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The Alestle⁵⁰

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

Rock 'n' roll party hero
See A&E



Tuesday, February 5, 2008

www.alestlelive.com

Vol. 60, No. 40

Black Heritage Month events

- Feb. 5**
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., MUC Meridian Ballroom
- Feb. 8**
5th Annual Gospel Explosion
7 – 10 p.m., MUC Meridian Ballroom
- Feb. 13**
Panel Discussion – Justice and the Black Athlete
1 – 2:30 p.m., MUC Goshen Lounge
- Feb. 15 to Feb. 18**
Black Theater Workshop—The Many Faces of Family
7:30 – 9:30 p.m., Metcalf Theater
- Feb. 17**
Titanically Speaking: Sink or Swim
2 – 4 p.m., MUC Meridian Ballroom
- Feb. 19**
Are We Still Miseducating the Negro?
11:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m., MUC Meridian Ballroom
- Richard Wright: Mirror & Maker of Black History**
6 – 8 p.m., East St. Louis Center
- Feb. 21**
Health Fair: A Celebration of Health, 2008
10 a.m. – 2 p.m., MUC Goshen Lounge
- Charles Drew Blood Drive**
10 a.m. – 3 p.m., MUC Mississippi-Illinois Room
- Student Talent Show**
7 – 10 p.m., MUC Meridian Ballroom
- Feb. 22**
Lift Every Voice
6 – 8 p.m., East St. Louis Center
- Feb. 27**
Blackthink: Who and What is Black?
7 – 9 p.m., MUC Goshen Lounge
- A Lesson Before Dying: The Burial of the 'N' Word**
1 – 2:30 p.m., MUC Goshen Lounge



Allison Prorise/Alestle
God's Anointed Mime Ministry performed as part of the Black Heritage Month opening ceremony Monday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

‘Where we come from and where we’re going’ Ceremony opens Black Heritage Month activities

by Erlka Helmerichs
Alestle Correspondent

The annual Black Heritage Month at SIUE introduced this year's calendar of events in an opening ceremony of song, performance and poetry Monday in the Morris University Center.

"This month-long calendar of events will work to 'showcase African-American culture,'" Director of the Kimmel Leadership Center Steve Sperotto said. "Each event is very different, from educational to social to musical."

Last year nearly 3,000 students attended events in participation with Black Heritage Month.

"The experience of black Americans in this country is an integral part of understanding where we come from and where we're going," Sperotto said.

Chair for the Campus Activities Board planning committee, junior Amanda Banks, sees the events during Black Heritage Month as very important for diversity within SIUE.

"It's an opportunity for African-Americans within the SIUE community to display pride in our heritage," Banks said. "These events will tie into the

sentiments of things that are important to the African-American community."

The SIUE Gospel Choir started and closed this opening ceremony with enthusiasm and sound that filled the Morris University Center.

Sophomore political science major Shaniqua Leverette watched the entire opening ceremony in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge and was most excited about the choir's performance.

"It's an opportunity for African Americans within the SIUE community to display pride in our heritage."

-Amanda Banks, chair for the campus activities board planning committee

"I'll be at every event that I can make it to," Leverette said.

The SIUE Gospel Choir's next event will be at 7 p.m. Friday in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom. It is also affiliated with Black Heritage Month.

English professor Adrian Matejka read several poetry selections at the ceremony, each with inspiration for the black community. Matejka is also

currently working on a poetry project on Jack Johnson, the first black heavyweight champion.

This was Matejka's first year of participation in Black Heritage Month at SIUE.

"I think it's a real opportunity for some of those ideas that usually don't get talked about to get talked about," Matejka said. America is changing and Black Heritage Month is undeniably relevant to our society, especially with the appearance of an African American presidential candidate, he said.

God's Anointed Mime Ministry utilized the power of performance to portray black pride and faith. This eight-member crew wore all black with painted white faces, gloves and socks, moving their bodies in beat with the music.

Michael Franks is an 18-year-old Edwardsville resident and boyfriend of one of the members of the Mime Ministry. He described the performance in the Goshen Lounge as "religiously on-point" and said that it was "really great" that SIUE held events for Black Heritage Month.

Police Reports

1-30

Police issued Ashely L. Rodenmeyer a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police responded to a traffic accident on Lot 5. No road blockages or injuries were reported.

Police responded to a hit-and-run accident in Lot B.

Police issued Ashley L. McNeil a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on Cougar Lake Drive.

Police issued Lara K. Huegle a citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle on St. Louis Street.

Police issued Patricia E. Klaus a citation for speeding on Circle Drive.

**Alestle
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24/7!!!**

Another day, another season

Thursday's heavy snowfall followed by 70-degree temps

by Matthew Schroyer
Alestle Reporter

Classes came to a full stop Friday when the Metro-East and much of the Midwest became entombed in a puffy layer of snow.

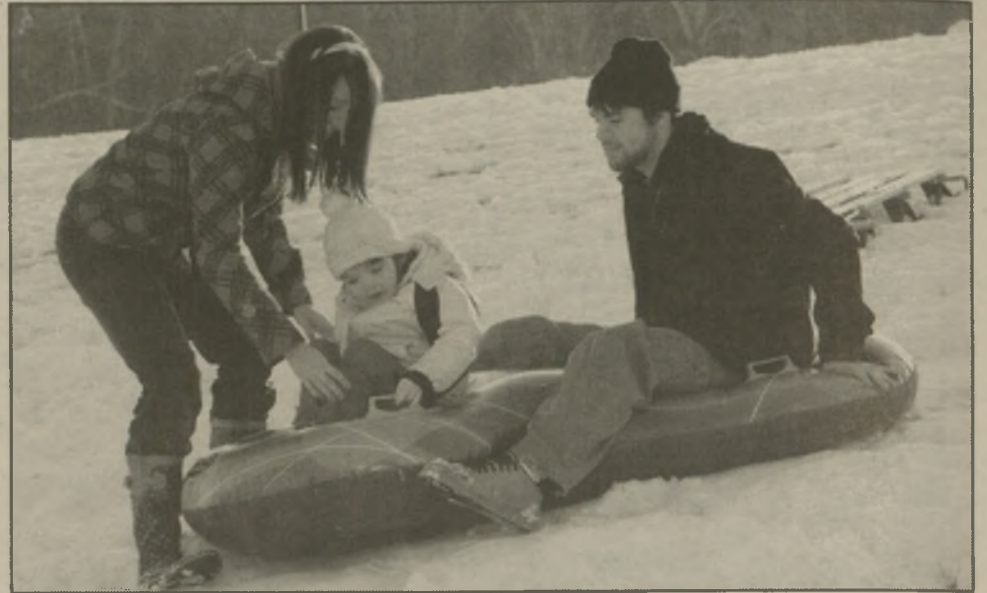
According to Edwardsville weather spotters with the National Weather Service, as much as 7.5 inches of traffic-clogging snow fell on the area.

Rich Walker, assistant Vice Chancellor of Administration, said it was easy to make the decision to cancel classes because of the snowfall on Thursday evening. Walker said the campus reaction to the Feb. 14, 2007 ice storm had no impact on the university's decision to cancel classes on Friday.

"It was based on the actual snowfall and not a prediction. It's always easier when you can see the results of the weather," Walker said. "The university's policy is not to close, but there are rare exceptions."

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration received criticism and several phone calls after that day, almost a year from Thursday's snowstorm, when students braved icy conditions to get to class.

All the university's snow-fighting capabilities were used to clear campus streets and sidewalks, Facilities Management Director Bob Washburn said, which included four snowplows of various sizes and eight university trucks fitted with plows. Washburn said some of the crew worked shifts from Thursday night until 9:00 p.m. Friday, and many returned Saturday to continue the task of clearing roads and walks.



June Farley/Alestle

Sophomores Derek Beatty and Catherine Nichols go sledding with Beatty's family Saturday next to Rendleman Hall.

"We usually try to get out shortly before the snow and do some pre-treatment, but because of the timing, I don't know how much of that we got done," Washburn said.

Washburn said the university was prepared to call a contractor to clear the campus' parking lots if classes were to take place on Friday. However, due to conditions of roads leading to SIUE, classes were canceled and arrangements were made.

"The primary roads, 157 and 159, were in reasonably good shape, but when you get out into the secondary roads, a lot of those were drifted over or hadn't been touched," Washburn said. "Students would probably

not have been able to get to classes."

SIUE Police reported no accidents and only isolated cases of motorists running off the road. Lt. Kevin Schmoll said the motorists were assisted by other motorists or towed out by tow trucks.

"We were surprised," Schmoll said. "There were just a few motorists that slid off the road."

Brian McClenahan, a junior in criminal justice and a community service officer for the city of Highland, found himself helping Highland motorists who had slid off the

SEASON/pg.4

**Sandcastle
Building Contest**



3 on 3 Volleyball Tournament

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Hawaiian Dancers

Steel Drum Band

50 SIUE
1957-2007

Mocktails



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WITH TWELVE TONS OF SAND!**

Pre-Dental Association hosts Democratic debate

Candidates discuss issues, motives

by Sydney Elliot
Alestle Correspondent

Bill Clinton was not the only political figure to step foot on the SIUE campus last week.

The SIUE Pre-Dental Association hosted a debate for democrats Daniel Davis and Joe McMenamin on Thursday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

Davis and McMenamin are campaigning for the chance to run against John Shimkus for the seat of Illinois' 19th Congressional District U.S. Representative. The 19th District is the largest district in Illinois and is composed of 30 different counties.

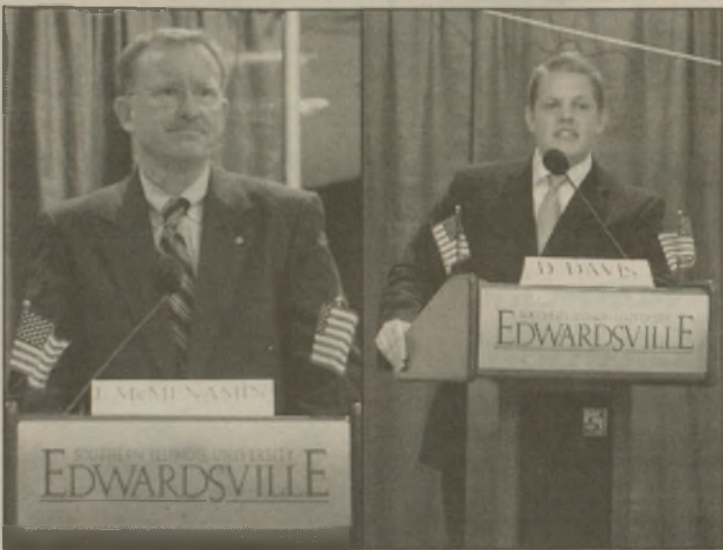
Freshman Christine Vu, senior Joel Kruse, sophomore Osman Sharief and junior Navraj Mudahar are all members of the PDA and organized the debate. Most of the credit is given to Mudahar, however, for making all the arrangements for the debate to take place and for Davis and McMenamin to come to SIUE.

"Navi is a genius," Sharief said. "He has a political science class, and he just got excited about it and organized it and got the PDA involved."

Mudahar said he spent just a week to a week and half organizing the debate and said it was difficult to organize it with the school, but that the candidates were "very willing, very approachable, and easy to talk to," Mudahar said.

The debate had room for approximately 30 people and the seats were less than half full.

"It was a difficult process to fill seats and get the students involved (on such short notice), but we did what we could,"



June Farley/Alestle
Democrats Joe McMenamin (left) and Daniel Davis (right) debated about their position in running for Illinois 19th Congressional District U.S. Representative.

Mudahar said.

During the hour-long debate, Davis and McMenamin were asked to discuss topics such as healthcare, the economy, education, energy and why they were running for Congress.

Davis is concerned with handling his campaign by relating to the people saying, "My campaign is about people, and I got into this race because I just wanted to help people."

During opening statements Davis also said he is a good match for this district because he has lived in several of the counties that help make up the district, and also because he has, "a good understanding of the people and the concerns of this district."

McMenamin, on the other hand, spoke about his credentials during his opening statements.

"I'm a concerned citizen, and I'm also a veteran. I went to SIU Carbondale, and I've been a lawyer and a military lawyer and

a private lawyer," McMenamin said.

McMenamin said he feels the country is off-track economically and said, "As a nation we got way off track . . . we need to invest in America and Madison county and all 30 counties (of the district) ... let's get back on track."

Once the debate began, discussion arose about health care and particularly universal healthcare. Each candidate described in detail what he believed and how he thought the country should fair in terms of health care, but neither candidate clearly stated how they planned to introduce better health care in America and particularly the 19th Congressional District.

"Healthcare gets worse and worse as you move to more rural areas, and it needs to be more affordable, accessible and

DEBATE/pg.4

Surf's up at Goshen Ocean

By Allan Lewis
Alestle Reporter

A "land of Goshen" is a calm and comforting environment, like a beach. Wednesday, the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge will take on that feel as Campus Activities Board resurrects the Goshen Ocean as part of the university's 50th anniversary celebration.

"We wanted to bring back events that students enjoyed, but haven't been done for a while," Director of CAB Michelle King said. "There will also be a sheer shock of seeing so much sand."

Previously a student favorite, the Goshen Ocean is returning for the first time in 15 years, and the sixth time since the inaugural event in 1980.

Director of Kimmel Leadership Center Steve Sperotto served on the board that helped plan the first Goshen Ocean.

"It was an event that was extremely unique and caught the attention of everyone," Sperotto said of past Oceans. "It was an event that was submitted to be included in the 50th anniversary celebration since it was a favorite among students."

According to King, this year's Goshen Ocean

will share similarities with the past, but will also introduce new activities.

"It will be very similar to the previous Goshen Oceans," King said. "We will be introducing some new events and have sandcastle building, volleyball and a student organization contest with five events."

Along with the participation aspect of the event, a steel drum band and luau dancers will be performing for students.

"Visually, it is very exciting to see 12 tons of sand in the Goshen Lounge and students playing sand volleyball," Sperotto said.

King expects the Goshen Ocean to provide a unique experience for students by offering a beach-like atmosphere indoors during the unpredictable Midwest winter.

"Anyone who walks by will take a look," King said.

The Goshen Ocean will take place between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Allan Lewis can be reached at alewis@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

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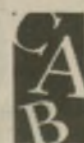

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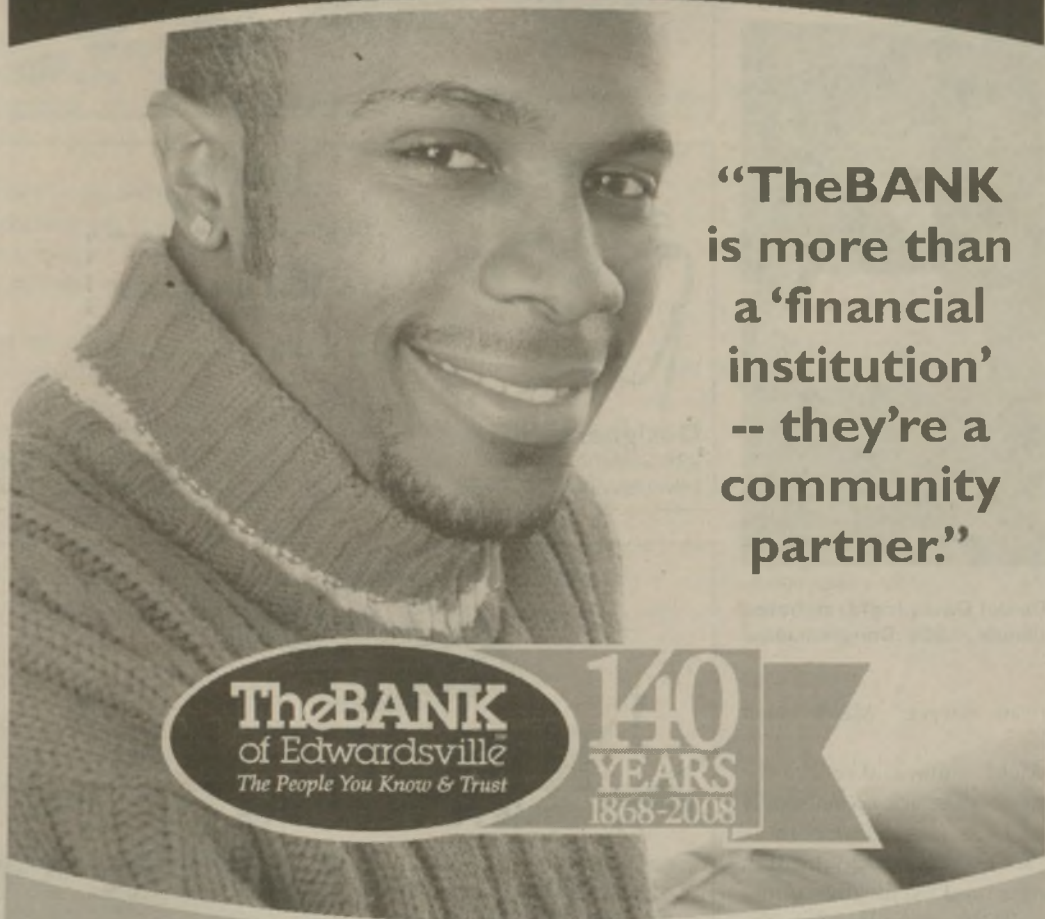
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Celebrate Black History Month



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Costumes a Plus

Must Be 21 w/ID

Shenanigans

HERITAGE from pg. 1

"The celebration of Black Heritage Month goes back to the '70s," Cheryl Heard, assistant director of the Kimmel Leadership Center and member of the Black Heritage Month planning committee, said. She has been involved with this month of events at SIUE for more than 10 years.

"All throughout the years, the university has been supporting and holding events," Heard said. "People get engaged in these events, and that's what is

important."

Vice Chancellor Narbeth Emmanuel urged all students to support SIUE's "commitment to diversity."

"In our lifetime, we are witness to the greatest celebration," Emmanuel said. "We must remain committed to the belief that we all share the same common core values."

Erika Helmerichs can be reached at ehelmerichs@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

SEASON from pg. 2

road.

"It would have been ridiculous to let people risk their safety going to class," McClenahan said. "It's a good thing (that classes were canceled)."

Senior psychology major Ashley Berry, a Chicago native, said she's fared much worse.

"People here freak out about dustings," Berry said. "At home when we get 12 inches, they still have classes. This is nothing."

Nature's "complexion" lightened later in the week, with Sunday bringing temperatures in the 40s, which began to melt away the snow. Sunday night, the Metro-East became immersed in a fog that lingered into Monday morning.

Melissa Byrd, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service St. Louis Weather Forecast Office, said the thick mist came from a combination of warming temps and lingering snow on the

ground.

"The winds were fairly light, and also another factor was the snow melting," Byrd said. "There was a lot of moisture in the low levels."

Monday, temperatures skyrocketed into the 70s, though the National Weather Service cautioned that a thunderstorm would develop Monday night and bring with it a short burst of rain and the possibility of hail.

The NWS expects temperatures to fall below freezing Tuesday, accompanied by freezing rain turning to snow. At 3:30 p.m. Monday, the NWS issued a winter storm watch for Tuesday afternoon through evening, but said the impact was difficult to predict and could be anywhere from "minimal" to "significant."

Matthew Schroyer can be reached at mschroyer@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

DEBATE from pg. 3

portable," McMenamin said. "We need to find a way to cover everyone."

"There is so much to get done. We need to focus on improving healthcare faculty in the 19th District," Davis said. "I'm going to fight tooth and nail to help the middle class and bring healthcare access to all."

Educational incentives were an issue for members of the PIDA, and the candidates were asked to describe how they would provide rewards for and support institutions such as SIUE, who provide professional healthcare to those in need.

"There's a lot that needs to be addressed in this area ... and I want to place incentives for dentists to come to rural areas," Davis said. "I want to make sure people know when they graduate from a quality institution ... that we can help reduce some of their loan payments or cancel some of their loans because we believe in their commitment to our community."

McMenamin agreed with Davis on this issue.

"Since there is a need for medical and dental services, let's increase the slots in medical

schools and dental schools so that we can produce professionals who go back to work in rural areas," McMenamin said.

The debate continued with topics of the falling economy, military and veterans, new forms of energy and how each candidate plans to help fund the increasing college expense.

With the closing statements, each candidate summed up why they feel they are the best candidate to take on Shimkus and run for congressman.

McMenamin again spoke about his credentials and said he hopes "you come to the conclusion that I am the best candidate to take on Shimkus and help move our country in a new direction."

Davis again said he was a man of the people and said, "This race is not about me. It's about the people of this district."

Mudahar and the other members of the PIDA are planning to extend invites to either Davis or McMenamin for another debate against Shimkus in early March before spring break.

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The Alestle
Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

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Letters to the Editor Policy:

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 hmeyer@alestlelive.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.

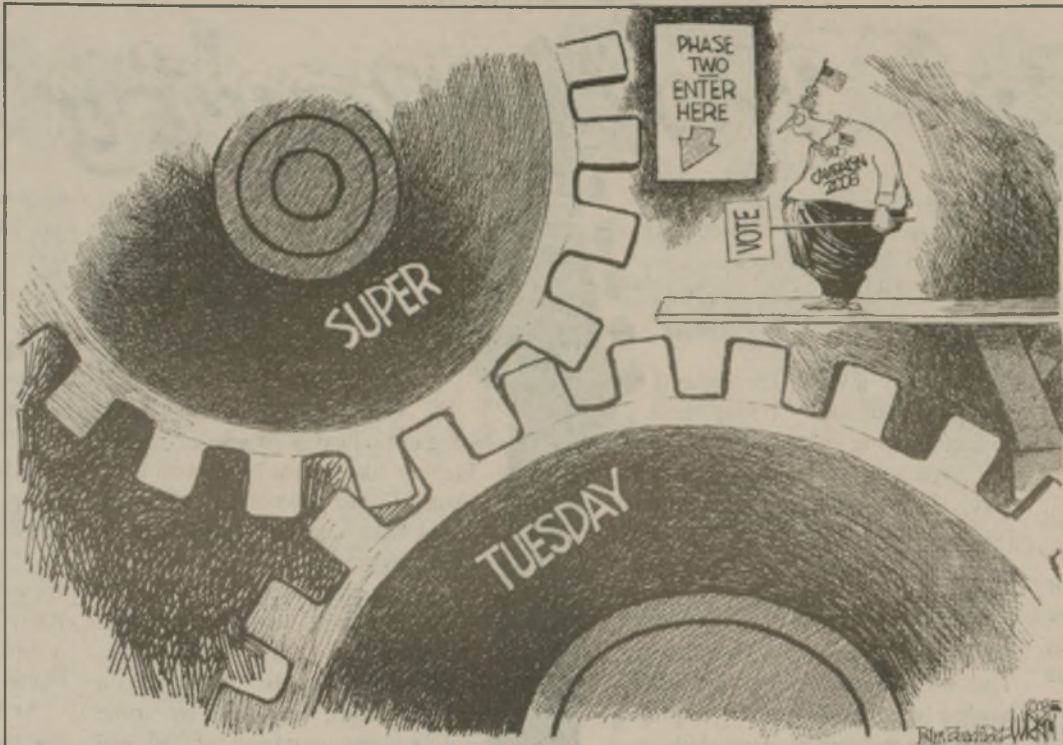
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**Have a comment?
Let us know!**

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



Correction: In the Jan. 31 issue of the Alestle, Sandra Reaves-Phillips' name was misspelled in the article "All that jazz - take 2." The Alestle regrets this error.

Do you have
an opinion you
want to share?

We want to
hear from you!

Submit a letter
to the editor!

Super bowl ads lacking pizzazz

The Patriots weren't the only losers Sunday; consumers were losers as well. If you stayed in the room and watched every brainless, racist and for the most part not-so-funny offerings from advertisers who, as every year, attempted to pull out all the stops to interest the largest television audience of the year, good for you. I did too.

The game was enough for me. I watched the collapse of possibly the greatest team to ever cheat their way through the game of football to an overall impressive record of 18-1. That one loss, however, will go down in history and virtually wipe out the other 18. Tom Petty was pretty good at halftime, too.

I could try and feel for the Patriots, as one of my little league baseball teams did the exact same thing and went undefeated and lost in the championship to quite possibly the worst team in the tournament. Then again, I'm not a supermodel-dating, egotistical millionaire named Tom Brady.

Back to the commercials.

Overall, this year's field offered the good, the bad and the ugly. A bad Super Bowl commercial is that one that everyone forgets about, usually car commercials. Unless you run the car off a cliff, you just wasted \$90,000 for each second of that professional driver on that closed course.

After crunching some numbers and using the most scientific form of judging ads possible, I have put together the (un)official Alestle Super Bowl Ad Meter.

Best

1. Bud Light gives you the ability to fly (93 percent): Truthfully, I already thought it did.

2. Fed Ex carrier pigeons (92 percent): If this actually happened ... yikes.

3. Toyota Corolla Badger (85 percent): as stupid as this commercial was, there is something funny about a guy being locked in a car with a family of sleeping badgers ready to attack when his cell phone goes off.

4. Sales Genie Pandas (79 percent): There is something about animated Pandas with ridiculously articulated Asian accents using the Internet that makes me laugh.

5. There really were not five good commercials.

Worst



Allan
Lewis

Rural voters forgotten but not silent

Feb. 5 is Super Tuesday. The biggest focus is on the Obama/Clinton race, but who will win Illinois?

Obama, a resident of Illinois, is thought to receive its vote. However, that is mainly due to the primarily Obama-backing supporters around Chicago and its suburbs. Down south, it's a different issue. No, this is not a north-versus-south issue, just an observation.

Where is Obama's impact on southern Illinois? He repeats over and over how much he impacts Chicago, which is a great feat, but he has done nothing to smooth anything over or helped shape or form the structure, needs or deficits of southern Illinois.

However, this is just a problem of politics: where is the bulk of the population?

The south where corn and birds reign, or the multicultural, multi-million, super-urbanized area of Chicago?

There lies the rub. Coming down here to politick is a loss of resources. Yes, we (southern Illinois) would be satisfied, but everyone else would feel just like us. Instead, the politics of the situation is to hit all cities, where a lot of people reside, commute or just pass by and forget rural areas, because there is no effect overall.

All we have to go on is the TV that can spin all topics like a twister. That's why Clinton's visit was very important to the area, as well as the state. It was an opportunity to see the real issues and standpoints. I cannot believe anything from the television because I always assume there is some sort of hidden agenda behind everything. However, such rallies give me the opportunity to gauge what certain beliefs really mean to me.

The former president didn't persuade me to vote for his wife, but rather strengthened

how much I push for Obama. Yes, Obama didn't go out of his way to campaign in the area, nor did he truly accomplish anything here, but the belief of giving trust and commitment to a new guy who is just as good or better than Bill or Hillary is okay by me. Add to that Obama's intention to unite the country rather than polarize, and I'm set for my vote.

If Hillary, the one who has all of these plans and goals that are great and needed by themselves and needs her husband to talk to a rather odd place to gain votes, doesn't that say something big about Obama? That would be the best reason Obama would win Illinois. Even if Hillary won more primaries than Obama, Super Tuesday will be a surprise for us all, well beyond Illinois.

Harry Zollars is a freshman pre-pharmacy major. He can be reached at hmeyer@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

Rock 'n' Roll Party Hero

Guitar Hero craze strong at SIUE

by **Kenneth Long**
Alestle Reporter

Some rock for the money.
Some rock for the fame.
Some rock for the high score.

Guitar Hero, a video game that emulates playing a guitar, offers any person, regardless of actual guitar skill or ability, the chance to be a rock star. The series, consisting of four console games and now a mobile phone version, has struck a cord and taken center stage in the gaming community. It has garnered cultural references on TV shows like "South Park" and "Metalocalyps"e and many who believe they have what it takes to be the "Guitar Hero."

SIUE hosted its first Guitar Hero Tournament, sponsored by the National Community Pharmacists Association, on Jan. 23. Sounds of Pat Benatar's "Hit Me With Your Best Shot," the preliminary track, filled the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge, along with multiple projection TVs and gaming consoles. Chris Clemens, a freshman majoring in biology, watched his fellow contestants play the song, hoping to see who his toughest competition would be.

"I don't like to brag, but I think I've got a chance at winning this," Clemens said.

Clemens was introduced to Guitar Hero through his ex-girlfriend's brother. Since then, he has honed his skills at Guitar Hero and can play nearly every song on "Expert," the game's hardest difficulty, including the song "Number of the Beast."

"I can't play the guitar at all, but now I can play Iron Maiden (on Guitar Hero)," Clemens said.

Harmonix released Guitar Hero in November 2005. It features a guitar-shaped controller that consists of 5 multi-colored "fret buttons," a strumming button and a whammy bar, adding to the visual appeal of playing a real guitar. The first game in the series had 47 playable songs, ranging from Boston's "More Than a Feeling" to Ozzy Osborne's "Bark at the Moon." It has received numerous awards.

Paul and Skye Gierse of St. Louis faced off before the competition began. Skye, Paul's daughter, placed higher than her father in the preliminary rankings.

"She's much better than my wife or I am," Paul said.

Paul said he and his wife started playing the game after he purchased the

game for his daughter's birthday. Ever since, the game has become a family activity for the Gierses.

Paul said his favorite song was "Cliffs of Dover" by Eric Johnson.

"I really love all the songs though," Paul said. "I love the feeling of being a rock star."

Skye said since playing Guitar Hero, she has started taking lessons to play real guitar.

"I'm okay, but not too good," Skye said.

Skye's favorite song is "Through the Fire and Flames," by Dragonforce. The song is considered to be the hardest song in the series, requiring the player to employ many skills used by actual guitarists.

Guitar Hero incorporates many qualities of playing a real guitar. Players can play chords by holding down multiple buttons at the same time. Sustained notes can be slightly altered by using the guitar's whammy bar, allowing the player to add some style of their own. "Hammer-ons" and "pull-offs" let the player hit fast series of notes without strumming.

The game features a "rock meter" which decreases with each wrong note hit and increases with multiple correct notes; this also shows crowd approval, with an empty rock meter causing the player to fail the song and get booted off stage. Long periods of correct notes lead to point multipliers. When special notes are hit, the player acquires "star power," which increases the multiplier even more and dramatically boosts the rock meter.

Colin Katrenak, a freshman music education major, said it's a different feeling when playing Guitar Hero from playing with his band, Hooked on Pentatonics.

"When you have the band together, it's an experience where you're palpating ideas and working as a group to have music come through," Katrenak said. "Guitar Hero is a lot more relaxed."

Katrenak's favorite song from Guitar Hero is "Black Magic Woman" by Santana.

"It is a grooving song," Katrenak said. "It's really fun to play, and I like listening to it."

Guitar Hero is part of a genre of games heavily based in music. Games like Karaoke Revolution, Dance Dance Revolution and Rock Band have taken a strong hold in modern gaming.

Katrenak said he enjoys playing Rock Band more than Guitar Hero when he practices with friends for Hooked on Pentatonics, followed by some instrument imitation of the real thing.

"(Rock Band) is engineered more to play with a group of friends," Katrenak said. "Guitar Hero, you're playing for a high score."

Paul Gierse said he had some difficulty finding Rock Band, but has decided he likes it better than Guitar Hero.

"I enjoy all the different parts of being in a band" Gierse said.

Clemens said he prefers Guitar Hero to Rock Band.

"On Rock Band, it's not as focused on the guitar,"

Clemens said.

Katrenak said he's noticed that as Guitar Hero has released sequels, the songs have gotten progressively harder.

"(The creators of Guitar Hero) are trying to make it harder for the hardcore audience," Katrenak said. "They're appealing to more gamers by doing it."

The sequels to Guitar Hero have been equally successful. The franchise has sold 14 million copies of the games, totaling more than \$1 billion.

"The music video game genre is now appealing to a larger market base," Katrenak said. "People who don't normally play video games are picking up Guitar Hero."

Clemens said he believes Guitar Hero has risen to its peak and will eventually become less prevalent.

"To be honest, I think it's going to get old, but I like it when it's here," Clemens said.

Katrenak disagrees, he thinks Guitar Hero has become a staple in the gaming community.

"I think it's big, and I think it's here to stay," Katrenak said.

As the first Guitar Hero Tournament at SIUE came to a close, two lone guitarists faced off with one final song. A small crowd gathered around the two warriors as if spectators at the Coliseum, watching as two men fought to the death. The plastic guitars, glistening with the perspiration of their wielders, sounded deafeningly with quick, audible clicks as the two lone competitors, fingers blurred and brows furrowed, hammered and strummed away at Slayer's "Raining Blood." The screen, covered with notes like a sea of Skittles, finally exploded with a final shower of sparks to reveal the true Guitar Hero of SIUE.




Ben McQuade, a freshman majoring in business administration, stepped forward to receive his title as reigning Guitar Hero of SIUE.

"(Being the Guitar Hero) makes me feel warm inside," McQuade said.

Kenneth Long can be reached at klong@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



Robert Mullen/Alestle
Ben McQuade concentrates on his game during the first Guitar Hero Tournament at SIUE. McQuade went on to win the tournament.

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Today SIUE Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Meridian Ballroom \$15, \$8 students Light Up the Night Fat Tuesday Parade 6:30 p.m. Downtown St. Louis	Wednesday Goshen Ocean 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. MUC Goshen Lounge 	Thursday Twelve Angry Men 8 p.m. Repertory Theatre of St. Louis \$14-\$63 David Allen Coe 9:30 p.m. Voodoo Lounge \$15.98 	Friday Friday Free Flick 6-8 p.m. Abbott Auditorium Free 5th Annual Gospel Explosion 7-9 p.m. Meridian Ballroom	Saturday Lift Every Voice 7:30 p.m. Powell Symphony Hall \$10 The Royal Scots Fagoon Guards & the Band of The Coldstream Guards 8 p.m. The Fox \$26-60	Sunday Kathy Griffin 7:30 p.m. The Fox \$40-\$50 HED(pe) & King Spade 7 p.m. Pop's \$18 	Monday For the Love of Music 7:30-9:30 p.m. MUC Madison Room An Evening with Richard Thompson 8 p.m. The Pageant \$25

SIUE Black Heritage Month 2008 - Schedule of EventsSOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE**United or
Divided,
Where do we stand?****Monday, February 4****Opening Ceremony
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM**

Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center
Join the 2008 Black Heritage Month Planning Committee as they launch the month long celebration. The opening program will feature Chancellor Vandegrift, poetic readings by Adrian Matejka, Assistant Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature, a performance by God's Anointed Mime Ministry, and the SIUE Gospel Choir will lead the singing of the Black National Anthem, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

Tuesday, February 5**Dr. King Jr. Birthday Celebration
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center
SIUE's annual birthday celebration to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. King Jr. will feature guest speaker Emerita Professor Dr. Shirley Portwood. The event will include lunch, special performances, and recognition of award recipients. Students: \$8 General Public: \$15 Call Conferences and Institutes at 618.650.2660 to purchase tickets.

Friday, February 8**Fifth Annual Gospel Explosion
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM**

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center
Join us for an inspirational evening to spread the gospel of healing, reconciliation, and unity to the campus and community. The event will feature poetry, rap, praise dance, and gospel music.

Wednesday, February 13**Panel Discussion – Justice and the Black Athlete
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center
A distinguished panel of experts, led by Dr. Maruice Mangum, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, will discuss the differences in treatment received by black athletes when compared with white athletes. The panel will address how black athletes are held to a different standard by the justice system, the media, and public opinion. Topics for discussion will include Barry Bonds, OJ Simpson, Michael Vick, and the Jena 6.

Friday, February 15 – Sunday, February 17**Black Theater Workshop – The Many Faces of Family****Feb. 15 & 16 – 7:30 PM****Feb. 17 – 2:00 PM***Metcalf Theater*

A compilation of theatrical scenes, song, poetry and dance that celebrates the diversity of today's family. Directed and performed by SIUE students.

Sunday, February 17**Titanically Speaking: Sink or Swim
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM***Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center*

The journey to cultural competency is a long and conquerable one with no free rides. This workshop, led by Dr. Venessa Brown, Assistant Provost, is a simulation designed to challenge and strengthen the cultural competency and leadership abilities of students. Participants will come to see themselves as integral players in the pursuit of a genuinely multicultural world.

Tuesday, February 19**Panel Discussion – Are We Still Miseducating the Negro?****11:45 AM – 1:45 PM***Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center*

This is a panel discussion of views outlined in Carter G. Woodson's book *The Miseducation of the Negro* published in 1933 and African Americans' experiences and views today. In his book, Woodson identified several issues, concerns and barriers related to the social, economic, and psychological progression of African Americans in the United States. The panel, led by Dr. Shonda Lawrence, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, will respond and comment on: the issues/concerns and barriers presented by Mr. Woodson, their own experiences, their knowledge about African Americans' matriculation through educational systems, what they see as issues today, perceived outcomes for African Americans as a whole, and what they see as possible solutions.

Thursday, February 21**Health Fair: A Celebration of Health, 2008
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM***Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center*

Come and celebrate your health through health screenings and evaluations.

Learn how simple lifestyle changes and acquaintance with community health care providers can improve your health in 2008 and beyond. Co-sponsored by SIUE School of Nursing and SIUE Counseling Services

Charles Drew Blood Drive**10:00 AM – 3:00 PM***Mississippi-Illinois Room, Morris University Center*

Dr. Charles Drew, an African American physician and medical researcher, pioneered techniques for blood storage that made the development of large-scale blood banks possible. Dr. Drew also protested the practice of segregating blood on the basis of the race of the donor.

Black Heritage Month Student Talent Show**7:00 PM – 10:00 PM***Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center*

Come watch SIUE students as they take their turn on stage showcasing their singing, dancing, poetic, and musical talents.

Wednesday, February 27**A Lesson Before Dying: The Burial of the 'N' Word****1:00 PM – 2:30 PM***Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center*

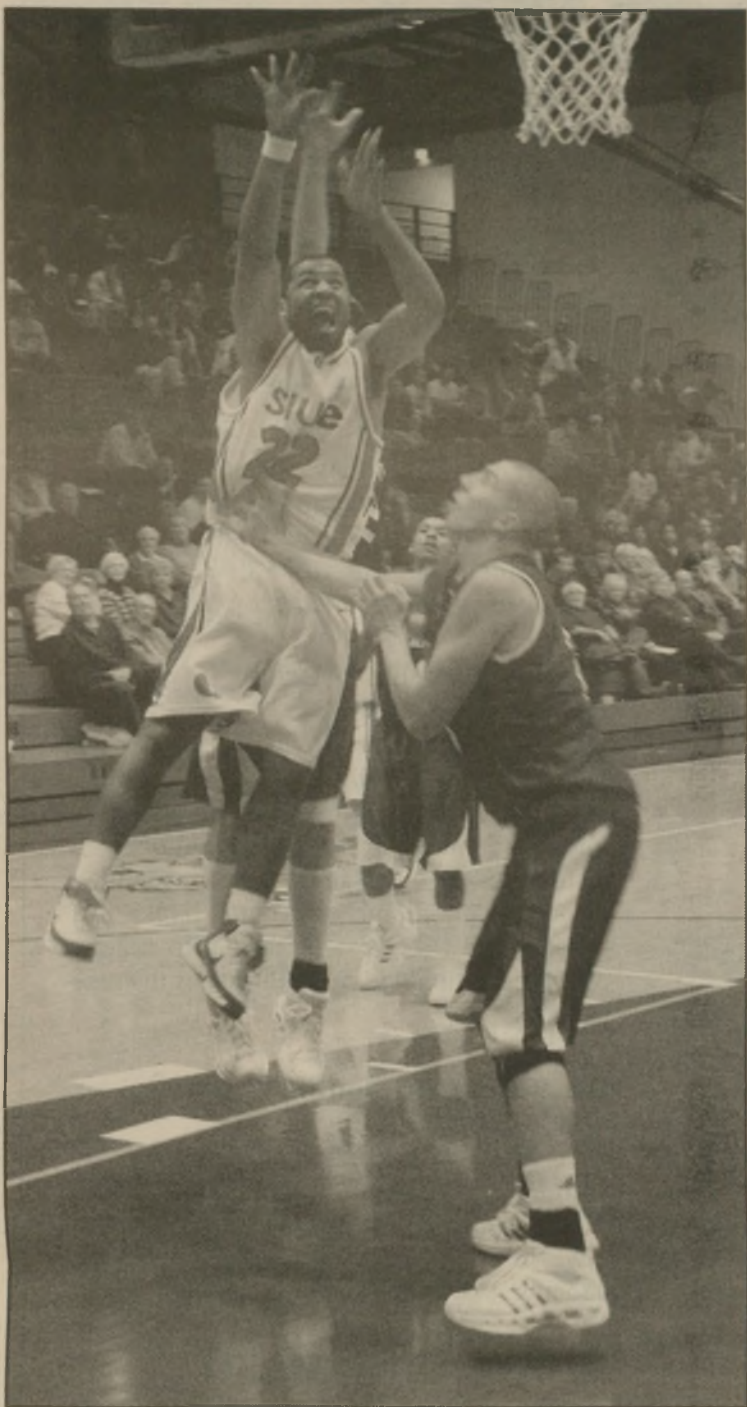
Using a funeral ceremony as the backdrop, this event will discuss the history and social significance of the most offensive word in American culture. Eulogies, songs, and an intellectual treatment of the 'N' word will precede burial. Members of the SIUE community will bury the 'N' word as a symbolic gesture for improving race relations and encouraging racial sensitivity.

**Blackthink: Who and What is Black?
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM***Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center*

Come hear Kimberly Norwood, Professor of Law at Washington University School of Law, discuss the stereotypes of African Americans in today's culture. Are blacks expected to think a certain way? Be Democrats? Support affirmative action? Defend welfare? If an individual does not embrace these ideas, is the person "really" black or a traitor to the race? Do blacks get to exercise choice or does being black mean you have no choices? Join us for a discussion of these and other provocative questions.

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Contact the Kimmel Leadership Center at 618.650.2686 for a detailed schedule of events or visit www.siu.edu/cab. All events are subject to change. Black Heritage Month is sponsored by the Campus Activities Board.





Steve Berry/Alestle
SIUE senior J.B. Jones (in white) drives to the hoop during a game earlier this year. The Cougars also tipped off against Oakland City yesterday.

Cougars win two after dropping three in a row

by Zach Groves
Alestle Reporter

SIUE men's basketball's three-game losing skid appears to be in the past as the team is now on a two-game winning streak after weekend play at home.

The Cougars opened up significant leads in their wins against University of Missouri-St. Louis Saturday and Missouri University of Science and Technology Thursday, moving closer to the .500 mark in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, where SIUE is currently 4-7.

One of the keys to SIUE's victory Saturday was coverage of UMSL's leading scorers Sky Frazier, Paul Paradoski and Tim Green, according to senior forward Asa Clayborne. All three averaged at least 10 points a game, but the trio managed just six points against the Cougars.

"Everybody was rotating right, we got good traps, and basically they were turning the ball over," Clayborne said. "And we were capitalizing on their turnovers."

"We kept him on one side of the floor ... to where he can't get wide-open shots," Clayborne said of Paradoski, who leads the Tritons with 25 3-pointers on the season.

SIUE shot better than 50 percent the entire game in both field goals and 3-point shots. Meanwhile, senior guard T.J. Gray matched a season high of 26 points and sank five of his

nine treys.

However, when SIUE Head Coach Lennox Forrester was asked about the team's momentum in the second half, he said the biggest part was junior guard John Edmison's 3-pointer to end an 11-2 UMSL run midway through the half.

"I thought we kind of got casual a little bit there with the ball and had a few turnovers, and they had some threes at the other end and we fouled," Forrester said. "We finally got back on track ... John hit a big three and stopped the bleeding a little bit for us to finish out the game."

Clayborne scored a season-high 16 points in the win and Edmison added 11 points.

UMSL turned to Adam Kaatman, David Ward and Jason Black for points that it could not get from its three regulars. Kaatman recorded 14 points, Ward picked up 12 points and Black finished with 10.

The Cougars managed 16 inside points without senior center Doug Taylor, who was not with the team because of a death in the family. Forrester said he thought sophomore forward Saihou Jassey and freshman center Nikola Bundalo "did a good job, even though they both fouled out."

SIUE struggled with rebounds in its losses to Kentucky Wesleyan College and University of Southern Indiana, with barely 17.5 boards in each game. The Cougars nearly

doubled that average in a single game against S & T Thursday with 34 rebounds in addition to a 53 percent shooting game.

"Everybody contributed on putting the body on somebody and focusing on not letting them control us on the offensive glass because that's where we've been pretty weak over the past few games," Gray said.

The Cougars had a 10-point lead halfway through the first half, but allowed the Miners to catch up, at times giving the Cougars a buffer of less than five points. A jumper by Gray and a senior guard Anthony Jones 3-pointer late in the first half gave SIUE a modest halftime lead.

"I challenged them at halftime about showing more maturity and build on the eight-point lead we had, and they did that," Forrester said. "I thought our seniors came out and did a great job and got off to a great start again."

Gray led all scorers with 18 points and senior guard J.B. Jones added 14 points. Taylor managed 11 points.

Miners star Marquis Jones led a young team with 16 points and Curtis Mosley recorded 13.

The Cougars also took on Oakland City University in a non-conference match-up Monday night before a scheduled five-game road trip. For results, visit alestlelive.com/sportsblog.

Zach Groves can be reached at zgroves@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

Hedberg records 450th coaching victory in win over Quincy University

by Zach Groves
Alestle Reporter

In 2005, when SIUE women's basketball Head Coach Wendy Hedberg was asked about her feelings after winning her 400th career game as coach, she said she had mixed feelings because the Great Lakes Valley Conference win against Quincy University was just as special.

Three years later, her Cougars beat another GLVC rival, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, 83-70 Saturday for her 450th win. This time, Hedberg said she tries to keep such numbers out of her head.

"I'm focusing on (Thursday's) game right now," Hedberg said, in reference to the Cougars' next matchup with Lewis University on the road.

SIUE looked to rebound from its 67-60 loss to conference West division leader Missouri University of Science and Technology Thursday, and turned to stronger inside shooting and a better free-throw game. The Cougars scored 36 of their points in the

paint and shot more than 70 percent from the charity stripe.

"We just knew that we had to come off a tough loss," junior forward Jessie Stapleton said. "And good teams step up. That's what we had to do, and we got it done."

Stapleton earned her second double-double of the season with 14 points and 10 rebounds against a smaller Tritons team. In fact, Hedberg said she inserted Stapleton in place of freshman forward Lindsey Rujawitz because of the size advantage.

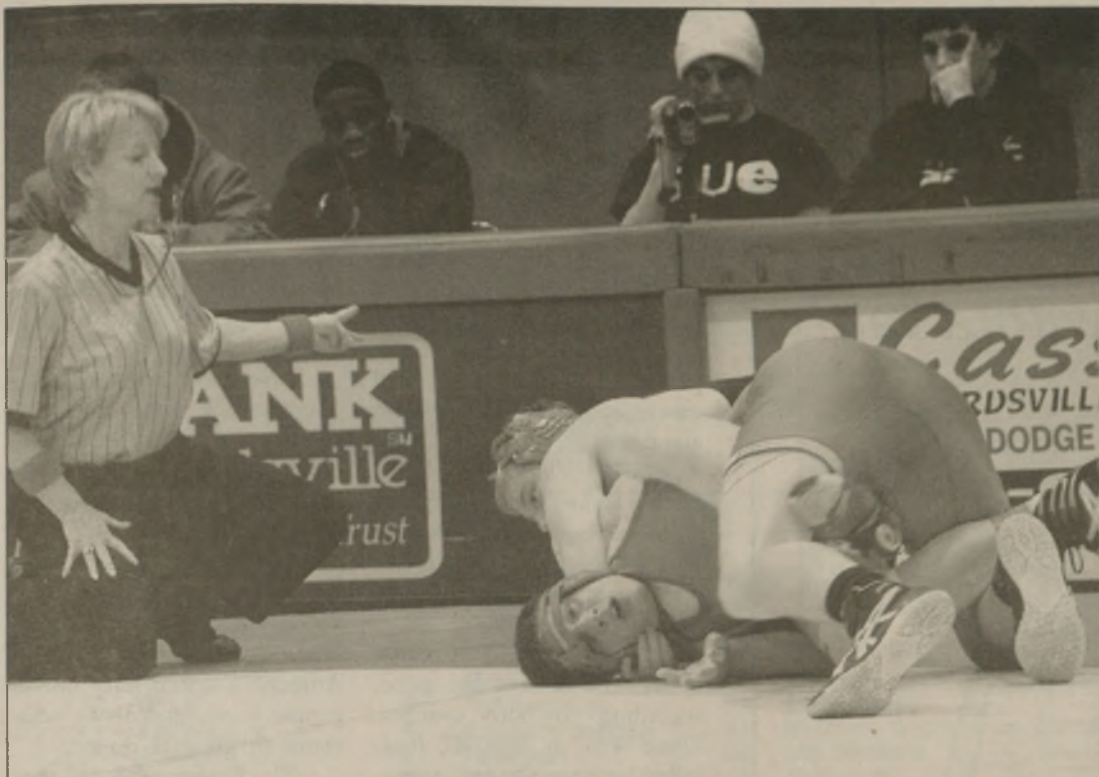
"I thought Jess would get after them a little bit better and move a little bit better," Hedberg said. "I thought that would be a good matchup with her out there."

Senior forward Amber Shelton picked up 18 points in the win and had help from junior guard Brittany Imig, who recorded 13 points out of a perfect day from the perimeter. Senior guard Elyse Morris added 10 points.



Pete Ridens/Alestle

SIUE senior Amber Shelton drives to the hoop during a game against the University of Indianapolis earlier this year. Head Coach Wendy Hedberg recorded her 450th win over the weekend.



Steve Berry/Alestle

A member of the SIUE wrestling team grapples with an opponent during a match earlier in the year. The Cougars will head back to SIUE to face University of Central Missouri, Thursday, Feb. 7.

Taking the mat back home

After tough losses to McKendree, and placing two at Missouri Valley, the Cougars look to succeed at home

by Jacob Boone
Alestle Reporter

After dropping a 43-0 match to McKendree University Jan. 30, the SIUE wrestling team placed two wrestlers Saturday at the Missouri Valley Open in Marshall, Mo.

Senior 174-pound wrestler Daniel Midgett placed fifth at the Missouri Valley Open. SIUE Head Coach Patrick McNamara described Midgett as having a "breakthrough tournament."

McNamara also said Midgett is the hardest worker on the team right now, and that the work showed at the Missouri Valley Open.

"That was really good for us to see for Dan and shows our team that if you put in the time and the work, that you're going to get success and that was a good lesson I think for our team to see," McNamara said.

Midgett said he has been working with McNamara and Assistant Coach Tyron Woodley on a new strategy.

"My endurance is very good, so our strategy is to push the pace and keep on breaking the guy down until they're completely worn out, and that's when I just pick up the pace, and that finally came out at this last tournament," Midgett said. "I still need to work on a few little areas, but our strategy worked out real well for me."

Freshman heavyweight wrestler Brian Brooks also had a strong weekend, according to McNamara. Brooks placed sixth at the Open.

"Brian's struggled throughout the course of the year, but to take sixth at this tournament, which is a tough tournament, shows a lot for him too," McNamara said.

Midgett was happy to see his freshman teammate have a successful weekend.

"He's starting to wrestle like he's wrestling in the practice room, and it's showing in actual matches now," Midgett said.

McNamara said the Cougars are battling the flu and that hampered them Saturday.

"We didn't take probably three guys that I felt would've done very well at this tournament, so that kind of hurt us," McNamara said.

Midgett said the team gave a solid effort at the Open, but has to work on a few things before Regionals.

While the final score of the McKendree match was 43-0, the Cougars lost several close decisions. 133-pound sophomore Tommy Hill lost a 6-3 decision, 141-pound sophomore Nick Shumate lost a 3-0 decision, 157-pound sophomore Kyle Cunningham lost 3-0, 197-pound Chris Flaughter lost 4-3 and Brooks lost 3-0.

"It was a tough match," McNamara said. "We had some matches that were real close that we felt like we should've won and didn't win, and when you lose some close ones against a team like McKendree, who's a really tough NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) program, it makes it tough to be successful. I told our guys, when you compete, you always get a chance to learn what you need to work on, and we definitely learned, and now we gotta get better because the end of the season is coming quick."

The Cougars host the University of Central Missouri Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Vadalabene Center.

Jacob Boone can be reached at jboone@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL from pg. 8

UMSL's Courtney Watts led her team with 21 points, including four 3-pointers. Taylor Gagliano collected 13 points with 75 percent perimeter shooting and Kristi White chipped in 10 points.

Tritons Head Coach Lisa Curliss-Taylor said the Cougars' size helped thwart the team's gameplan of quick ball movement between the offense and defense.

"SIUE did a great job," Curliss-Taylor said. "They got ... bigger bodies than what we have on the floor. They're also real strong, so it's harder for us to defend."

Officiating also appeared to stall the flow of the game, according to both coaches. There were at least 47 fouls called between the two teams, including 28 in the second half.

Hedberg said the referees "didn't let the players play."

"I didn't feel there was any flow to the game," Hedberg said. "I don't think we've had it that bad all season. I'm begging for calls, usually, and this time they decide to call everything."

"We didn't know how to play," Curliss-Taylor said. "When we go hard, something would happen. When we play off, (the Cougars are) taking us to the hole, so it was a difficult game to play."

"It's not rare," Curliss-Taylor said of the officials' approach with a laugh. "Consistency would be good in this league."

Prior to Thursday's loss to S & T, the Cougars were reportedly battling for first place in the conference with the Miners. However, a six-point lead at halftime vanished when the Miners went on a 14-0 run

midway through the second half.

A mix between four key 3-pointers by the Miners and lack of outside shooting from the Cougars helped S & T earn its 10th straight victory. For the record, the Miners snapped their lengthy streak two days later against Quincy.

"We knew they were going to come back in the second half and shoot those threes, and we didn't get out on them and that's our fault," senior guard Amy Austin said.

"I credit (their defense) a lot. (Whitney Sykes) didn't shoot well, they were all over Whitney, they were all over Amber and making other people score, and that's what teams are going to do to us."

The Cougars shot less than 37 percent in the field and could not score off the Miners' 19 turnovers, converting them for only 15 points. SIUE relied heavily on Shelton's 16 first-half points to get ahead, but missed 13 of its 15 3-point shot attempts during the second half in the loss.

SIUE looks to enhance its 7-4 conference record with a trip north to Lewis University to take on the Flyers in a 5:30 p.m. Thursday tip-off in Romeoville. The Cougars will then travel farther north for a matchup with University of Wisconsin-Parkside at 1 p.m. Saturday in Kenosha, Wis.

Zach Groves can be reached at zgroves@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

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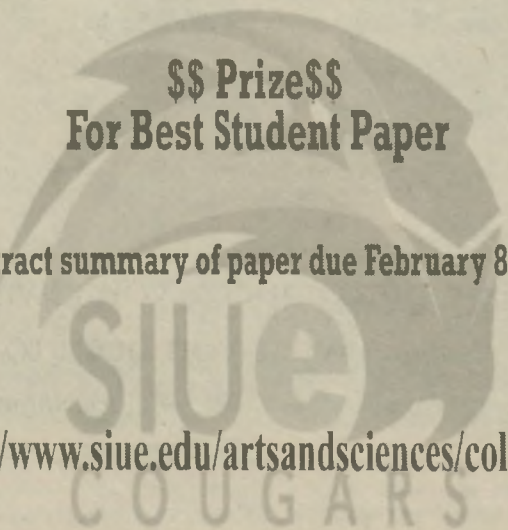
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clean houses. 20 mins from SIUE. Flexible hours and paid cash. 314.651.4162

BABYSITTER WANTED Mature, responsible babysitter wanted for two well-behaved children, ages 5 and 4, and one energetic puppy. Weeknights and/ or weekends as needed. Light cooking may be required. \$8/ hour. Occasional overnight may be requested after trial period. \$100/24 hour period. References requested at time of interview. No cat allergies please. 692-1086 or email at rudman4@sbcglobal.net

MISCELLANEOUS

BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRIES Students Serving Jesus, Serving SIUE — www.siuebsm.com

PRISTINE CLEANING, Busy with school? Need someone to clean your home/ apartment? Call us today for your free quote. 618-920-0233

MUC PERFORMERS NEEDED Contact astubbl@siue.edu or call 650 5368 for info.

USED BOOKS AT BARGAIN PRICES. Good Buy Bookshop, Lovejoy Library Room 0012, Wednesday and Thursdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by Friends of Lovejoy Library. 650-2714

PERSONALS

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you the rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. - God

ROOMMATE WANTED

ROOMMATES NEEDED Looking for two roommates to move into a three bedroom house. \$267 a month plus a third of all utilities. Non-smokers and no pets. 292-7995

ROOMMATE NEEDED. ALL UTILITIES + all cable + 10Mg internet = \$400 in Collinsville (618) 444-1459

ROOMATE SEARCH: 2 Rooms available in 3bd/2bath private home. Shared use of kitchen, appliances, washer/ dryer, wireless internet. Private yard. \$400 inc. utilities. Quiet and clean. Call me: 304-8985

FEMALE ROOMMATE WANTED Clean, neat lady wanted to share house w/ lady in Granite City. \$350 a month plus 1/2 of gas, electric & water. 410-2469

American Diabetes Association®

Cure • Care • Commitment®

Diabetes Education Program

9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, February 23, 2008

Morris University Center

Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

FREE SCREENINGS: Foot Exams, Blood Pressure, and A1c Testing

(limited space, advanced registration recommended)

Sponsored in part by SIUE student activity fees

Speakers & Topics:

Dr. Neil White

The Camp Experience

Dr. Lilly Tseng

Diabetic Retinopathy:

An Eye Opening Experience

Dr. Lisa Lubsch

Are Children at Risk for

Cardiovascular Disease?

Ms. Kathleen Haarmann

Common Pitfalls

In Diabetes

Self-Management

Dr. Saad Bitar

Peripheral Vascular

Disease and its Effects

Dr. Chris Lynch

Exercise and Diabetes

Enjoy speakers, vendor fair,
screenings and
FREE LUNCH!

9 to 9:30 a.m.

Registration and Vendor Fair

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Opening Presentation

10:40 to 11:15 a.m.

Speaker Session 1

11:20 to Noon

Speaker Session 2

Noon to 1 p.m.

Lunch

12:45 to 2 p.m.

Vendor Fair and Screenings

To register or for more information, call
Amy at (888) 342-2383, ext. 6835.