teenagers throughout the state of Illinois will rejoice.

Hard work in a job with bad pay will finally pay off a little bit more. Businesses will be forced to reach into their pockets and pony up a little more dough.

Teenagers through college students are going to be most

affected by the increase, but it does not come without its problems.

Some businesses will not be able to afford to pay as many people to work, which means that some jobs could be lost.

With the rising cost of many products, such as gasoline and milk, an increase in the minimum wage is not only welcome, it is necessary.

An ugly fact of life is that with the rising cost of living, pay increases may not always follow to balance out the problem.

Fortunately for Illinois residents, the new minimum wage also comes with legislation that calls for a three-year

minimum wage increase.

The plan calls for a rise of 25 cents each year to \$7.75 in July 2008, \$8.00 in July 2009, and finally \$8.25 in July 2010.

This could mean that it will also be a little more difficult for teens and college students to find jobs, especially those students that look for work just during the summer while they are not at school.

Companies will not have as many positions available because they will have to pay employees more money.

The effect of minimum wage is more pronounced in the cases of young adults than it is for regular adults, because according

to government research, most adults that earn minimum wage work two jobs or have a spouse that also has a job.

This has been a change that has long been necessary for those employees that work minimum wage jobs. It may also help to take away some of the burden from parents that have to work those jobs to support their families.

Kyle Wiese can be reached at
alestle@gmail.com or 650-3527.



Kyle
Wiese

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June

Harlequin Presents...

A Local Romance... Novel

by SIUE alumna Peggy Hillmer



Photo illustration by Laura Lengyel

by Matthew Schroyer
Alestle Lifestyles Editor

Peggy Hillmer's workplace has seen a few famous cameos. Those rare appearances were not made by big Hollywood stars, but that difference is lost in crowds of people lined up in front of Piece of Mind Books. The people at the center of the hubbub are, instead, famous authors. Mitch Albom, the New York Times bestselling author and author of "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" are among these A-listers.

It won't be long, though, before another author is added to Piece of Mind's extensive list of book-signing visits. Except, this time, it will be one of their own – Hillmer herself.

Hillmer is a cashier by day and author by night who was recently given the green light to have a manuscript published. The genre is romance; the publisher is Harlequin Enterprises.

The story, tentatively titled "A Challenge to Love," is about the relationship between two people left in a will. The will, as it turns out, is a contest for the CEO position and all the stock for a major Chicago company. While they are accomplishing the tasks of the will, they fall in love.

"I refer to it as 'Romeo and Juliet' meets 'The Apprentice,'" Hillmer said.

Hillmer's goal with the story was to show what it means to be in a family. The hero has been adopted and is trying to "earn his way into the family." The heroine is illegitimate, and never felt as if she belonged. Hillmer said she thinks the Harlequin American Romance series provided a good format to express her ideas.

"I thought the Harlequin American Romance line makes that accessible to people," Hillmer said.

What the book doesn't have, however, is sex. But, Hillmer notes, that isn't the point.

"They don't get along well enough to have sex," Hillmer said. "It has sexual tension in it, of course, because it is a contemporary romance."

The book, which was started in 2005, was born out of the frustration of a rejection letter from a publisher.

"I needed something to make me feel better," Hillmer said.

One of Hillmer's friends told her about an advertisement she saw in "Romantic Times Book Reviews" magazine, from Harlequin American Romance, asking for story submissions. Hillmer collected the 72 pages she had written of her story and sent it away to Harlequin's office in Canada.

Hillmer's optimism was guarded when she submitted her manuscript.

"I thought, OK, let's see what happens here," Hillmer said.

Six weeks later, she received a call. They wanted her manuscript. Another six weeks, she completed the story, and sent it in. Four months after that, she received another call – they wanted to publish the story.

Hillmer said after the call, she felt like she was floating.

"It was so unreal. I was just giddy!" she said. "I called my husband right away. He was very excited."

Hillmer's boss, Andie Allen, was likewise excited.

"That's so cool" – that's her exact words," Hillmer said.

Hillmer's success in getting published marks the end of a story that spans 30 years. Hillmer first started to read romance books when she was a teenager, but was sometimes put off by the books she read.

"I read books that I just wanted to throw against a wall," Hillmer said.

She would often make the remark that she could write a better book that what she read. Her girlfriends eventually said, "Well, do it!" Since those days as a teenager growing up in Glen Carbon, she went on to earn a bachelor's in English from SIUE. She remained in the area, and started writing books after she was married and had two children.

Even with the help of colleagues in her writer's circle, it wasn't an easy task to flesh out a whole novel.

"You have to make time," Hillmer



After three long decades and countless rejections, Glen Carbon native and SIUE alumna Peggy Hillmer lands the book deal she had been dreaming of since she was a teenager.

said. "There is no finding time. Everybody has 24 hours, it's just what you decide to do with them."

Hillmer typically wrote at night, much to the despair of her sleeping patterns.

"It's my more creative time," Hillmer said. "That always worked well for me, except the getting up in the morning part. You have to get up and do the rest of your life."

Although "A Challenge to Love" is her first published novel, it is not the only novel she has written. Hillmer has written three other complete novels, one of which was awarded the Maggie award from the Western Publications Association.

Piece of Mind books doesn't usually carry Harlequin books, as they are usually bought cheaper at wholesale bookstores. But, for Hillmer, Piece of Mind is making an exception, and will have her sign books sometime after its spring 2008 release.

In the meantime, Hillmer is still writing about the things that matter to her the most.

"I like to relate what I think is important in life- family, and a monogamous relationship," Hillmer said.

Matthew Schroyer can be reached at alestlelifestyles@gmail.com or 650-3531.

Gators drafted top 10

The future is now



SIUE Sports Information
Lennox Forrester addresses the public at a press conference announcing him as new SIUE head coach

by John Earnhart
Alestle Sports Reporter

The University of Evansville has been very helpful to the SIUE men's basketball team.

Last April, SIUE named Evansville-alum Lennox Forrester as the new head coach for the men's basketball team.

"I chose SIUE because it was a great opportunity," Forrester said. "The school is going in a great direction."

Forrester graduated from the University of Evansville in 1992 with a bachelor of arts in sociology. He then went on to be an assistant coach and administrative assistant at Evansville for the next ten years.

Forrester is now the seventh basketball coach in SIUE's history. He replaced Marty Simmons, who took the head coaching job at the University of Evansville. Simmons, like Forrester, was also a student at the school.

"I am going to get a system implemented that will help the team succeed on the court, in the classroom and socially," Forrester said.

Last season, the Cougars finished with a 15-12 record. They were 10-9 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. However, Simmons and Forrester have two, different coaching styles.

"We're going to run a fun style of play," said Forrester. "People will enjoy watching us play."

Team camps have already started for the new season and Forrester is remaining optimistic.

"I am looking forward to our team orientations and the team communicating," said Forrester.

As if the coaching change wasn't enough, Forrester will also have to deal with moving to Division I next year.

"I am not worried about it," said Forrester. "Not at all."

The men's basketball team officially begins its season on Nov. 15 versus Harris-Stowe.

"I want to get the team off to a good start and to get the student body fired up," said Forrester.

John Earnhart can be reached at
alestlesports@gmail.com or 650-3524.

statement. "To have three players selected in the first nine picks of the NBA draft is truly incredible."

"It's a new beginning for all of us," Horford said. "We're excited. We had a great time at Florida. But it's time for us to go our separate ways."

But Thursday night belonged to UF's Big Three. The NBA included them among the 15 players invited to watch the draft, and they sat with their families at a cluster of tables just below the stage.

Horford went first, earning

hugs from his two friends on the way to the stage. Horford delivered a Gator chomp as he strolled across that stage; below, his father waved a small Dominican Republic flag.

Three picks passed, and then the Timberwolves tapped Brewer. Then Noah sat alone, his jitters growing with each passing second. He had passed the time since Horford's selection by chatting with Brewer. Now Brewer was gone, and his absence added to his nerves.

"When he wasn't there and

I couldn't joke around with him," Noah said later, "those moments felt so long. But I'm really happy for all those guys."

And they were happy for him 10 minutes later, when the Bulls added him with the ninth selection. Noah held his hands together in a prayerful pose as Commissioner David Stern announced his name, then buried his arm in the shoulder of his mother, Cecilia Rhode.

"All this means a lot," Noah said. "I'm really proud of my teammates. This is such an exciting time for all of us."



Orlando Sentinel/MCT

Joakim Noah stands in a gymnasium after being drafted to Chicago on Thursday.



TONY'S TIME OUT

Q&A: All-Star Style

The purpose of the MLB All-Star game is to see the best players take the field in an exhibition game to watch the most talented members of each league battle it out to prove which league holds the dominance.

One thing is for sure – this year's All-Star game is going to be a great show. With a well-balanced mix of fresh new talent and seasoned veterans, the 2007 All-Star game in San Francisco will be something that fans of the game will not want to miss.

Will it be the National League led by players like Albert Pujols, Ryan Howard and Cole Hamels? Or perhaps the American League and David Ortiz, Alex Rodriguez and Josh Beckett? Perhaps, we may have to ask some different questions.

Question 1: How many times were the people in San Francisco allowed to vote?

I do not see any reasonable way possible that outfielder Barry Bonds was voted in to the All-Star game by the fans across the country. Simply given the fact that he does not have good encounters with the media, he will not cooperate with the

MLB administrative offices and the well-known steroid accusations, it is odd that Bonds made it into the game. Is San Francisco quickly becoming the Florida of All-Star game voting? I demand a recount and check for hanging chads, please.

Question 2: Will every player of the American League All-Star team wear a Red Sox jersey?

It would probably be easier then getting everyone a new All-Star jersey. In all honesty, I can't find any specific reason why the Boston Red Sox have five players on this year's All-Star team. Starting first baseman, David Ortiz, and starting pitcher, Josh Beckett, probably both deserve to be on the team. A good argument could sway me on Jonathan Papelbon, and for showman's sake, I will let you place Manny Ramirez in the dugout, but just don't let him play. Third baseman Mike Lowell, no thanks. I think Boston and San Francisco talked before and the conspiracy starts.

Question 3: Are the six starting outfielders the best six outfielders to take the field...ever?

Some may argue that you cannot get any better than players like Willie Mays, Stan

Musial, Joe DiMaggio, Kirby Puckett, Hank Aaron and Babe Ruth. But, in 30 years I believe that people will look back and say the same things of Vladimir Guerrero, Ichiro Suzuki, Magglio Ordonez, Carlos Beltran, Ken Griffey Jr. and, yes, I'll say it, Bonds. The talent throughout all of these athletes can rival an outfield crew from any time in history. There is speed, there is quickness of bat, there is power and defensively few can match up to the six on the field.

Question 4: Are the two teams loaded with the best players from the two leagues?

Yes and No. Obviously if your team is in first place and you are leading your division by 10.5 games, then you should have a good number of players representing your team in the All-Star game. Five players of a good showing may be a little much, but if your team is performing well because of it's players, then you must give credit when credit is due.

Is Russell Martin from the L.A. Dodgers the best catcher in the National League? Some may say yes, others may disagree. I believe if not for injury, red-hot St. Louis

Cardinal catcher Yadier Molina would have been behind the plate. The fans of Philadelphia may have been confused by voting in Aaron Rowand instead of the much more deserving Jimmy Rollins. Prince Fielder is on fire, but many think that the slumping Pujols still should have gotten the NL first baseman spot.

There are many questions that will be left unanswered and probably many questions not ever asked, but I wanted to take a second and enforce that this is an exhibition game. The outcome is not going to be counted toward any team's record, however, with the addition of home field advantage during the World Series, the excitement that slowly died away is silently creeping back up.

Will you be watching Fox on July 10? I know I will be.

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

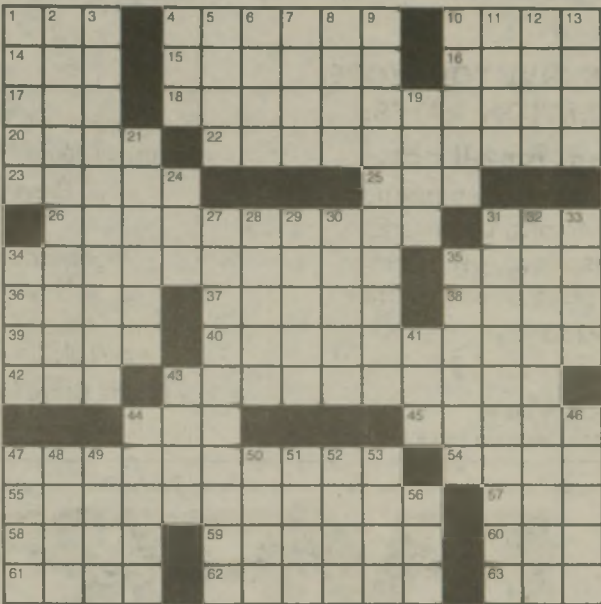
THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Part of GPA
- 4 Burns or Frost
- 10 School north of L.A.
- 14 Performance grants org.
- 15 Lined up
- 16 Dove home
- 17 Lat. or Lith., once
- 18 Christmas pair of song
- 20 Kett of comics
- 22 Rancidity
- 23 Mortgage attach ments
- 25 Moving vehicle
- 26 Wheel stoppers
- 31 Sunshine St.
- 34 Regional tongue
- 35 Chi-town paper
- 36 Sailor's direction
- 37 _ Domingo
- 38 Level in London
- 39 Ointment
- 40 Despot
- 42 Actor Carney
- 43 Very necessary things
- 44 Clash
- 45 Fully grown
- 47 Ranking nuns
- 54 Sp. maiden
- 55 One at a time
- 57 Christian letters
- 58 Many moons
- 59 Howe of hockey
- 60 Fish catcher
- 61 "Why _ Thou for saken me?"
- 62 Perspires
- 63 Coll. seniors' test

DOWN

- 1 Photographer Adams
- 2 Like some entrances



- 3 Stocking connection
- 4 Musical dir.
- 5 Burden
- 6 Fermentation foam
- 7 Art Deco designer
- 8 Dice throw
- 9 Traditional scale
- 10 Huskies in Storrs
- 11 Small bay
- 12 French religious figs.
- 13 HST's lady
- 19 Portuguese explorer
- 21 Garland for the head
- 24 Schuss
- 27 Companions of chocolate bunnies
- 28 Bumps off
- 29 Painter Rousseau
- 30 Two quartets together
- 31 Creating a split
- 32 "Kinfflicks" writer
- 33 Eve's second
- 34 Island in the Antilles
- 35 Threesomes
- 41 Shooters' grp.
- 43 Shucks!
- 44 Floorboard support
- 46 Personal preference
- 47 God of Memphis
- 48 Hindu music
- 49 Turner and Clanton
- 50 Hold in the hold
- 51 Certain
- 52 Mother of Brunhilde
- 53 Tizzy
- 56 His: Fr.

SUDOKU By Michael Mepham



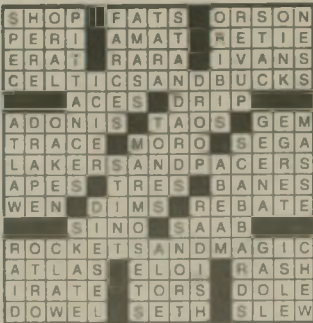
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Wednesday's Answers

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham



"What's with the hole?"
"Paris Hilton tunneled in here this morning to pick up a few things."



"Not only is my new girlfriend here twice as bright as the last one, but she has a flicker-free, high-resolution, flat-screen head."

WOMBAT



By Neil Bryer

A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner



PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE MRBILLY.COM/PAUL



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