

**Index**

News .....1-3  
 Opinion .....4  
 A&E .....5  
 Sports .....6-7  
 Classifieds .....8

# The Alestle

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville



**Favorite superheros for free**  
 See A&E

Thursday, April 30, 2009

www.alestlelive.com

Vol. 61, No. 62

## Student charged with abduction, domestic battery

### Student arrested on campus Monday

By **Kenneth Long**  
 Alestle Managing Editor

An SIUE student was charged with abduction and domestic battery Tuesday following his arrest on campus Monday by SIUE Police.

According to Director of Public Affairs Greg Conroy, junior business major Nathaniel McCloud, 24, of East St. Louis was arrested in Founders Hall on Monday after East St. Louis Police contacted SIUE Police, saying McCloud was wanted in connection with abduction and sexual assault of his ex-girlfriend.

Detective Michael Floore of the East St. Louis Police Department said McCloud abducted the victim Monday morning after she had broken up with him

after a six-month relationship.

Floore said McCloud took the victim and her vehicle and drove to a hotel in Caseyville, where Floore said McCloud allegedly sexually assaulted her. The victim was released and then contacted the East St. Louis Police.

Conroy said SIUE Police looked up McCloud's class schedule Monday.

"They found that he was supposed to be in class at Founders (Hall)," Conroy said.

SIUE Police went to the classroom in Founders and arrested McCloud. He was then transported to the East St. Louis Police Station and later to St. Clair County Jail, where he remains on \$50,000 bail.

Floore said further charges against McCloud are still pending as of Wednesday evening.

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

## Tuition increase possible for incoming fall 2009 students

By **Rachel Carlson**  
 Alestle Reporter

The Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees is set to vote on a possible tuition increase for the entire SIU system that would go into effect for new students in fall 2009.

According to SIUE spokeswoman Bethany Forsythe, if passed, the incoming SIUE freshmen for fiscal year 2010 would experience a 6 percent increase in tuition. The projected annual increase for undergraduate students would add an extra \$351 to their tuition, bringing the annual tuition to \$6,201. Southern Illinois University Carbondale is set to receive a 4.5 percent increase.

Forsythe said current students would not have an increase in tuition, as it is locked for four years. Students past the 48-month lock-in, however, would see an increase.

Sally Mullen, associate director of Student Financial Aid, said the possible tuition increase could affect the amount of financial aid given to students. The amount of financial aid for a student is determined through a formula in which the Effective Family Contribution--how much a student can contribute to their education--is subtracted from the cost of attendance, Mullen said. The result is the amount of financial aid

awarded.

"When we have a tuition increase, then the cost of attendance will go up, which means financial aid goes up," Mullen said.

While Gov. Pat Quinn's state budget currently recommends giving the SIU system \$238 million in state appropriations, Budget Director Bill Winter said the final numbers will not be known until May or later, when the state budget is finalized.

"We have run a large number of scenarios because we don't know how the budget will fall out on the state appropriations' side," Winter said.

Out of the total \$238 million, SIUE would receive around \$70 million, SIUC would receive around \$120 million and the rest would be divided between the School of Medicine and president's office.

The BOT previously turned down a proposed tuition increase of 11.9 percent at its April 2 meeting. Forsythe said the increase was lowered to 6 percent because the SIU system wants to keep education affordable for students.

"We try to make it as affordable as it possibly can be," Forsythe said. "(SIUE still is) the second lowest tuition rate in the state for all



Hunter Creel/Alestle

(From left) Sophomore business administration major Jill Norris from Taylorville and senior history-education major Casey Hansen from Alton study in Kimmel Leadership Center.

## Final crunch

### How students handle the stress of approaching finals week

By **Rosie Githinji**  
 Alestle Reporter

Junior nursing major Molly Uttecht is stressed out. Uttecht said her stress over classes and nursing clinicals went so far as to cause her health problems.

"I had to go see a doctor because of my anxiety over everything," Uttecht said. "My blood pressure went up really high because I was so stressed."

Uttecht said she is trying to balance work and play to keep her stress levels down.

"I try to manage it all. I have to give myself time to chill and relax with my friends," Uttecht said. "I need time for me."

There are many options to relieve the stress of finals, according to Andrew King, director of Counseling Services.

"Some people ignore stress in their lives, and it tends to manifest physically," King said. "There are basic exercises people can do to help."

Some of the exercises include breathing techniques, or six to 10 second de-stressing activities. Counseling

Services also has flyers on how students can take care of themselves or suggestions to relieve some of the mental or physical tension that may build up because of anxiety with academics.

"The short answer is yes, students are stressed out right now," King said. "From the week of April 13 and, to a lesser degree, the week of April 20, we seemed to have a lot of crises pop up."

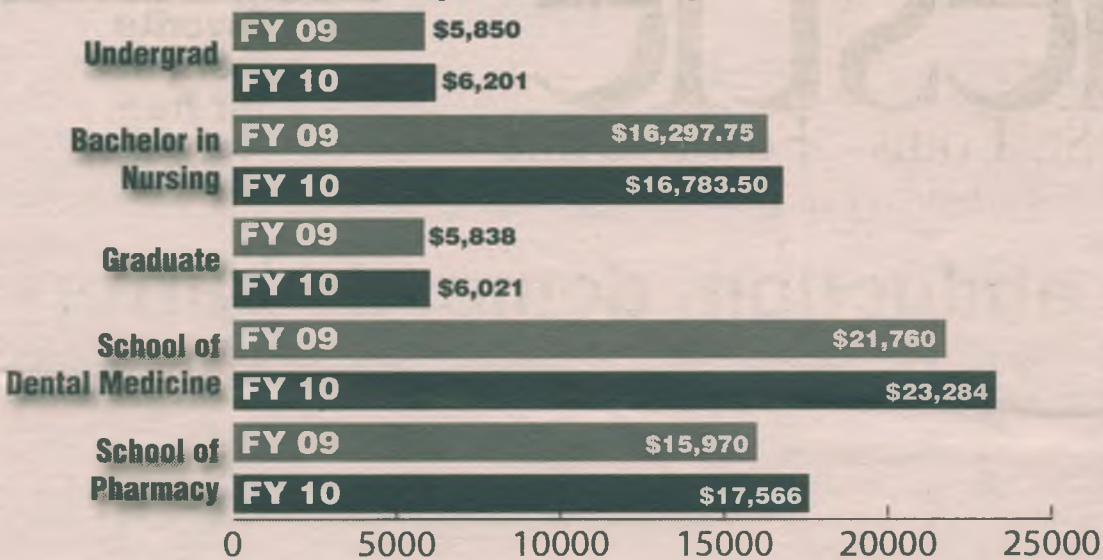
King said the best thing for students to do when studying is to pause and take a deep breath.

"One of the best mechanisms when you are studying is having a timer and not studying for more than 45 minutes without taking a 15-minute break," King said.

Freshman medical biology major Morgan McCollum said she will go home for the summer as soon as she is done with finals Tuesday. Even with only two finals this semester compared with four during the fall semester, McCollum said she found it easier the first time around.

"In some of my classes it was pretty much only

### Possible Tuition Increase (Annual Rate)



### TUITION from pg. 1

12 public schools.” Forsythe said the committees that cut budgets and costs and proposed efficiencies in numerous departments across campus reduced the increase from 11.9 percent to 6 percent.

“Everybody is trying to do more with less,” Forsythe said. “It’s an unfortunate reality that we have to do more with less.”

The tuition increase would also affect graduate, nursing,

dental and pharmacy students at SIUE. Graduate school tuition would increase 3 percent to \$6,012. Nursing students would see an increase to \$16,783.50, a 3 percent increase. Tuition for the School of Dental Medicine would increase 7 percent to \$23,284 annually, and the School of Pharmacy tuition would increase 10 percent to \$17,566 annually.

Forsythe said the actual

tuition increase will not be known until the BOT approves it at its next meeting on May 7 in Carbondale.

“At this point, it’s a proposal,” Forsythe said.

Winter said he was optimistic the BOT will pass the increase.

“We anticipate that the board will approve it,” Winter said.

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

### STRESS from pg. 1

freshmen, and my teachers knew that so they were easier on us,” McCollum said. “French is the hardest final I have, and it’s the one I’m stressing most about.”

McCollum said she is looking forward to heading home, but right now she is dealing with the stress of finals by studying more than usual.

“Unfortunately, it’s the only thing that helps,” McCollum said. “It makes me feel like I’m better prepared.”

Sophomore civil engineering major Tony DiGioia of Chicago transferred to SIUE from Oakland Community College, and said classes at SIUE should not have finals that are cumulative.

“The classes were easier at junior college because I didn’t have to take cumulative tests, so I didn’t have as much to study,” DiGioia said. “I don’t stress too much though. I know what I know, and either I pass my classes or I don’t.”

DiGioia said he takes the review sheets he gets from his teachers and tries to find as many answers as he can.

Academic advisers Shannon Hennessy and Roxie Renner teach a class on study skills. The class helps students to prepare better for tests, which will help reduce some of their anxiety. The class is also an academic recovery section that helps students improve their GPA.

“Absolutely, the class helps,” Hennessy said. “If a student has taken a class in study skills, they don’t have as much anxiety.”

Renner said students in the class have different activities that help them assess their study behaviors and try to plan a schedule that will help them with test taking.

Some of the activities Renner and Hennessy suggest include reviewing class material on a daily and weekly basis, as well as one major review before taking the test.

Hennessy said procrastination is not an option students should consider.

“If you think you work better under pressure, you should make sure you still set some deadlines,” Hennessy said.

King said stressing during finals is common among college students.

“Everybody experiences stress. If you’re not stressing in a test situation, you’re not normal,” King said.

For more information about how to deal with stress, contact Counseling Services at 650-2197.

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

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## Momentary relief



Sean Roberts/Alestle

Senior business management major Brock Elmore from Belleville gets a massage in Morris University Center's Goshen Lounge Wednesday from Southwestern Illinois College student Lauren Schulte. SWIC students from the Body Therapy Center gave massages to students to provide them with stress relief before finals.

## Steel Bridge Team takes third place in regional competition

By Aren Dow  
Alestle Reporter

Some teams compete in sporting events, but the SIUE Steel Bridge Team competes in constructing a lightweight steel device strong enough to hold a small car—roughly 2,500 pounds.

The Steel Bridge Team traveled to Carbondale to compete in a regional competition Thursday April 16 to 18. SIUE placed third out of 11 teams in the event, good enough to qualify for the national competition.

Senior civil engineering major Joey Heger said the team started building the bridge in August, making the project a year-long process. At the competition, teams are graded on specifications such as bridge weight, construction speed and aesthetics.

"Within the first week and a half, we had a meeting to start designing," Heger said. "We finished our design around Thanksgiving break, ordering the steel soon thereafter."

Engineering professor Brent Vaughn, the team's adviser, said the different factors are converted into a dollar amount, and teams compete to have the lowest cost while still holding the weight.

Vaughn was particularly impressed with the team in regards to the complete building of the bridge. Vaughn said the team could have had professional help with the project, but undertook the task on their own.

"They did all the fabrications themselves, including all of the cutting and welding," Vaughn said.

Heger said one of the team's strengths was the weight of the bridge. They placed second in that category. While it would be impossible to try to modify parts of the bridge in such short notice for the national competition, there were a couple of

areas Heger said he hoped to improve on.

"The construction time is part of your score, and we hope to improve that," Heger said. "We're also going to look at some bracing members that might be redundant. Hopefully, we will be able to take them off and lower our weight."

Heger said the team has 12 active members, including the other two co-captains of the team, engineering seniors Jeff Shepherd and Bryce Whitworth. The team has four people actually constructing the bridge, while the others make sure the process goes smoothly.

Time is a factor in the building process, and the overall score decreases as more students participate. The team is also penalized if pieces are dropped, as they would fall into the "river" the bridge is spanning.

Last year, Heger said they constructed a tremendous bridge, by far the lightest in the competition. However, the team received penalties because pieces of the bridge did not meet specifications. Heger did not want to repeat those same mistakes this year.

"The hardest part is the attention to detail," Heger

said. "I drove the other guys nuts, but by paying attention to detail we were able to have zero penalties."

The SIUE Concrete Canoe team also competed in Carbondale, placing first. The top finishes will send both the bridge and canoe teams to nationals for the first time in school history, according to Heger.

The competition will be much tougher at the national level, including schools such as MIT. The competition takes place in Las Vegas on May 22 to 23.

Aren Dow can be reached at [adow@alestlelive.com](mailto:adow@alestlelive.com) or 650-3527.

"The hardest part is the attention to detail."

-Joey Heger,  
senior civil engineering major

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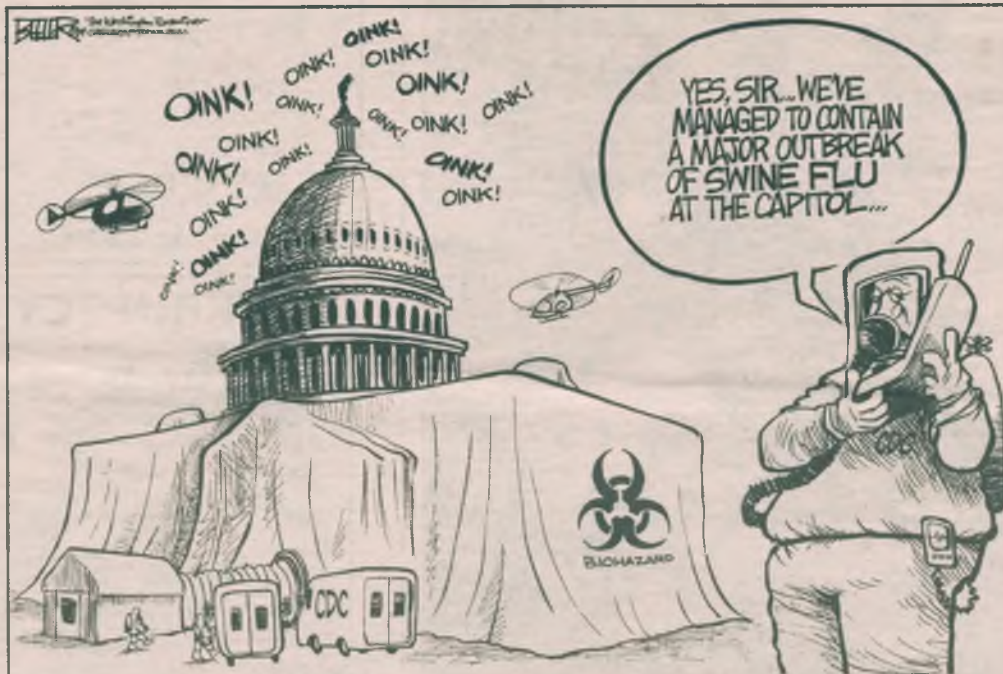
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**Have a comment? Let us know!**

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## Looking back on a year of humorous news

Every year, there are a few stories that turn heads, not because they are the most important, but because they hold a certain level of shock value, or pure stupidity on someone's part.

Looking back at some of this year's stories, SIUE had it all: stupid criminals, administrative snafus, nudity and an embarrassing loss in basketball to a musically inclined Division III school.

Let's start in Carbondale, where SIU is proud to be the centerpiece of possibly the world's first case of plagiarizing plagiarism.

Seriously?

In January, the SIU Plagiarism Committee was accused of copying the school's plagiarism policy draft from Indiana University.

Not only was this goof ironic, considering the university's past controversies with the p-word, but it also proved to be humorous despite the severity of the issue.

State politics have also gotten some exposure, case in point, Blago.

After a wiretapping investigation, a slew of police showed up at the Chicago home of

former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich in December. The unseated governor was taken into custody and was charged with multiple corruption allegations, most notably trying to sell the Senate seat vacated by former senator and current President of the United States Barack Obama. It was an effing golden idea on Blagojevich's part.

Tying this to SIU, retired university employee Lorraine Wright spoke to the board of trustees in February, revealing that she had felt there was pay-to-play involvement between four BOT members and Blagojevich for their seat on the university board.

According to the Illinois campaign donations database, combined between 2001 and 2008, three trustees contributed nearly \$90,000 to the Blagojevich campaign, and Southern Illinois University President Glenn Poshard threw in a few bucks here and there.

If politics are not your thing, why not get naked?

SIUE students allegedly bared all on multiple occasions, and while there were no 1970s reincarnations of streaking through the quad and into the gymnasium in mass unison,



Allan Lewis

## 'With or against me' politics hurt bipartisanship

Bipartisanship is one thing people always strive for, yet it ultimately unravels at any sign of discomfort.

It's a key word now in mainstream politics. From NBC, FOX and ABC, one will certainly find a senator or representative reaming the opposite party for refusal to cooperate.

"Bipartisanship is dead," they say. "The other party does not listen to what we have to say." It's a tragedy, a conundrum, an end to what was supposed to be good about this administration, because no one party or person is willing to cooperate.

Most politicians we see now are quick to show their face on television to tear their opponents a new one.

That's why you see people like Rush Limbaugh gaining so much popularity, because they have mastered the art of infuriating the "other side."

So then the question is why are they angry

enough to anger others? They weren't wronged to any major degree. They either were attacked or offended by someone else who was in their position with a lag of attention.

The egos of these people astound me. Seriously, they should get over themselves.

I thought with this past election, we would have chosen people who could figure out that they're representing their entire state, not the hundred or so who follow them religiously and feed into their egos.

All of this culminates into the particular predicament we're in now. For a little less than a decade of the "With or Against Me" politics, we find ourselves with politicians who seem to forget what it was like in fifth grade, or kindergarten even. We share this country, not claim it "mine." Heck, "This land is your land; this land is my land.... This land was made for you and me."

There is too much yammering in



Harry Zollars

Washington as well as other forms of politics, too much ego and "righteousness" to boot. After these first hundred days of this administration and Congress, everyone is agreeing this is the time for progress; yet we always find our feet in the mud. I say let's finally realize that attacks do nothing but devolve us. That is the way we can find bipartisanship: stop finding faults and find the common ground.

The problem with that is these politicians are blind to the common ground. So then I ask you politicians who happen to catch a college newspaper: why not do what we elected you to do and fix our country's biggest problem, you? Look yourself in the mirror, take some time and meditate, and realize that you are the problem and can become the solution. Just look to the middle of the aisle.

*Harry Zollars is a sophomore pre-pharmacy major from Bethalto. She can be reached at [hzollar@siue.edu](mailto:hzollar@siue.edu).*

**Correction:** In the Thursday April 23 edition of the Alestle, Josh Williamson was incorrectly identified in a photo in the A&E section. The Alestle regrets this error.

## Favorite superheroes for free

### Local comic shops, libraries host a day for free comics

by Sydney Elliot and Neal Gough  
Alestle A&E Editor and Alestle Reporter

These days entertainment is usually found in front of a TV, movie or computer screen. But Saturday will celebrate the kind of entertainment that requires a light to read by, the comic book.

Two local comic books stores are teaming up with local libraries to host the eighth annual Free Comic Book Day.

Doug Dial, owner of Hometown Comics in Edwardsville, said the event is a great way to celebrate comics as a more traditional form of entertainment.

"Most people these days are used to receiving all their entertainment from DVD players, console games or movie theaters," Dial said. "Comics are a medium that has been around a long time, but is just (recently) being accepted as an art form."

According to Scott Croft, owner of Heroic Adventures comic book shop in Edwardsville, Free Comic Book Day is an annual event on the first Saturday in May that thousands of comic book shops participate in.

The comic book shops finance Free Comic Book Day. Croft said comic book publishers sell them the comic books at a substantial discount, but the costs still add up for the shop owners.

This will be the second year Heroic Adventures has taken part

in Free Comic Book Day.

"When we opened the door last year, we had about 40 people waiting to get inside," Croft said. "I was thrilled to death."

According to Croft, the comic book shop gave away about 1,200 comic books last year, and he plans to give away twice that amount this year.

Dial said this is the third year his store has been a part of the event.

Free Comic Book Day has spread to the Edwardsville and Glen Carbon libraries this year to expand the event and reach more people.

Barb Driesner, youth librarian at the Edwardsville Public Library, said comic books are a good way to keep children reading when their interest starts to wane.

"There is a lot of visual presentation," Driesner said. "Kids start missing that around second and third grade when they start reading books with no illustration."

Dial said he is glad the libraries have joined in this year's Free Comic Book Day.

"Legitimizing comics as literature is foremost in my mind," Dial said. "Getting kids reading, and reading something they are interested in, is (important)."

Croft said the release of comic book inspired movies has helped Free Comic Book Day gain steam in the industry, and this year is no different.

"It is no coincidence that



Hunter Creel/Alestle

**Bryan King purchases a comic book from Matt Keehner from Heroic Adventures in Edwardsville. The comic book store, along with Hometown Comics in Edwardsville and the Edwardsville and Glen Carbon libraries, will host the eighth annual Free Comic Book Day Saturday.**

Marvel's 'Wolverine' movie is coming out this Friday," Croft said. "Marvel puts out a comic book-themed movie every year on the Friday before free comic book day. Last year it was 'Iron Man'."

Both Croft and Dial will give away prizes at their stores for the first people in the door. Croft will give gift bags to the first 25 people through the door filled with T-shirts, action figures, posters, graphic novels and other "surprises." The first 50 people through the doors at Hometown Comics will receive a gift. Croft

will also be raffling a \$250 statue of the X-Men's Mystique. G.I. Joe comic book artist Robert Atkins will also be in the store to sign autographs and meet with fans. The first 25 through the door will get a coupon and an item of their choice. The next 25 people through the door will get to choose a gift. The items include comic books, action figures, calendars and more.

Heroic Adventures will be open from 9 a.m. to midnight and is located at 2131 S. State Route 157 in Edwardsville and can be reached at 659-0099.

Hometown Comics will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and is located at 110 E. Vandalia St. in Edwardsville and can be reached at 655-0707.

The Edwardsville Public Library is located at 112 S. Kansas Street and can be reached at 692-7556. The Glen Carbon Centennial Library is located at 198 S. Main St. and can be reached at 288-1212.

Sydney Elliot can be reached at [selliott@alestlelive.com](mailto:selliott@alestlelive.com) or 650-3531. Neal Gough can be reached at [ngough@alestlelive.com](mailto:ngough@alestlelive.com) or 650-3531.

## Summer Preview

by Jeff Mason  
Alestle Reporter

The first summer blockbuster of the year is just around the corner, setting off the biggest season for movies around the world. Each year Hollywood tosses out dozens of movies with budgets seemingly the size of an entire country's net worth, all in the name of making the explosions that much prettier.

"Star Trek" May 8

Producing two hit TV shows just isn't enough for J.J. Abrams. The creator of "Fringe" and "Lost" turns the clock back 40 years and revives the infamous "Star Trek" franchise with a new look and attitude. At least that's what Paramount wants us to think, since the movie's tagline is "Forget everything you know about Star Trek."

Still, J.J. Abrams is an immensely talented director who is just starting to peak his head into the movie industry. This movie is bound to be good, and I've never seen an episode of the cult TV series.



"Up" May 29

It's Pixar. It's in 3D. It's going to be fantastic. Enough said.



"Public Enemies" July 3

Here's this year's Academy film thrown into the summer mix. Johnny Depp, Christian Bale and Academy Award winner Marion Cotillard star in this movie pitting the 1930s mob against the FBI. John Dillinger (Depp) leads the charge, but Baby Face Nelson and Pretty Boy Floyd are along for the ride. "Heat" director Michael Mann has a nice little niche in this arena, so expect this to be a good one.

"Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince" July 15

The movie industry's most successful active franchise returns for the sixth installment of the incredibly popular book series.

Luckily for Potter fans, the movies have steadily improved each time, and there's no reason to believe this one will buck the trend, especially since "Order of the Phoenix" director David Yates is going to finish off the franchise. Yates will have his work cut out for him though, since he'll have to cram 672 pages into a nice two and a half hour package.



on **alestle**  
Web exclusive  
to see more of the summer preview and a review for "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" visit [www.alestlelive.com](http://www.alestlelive.com)

Jeff Mason can be reached at [jmason@alestlelive.com](mailto:jmason@alestlelive.com) or 650-3531.

## Cougars too sweet for Sugar Bears



Sean Roberts/Alestle

Freshman first baseman Whitney Davis swings away Tuesday in a doubleheader against the University of Central Arkansas.



Sean Roberts/Alestle

SIUE softball team celebrates two straight wins against the Sugar Bears. Two more wins in their final two games will land the Cougars at their season goal of 40 wins.

# SOFTBALL

## Sweep puts SIUE at 38-10 with two games to go

by T.J. Cowell  
Alestle Sports Reporter

The SIUE softball team inched themselves two wins closer to the 40-win mark with a two-game sweep over Central Arkansas University Tuesday at Cougar Field.

Senior pitcher Kaitlin Colosimo tossed a three-hit shutout in game one when the Cougars defeated Central Arkansas, 1-0. Sophomore Erika Taylor followed up keeping the UCA bats silent in game two with a 3-0 victory.

"We had some great pitching (Tuesday)," SIUE softball Head Coach Sandy Montgomery said. "We haven't played in several days, but you can't practice forever. I am happy with the wins."

Game one saw a pitching duel between Colosimo and UCA junior starter Holli Hill. UCA got one of its hits in the first inning with a single from junior infielder Rachel Baucom, but could not produce any runs out of it.

The Sugar Bears got two more hits one inning later. Sophomore shortstop Courtney Brock singled up the middle to start the inning off for UCA. Brock was then thrown out trying to steal second by SIUE freshman catcher Kay Hagelberg.

Junior right fielder Luisa Escobar kept the UCA inning alive with a two-out single, but was

left stranded after senior third baseman Amber Jolly grounded out to third a batter later.

The only offensive spark SIUE needed came in the bottom of the second frame. Senior second baseman Lindsay Longfellow led the inning off with a walk on four straight pitchers that missed the strike zone. Freshman first baseman Whitney

"Everyone has made definite improvements in their own game."

-Kaitlin Colosimo,  
senior pitcher

Davis followed up with a bunt that turned into a single. Longfellow advanced to the hot corner with a single from senior utility player Amanda Pucel.

Hagelberg then reached on an error. The costly error scored Longfellow, giving the Cougars the advantage they needed.

Neither team could produce a hit in the final five innings. Colosimo struck out four UCA batters down the stretch to secure the win for

SIUE.

"We did a great job of playing defense and staying in the ballgames," Colosimo said. "Coach always tells us defense wins ballgames."

With a roster of 20 players, Colosimo said the team has done a good job of gelling together.

"We have made huge strides," Colosimo said. "It's hard with seven incoming freshman to get used to playing together. Everyone has made definite improvements in their own game."

The Cougars followed up in game two with their second victory of the day over the visitors.

The Sugar Bears collected two of their four hits in the top of the first, but could not capitalize off of the impressive pitching effort from Taylor.

After going silent in inning number one, the Cougar offensive scored in the second inning to take a one run advantage early on. SIUE's run came from senior left fielder Nicole Beecher who sparked the inning with a solo homerun off of UCA freshman starter Cami Newsome.

"Offensively, we did not have the showing that we have had in recent games," junior right fielder Chaleen Rumpf said. "But our seniors (Longfellow and Beecher) came up big with those homeruns. Having our good defense is our good

SOFTBALL/pg.7

## SIUE students prepare to run for deadly diseases

by Ashlee Brockenbrough  
Alestle Sports Reporter

Graduate students Stephanie Thomas and Stephanie Damas are lacing up their sneakers to help raise funds for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America by training for the half-marathon known as The Team Challenge.

Set to take place in California on July 19, the half-marathon is set to raise awareness and money for the two seldom-discussed diseases.

According to the foundation's Web site, www.cdfa.org, Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are painful, unpredictable diseases that attack the digestive system. Crohn's disease, attacking anywhere along the tract from the mouth to the anus, and ulcerative colitis, inflaming the colon, are both diseases that can cause severe complications and requires many to be hospitalized. The diseases affect around 1.4 million adults and children in America today.

The Team Challenge, sponsored by the CCFA, is a fundraising program that trains participants to run or walk a half-marathon.

Thomas and Damas are both clinical adult psychology students who decided to take The Team

"I thought, if I have this passion to run, I may as well use it for more good."

-Stephanie Damas,  
clinical adult psychology graduate student

Challenge to help support a good cause.

Thomas said she was motivated to take The Team Challenge by a flyer in the mail.

"I've been trying to get to where I'm running more. This was a good opportunity because it also allows me to

do something for a good cause," Thomas said.

Damas, who has been a runner for nine years, decided to channel her enthusiasm for running into a good cause as well.

"I thought, if I have this passion to run, I may as well use it for more good," Damas said.

Damas and Thomas are part of a group of over 40 people who have committed to not only raise money for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, but to train with The Team Challenge over a 16-week period in order to prepare for the 13.1 mile wine country hump from Napa, Calif., to Sonoma, Calif.

Damas, who has done much of her fundraising through online networking, has also sent cards through the mail to get the word out.

"Each of us is raising at least \$4,000 for the foundation," Damas said. "It is a big amount, and a long process, but it is going well. I'm right on track, about half-

CROHN'S/pg.7

**SOFTBALL**  
from pg. 6

offense.”  
Junior third baseman Lauren Zemruski started off the bottom of the fourth inning with a double. Zemruski advanced to third after Beecher laid down a sacrifice bunt.

Longfellow followed up by connecting on a two-run shot to put the Cougars up 3-0.

Taylor and the SIUE defense then kept the lockdown on the UCA offense securing their 38th win of the season. Taylor went all seven innings for the hosts striking out nine en route to the victory.

Taylor’s record improved to

16-6 on the year with Thursday’s victory while UCA freshman relief pitcher Kelly Martino dropped to 5-9.

SIUE could only muster five hits in game two but got them when needed. The Cougars were 2 for 2 with runners in scoring position. Zemruski, Beecher, Longfellow, Davis and freshman catcher Paige Sheeder all collected hits for SIUE.

“(Colosimo and Taylor) both threw very well (Tuesday),” Montgomery said. “They sprayed their hits out that they did give up. They threw two shutouts, so you can’t ask for more.”

Montgomery said her pitching staff has been ranked as high as seventh nationally this season.

“We are not always going to score five or six runs in a game,” Montgomery said. “Our pitching has kept us in games.”

After a doubleheader against Saint Louis University at 5 p.m. on Wednesday at Cougar Field, SIUE’s inaugural season as a Division I program will come to a close.

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

**CROHN’S**  
from pg. 6

way.”  
The funds raised from The Team Challenge will be given to the foundation’s Mid-America Chapter, a St. Louis-based section that serves southern Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and northern Arkansas, according to the Mid-America Chapter Endurance Manager Rhonda Sciarra.

“(The money raised) stays in the area and will be used mostly for patient services and support people who are suffering from the diseases,” Sciarra said.

According to Sciarra part of the money composed will be put toward research on Crohn’s Disease and ulcerative colitis.

“We want to help find cures and improve life for those affected,” Sciarra said.

In exchange for their commitment to raise funds for the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation’s research, the participants are provided 12 to 16 weeks of training from professional coaches. The runners meet together almost every morning to work out at a local park.

“We started with low mileage,” Thomas said. “We run for four days a week, with an active recovery day, then we get a day off.”

Damas said the chance to work with the coaches has been beneficial because of the range of advice given to make them better runners.

“The coaches have definitely been helpful, especially for those who were not used to running

such long distances,” Damas said. “They have taught us new things about anything from proper stretching and running form, correct pacing, injury prevention, nutrition and even what clothes to wear during training.”

The participants are also supplied with all accommodations, transportation and entry fees.

The Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America has put together a second Team Challenge for the year, planned to take place in Las Vegas during the first week of December.

For more information about The Team Challenge, contact Sciarra at (314) 863-4747 or at rschiarra@ccsa.org.

*Ashlee Brockenbrough can be reached at abrockenbrough@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.*

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1:30 2:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 6:30 7:00 7:30

8:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 11:00\* \*Fri/Sat ONLY

**GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13)**

1:45 4:20 7:15 9:50

**FIGHTING (PG-13)** 1:20 4:10 6:50 9:20

**THE SOLOIST (PG-13)** 12:20 3:20 7:50 10:25

**OBSESSED (PG-13)** 12:40 3:10 7:40 10:15

**EARTH (G)** 12:00 2:15 4:40 7:10 9:40

**17 AGAIN (PG-13)** 1:10 3:50 6:40 9:10

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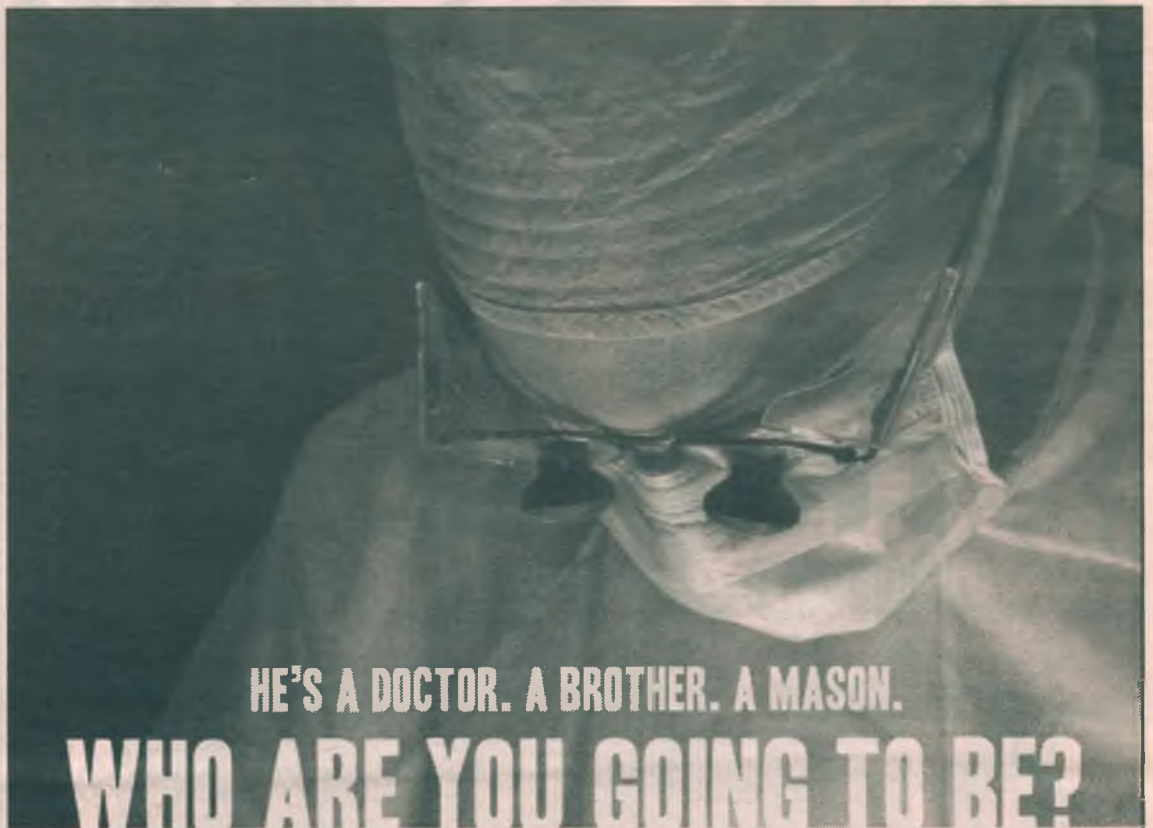
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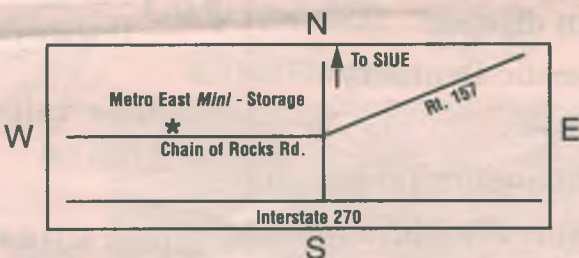
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