

Index

News	1-4
Opinion	5
A&E	6-7
Sports	8-10
Puzzle	11
Classifieds	12

The Alestle

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

**SIUE Opera
Theater
to perform
this
weekend**
See A&E



Thursday, March 26, 2009

www.alestlelive.com

Vol. 61, No. 52

University Bookstore reopens

by **Kenneth Long**
Alestle Managing Editor

The SIUE University Bookstore unveiled a brighter store layout, complete with brand-new wooden shelving units, signs and a new organization system Monday.

Manager for the University Bookstore Emily Gray said the biggest renovations to the store included new fixtures, a brand new tech department and a better-lit atmosphere.

"Almost everything looks completely different," Gray said. "There's more space and (products) are displayed a lot better."

Cougartech, the store's technology center, now features more Apple computer products, including computers, iPods and iPod accessories, software and an Apple computer repair service.

The grand reopening, from Monday through Thursday, included refreshments for students, information about new computers, a children's story hour led by emeritus theater professor Rudy Wilson, jazz performances by SIUE music groups and poetry presentations by SIUE faculty.

Local author and SIUE alumna Cheryl Jett will be at the University Bookstore Thursday to sign and discuss her new book, "Alton," in her "Images of America" series.

Gray said students no longer need to drop off their backpacks at the entrance to the store. She said part of the new policy is because the store has more space, which helps to prevent thefts from unattended backpacks. Mainly though, Gray said, it is to show that the bookstore trusts its customers.

BOOKSTORE/pg.3



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Rick Haydon (right) and Brett Stamps (left) play jazz as part of the grand opening for the University Bookstore. The weeklong opening celebration concludes Thursday with a regional book signing.

Local banks not afraid of effects of low economy

by **Rachel Carlson**
Alestle Reporter

Despite nearly 25 national banks closing in 2008, according to CNN.com, local Edwardsville banks seem confident that they will remain open during the current slumping economy.

Tom Holloway, president and chief Executive Officer of The Bank of Edwardsville, said he was sure The Bank of Edwardsville would not close at any point because of the current economy.

"I think all banks will be affected to varying degrees," Holloway said. "(The Bank of Edwardsville) has \$125 million in capital, which will sustain us through troubled times."

According to Holloway, The Bank of Edwardsville had an 18 percent increase in loans and a 25 percent increase in home loans last year. Holloway said he thinks the 2009 loan demand will not be as strong and therefore not incur a bank closure.

Other local banks like Commerce Bank have the same confidence in their capital to remain open.

In an e-mail, Lynn Stuart with the Regional Marketing division of Commerce Bank said the bank has a history of stability and growth that will help them serve their customers.

"Commerce has continued to adhere to its safety and soundness practices throughout today's challenges and is prepared for economic fluctuations," Stuart said in the e-mail.

Stuart said there was no possibility of Commerce Bank closing.

Senior business administration major Richard Debrobander from Okawville banks with Scott Credit Union. Debrobander said he did not think his bank would have any problems because in the past he had received notification of any

BANKS/pg.3

Facilities Management controls geese population on campus

by **Rosie Githinji**
Alestle Reporter

The goose mating season has arrived on campus, and the Canada geese that call SIUE home are becoming increasingly more hostile toward students and faculty.

Facilities Management Director Bob Washburn said the geese become especially territorial during mating season and cautions students to stay away from them, particularly if they are sitting on a nest.

To control the increase of the goose population on campus, Washburn said Facilities Management uses a method called "coddling," which is an approved method by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

The term coddling is used to describe the method of shaking goose eggs to kill the embryo inside. Washburn said coddling tricks the goose into thinking the embryo inside the egg is still alive so they will continue to sit on the egg and wait for it to hatch. Because the egg has been

coddled, it will not hatch.

According to Washburn, it takes three people to complete the coddling process, one to shake the egg and the other two to distract the geese.

Washburn said if the eggs are destroyed or taken away the adult geese will lay more eggs.

Not all the eggs are destroyed though, Washburn said.

Facilities Management also moves some of the nesting sites of the geese out of the core area of campus to sites that are not as populated by students such as Cougar Lake.

Washburn said there are cases where Facilities Management is not able to move the nest and has to destroy it in order to relocate the geese to an area with less student traffic.

One such nest existed outside Dunham Hall facing Parking Lot E for two weeks, mass communications professor Jason Yu said, until he noticed its disappearance a few days ago.

GEESE/pg.3



Ashley Hinkle/Alestle

A goose stands on a wall on campus. The abundant goose population is controlled by Facilities Management every spring through coddling or by moving the nests to a less populated location.

Police Reports

3-23

Police attempted to locate a male who exposed himself in the Lovejoy Library basement stairwell, but were unable to get a good description or locate the male.

Police took a report of a hangtag stolen from a backpack in the Morris University Center.

Police took a report of a hangtag stolen from a car parked in the Prairie Hall Parking Lot.

Police took a report about telephone harassment, which happened at Cougar Village Apartment 512.

3-24

Police took a report about a red mountain bike stolen from outside the Science Building.

Police issued Jasmine C. Johnson a citation for speeding on University Drive.

Police took reports about two laptops and \$140 stolen from the men's basketball locker room at the Vadalabene Center.

Vashea L. Stanford was arrested in connection with domestic battery after police responded to two 911 calls from Cougar Village Apartment 403, one of them being from Stanford's husband. Stanford was processed and transported to Madison County Jail.

alestlelive.com ■
visit the Alestle Blog

Building construction, renovations completion set for this summer

by Neal Gough
Alestle Reporter

SIUE's campus will have a different look for students returning in the fall after summer break, as multiple construction projects around SIUE will be wrapping up.

According to Assistant Vice Chancellor for Administration Rich Walker, many of the ongoing renovations around campus will be completed in the beginning of the summer.

"June will be a busy month here on campus," Walker said.

Walker said that the Student Success Center, the Student Fitness Center expansion, the School of Pharmacy expansion and the Early Childhood Center expansion will all be completed in June.

Walker said the SSC will still open in August as originally scheduled.

The Early Childhood Center will open up two additional classrooms, which, according to Rebecca Dabbs, director of the Early Childhood Center, will allow for more children to be added, as well as additional resources. This will provide additional opportunities for SIUE students who work with the children as part of their curriculum.

"We are very excited. It is going to be a beautiful building," Dabbs said. "By having more classroom space, there is

more opportunity for students to be involved."

Dabbs said the construction process has also been educational for the children at the Early Childhood Center. According to Dabbs, Boeker Construction, the company building the addition, bought hard hats for all of the children at the center. Boeker Construction also allowed

"By having more classroom space, there is more opportunity for students to be involved."

**-Rebecca Dabbs
director of Early Childhood Center**

the children to come over once a week and see the progress of the addition.

The School of Pharmacy is scheduled to unveil a building expansion. According to School of Pharmacy Dean Phil Medon the 3,500 square foot addition will provide a place for students to study.

Medon said the addition fulfilled a requirement set forth by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education for more student areas.

The Student Success Center and the

Student Fitness Center will also open this June, according to Walker. The 68,000 square foot Student Success Center building will consolidate student offices throughout campus into one location. The Student Fitness Center will open two additional gymnasiums for recreational use as well as a larger workout area and group exercise rooms.

According to Walker, there will be other projects undertaken during the summer. The roofs of seven major buildings on campus will be replaced. However, Walker does not expect it to affect classes. Walker said it will be noisy, but the same work was done to Peck Hall last summer, and the university experienced few problems with the classes that were being held within the building.

Walker said South University Drive will also be resurfaced this summer. However, like the roofs, Walker does not expect it to affect students too much. Walker said they are going to resurface the roads in each direction one lane at a time, so it can remain open during the entire process. Due to the decreased amount of traffic during the summer, he does not expect there to be any driving delays.

Neal Gough can be reached at
ngough@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



MODULES

Student Leadership
Development Program &
Volunteer Services

Modules

3/31/09

Module 10, 2:00 p.m.
Values & Ethics
Ann Knef, Editor
The Madison Co. Record
Board Room, MUC

3/31/09

Module 20, 6:30 p.m.
Analyzing Public Perception
Elizabeth Donald, Reporter
Belleville News-Democrat
Board Room, MUC

SLDP Reminders....

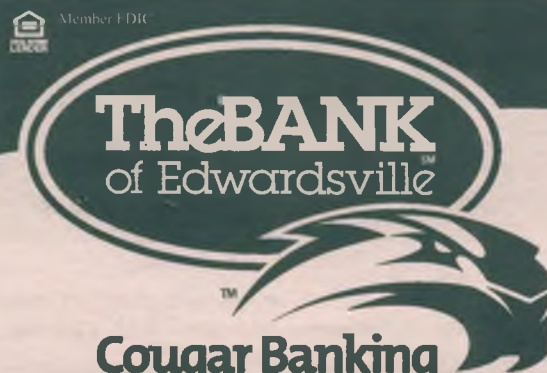
Volunteer Projects

March 28 – Homeless Project
March 28 – Call for Help Suicide & Crisis Training
March 29 – Call for Help Suicide & Crisis Training
April 2 – The Gardens at SIUE
April 4 – Red Cross Training
April 4 – St. Vincent de Paul
April 4 – Call for Help Suicide & Crisis Training
April 5 – Call for Help Suicide & Crisis Training
April 16 – The Gardens at SIUE
April 18 – The Gardens at SIUE
April 24 – The Gardens at SIUE (Arbor Day)
April 25 – Angel Food – Granite City / Fairview Heights
April 25 – Homeless Project

Must attend all training sessions to receive certification from Call for Help or Red Cross

For more information and the calendar, contact the Kimmel Leadership Center at extension 2686 or visit the website
www.siu.edu/kimmel/sldp or www.siu.edu/kimmel/sldp/volunteer.

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COUGAR BANKING WITH COUGAR PRIDE



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Local banks like The Bank of Edwardsville do not seem deterred by the current recession and do not have plans to close.

BANKS
from pg. 1

problems.
“(Scott Credit Union) hasn’t sent us any mail about the economy,” Debrobander said. “They are really responsive.”

Holloway said the reason many people are afraid of bank closure is because of negative publicity. It is the smaller banks that are having difficulties, Holloway said.

However, sophomore business administration major Evan Mowen from Payson said he is confident in his hometown bank, First Bank of Trust.

“I feel my bank will deal with the low economy with low interest rates,” Mowen said. “The larger

banks will probably be affected, but not my smaller local bank.”

Holloway said The Bank of Edwardsville did not need to apply for government assistance from programs like Troubled Assets Relief Program because of their substantial capital.

“We stand ready to meet the credit needs of our community and pledge our best efforts to the customers who may be negatively impacted by the current recessionary times,” Holloway said.

Rachel Carlson can be reached at rcarlson@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.

BOOKSTORE
from pg. 1

“Students shop in many other stores, and nobody asks them to leave their backpacks,” Gray said.

Senior biology major Nick Cemtracchio of Joliet said the store looked better because everything was more visible.

“(The store) has more of a Barnes & Noble kind of feel,”

Cemtracchio said.

Freshman mechanical engineering major Nathan Rohner of Sandoval also said the store’s makeover was an improvement.

“Everything looks bigger and brighter,” Rohner said. “It’s less cluttered too.”

The University Bookstore is

open 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, contact the University Bookstore at 650-2132.

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

GEESE
from pg. 1

Washburn confirmed that Facilities Management destroyed the nest.

“It was really sad,” Yu said. “The mother acted as if the eggs were still in the nest.”

Sophomore criminal justice major Michael Murphy of Chicago said he was uncertain about the practice of coddling. Population control on campus is a good way to make sure the geese do not attack him, Murphy said, but he does not understand why it is necessary to kill the embryos.

“It’s wrong to kill the potential goose,” Murphy said. “If I have no right to kick an adult goose, then the potential baby goose should not be killed.”

Sophomore mechanical engineering major David DeStefano of Chicago said he thinks coddling is wrong and inhumane. He said geese have attacked him on campus before, but it was because he was too close to the nest and everything turned out fine.

DeStefano said he believes there are other alternatives that could be used to control the goose population on campus.

“It’s not up to us to decide,” DeStefano said. “There are better ways to create a solution to a problem that has not happened yet.”

Washburn said he understands the concern people have regarding coddling, but it is one of the only solutions available for SIUE at this time. He said Facilities Management has looked at other approaches, such as bringing in dogs to herd the geese, but they were not considered effective. Washburn also said coddling is not lethal for existing geese.

“With more and more... assaults on students by geese, we have to do something to control the numbers,” Washburn said. “It’s the only thing that’s really authorized by law for us to do right now.”

Rosie Githinji can be reached at rgithinji@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



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Campus Activities Board

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Tools of the past



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Elisa Valdez, vice president of the Anthropology Club, takes part in flint knapping in Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge on Monday. Flint tools were made by prehistoric man by chipping stones into a sharp point using a pointed implement of wood, bone or stone. The artisan would force a flat flake from the lower surface of the tool by pressing against the edge in a slightly downward movement.

Edwardsville mayor to speak to Student Government Friday

Alestle Staff Report

Edwardsville Mayor Gary Neibur will speak with the Student Senate 10 days before he hopes to be reelected and at the final meeting before the Student Government elections.

Neibur will talk about the relationship between SIUE and the city of Edwardsville during his annual visit.

In old business, the Organization of College Conservatives will present their case for a name change to the Senate. The item has been tabled the past two Senate meetings because a representative from the organization failed to appear.

Five student organizations, Gamma Phi Omega, the Student Nurse Association, the National Art Education Association, the Wagner Association of Metalsmiths and Omega Psi Phi, will ask the Senate for varying amounts of travel funds, and two student organizations, Engineers Without Borders and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, will look to become recognized if their constitutions pass the vote of the Senate.

An open forum will take place for any students wishing to address Student Government.

The meeting is scheduled to take place at 2 p.m. Friday in the Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge.

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

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Campus Activities Board

CAB

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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 opinion@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.

The Alestle is a member of the Illinois College Press Association, the Associated Collegiate Press and U-WIRE.

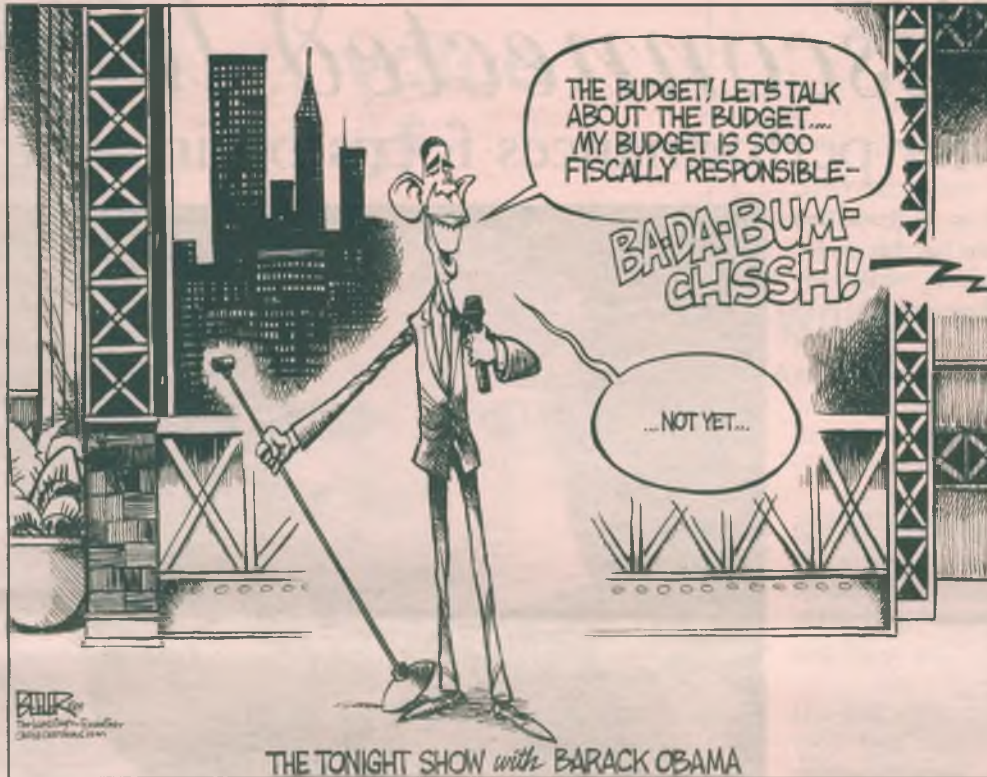
The name Alestle is an acronym derived from the names of the three campus locations of Southern Illinois University: Edwardsville, Alton, East St. Louis and Edwardsville.

The Alestle is published on Tuesdays and Thursdays during fall and spring semesters and on Wednesdays during summer semesters. For more information, call 650-3528.

Have a comment?

Let us know!

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



On The Blog

More on Goose Mating Season

Sydney
Elliot



"I understand the need for goose population control, but it makes me wonder if there isn't a better solution? Isn't there anyway we could just transport the eggs to some other wildlife preserve?"

Visit our blogs at alestlelive.com for exclusive content

Alestleview: Proposed budget will have positive effect on SIUE

Gov. Pat Quinn released the proposed \$53 billion state budget figures for fiscal year 2010, and with help from the Federal Stimulus Program, education throughout the state will receive a much needed boost, with the Southern Illinois University system set to earn \$18 million in funds from the government.

This is good news, considering the state of Illinois is \$11.5 billion in debt. Out of the \$4 billion outlined for education, \$40 million is dedicated to higher education.

It is not yet clear how much of the \$18 million provided for SIU will make its way to Edwardsville, and likely Southern Illinois University Carbondale will receive a larger boost from the package, but there are projects in Edwardsville that the Budget Planning Committee and board of trustees need to keep in mind when it comes to addressing who gets what.

A number of facilities on campus need to be upgraded. SIUE is still jumping through hoops for capital bill funding for that new science building we have been hearing about for years. Places like Peck Hall and the Art and Design Building will eventually need renovations as well. Let's use the money to get some of those projects completed and underway.

While whatever portion of the \$18 million SIUE will likely receive is a welcome addition to the university, many of the necessary projects will not be able to be addressed quite yet. The budget proposal will help fill some holes, but not all of them. Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift said improvements to the faculty and programs at SIUE are his main focus, and his plan is right on target.

SIUE is not going to be able to take care

of all of the larger construction issues, but taking care of the faculty is really the best bet for our money. A 2.5 percent salary line increase and the potential for new hires have a great effect on the entire student body. More professors teach more classes, which would result in more sections and offerings during registration time.

After a few stressful sessions on CougarNet trying to get classes lined up for the following year, students should happily accept some new faces teaching in the classroom.

As enrollment continues to climb, having a strong staff with good morale is vital to the success of the university's programs. Before we go out and build Rome in a day, the people of SIUE should come first, which this plan represents.

Alestle Editorial Board

Obama slip demonstrates obsession with political correctness

President Barack Obama's remark about the Special Olympics turned some heads, all for the wrong reasons.

The president made a remark about being able to bowl at the Special Olympic level on NBC's Tonight Show with Jay Leno, and America tuned in because we live in a society that is so obsessed with being politically correct that every little, stupid comment is made into huge spectacles.

Obviously Obama's comment was an unintentional slip he would love to have never made, but I hardly believe it is as big of a deal as everyone has made it into. He was not trying to poke fun at people with disabilities, but at his own lack of bowling skills. No one would argue the fact that he could have chosen a better analogy, but nevertheless, it was far from a malicious comment. People should not have turned a blind eye to his comment, and an apology was definitely in order, but it should have been left at that.

If anything, the only offense Special

Olympics or people with disabilities should take against Obama's comments is that he thinks a pathetic 129 is good enough to even compete against Special Olympics athletes. In fact, the 2003 Special Olympics gold medalist had a 183 average for the championship round, according to slate.com.

Obama will be given the chance to defend his comments, as current Special Olympics bowling champion Kolan McConiughey has challenged the president to a match, according to foxnews.com. Obama should take the challenge as a way to further express his regret for his comment. It would also be nice to see McConiughey, owner of five perfect 300 games, show up the commander in chief on the bowling lane.

Incidents like these remind us that in our society, every little thing said in the eye of the public can be scrutinized. Our society is so scared of offending someone that it has alienated everyone.

Political correctness has gone too far. It has affected our society in some of the most

ridiculous ways. It has attacked our Pledge of Allegiance, and it has even gotten Santa Claus. In 2001, USA Today ran an article about two families in a Maryland town who objected to Santa Claus lighting the Christmas tree in a firefighter's holiday festival. In response to this the town's city council banned Santa Claus from the holiday parade. Seriously, Santa Claus? What's next?

Political correctness has gone as far as to say that manhole covers are offensive and should be given a non-gender specific name such as person-hole cover. Others have said that black board is offensive to black people. The list of politically corrected terminology you can find scattered on the internet is ridiculous.

We are in a downward spiral that must be stopped. If we as a society do not start exercising common sense, we are going to be in unlivable communities where everything and everyone are under a constant microscope.

Neal Gough is a senior mass communications major from Fairview Heights. He can be reached at ngough@alestlelive.com or 650-3527.



Neal
Gough

Correction: In the Tuesday, March 24 edition of the Alestle, the date for the "Women of Tears and Laughter" event was omitted. It will take place at 7:30 p.m. Saturday. In the police reports, James Geppert was not arrested in connection with speeding, but was issued a citation. Also, The Illinois fiscal year 2009 budget was incorrectly stated as \$53 million. It is \$53 billion. The Alestle regrets these errors.

Disconnected love

Weekend opera theater performances focus on interrupted couples

by Sydney Elliot
Alestle A&E Editor

Junior vocal performance major Curtis Cave from Ashland called his involvement in Opera Theater a kind of fluke.

"When I was little I never sang, but I just kind of got into (singing) around my junior year of high school," Cave said.

Cave plays Ben in Gian Carlo Menotti's "The Telephone" and Aeneas in Henry Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas" for the SIUE Opera Theater performances at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Dunham Hall Theater.

Cave said he was asked to audition for SIUE Opera Theater his freshman year by the late music professor Sandra Bouman and has been involved since.

"I have fun every year," Cave said. "You meet a lot of new and talented people every year."

"The Telephone" is a one-act comedy featuring only two characters, Ben and Lucy, who can't get through a conversation without Lucy being distracted by telephone calls.

Director of SIUE Opera Theater Marc Schapman said "The Telephone" is an accessible show for first time opera-goers because of its nature.

"The show is all about Ben and Lucy, and she has this overt, obscene obsession with the telephone," Schapman said.

Throughout the course of the performance Ben attempts to ask Lucy to marry him before he has to catch a train to leave town. However, the two are constantly interrupted by the telephone.

"Every time he gets enough gumption to ask that question, he gets interrupted by her drug of choice," Schapman said. "He actually has to call her to get that across to her."

The act ends with Ben and Lucy singing a duet and Lucy making Ben promise to remember her in a non-traditional fashion.

Although Cave will perform in both shows this weekend, he said performing in a smaller show like "The Telephone" tends to create more tension for the individual actors.

"There's a little more pressure because it's just you and one other person," Cave said. "There's no one else to distract (the audience) from your mistakes."

Although being only one of two actors on stage can become stressful, Cave said the rewards



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle

Curtis Cave (left) and Allison Wamser (right) rehearse a scene from "Dido and Aeneas" Thursday night for the weekend performances of the SIUE Opera Theater. In this scene, Dido (Wamser) and Aeneas (Cave) have just decided to get married to unite their kingdoms and build a greater monarchy.

OPERA/pg. 7

MARCHDOWN

Eight Greek organizations stomp it out Saturday

by Rosie Githinji
Alestle Reporter

From the depths of Africa comes the origin of an art form called "stepping" that is performed across the nation and will stomp its way to the Vadalabene Center Saturday.

The annual Marchdown step show, hosted by the fraternity and sororities in the National Pan-Hellenic Council, will shake the floors of the gymnasium at 6 p.m.

Junior history major Larry Nelson of Cahokia described stepping as similar to dance. Nelson, a member of Phi Beta Sigma, said stepping uses stomping, clapping and chanting to tell a story, with music incorporated sometimes. The steps are used as the rhythm and music that accompanies the chanting.

Coordinator of Greek Life John Davenport said he believes the origin of the step has been attributed to the African "Boot Dance." The dance is believed to have come from South African mine workers who would wear their work boots when they danced, but there is not much research that can point to the exact origin.

According to Davenport, stepping has become more prevalent in American culture.

"The last few years, the movies have helped stepping gain popularity," Davenport said.

Fraternities and sororities have been performing step shows at SIUE since the 1980s. This year will be the 15th consecutive year Marchdown will be performed. Part of the money raised during the step show will be put toward a \$500 scholarship. The NPHC scholarship will be

awarded to an SIUE student and will be announced during the fall 2009 semester.

Junior sociology major Alphonso Shepherd of Dayton, Ohio, will perform in the show with his Phi Beta Sigma brothers. Shepherd said he has been to step shows in the past and liked what he saw.

This is the first year Shepherd will perform in

"The Marchdown shows our pride in our school and organizations."

- Cynthia Colon,
junior business major and
member of Sigma Gamma Rho

the step show because it his first year as a member of Phi Beta Sigma. He has been practicing since December and said Marchdown is competitive.

The winners in the fraternity and sororities will receive \$2,000 to go toward their organization, a trophy and bragging rights for the year, Shepherd said.

According to Nelson, the prize money is taken out of allocated NPHC funds.

The organizations that will step in this year's Marchdown are fraternities Alpha Phi Alpha,

Kappa Alpha Si, Omega Si Phi and Phi Beta Sigma. The sororities include Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Zeta Phi Beta and Sigma Gamma Rho.

Junior business major Cynthia Colon of Chicago is a member of the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority. Colon is new to the sorority, and this is the first year she is performing in the step show.

Colon has been practicing for the show since December and said she is excited to perform the energetic and forceful steps.

"I feel like the Marchdown showcases the fraternities and sororities in the NPHC," Colon said. "The Marchdown shows our pride in our school and organizations."

Nelson will also perform for the first time at Marchdown. Nelson said his fraternity does step to pay homage to the origin of the dance.

"We have our own traditional steps," Nelson said. "We have a signature step we do called 'Africa,' which is a tribute to the origin of the step."

Junior business major Craig McIntosh of Belleville, a member of Kappa Alpha Psi and the president of NPHC, helped organize Marchdown.

"It's a good way to entertain. It's a lot of hard work and a lot of fun," McIntosh said. "Everyone hearing the applause just makes them feel better."

Tickets can be purchased for \$15 in advance at the Information Desk in the Morris University Center and for \$20 at the door.

For more information contact the Kimmel Leadership Center at 650-2686.

Rosie Githinji can be reached at rgithinji@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.



The voice of many

Hunter Creel/Alestle
Comedian John DiCrosta entertains the crowd in the Woodland Hall Multifunction Room Tuesday. DiCrosta has lent his voice to several video games and animated series, and he spent time as the voice of the Pillsbury Dough Boy. DiCrosta is known for his impersonations and uses several different voices throughout his performances.

OPERA

from pg. 6

could be just as great.
“If you do really (well) then you only have to share the applause with two other people, the actor and the accompanist,” Cave said.
Schapman said “Dido and Aeneas” was both a love story and a tragedy. Dido is the queen of Carthage and Aeneas is from Troy, which has just been destroyed. Aeneas offers himself to Dido to rebuild a monarchy. However, after their wedding a sorceress, who wants to destroy Dido, tells Aeneas he must leave Carthage and found a new city. He then tells Dido and leaves to found Rome.
Freshman vocal performance major Mikaela Sullivan from Normal plays Belinda, who Sullivan refers to as Dido’s handmaiden.
Dido is in a state of depression when Aeneas leaves to found Rome, and Sullivan conveys those thoughts to the audience.
“I’m kind of the branch between the regular world ... and the thoughts going on in (Dido’s) head,” Sullivan said.
This week marks technical rehearsals for the cast and crew as they finish preparing for the show. Sullivan said she feels ready for this weekend’s performances.
“Usually during tech week, you’re freaking out,” Sullivan said. “But right now I feel pretty calm and collected.”
Schapman said he is certain they are ready for the production, but tells his actors not to get “too comfortable” with the piece.
“(I) want them to make it a new and organic production every time (they) perform,” Schapman said. “I expect to see two good (shows) and I hope to see two different productions this weekend.”
Tickets to “The Telephone” and “Dido and Aeneas” are free for SIUE students with a valid Cougar Card. General admission tickets are \$5 and tickets for senior citizens are \$3. For more information contact the Fine Arts Box Office at 650-2774.
Sydney Elliot can be reached at selliot@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.



Derrick Hawkins/Alestle
Mikaela Sullivan (left) plays “Belinda,” the handmaiden to “Dido” played by Allison Wamser (right). Sullivan described her character as the bridge between what is going on in Dido’s head and what is going on in real life.

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Only rain can cool off Cougars



Sean Roberts/Alestle

SIUE softball team huddle up for a game plan on March 19 against Wichita State University. The Cougars won twice in the doubleheader, 2-1, 11-3.

Cougars fight back for 10-9 win before weather cancels game two

by T.J. Cowell

Alestle Sports Reporter

The Cougars faced the University of Illinois-Chicago Tuesday on a dreary day in which the weather eventually spoiled the matchup. Due to inclement weather conditions, game two of the proposed doubleheader was canceled, but SIUE edged out UIC in game one, 10-9.

SIUE scored two runs in the bottom of the first inning to grab the early lead. It did not take long for the visitors to answer, and UIC posted six runs on as many hits in the top of the second.

"A lot of bad things happened in that inning," SIUE softball Head Coach Sandy Montgomery said. "We made a crucial error and then gave up hit after hit."

The error came two batters into the inning when reigning Horizon League Player of the Week freshman pitcher Ashley Hewitt reached on a sacrifice bunt for UIC. Senior first baseman Melissa Marinacci hit a double to center field to tie the game up at two apiece soon after. Another double from freshman right

fielder Melinda Macias would come later in the inning adding two more runs for the Flames.

The bleeding did not come to an end for the Cougars until UIC junior shortstop Brooke Frydendall hit a pop fly straight to SIUE sophomore shortstop Kasey Schlafke for the third out.

The SIUE bats were held silent in the bottom of the second, with UIC adding another run in the top of the third to make it 7-2 after two and a half innings.

The Cougars would then chip away at the visitor's lead, scoring at least one run in every inning from then on.

"Battling back after being down 7-2 shows that we never gave up," SIUE senior starting pitcher Kaitlin Colosimo said. "To not press is the best way to come back when down by that many runs."

Heading into the bottom of the fourth trailing by four, freshman catcher Kay Hagelberg doubled to center field to give SIUE life offensively. Freshman infielder Brianna Fulginiti came in to pinch run for Hagelberg. An RBI single from senior outfielder Courtney Mall with



Hunter Creel/Alestle

SIUE senior pitcher Kaitlin Colosimo throws the heat on March 19 against Wichita State University. Colosimo earned her 11th win of the season against the Shockers.

two outs would score Fulginiti.

After holding the Flames and adding one more run offensively in the fifth inning, SIUE brought the game to within two. UIC looked to break the game back open with a two-run sixth, highlighted by an RBI single from Frydendall.

With one out in the sixth inning, freshman pitcher Erica Taylor came into the game for SIUE. Taylor struck out Marinacci swinging to end the UIC run. The Flames left three runners stranded.

Down 9-5, the Cougars answered with a rally of their own in the bottom of the sixth. Junior third baseman Lauren Zembruksi, who came into Tuesday's game with a team-high five home runs, brought SIUE back into it with a three-run shot to left field. The homerun scored junior right fielder Chaleen Rumpf and Mall who reached on a walk and a single,

SOFTBALL/pg.10

Cougar bowling strikes big in national rankings

by Aren Dow

Alestle Reporter

Strikeouts may be bad for the Cougar baseball and softball teams, but strikes helped lead the SIUE Club Bowling team to their most successful season ever.

They finished their season at the United States Bowling Conference Sectional Qualifier placing 12th in the tournament after earning a 41st overall ranking nation-wide on the season.

The 41st ranking among nationwide club bowling teams is the highest SIUE has ranked in the team's history.

In a tournament before sectionals in Las Vegas, freshman Ryan Kulpa headed into the 10th frame and

needed to strike out for SIUE to place high enough for a cash prize. Kulpa pulled through in the clutch and aided SIUE in one of many successful tournaments they had this season.

They also finished in the top 10 in two other tournaments this year, and their successful play all season earned them a spot in sectionals.

However, the team needed to finish in the top four at sectionals to advance to Nationals. They ended up 12th out of 16 teams with a total team score of 12,117. Wichita State University took first at the sectional tournament with a score of 13,657.

Despite falling short of the national stage, the team still regarded the season as a successful one.

Senior Grant Evans is in his third year with the team.

"Out of the three years, this is the best one," Evans said.

Junior and club President Brett Hinner said he was impressed by the play of the freshmen on the team. Kulpa's performance at Las Vegas was one prime example.

"Ryan had to strike out for us to cash," Hinner said. "For a freshman to step up like that is pretty big."

The team had eight players, three of which were freshman. While the upperclassmen pointed to the importance of the younger talent, Kulpa recognized the leadership that the juniors and senior provided.

"We didn't really have a coach this year," Kulpa said. "Brett (Hinner) and Blake Badillo helped out the club so much this year (by) reserving rooms and making sure

BOWLING/pg.10

Fish no match for Cougars

by Levi Kirby
Alestle Sports Editor

SIUE sophomore Brad LeMaster is a prime example that proves Cougar Lake is much more than just a place for the geese to swim, but a place to help him, along with his teammates, become some of the finest bass fishers in Illinois.

Two SIUE students and members of the Bass Masters Club represented the Cougars on March 14 to 15 and took first place at the state tournament at Springfield Lake.

The team of freshman Justin Skinner and sophomore Brad LeMaster brought the championship trophy back to SIUE after catching a total weight of 12 pounds 6 ounces worth of bass, knocking off rival university, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, by more than one pound.

The trophy will now come back to the SIUE campus and be on display at the Vadalabene Center until next year, when the Cougars must take the traveling trophy back to the state tournament and defend their title.

Skinner and LeMaster grew up with fishing poles in their hands.

"My grandpa first started taking me fishing," Skinner said. "I've been fishing since I could throw a pole in the water."

Not only did SIUE take a first place finish in the state tournament, but another Cougar team finished in third place behind SIUC.

The team of Bass Masters Club President senior Ric Cooper and senior Justin Heberer finished the tournament with a total weight of 9 pounds 8 ounces.

Like the first place team, Cooper and Heberer have also fished since childhood.

"I have been fishing ever since I was walking," Cooper said.

Besides a long history of fishing, another thing they all have in common is their die-hard love of the sport.

"(My favorite part of fishing is) just the adrenaline rush whenever you get that bite," Skinner said. "Trying to



Photo Courtesy of Ric Cooper
Freshman Justin Skinner (left) and sophomore Brad LeMaster (right) hold up their first place-winning fish at the state tournament in Springfield on March 14 to 15. The total weight of their five fish was 12 pounds 6 ounces.

get the net on him before he gets off (the hook) and get him in the boat. It's a huge relief."

The club team participated in a regional tournament in Georgia on March 7 to 8, and they will next head to a regional tournament in Texas on April 12.

At the state tournament, Cooper said they did a lot of fishing at the two-day event.

"We fished nine hours on Saturday, and that was just 'pre-fishing' for the tournament," Cooper said. "We fished

FISHING/pg.10

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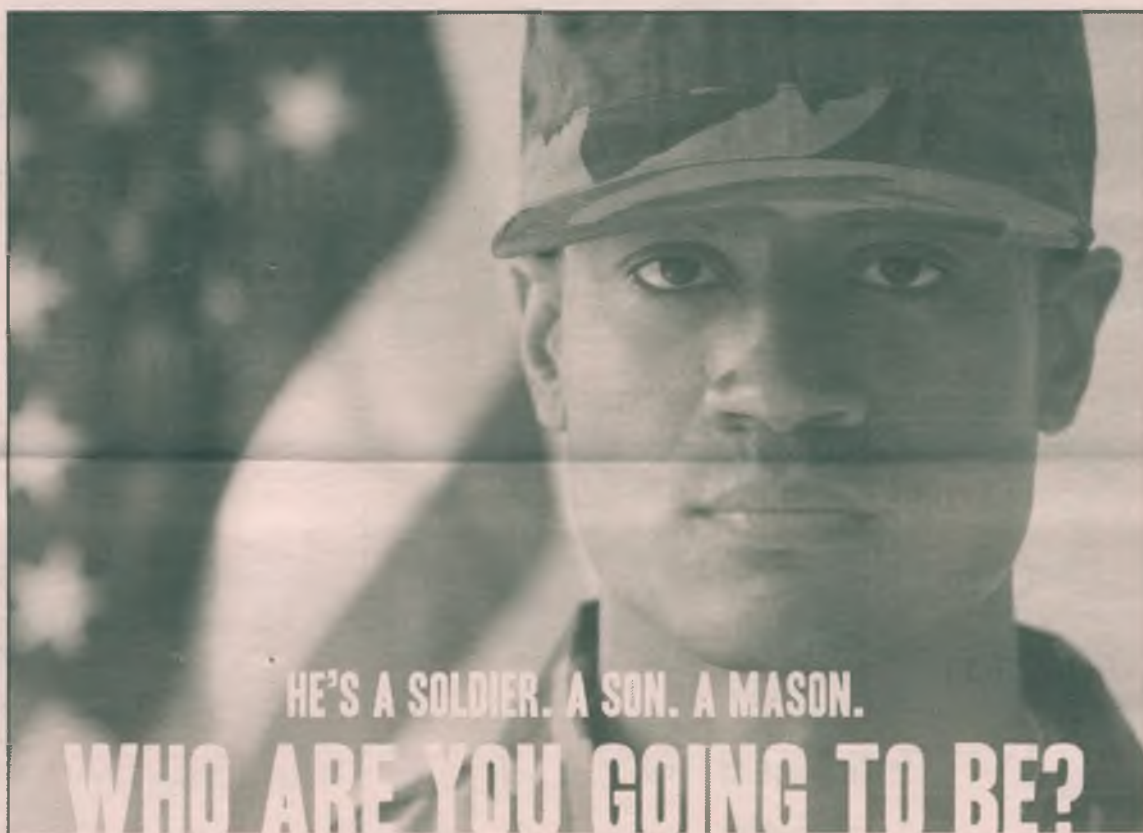
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SOFTBALL

from pg. 8

respectively.

Heading into what was supposed to have been the final inning, the Cougars were now back to within one.

Rumpf tied the game up for the Cougars with a solo home run to right field, sending the game into extra innings after holding the Flames to no runs in the seventh.

"Not at any point in the game did anybody think we were going to lose," Rumpf said. "Our pitchers have picked us up so many times, it was nice for the offense to come up big today."

Once again, Taylor and the

Cougar defenders would come up big, allowing no hits for the visitors. A 10-minute rain delay followed the top of the eighth inning.

Zembruski singled to right field to lead things off for the Cougars in the bottom of the eighth. After advancing to third following a sacrifice bunt and a wild pitch, it was senior second baseman Lindsey Longfellow who connected on the game winning base hit on the 2-1 pitch.

"We did an outstanding job of chipping away at the lead," Montgomery said.

Taylor improved her record to 13-3 on the year. Sophomore pitcher Whitney Orellana took the loss for the visitors.

Offensively, the Cougars produced 15 hits. Zembruski was 4 of 5 from the plate for SIUE with three RBI's. Freshman infielder Whitney Davis also had an impressive showing with a team-high four RBI's going a perfect 3 of 3 in the batter's box.

Now at 27-6, SIUE is off until April 2 when the Cougars head to Springfield, Mo., to take on Missouri State University.

T.J. Cowell can be reached at tcowell@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

BOWLING

from pg. 8

everything went well."

Scores are combined as a team to determine how they place in tournaments, but bowlers do get credibility for individual scores.

Hinnet, Kulpa, Badillo and freshman Dave Sweet all finished in the top 25 of various tournaments this year. Tournaments can range from 200 to 400 bowlers, Hinnet said.

Although individual performances are good, Hinnet

said it is still a team sport.

"When it comes down to winning, it's all about the team score," Hinnet said.

Despite having the best year for the team in its history, the players are already raising expectations for next year. Hinnet said the team's confidence in their ability to play at a higher level is due to the young talent and overall great play from this season. They are also looking forward to several incoming

freshmen, two of which finished in the top 25 of their state tournament.

"We are going to be better next year," Kulpa said.

He and Hinnet both think the team can improve and reach the next step for next season.

"We show great hope and desire for next year to continue to grow," Hinnet said. "Our main goal is to make it to Nationals."

Aren Dow can be reached at adow@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

FISHING

from pg. 9

about 16 hours between Saturday and Sunday."

Although fishing is not a mainstream sport, Heberer said bass fishing requires intense skill and technique.

"A lot of people don't think it is real hard to go out and catch bass. Compare it to Major

League Baseball and Albert Pujols who can go out there and not get any hits in a game, and he's still going to get paid," Heberer said. "For a pro bass fisher to get paid, he has to be out there catching fish everyday just to cash a check."

Cooper said his favorite part

of fishing is the thrill of competition.

"The adrenaline rush of joining a tournament and actually winning the tournament, it drives you to want to keep doing it," Cooper said.

Levi Kirby can be reached at lkirby@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.

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Today's laughs

Calamities of Nature

By: Tony Piro



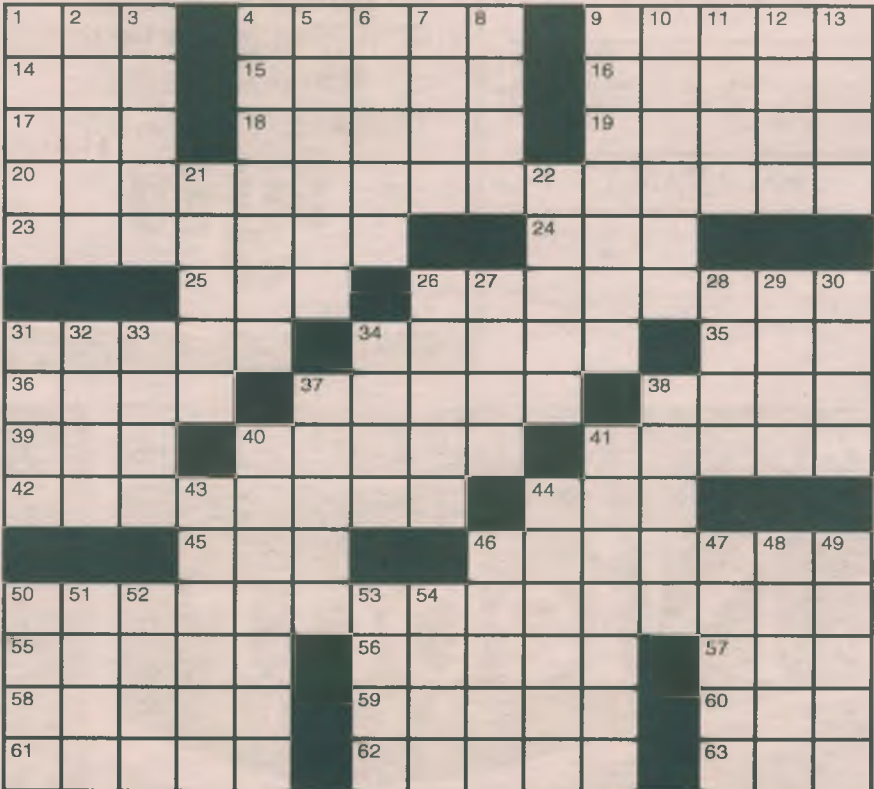
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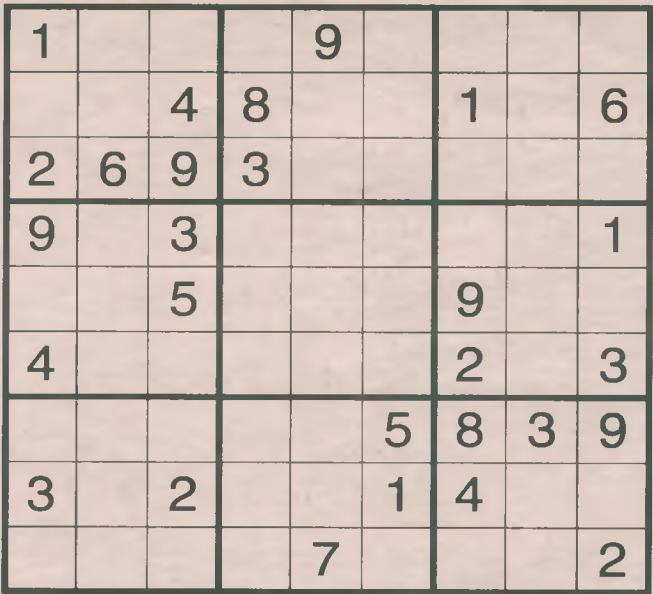
THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

- ACROSS**
- 1 Org. of Toms and Tiger
 - 4 Weapon of mass destruction
 - 9 Plus feature
 - 14 Rower's requirement
 - 15 Stan's slapstick partner
 - 16 Keep an eye on
 - 17 Adam's partner
 - 18 Animal dens
 - 19 Honolulu greeting
 - 20 Start of a quip
 - 23 Postures
 - 24 Commotion
 - 25 John __ Passos
 - 26 Incited
 - 31 Freshen up
 - 34 Was mistaken
 - 35 Gibbon, e.g.
 - 36 Frosted
 - 37 Part 2 of quip
 - 38 Rotation line
 - 39 Bikini piece
 - 40 Hay units
 - 41 Alternative to treat?
 - 42 Diana Ross's group
 - 44 Zodiac lion
- DOWN**
- 1 Verses
 - 2 French peasant dance
 - 3 Game site
 - 4 Wow!
 - 5 Cutting edges
 - 6 Potpourris
 - 7 Soggy ground
 - 8 Porgy's girlfriend
 - 9 Bestowed upon
 - 10 Oater bar
 - 11 Pack away, as cargo
 - 12 Rebounding yodel
 - 13 Comparison conjunction
 - 21 Brought to a close
 - 22 " __ People Play"
 - 26 Lets loose
 - 27 Minerals in the raw
 - 28 Judd Hirsch sitcom
 - 29 Legendary
 - 30 Escritoire
 - 31 Barbecue fare
 - 32 Light tan
 - 33 Type of tide
 - 34 Contemporary of Agatha
 - 37 Florida bay
 - 38 Bakery emanation
 - 40 Rub over
 - 41 Moderates
 - 43 Change dimensions
 - 44 Loading device
 - 46 Summer or Shalala
 - 47 Disney World attraction
 - 48 Take care of
 - 49 Move as a throng
 - 50 Little pranksters
 - 51 Samoan currency
 - 52 Persia, now
 - 53 6/6/44
 - 54 Alleviate



By Ed Voile
Gillette, WY 3/5/09



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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KNOWING (PG-13) 1:10 4:00 7:00 9:50

DUPLICITY (PG-13) 12:40 3:40 6:30 9:30

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12:50 3:30 6:40 9:10

THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT (R)
2:00 4:50 7:30 10:10

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