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The Alestle⁵⁰

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

'Trip to Bountiful' opens Wednesday
 See A&E



Tuesday, February 26, 2008

www.alestlelive.com

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June Farley/Alestle

A spectator reflects during Monday's memorial service.

Remembering NIU

by Sydney Elliot
 Alestle Reporter

The community at Northern Illinois University returned to classes Monday after the attack that killed 5 people and injured several others on Feb. 14.

SIUE held a memorial service Monday in honor of those fallen and injured after NIU held one for their own community Sunday night. SIUE officials waited to host a memorial service for several reasons, one being that NIU students returned to class for the first time Monday.

"NIU was returning to campus, and we wanted to be a part of that family and bring

our family together to share in their return," Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Narbeth Emmanuel said.

Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift said the school thought there would be a better turn out to the memorial if it was held on Monday and said the service was "very moving and very appropriate."

The service included speeches from Emmanuel, Vandegrift, Student Body President Laurie Estilette, Sister Claudia Calzetta and Provost Paul Ferguson. Members of the Department of Music performed, as well as the SIUE Gospel Choir.

Emmanuel opened the ceremony and

asked everyone present to introduce themselves to a stranger and "wish them well." Emmanuel went on to say that if everyone did this on a daily basis "we will make SIUE a very special place to live and learn."

Vandegrift and Estilette both spoke of trying to find the answers to seemingly unanswerable questions about explaining how something like this can happen yet again, especially just 10 months after the shooting at Virginia Tech.

"The answers to these questions are elusive, but critical to the future not only of

MEMORIAL/pg.4

Registration begins March 17 for seniors

by Kenneth Long
 Alestle Reporter

With registration beginning next month, students are preparing for the battle for precious class spots by making appointments with advisers.

Registrar Laura Strom said the opening date for online registration begins March 17 and is available for students with 90 or more credit hours and graduate students.

Students with 60 hours or more begin registering on March 24, followed by students with 30 hours or more can register on March 31. All other students can register starting April 7.

Strom said there were no complications with registration last semester and she expects no problems with the approaching registration.

"We have experienced no problems so far. Everything has gone smoothly," Strom said.

Ross McMurray, a freshman construction management major, said he had scheduled an advising appointment and is waiting for finalization.

"There are a lot of people in my major," McMurray said. "I wanted to get in the classes I need first."

Mike Skalisius, a freshman economics and finance major, said he had not scheduled an appointment yet, but planned on doing so this week. He also said advising went well for him last semester.

REGISTRATION/pg.2

Faculty members reflect on post-Castro Cuba

by Matthew Schroyer
 Alestle Reporter

After he stepped off the plane, theater and dance professor Otis Sweezey remembered choosing a 1957 Chevrolet taxi to get him to his hotel. He picked the vehicle because it brought back memories of a similar Chevy that his parents owned. But those memories were in America, and this place was Cuba, 2006.

"It was like going through a time warp," Sweezey said of that experience, his fourth trip to Cuba. "Everything is stopped in 1950."

The outdated transportation was there for good reason; American exports, including automobiles, came to a complete halt for Cuba in the 1960s. But since longtime Cuban president Fidel Castro, 81, officially handed the communist country's reigns to his brother Raúl, 76, on Sunday, the question whether change will

come to the trade-starved country has come up.

SIUE faculty who recently visited Cuba said they were not surprised by the power move, and do not expect much change in the short-term. Raúl and his brother may have different agendas, but they are still closely allied. Still, some faculty members think change may be coming, even if only in the distant future.

"I think Raul is going to make (restrictions) less severe," Sweezey said. "He will allow the reduction of total control of the government."

Sweezey visited Cuba in March 2006 in a delegation with Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift and then-senior Spanish major Aleisha Steele. The purpose of the trip was to explore the Cuban higher education system, Vandegrift told the Alestle in the March 14, 2006, edition. But Sweezey was also there to take in Cuban culture, which inspired a 2007 dance performance.

Cubans, except for a small portion of the older

population, have no animosity toward Americans; a very different stance than Europeans adopt, Sweezey said. Most Cubans are also mum about the government, with the exception of an older generation that supports Fidel Castro.

"The older ones are really pro-Fidel," Sweezey said. "The younger ones don't know anything different. They don't talk negative about the government. It's not a healthy thing to do."

Professors Elizabeth Fonseca and Thomas Jordan led a group of SIUE students through Cuba in 2002. Fonseca said she likewise saw the limits on free speech and was only able to access the Internet from a relatively expensive hotel that Cubans hadn't the means to access.

"I was troubled by the lack of free speech and free press," Fonseca said.

CUBA/pg.4

Police Reports

2-18

Police responded to an Indiana-registered semi trailer striking the guardrail on Stadium Drive.

Police issued Phillip L. Hardware a citation for speeding on South University Drive at University Park Drive.

Police took a report of a motorist striking an unoccupied vehicle in Lot 6.

Police took a report of hit-and-run accident in the Prairie Hall Lot.

Police took a report of a two-car accident in Lot F. Police issued Michelle L. Jenker a state citation for the operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. The damage was estimated to be more than \$500, and one vehicle was towed from the scene. There were no injuries reported.

Police responded to a two-car accident on North Circle Drive where injuries were reported. A woman involved in the accident was transported to Anderson Hospital in Maryville to be evaluated. Police issued Kayla N. Levek a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

Police took a report of an

Evergreen Hall resident receiving harassing phone calls.

2-19

Police issued Crystal M. Cole a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Meghann D. Hussmann a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police arrested Zachary M. Stevens and charged him with possession of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia. Stevens was arrested in Prairie Hall after police followed up on a Feb. 18 complaint filed by a resident who complained of marijuana odor in the building. Stevens was issued a notice to appear and was released.

2-20

Police issued Aida R. Moussalli a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police took a report of a gold-colored SUV striking another vehicle in Lot 1.

Police issued Heather M. Withers a citation for speeding on Northwest Entrance Road.

Police issued Cassandra L. Maricle a citation for speeding on Northwest Entrance Road.

Police issued Terry K. Davey a citation for expired registration on North University Drive.

Police issued Redwanul Huda a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Lauren E. Bland a citation for speeding on North Circle Drive.

Police issued Holly J VanDerSchaaf a citation for speeding on North Circle Drive.

Police took a call of a two-car accident in Lot A. There were no injuries.

Police issued Nicholas J. Dettenmeier a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Kahli E. Jones a citation for disobeying a stop sign on Circle Drive.

Police issued Steve A Haxton a citation for disobeying a stop sign on South Circle Drive.

Police issued Tyler A. Cagle a citation for speeding and the operation of an uninsured vehicle on Circle Drive.

BOT to discuss fee increases Thursday

Alestle Staff Report

The Board of Trustees will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday at Southern Illinois University Carbondale to discuss fee increases, personnel matters, items for recommended approval by the president and more.

After BOT activities, executive officer reports and public comments are discussed, the meeting will open to discuss purchase orders and contracts from December 2007 for both the SIUC and the SIUE campus.

Thirteen items on the agenda will be devoted to different specific increases on the SIUC campus, and another 13 items pertaining to increases will also be discussed for the SIUE campus.

Increases at SIUC range from summer camp fee increases to intercollegiate athletic fees to student services building fees.

SIUE increases include a differential tuition surcharge, increasing athletic fees, increasing textbook rental fees, proposed tuition rates for 2009 and other increases throughout the university.

Changes in faculty-administrative payroll will be discussed for both campuses as well as changes in the payroll for the Office of the President and other university-wide services.

Other items up for discussion include awarding of contracts for the wrestling and volleyball center at SIUE, revised budgets for several projects at SIUC and the authorization to hire a construction management firm for other projects at SIUC.

Alestle Staff can be reached at alewis@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

REGISTRATION from pg. 1

"My adviser was very helpful, and I got into the classes I needed," Skalisius said.

Strom said students can help make registration easier on themselves by preparing for their appointments.

"Students should make sure

they have satisfied their prerequisites and meet with their adviser early so that registration goes as smoothly as possible," Strom said.

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



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SIUE Black Heritage Month 2008 - Schedule of Events

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

United or Divided, Where do we stand?



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.

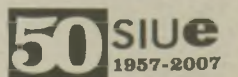
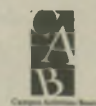
Blackthink: Who and What is Black?

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.



What is black?

BlackThink presents WashU speaker, presentation on race classification

by Whitney Tate
Alestle Correspondent

As Black Heritage Month enters its final week, Campus Activities Board is presenting BlackThink, a presentation focusing on "Who is Black, and How Do You Determine Black?"

Guest speaker Kimberly Norwood, a professor at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, will address this issue from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

Norwood gave a similar speech at SIUE last year, and Steve Sperotto, director of the Kimmel Leadership Center, remembered how well it was received.

"The whole discussion was on how African-Americans are classified, when in reality, they're as diverse as anyone else," Sperotto said.

Something that will be offered this year that was not

included last year, is the concept of "What is black?" and how it is influencing Illinois Sen. Barack Obama's political campaign. Norwood said because of Obama's mixed heritage, some members of the black community debate on whether or not Obama is black and how that can be determined.

"I wrote an editorial a year or so ago that talked about how ridiculous it was to be having this debate," Norwood said.

Norwood said she does not believe in set standards.

"Everyone should have his or her own voice on the matter," she said.

Still connecting the issue to politics, Norwood said race issues should have little to do with the election process. She said larger issues such as unemployment, education and health care should be dealt with.

Norwood said some people use a "checklist" when describing blacks and that certain assumptions, such as political

parties and financial statuses, are made.

"I really hope people will buy into my argument that all black people are not alike," Norwood. "I want to eliminate that checklist."

Although this workshop is offering a number of things presented in Norwood's previous speech, other issues are being introduced this year. As Black History Month comes to a close, BlackThink provides a final look at our nation and where it stands and whether it is, in fact, united or divided.

Political science professor Maurice Mangum said Norwood's presentation last year was important.

"It's a way to honor Black Heritage Month," Mangum said. "SIUE is a poorly diversified school. Perhaps this will help the campus understand that."

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Alestle receives state awards

Alestle Staff Report

The Alestle staff earned eight awards Saturday during the Illinois College Press Association convention in Chicago.

The competition, judged by media professionals throughout Illinois, featured entries from approximately 30 college and university newspapers within the state. The Alestle qualified for competition in two divisions: open and non-dailies at schools with more than 4,000 students.

In the open division, the Alestle staff earned third place for its online publication, www.alestlelive.com. In the special supplement category, the Alestle staff took home third place honors for its 50th anniversary special edition. Additionally, the staff placed second in the opinion page category.

In the non-dailies over 4,000 division, the Alestle brought home five awards. Opinion Editor Holly Meyer won third place for her column,

"Football dance displays ignorance." Steve Berry, former Alestle photo editor, won third place for spot news photo.

Catherine Klene, Matthew Schroyer, Meyer and Berry shared second-place recognition for in-depth reporting of plagiarism allegations against Southern Illinois University President Glenn Poshard and subsequent discussion of a proposed split from the university system.

Editor in Chief Megan McClure received two honorable mention awards, one for front-page design and the other in the editorial category, for "AlestleView: No revision will solve this."

ICPA officials presented Alestle Adviser Lance Speere with a certificate of appreciation for his work with college media. Speere is a former president and board member of ICPA.

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Safety discussion set for Tuesday

Alestle Staff Report

Campus safety and security will be on the forefront Tuesday morning during an open forum with university officials, staff and students.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Narbeth Emmanuel said the forum is mainly being staged as a result of the shootings at Northern Illinois University Feb. 14 and is also an opportunity for the university to inform the campus of emergency procedures at SIUE.

"We have begun to roll out

our emergency response plan, and we are looking for an opportunity to better inform the campus of our plan," Emmanuel said. "We are looking at ways to engage the campus community on this perplexing issue."

Five individuals involved with the safety and well-being of students will address and answer questions and concerns from the university community. Scheduled to speak are Dean of Students James Kleke, University Police Captain Tony Bennett, sociology and criminal justice professor Dave Kaularich, David

McDonald of emergency management and safety and Adam Kepka of counseling services.

"We look forward to an engaging conversation on this very pressing issue," Emmanuel said.

The Campus Safety and Security open forum will begin at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

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21

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For video footage of Monday's
 NIU memorial service, visit
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MEMORIAL
 from pg. 1

higher education but of our society,” Vandegrift said.

Calzetta read an adapted prayer originally read at Duke University after the Virginia Tech shootings.

The Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge was silent during the entire service as people gathered around to listen, remember and mourn those lost and injured at NIU.

Senior psychology majors Sarah Ryder and Andrea Somers attended the memorial because the tragedy hit close to home for them. Both have friends or relatives who attend NIU and felt this was a chance to show support for their loved ones and everyone else of the NIU community.

“I think other people would have done it for our school, and it meant a lot to me to be here for (NIU),” Ryder said.

Ryder's best friend from high school attends NIU. She felt the memorial service went well and said the speakers “said what's on all of our hearts, and it's good to just have someone vocalize it.”

Somers, who has a brother and a friend who go to NIU, said it was important for her to attend in honor of her brother and his girlfriend.

“They said everything I've been thinking, and it was just important for me to be here for my brother,” Somers said.

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CUBA
 from pg. 1

Being a professor, Fonseca said she was especially conflicted because of the high level of education among Cubans was in direct opposition to a ban on free expression. Otherwise, she said she enjoyed Cuba and has not met anyone that visited and felt otherwise.

“I absolutely enjoyed it,” Fonseca said. “There's music and dance everywhere and this positive outlook.”

Department of Mass Communications Chair Patrick Murphy also traveled to Cuba with the purpose of learning about the educational system in 1999. Murphy said he was pleasantly surprised with the quality of education and the openness of Cubans to Americans and American culture.

“I was struck by how curious Cubans were about America,” Murphy said. “It's kind of hard to believe that this country ... is on the list of evil-doers.”

Change, the buzzword of the 2008 presidential race, took a Cuban twist at CNN-televized Democratic debate Thursday evening when frontrunners Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama were asked if they would initiate talks with post-Fidel Cuba.

Clinton said she opposed diplomatic talks without some

kind of change out of Cuba first, saying, “I think it's important that they demonstrate clearly that they are committed to change the direction.”

Obama, taking a different stance, called for initiating talks and alluded to loosening the travel ban for U.S. citizens who have family in Cuba.

“I do think that it's important for the United States not just to talk to its friends, but also to talk to its enemies,” Obama said. “In fact, that's where diplomacy makes the biggest difference.”

Clinton's comments on the matter have since caught the attention of pundits and voters.

“I was really angered with what Hillary said,” Fonseca said. “Obama seemed more open (to diplomacy).”

For all the talk of Cuba changing, Swezey believes it will take some change in America before the island country, 90 miles southward, changes its habits.

“I think we'll see change. Not today, but after Jan. 1,” Swezey said with a nod to the presidential race.

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Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

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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 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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The name Alestle is an acronym derived from the names of the three campus locations of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville: Alton, East St. Louis and Edwardsville.

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Have a comment? Let us know!

Send us an e-mail: hmeyer@alestlelive.com

The Alestle
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Have an opinion? Write a letter to the editor

NIU's tragedy offers reporting lessons

If the surreal feeling from the Northern Illinois University shootings did not sink in before, it certainly did after this past weekend.

At a newspaper conference in Chicago, I got a firsthand look at how the Northern Star, NIU's student newspaper, handled the tragedy, both professionally and personally. For those who do not know already, one of the victims was an advertising representative for the Northern Star.

Surprised to see them make the conference a week after the shootings took place, the general

consensus was everyone was "excited" to get away from DeKalb. They were looking forward to being among colleagues who have given them significant support during the trying times.

Through a video presentation of the members at press conferences and inside the newsroom, the staff members brought to life coverage of an incident that alarmed a nation. The editors and reporters then took questions from an audience that seemed very curious about the paper's unique situation.

Reporters and photographers also shared stories about the chaos and fear that ensued after the gunman, Steven Kazmierczak, walked into Cole Hall and shot five others dead before turning the gun on himself. A photographer

described one of the photos she took of a student who tried to calm a shooting victim before the paramedics came. The photographer said she fought the tears when asking the student for her name.

What got me was the student's reaction. The photographer said she hugged her and told her that everything was going to be ok.

The editor said the Virginia Tech newspaper editor messaged him immediately and told him they understood and were there for them if needed.

At a Virginia Tech men's basketball game Saturday against Georgia Tech, all fans were encouraged to wear red and black, NIU's school colors, in support of the Huskies community, according to hokiesports.com.

The reporters also talked about fielding phone calls from the Associated Press, CNN and other major news outlets for general information and interviews for reaction to the incident. In fact, they said the phone calls became practically uncontrollable and a veteran staffer designated two fellow reporters to take them.

Overall, there is nothing like listening to first-person accounts of something not done on the "Today" show or "Larry King Live," but rather face-to-face in the same room. I wish the Northern Star and the NIU community well in their return to a normal lifestyle.

Zach Groves is a senior mass communications major from O'Fallon. He can be reached at zgroves@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



Zach Groves

What happens online, stays online ... forever

It's safe to say that Facebook isn't Las Vegas. That's not to say Facebook has any shortage of boozing or acts of depravity, but the whole "what happens here stays here" mantra simply does not apply. If you can't think of any friends caught in the Facebook cookie jar, just make a quick archival search here at the Alestle, and you'll find plenty of examples.

There was the September 2007 incident involving Miss Tuscola, who was dethroned after pictures of her using a hookah went on the social networking site. In April 2007, a fraternity

president toured the county jail after posting a message that looked an awful lot like bomb threat. We shouldn't leave out the September 2006 fiasco where one SIUE student devoted a Facebook group to another student's sexual life. To say the devotee was not flattered would be an understatement.

We've all heard of people losing relationships, employment, respect and sanity over something posted in that netherworld. In fact, it has become cliché. Will we ever be surprised again? Read on.

Fouad Murtada, a 26-year-old IT engineer from Morocco thought it would be fun to impersonate Prince Moulay Rachid, who is second in line to the throne of that country. "There are so many profiles of

celebrities on Facebook," Murtada said on his support Web site, helpfouad.com. "I never thought that by creating a profile of his highness ... I am harming him in any way."

On Jan. 15, Murtada created Prince Rachid's faux profile. By Feb. 5, Murtada was blindfolded, beaten by secret police and detained Guantanamo-style for a week. On Feb. 22, he was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment and fined 10,000 dirhams (approximately \$1,300) for "villainous practices."

While you probably won't be carted off for facerooking George W. Bush (who has 33 profiles by my count), there are a couple of lessons to be learned from Murtada's ordeal. One, Moroccan princes have no sense of humor. And two, no matter

how different Planet Facebook and Planet Earth operate, like two fingers stuck in a Chinese finger trap, no amount of tugging will free one from the other.

Maybe the real issue is we can't decide which fingers to put in the trap. Do we want to be hookah-smoking hipsters or diligent students? Do we want employers to think, "I need to work with that guy," or do we want friends to think, "I need to drink with that guy?" It's all of those things. Maybe we just want to be Moroccan princes.

Matthew Schroyer is senior mass communications major from Springfield. He can be reached at mschroyer@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



Matthew Schroyer

Check out the new Alestle blog at www.alestlelive.com/opinionblog

"The Trip to Bountiful" opens Wednesday

by Whitney Tate
Alestle Correspondent

SIUE's Dunham Hall is hosting another show on its stage this week. "The Trip to Bountiful," a Horton Foote production directed by Director of Theater Education Lana Hagan, opens Wednesday and runs through March 2.

"The Trip to Bountiful" is about a son named Ludie who must work in order to support his family, his mother Mrs. Watts and wife Jessie May. Dealing with life in the '40s and the aftermath of World War II, his struggles become overwhelming. His mother is determined to return to Bountiful, her hometown. She successfully arrives after running away from her life in Houston. After spending some time there, Mrs. Watts eventually realizes that her trip to Bountiful was needed, and although she appreciated her visit, her real home was back with her family.

Hagan explained the process that goes into choosing which productions the department

adopts.

"The strong determining factors for the season of shows are ones that are good teaching tools for the students." Other defining aspects include playwright variety, style and the level of difficulty. Hagan said the department often chooses productions that will challenge the cast and crew.

"The Trip to Bountiful" is formed around the idea of family relationships. Junior Acacia Moll, who plays the female lead, said, "It's something everyone can relate to."

Hagan summarized the story simply: "(it portrays) the typical desire to want to go home."

Moll, who plays Mrs. Watts, feels that students should attend the performance because of the "heartwarming" storyline. She also described pre-production and its influence on the final product.

"A lot of time and dedication was put into it," Moll said. "I think the audience will be impressed."

Phil Levling, who plays the

male lead, is a veteran when it comes to SIUE theater. Playing the role of Ludie, a "yes ma'am kind of guy" according to the actor, Levling explains how this is not a typical, action-packed show, but is rather "more of a character-driven play."

According to Hagan, this particular production requires two intermissions, one between each of the set changes. Moll also found herself in a fairly complicated situation when the characters were assigned, Hagan said. The 20-year-old actress is playing the role of a 70-year-old woman in the '40s. "Not to mention, 70 was older than it is now," the director laughed.

"The Trip to Bountiful" will show at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in the Dunham Hall Theater. All SIUE students receive complimentary tickets with their school ID from the Fine Arts Box Office, located on the first floor of Dunham Hall.

Whitney Tate can be reached at wtate@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.



June Farley/Alestle

Sarah Woodwork, sophomore in technical theater, with the dress she made for "The Trip to Bountiful."

Now Rating: Vantage Point

by Jeff Mason
Alestle Reporter

Thanks to the writers strike, many die-hard action fans that usually get their fix from "24" are scrambling for something to quench their adrenaline appetite. While "Vantage Point" looks like a good Jack Bauer substitute, its premise and short-winded plot will have viewers wishing it could have been a bit more traditional.

"Vantage Point" tells the story of an assassination attempt from a variety of different perspectives. Each new "vantage point" reveals a new part of the puzzle and often manages to show the audience a new perspective of an event they have already seen. Nice idea, right?

Unfortunately, the execution of this nifty premise doesn't quite work. There are a total of five points of view in this movie and each one rewinds the clock back to its original starting point. This means that you get to see all of the exposition five times, which ruins the movie's pacing

since each perspective ends in some sort of intense action cliffhanger. By the time the movie rewinds for the fourth time, you will be wishing it would just keep moving forward.

First-time writer Barry Levy, who was a high school religion teacher before selling this script, doesn't offer a whole lot of story to go through. This gets more apparent with each new viewpoint since, more often than not, you are watching the same thing over again. The movie could have easily been hacked down to an hour long if not for its gimmicky format. In fact, "Vantage Point" would probably be a pretty good movie if it didn't follow the so-called Rashomon style storytelling.

The movie eventually abandons its premise for a more traditional, multi-perspective format. With the change in storytelling comes a change in style, from a thriller to a straight up action flick. It starts with some special forces-like action and ends with a car chase through the streets of Spain. The momentum continues until the end where all of the

loose ends are tied up in a relatively satisfying and coincidental ending.

The cast assembled for the movie is top quality, with Matthew Fox of "Lost" and Forrest Whitaker being the standouts of the bunch. Fox makes for a great secret service officer who will be smiling one moment and taking a guy down in another. Whitaker, meanwhile, plays a tourist of no great importance that gets a chance to be a part of the action. Even though both actors only get a handful of minutes, they make them count. And Dennis Quaid isn't half bad either.

"Vantage Point" has its moments, a few plot twists, tense action sequences and great performances from its ensemble, but



the dull middle of the film, which unfortunately falls on Whitaker's lap, is almost unforgivable. I wish they would have ditched the gimmick and gone for a good old-fashioned action thriller.

2 1/2 out of 5

Jeff Mason can be reached at jmason@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.

12

Today

Gluten Free Cooking Spree
7-10 p.m.
Anheuser Busch
\$50 or \$35 for students/children

13

Wednesday

Katt Williams
7:30 p.m.
\$32-\$47



14

Thursday

The Trip to Bountiful
Dunham Hall Theater
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Free for students

Builders Home and Garden Show
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
\$9 adults, \$4 children

15

Friday

Drive by Truckers
7 p.m.
Pop's
\$20

de FALLA Three-Cornered Hat
10:30 a.m.
Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra
\$15-\$105

16

Saturday

Comic Book Killer Murder Mystery Dinner
6:30 - 10 p.m.
Lemp Mansion
\$48.95

17

Sunday

Ludo
7 p.m.
Pop's
\$10.57

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!
COCA
1 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.
\$12-\$14

18

Monday

Archie Scott Gobber is Trustworthy
Gallery 210
UMSL

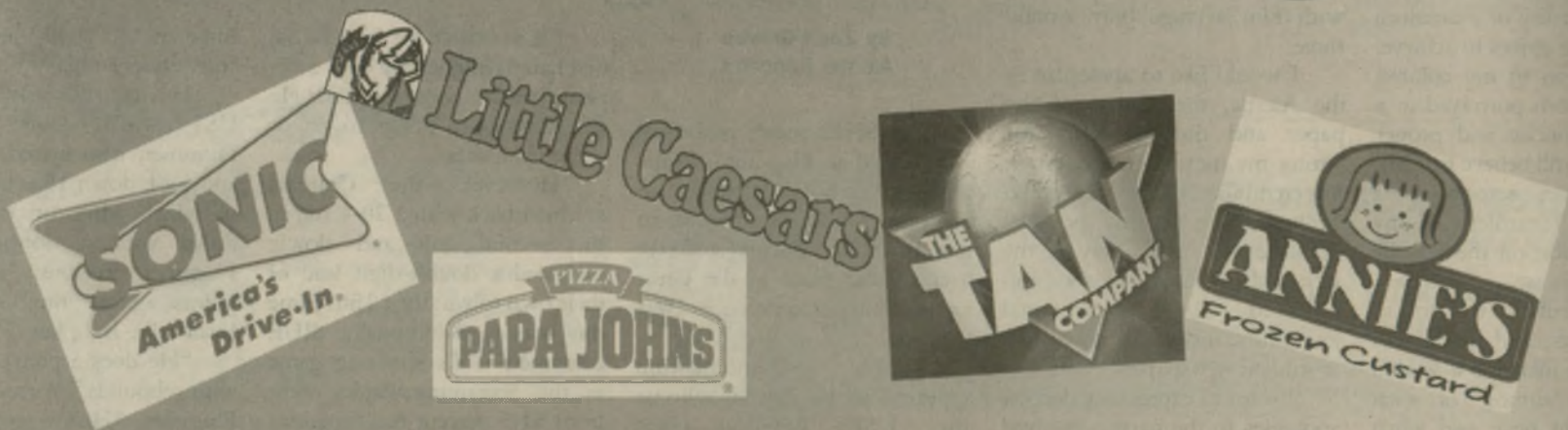
Parenting 101 - A Musical Guide to Raising Parents
Playhouse at West Port Plaza
\$42.50

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From the editor

Thursday's edition of the Alestle included a sports column titled "Tony's Time Out: Who Is Kevin Slaten?" In this opinion article, I discussed the actions of St. Louis radio personality Kevin Slaten after a response made by Tony LaRussa, manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, when he said he would not appear on Slaten's afternoon talk show.

As journalists, we are under an ethical agreement to allow the people from which we get our information to be fully aware of our intentions. Unfortunately, with the article about Mr. Slaten, this did not happen.

While my opinion has not changed regarding of Slaten's reactions to LaRussa's refusal to appear on his show, the numerous ethical mistakes, the lack of fact-checking and the lowering of professional standards has not only damaged my credibility, but has also put negative effects on the Alestle.

I in no way intended to deceive or mislead Mr. Slaten in my form of questioning and any deception of him or my readers was unintentional and is regretted. I apologize for letting my inexperience get in the way of the highest quality of journalism that the Alestle strives to achieve.

My opinion in my column should have been portrayed in a more clear, concise and proper manner and I still believe that Mr. Slaten deserves respect as a professional; regardless of my personal opinion on the way he conducts his show.

As journalists, we are to report on facts, and in no way should I have included a section describing a "rumor" of what LaRussa might have said when asked about Slaten's comments. The context of that statement was out of line.

I have observed that I should have let Mr. Slaten's show slogan on his website speak for itself and not included a definition of the word "King" as compared to "God."

As far as some of the

information included in my column I would like to correct some of the factual errors. In the statement I said about Slaten's questioning LaRussa on the signing of Juan Gonzalez, I said he would not ask him questions on his signing but would ask him questions about the signing of players mentioned in the Mitchell Report. I overlooked the fact that Gonzalez is included in the Mitchell Report.

Also, I want to clarify the statement I made about the relationship between Slaten and Joe Torre. I mistakenly implied that Slaten and Torre were close friends, when I simply meant to imply that when Torre appeared on Slaten's show, Slaten's actions were professional. I also mistakenly believed Torre appeared on Slaten's show after leaving St. Louis.

In the column, I also stated that Slaten does not let listeners voice their opinion. While Slaten is still deeply opinionated, he shared statistics with the Alestle showing that he has recorded calls and on average he allows callers that disagree with him four and-a-half to six and-a-half minutes, while callers agreeing with him average only around three.

I would like to apologize to the Alestle, the readers of the paper and the university for letting my inexperience question my credibility and my reporting. Sadly, I have let my personal opinions get in the way of the standards that are set and followed by professional journalists, including those of us at student newspapers.

I want to express my deepest apologies to the parties involved and I hope that in this statement, my actions will be forgiven and the image of the paper as a trusted source of news and information will be restored.

Tony Patrico can be reached at apatrico@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.



Photo Courtesy of SIUE Sports Information

Freshman Edmond Maul controls the ball as SIUE Head Coach Lennox Forrester looks on. The Cougars recently picked up a GLVC victory helping them to move to second in the conference.

Taking over second

by Zach Groves
Alestle Reporter

The SIUE men's basketball team erased an 11-point halftime deficit with a hot rally at home to bump the University of Southern Indiana 70-58 Thursday and take over second place in the Great Lakes Valley Conference West Division.

SIUE's momentum appeared to be low at halftime after USI's Brandon Hopf drained a 3-pointer in the closing seconds.

SIUE Head Coach Lennox Forrester said the Cougars might have been in worse shape had senior guard J.B. Jones not scored eight key first-half points and recorded three assists. Jones had seven assists overall, which led the team.

"If it wasn't for him in the first half, it might have been a 20-point lead," Forrester said. "He did some good things to get us some open shots."

However, the Cougars stormed back with a 20-4 run in the second half and slowly mounted a double-digit lead of their own to win their 15th game this season. Additionally, SIUE contained USI's shooting game as the Screaming Eagles went from 61.5 percent to 26 percent in the second half.

"They turned up their defense," USI Head Coach Rick Herdes said. "They made some great changes at halftime to attack the zone."

Forrester said the Cougars "regrouped" at halftime and put up an effort that involved "causing some turnovers and

some missed shots" and created "easy shots and layups."

Having a successful night for USI was center Norman Plummer, who netted 23 points and took down 18 rebounds, 14 of which while on defense, to finish with a double-double. Plummer previously scored 25 points against the Cougars in Evansville, Ind., Jan. 26.

"He does a pretty good job with rebounds," Forrester said of Plummer. "He's a good player. He was getting double-teamed and still (got) double digits."

"Norman's been our go-to guy all year, and he did a good job on the boards," Herdes said. "But (the Cougars) limited his touches."

MEN'S BASKETBALL/pg.10

Cougars climb to over the .500 mark

by Zach Groves
Alestle Reporter

SIUE women's basketball Assistant Coach Lee Green said the Cougars needed to win all three of their final home games after their loss to Quincy last Tuesday if they were to make the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament.

After edging the University of Southern Indiana 62-59 Thursday night, SIUE is a third of the way to that goal. The Cougars swept the season series with USI, picked up its 16th win of the season and climbed back over the .500 mark in the conference.

SIUE carried a four point lead heading into halftime and managed a slim lead in the second half. The Cougars shot a solid 42 percent in the field and nearly 42 percent from the perimeter.

"I think we're doing a little better job of taking care of the ball," SIUE Head Coach Wendy Hedberg said. "(We were) pretty solid across the way. Defensively I thought at times we broke down."

Another factor might have been the seniors on the court who know their careers are

winding down to the final home games, if not the GLVC tournament. Senior guard Amy Austin, who hit both of her free throws in the final seconds to seal the win, said that thought has crossed her mind.

"Every game I play, I'm like, 'I only have so many games left,'" Austin said. "It's hard as a senior. So I'm trying to make the most of it and win the last two games."

Senior forward Amber Shelton led all scorers with 17 points, while senior guard Whitney Sykes added 12 points. USI boasted four players in double digits including Jasmine Baines, who had 15 points and 10 rebounds for a double-double, Amie Newhart recorded 13 points, Ninette Evans collected 12 points and Brittany Darden managed 10.

"They always play hard," Austin said of the Screaming Eagles. "They have amazing talent on the team. This year they just couldn't put it together."

"Fortunately, the last shot didn't go in (with one second left), and it went our way," Austin said.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL/pg.10

Five Cougars finish with first

by Joshua McCarty
Alestle Reporter

The SIUE track and field teams continued their success Friday at the Eastern Illinois Friday Night Special. Thirteen Cougars finished in the top three of their respective events, with five earning first place.

For the fifth time this season, junior Scott Block finished first in the shot put. This time, his throw traveled 17.01 meters.

"I was happy with it, but I'd still like to throw it a little farther," said Block.

Block also finished in second place for the 35-pound weight throw.

Junior Descrea Brown led the way for the women's team, with a time of 8.65 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles to tie with Eastern Illinois' sophomore Chandra Golden for the best result. For Brown, the first-place finish comes on the heels of being named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Women's Indoor Track Athlete of the Week for her efforts at Illinois College's Blue Classic two weeks ago. Her success is due in part to a successful off-season plan.

"I took the summer off to refresh and hit it hard in the fall,"



SIUE junior Descrea Brown (center) scales another hurdle during a meet at SIUE last year. Graduated SIUE student Valerie Simmon also can be seen competing (right). Brown rested this summer to come back and put in strong fall and spring seasons.

Photo Courtesy of SIUE Sports Information

said Brown. "This is the best I have ever run."

Sophomore Kayla Brown ran the mile in 5:12.85 to win that event, while junior Shelinda Brackett finished first in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.06 seconds.

The women's triple jump was a battle between two Cougars, as senior Christine Butler jumped 11.96 meters to finish in first place, edging the second-place finisher, sophomore Megan Dennis, who posted 11.8 meters. Butler was not done

though, as she also finished second in the long jump with 5.70 meters, just ahead of SIUE freshman Jenny Palovesik, who came in third place with a jump of 5.62 meters.

Palovesik also finished second in the high jump, while

junior Angel Royston was second in the 400-meter dash.

For the men, top-three finishes included junior Chris Littleton in the 400-meter dash) and junior Kyle Cameron in the 3000-meter run.

All American junior Kyle Rose said he took the weekend off because he had already qualified for the championships, but would be back next week.

The Cougars came into the weekend ranked third among men's teams in the NCAA Division II Track and Field team power rankings and eighth in women's.

"While you have to approach these events individually, you always like to see your team doing well," Block said.

The Cougars now turn their attention to the GLVC Indoor Championships, which will be this Saturday in Crawfordsville, Ind.

Joshua McCarty can be reached at jmccarty@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL
from pg. 10

The Cougars had four players finish with 10 points or more with senior guard T.J. Gray and senior center Doug Taylor each making 15 points. Jones collected 12 points and senior forward Asa Clayborne added 10. Taylor came within a rebound of a double-double.

USI's Josh Huebner and Hopf were the only Screaming Eagles outside of Plummer to come even close to 10 points. Huebner finished with nine, as did Hopf.

Herdas said Huebner filled the point guard position Dec. 3 as a walk-on when their depth was practically at zero. He said he lost four scholarship athletes this season and has been thrilled with Huebner so far.

"He's been great," Herdas said. "The guy can dribble for us. We're decimated at guards right now, and he's been good for us."

Herdas said with two games left in the regular season after the Screaming Eagles' loss to Quincy University Saturday, USI is still "in the thick" of the GLVC tournament race, but may have to deal with Huebner's absence due to baseball commitments. USI, who is tied for third in the GLVC with Quincy, takes on Missouri University of Science and Technology and University of Missouri-St. Louis this weekend.

"There's none of them (for) sure for us," Herdas said of the Screaming Eagles' chance of winning both contests. "It's one game at a time."

The sentiment is similar for

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
from pg. 10

The Cougars were not the only ones to earn a victory Thursday night. Susan G. Komen for the Cure, a charity organization who raises money for breast cancer awareness, also benefited from the night with a \$150 donation. Hedberg said she donated \$25 for each of the Cougars' six 3-pointers against the Screaming Eagles, which also took place on "Think Pink Night" for the fight against breast cancer.

SIUE now has two games left in the season, both later this week. The Cougars host Drury University Thursday night and have a chance to not only seek revenge for their last-second loss in January at Springfield, Mo., but also move closer to a playoff spot.

"Going into Drury, obviously it's been a while since we played them, but it's not like we forgot it," Hedberg said. "Our team will be up and ready to play them. Just the motivation factor there."

Hedberg has said in previous interviews how much the players have played more disciplined basketball, especially in the final minutes when they count.

"It seems as if in a close

Forrester, even though the Cougars are closer to a playoff spot and will play their final two games at home. He said at practice recently that the term "second place" did not leave his lips when talking to the players.

"I said, 'Let's get focused and see how we can be prepared for Drury (University),'"

Forrester said about Thursday's matchup. "They're well-coached, a very good team. We've got to give 110 percent if we're to possibly win the game."

DU has already claimed a spot in the GLVC tournament with a dominant 22-3 record with 15 GLVC wins. The Panthers lead the Cougars by seven games in the West Division.

Forrester said he does not expect DU Head Coach Steve Hesser to sit starters such as Collins Harris, who averages more than 18 points a game, or Steven Gum, who averages more than 14 points a game.

"I think any time you start doing that as far as resting guys, you lose focus," Forrester said. "I don't see them not starting certain guys because they've already got first place locked up."

SIUE hosts Drury at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Rockhurst University at 3 p.m. Saturday in the Vadalabene Center.

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

game we get it done at the end," Hedberg said.

The Lady Panthers have locked up a spot in the GLVC tournament with a 22-3 record and a 15-2 conference mark. They look to maintain first-place possession in the GLVC West Division and are seven games ahead of SIUE.

DU's Molly Carter burned the Cougars with her 3-pointer in the final seconds last time, but Austin said she will not be the only threat Thursday night.

"Even if Molly doesn't step up, there will be somebody who can step up for her," Austin said. "This time, (we'll) learn from our mistakes and play better defense."

SIUE takes on Drury at 5:30 p.m. Thursday and Rockhurst University at 1 p.m. Saturday in the Vadalabene Center.

"We still have to win our last two games to clinch the last wildcard spot," Austin said. "You can expect a fight to the finish with Drury and Rockhurst because we don't want this to be our last go-around."

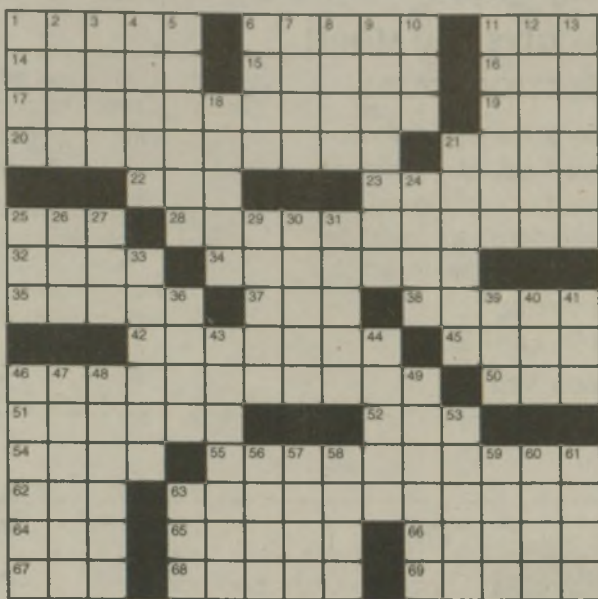
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THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- 1 Homemade brick
- 6 "___ of God"
- 11 Shortened bk.
- 14 Enliven
- 15 Hoof beats on pavement
- 16 26th letter
- 17 Repeatedly
- 19 1/2 of a union merger
- 20 Building supervisor
- 21 Kirghiz mountains
- 22 Part of B.S.
- 23 Singer MacKenzie
- 25 Municipal grp.
- 28 Alternative to cream
- 32 Yemeni or Saudi
- 34 Daytona 500 winner Waltrip
- 35 Old Testament book
- 37 Miss West
- 38 Conger catcher
- 42 Customers
- 45 Solar period
- 46 Like a tight race
- 50 Heaviness meas.
- 51 Harmonized
- 52 Lubricate
- 54 Conceits
- 55 Digital data devices
- 62 5 scores
- 63 Not specified
- 64 Wapiti
- 65 Faico and Brickell
- 66 Student at an ecole
- 67 Retirement grp.
- 68 Lee of Rush
- 69 Anatomical networks

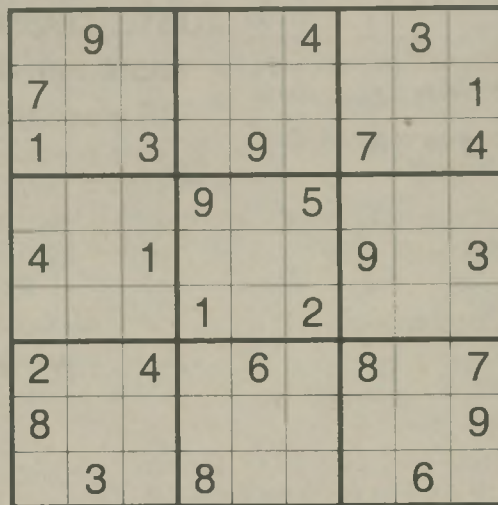


DOWN

- 1 End of time, briefly
- 2 "Whip It" group
- 3 Exposed
- 4 Bacharach and Lancaster
- 5 Eastern Orthodox bishop
- 6 Aussie rockers
- 7 Language: suff.
- 8 Porto-___, Benin
- 9 Big centerpiece
- 10 Russ. or Lith., once
- 11 Decorative bush
- 12 Come to pass
- 13 Government aid
- 18 River nymph
- 21 Welsh designer
- 24 Run in neutral
- 25 Morse symbol
- 26 Niner or Buc
- 27 Once existed
- 29 Hobbled
- 30 Mary of "Newhart"
- 31 Mountain crest
- 33 Sharp and Thatcher
- 36 Alda or King
- 39 Hoad of tennis
- 40 Break fast?
- 41 B&O and others
- 43 Consist of
- 44 Disdain
- 46 Some kin
- 47 Marx colleague
- 48 Former Dolphin running-back
- 49 Actress Margot
- 53 Strong thread
- 56 LSD, to users
- 57 Molt
- 58 A piece of cake
- 59 Sheep fat
- 60 Fifth of MXXX
- 61 New York stadium
- 63 Module: abbr.

SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham



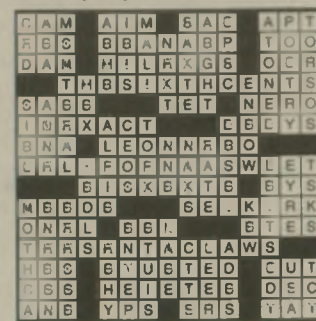
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Thursday's Answers

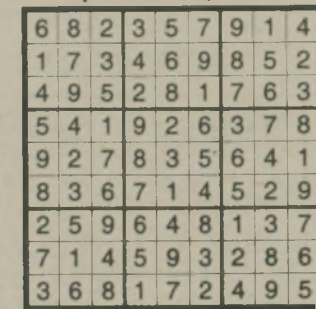
THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham



Girls & Sports

By Andrew Feinstein



"Don't take it personally, Ed. Your wife told me I was a terrible kisser, too."



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- Ad Production
- Graphic Design
- Page Layout
- Typography
- Digital Scanning

Production Assistant Wanted

The Alestle is looking for students to work this summer, fall and spring semesters. Design ads for the school newspaper, using Quark, Adobe Suite and the latest computer graphics applications. Work with the latest computer desktop equipment in a real ad production newspaper environment.

Call Graphics Supervisor
Mike Genovese or email resume to migenov@siue.edu
650-3525

the Alestle
a student publication

WE EXIST TO MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T

Multiple sclerosis interrupts the flow of information between the brain and the body and stops people from moving. With the help of people like you, the National MS Society addresses the challenges of each person whose life is affected by MS and helps them stay connected to the great big moving world.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT
jointhemovement.org





Carole, diagnosed in 2005
Geoffrey, diagnosed in 1987