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# The Alestle<sup>50</sup>

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville

**Group exercise classes offer variety**  
 See A&E



Wednesday, July 9, 2008

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Sean Roberts/Alestle  
**Cathi Ledford (left) and Joy Tedford (right) walk through The Gardens at SIUE on hot and humid Monday afternoon. SIUE recently won the city of Edwardsville Green Thumb award for creativity and effort in gardening.**

## Green thumbs up

The Gardens at SIUE gets a Green Thumb, plans to grow

by **Jeff Mason**  
 Alestle Opinion Editor

When senior nursing major Kyle Hardiman of Edwardsville goes on his daily run through campus, he usually passes through the wooded trails of The Gardens at SIUE for a bit of extra scenery.

"I think it's beautiful," Hardiman said. "The bridge is great... I like running through (The Gardens) and the nature paths."

Apparently, the city of Edwardsville agreed with Hardiman, recently awarding The Gardens at SIUE with its annual Green Thumb Award. The awards are given to individuals and organizations around the city of Edwardsville that exhibit creativity and effort in gardening.

Wilma Jene Bond of Edwardsville, chairwoman of the Green Thumb Awards Committee, said anyone can nominate themselves or others. This year, the committee gave 13 different gardens the Green Thumb Award.

"People are so happy that their yards win," Bond said. "We really like people who work on their own property... We like people who do their own thing."

To say The Gardens is in its early stages of development is something of an understatement. According to The Gardens' Web page, the 35-acre facility will eventually have an amphitheater, visitor's center, wedding garden, great lawn for events and a host of different gardens, including a garden for new and unique displays and an educational garden for families.

"The final plan will go around Cougar Lake," Greg Conroy, director of public affairs, said. "The back of Berger Hall will be a part of it,

too... It'll be all encompassing."

For now, guests can visit The Gardens' limited attractions, located near the intersection of North University Drive and Cougar Lake Road near Cougar Village. The winding pathway through the woods is riddled with freely growing trees, plant life and a series of stone benches.

"There's the memorial benches (for) various loved ones who have passed away," Conroy said. "There's also benches honoring various presidents of the SIUE foundation."

A sun garden full of a variety of plants and flowers decorates the path while the garden most visible to drivers on campus is bursting with bright yellow flowers and an assortment of wind catchers. Both gardens help brighten the areas of the path not shaded by trees.

The most dominant feature of The Gardens is the large wooden bridge crossing the pond nearest to the intersection with shaded picnic tables on both sides.

Visitors to the area developed for The Gardens are mostly runners, cyclists and students going to and from class who decide to take a detour into the trails.

"I probably go through (the Gardens) two times a week," 69-year-old alumnus Bob Hyten of Edwardsville said. "It's nice to go through when you're tired... It takes my mind off running."

While Hyten enjoys The Gardens and looks forward to its development, he said he wasn't sure if the current master plan is a step in the right direction.

"I'm not very convinced spending money on buildings is the right thing to do," Hyten said.

**GARDENS/pg.2**

## Funding bill heads to General Assembly again

by **Sydney Elliot**  
 Alestle A&E Editor

A bill that will provide state funding for the new science building at SIUE will be considered again Wednesday and Thursday in a special session of the General Assembly called for by Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

According to Marisa Kollias, Illinois Works Coalition spokeswoman, the proposed Illinois Works bill is designed to provide about 700,000 jobs across the state.

"(The purpose of this bill) is to provide funding for the state to reinvest in the infrastructure of (the state)," Kollias said. "(It) will literally affect communities across the state."

Should the bill be passed, some of the \$34 billion will be spent on schools throughout the state. Some of that money will go towards a new science building at SIUE.

Wednesday and Thursday, Blagojevich and the General Assembly will look over the projected expenses for the Illinois Works bill. If the bill is passed, \$75 million will be given to SIUE for the new science building, according to Dave Gross, executive director for the office of the president at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. SIUE will receive another \$23 million over a course of three years to help with deferred maintenance projects, such as roof repairs and heating and cooling repairs.

Biology professor Elizabeth Esselman said it is time for a new science building, mostly because of how cramped the current building is.

"We are all really looking forward to it," Esselman said. "If we don't get a new building, we may have to start teaching on

**BILL/pg.2**

## Starbucks raises price for water, coffee refills

by **Kenneth Long**  
 Alestle Reporter

Starbucks patrons will hand over a few extra coins at the register as the coffee shop recently raised its price for coffee refills and began charging for cups of water.

Starbucks manager Pat Cottrell said the reason for the rise in prices comes from a large influx of free water customers.

"When we were just handing out three or four (free waters), there wasn't a problem," Cottrell said. "When we had to give out fifty a day, then we're starting to lose money."

The price for a venti-sized glass of water is now at 37 cents.

"We have to pay for the cups, lids and straws, among other things," Cottrell said.

Sophomore business administration major Richard Munsterman of Jerseyville said he agrees with Starbucks' sudden charge for water.

"The goal for any business is to cut losses," Munsterman said. "It's justified."

Coffee has also seen a higher price, rising from 53 cents to 80 cents. Cottrell said this stems from a dishonest streak of certain customers.

"A few people had started

digging used coffee cups from the trash cans and tried to get 'refills,'" Cottrell said.

Not only does this dumpster-diving practice lower profits, Cottrell said, but it also goes against Starbucks sustainability efforts.

"We encourage people to buy the tumblers and mugs," Cottrell said. "There is less waste produced."

MBA graduate student Lisa Grummel of Carrolton said fishing the used coffee cups out of trashcans was both strange and dishonest.

"Getting cups out of the trash is a little disturbing," Grummel said. "That's fair that they're charging more."

Cottrell said the price in vanilla beans has gone down for the store, lowering the price of a vanilla bean frappuccino by 10 cents. She also said the SIUE Starbucks will not be affected by the recent downsizing of the coffee chain, closing 600 stores.

"We aren't going anywhere as long as I don't get a yellow slip in the mail today," Cottrell said.

Kenneth Long can be reached at [klong@alestlelive.com](mailto:klong@alestlelive.com) or 650-3527.

## Police Reports

### 6-10

Police issued John M. Dietiker a citation for expired registration on South University Drive.

Police issued Mary L. Rands a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Megan M. Wood a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

### 6-11

Police issued Kelly A. Sarka a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

An officer met with a vehicle owner about damage to a vehicle at Lot E2.

Police issued Valerie Y. Janey a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Marisel Cubilla-Vega for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Leah M. Paskero a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Daniel E. Ulloa a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

An officer responded to Cougar Village Apartments 429 and 415 about stolen bicycles.

### 6-12

Police issued Jessica M. Stein a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Jennifer L. Burroughs a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Erin L. Arras a citation for

speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued Janell S. Green a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

An officer took a report about cash and a digital camera taken from a dorm room in Woodland Hall.

### 6-13

Police issued Steven J. Schanot citations for expired registration and not having a valid driver's license on South University Drive.

Police took a report from a caller saying some CD's were missing from his car in staff parking behind Woodland Hall. The windows of the car were open overnight.

Police took a report about a hangtag stolen from a vehicle parked in Lot E-1.

Police issued Joel M. Harker a citation for speeding on South University Drive.

### 6-14

Kale J. Hutchings was arrested in connection with DUI, illegal transportation of alcohol by a driver and driving on a suspended license. Brandon A. Usrey was arrested in connection with misdemeanor complaints for possession of cannabis, possession of drug paraphernalia, illegal transportation of alcohol by passenger and unlawful consumption. Both were processed. Usrey posted \$100 bond, Hutchings was given a notice to appear and both were released. The vehicle was towed and impounded.

## GARDENS

from pg. 1

"Just plant more flowers and flowering trees and stuff we don't normally see around here."

Director of The Gardens Doug Conley was unavailable for comment as of Tuesday afternoon.

Originally started as an arboretum on campus in 1990, the Donal G. Myer Arboretum has since become part of a major project. In 2004, after Terra Design Studios presented their plans, the SIUE planning team decided to branch out their plans from a simple arboretum to a full-fledged garden.

The Gardens is a public botanical

garden recognized by the Missouri Botanical Garden as a Signature Garden along with those at Southwestern Illinois College and Lewis and Clark Community College.

For more information or to become a friend of The Gardens at SIUE, visit their Web site at [www.siu.edu/gardens](http://www.siu.edu/gardens).

Jeff Mason can be reached at [jmason@alestlelive.com](mailto:jmason@alestlelive.com) or 650-3527.

## BILL

from pg. 1

Saturdays and Sundays because of a lack of space."

With the new science building, it is expected that each discipline will receive their own room to house slides, samples and other items needed for lecture, Esselman said.

Esselman said introductory biology classes are already full, and with enrollment continuing to increase each year, it is difficult for students to get extra time outside of class to prepare for exams. If a student needs to look at micro slides or samples, it is nearly impossible because there is no place for professors to leave materials for students to view outside of class, Esselman said.

If passed, the Illinois Works bill will provide money not only for schools but also for other state issues as well.

"(The money) is usually divided up," Kollias said. "Some will go towards roads and some towards jobs."

Esselman said she is looking forward to the possibility of the new building but doesn't want to get too excited about it because this is the second time the possibility of a new building has been in the works.

"I would really like this to happen, everyone would," Esselman said. "But it isn't the best of times to make the plans for very expensive (projects)."

Sydney Elliot can be reached at [sellior@alestlelive.com](mailto:sellior@alestlelive.com) or 650-3527.

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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 Morns University Center, Room 2022 or via e-mail at [opinion@alestlelive.com](mailto: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:**

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**Have a comment?**

**Let us know!**

Send us an e-mail:  
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The Alestle

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HERE ARE THE THINGS POLITICIANS BUNGLED BEFORE THEY ESCAPED FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY: ALTERNATIVE ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE, HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS LOSING THEIR HOUSES, GAS PRICES, THE TALIBAN OVERRUNNING AFGHANISTAN, IRAQ, THE MILITARY'S EXHAUSTION AND DEPLETION, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT VIOLATING THE LAW, DITTO THE PHONE COMPANIES, HEALTH INSURANCE, OUR FOOD IS TAINTED AND THE HONEY BEES ARE DYING.



ORDINARILY THIS WOULD BOTHER ME, BUT I TAKE SOLACE IN THE FACT THAT THEY'RE WEARING THEIR AMERICAN FLAG LAPEL PINS.

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## Drawing a line in the sand

One thing I hate is waiting in long lines. Waiting in line to get food. Waiting in line to get drinks. Standing in line waiting for absolutely anything drives me insane. But there is one thing worse: waiting for an open sand volleyball court on campus.

Ever since summer started, my friends and I play volleyball outside on the sand courts to relieve our stress from summer school, but it seems the volleyball courts are always taken!

After a long day exercising my brain at school, waiting outside in the blazing heat for an open volleyball court is the last thing I want

to do.

I gather up all of my buddies, and we all head out to the court only to encounter a mob of students already there. Are there seriously not enough sand volleyball courts on campus?

There are only three sand volleyball courts on campus: one near Cougar Village, one near Bluff Hall and one near Prairie Hall.

With approximately 14,000 students attending SIUE during the fall and spring semesters, there should be more sand volleyball courts to accommodate SIUE sand volleyball fans.

Junior mechanical engineer major and volleyball fanatic Luke Thompson said he agrees SIUE needs to implement more sand volleyball courts.

"Finding an open court is a big problem at any time of the day. Cougar Village

definitely needs more than one (sand volleyball) court," Thompson said.

Can SIUE not find any area across the 2,660 acres of land to build a couple extra sand volleyball courts?

With the renovation of the Vadalabene Center comes an expanded fitness area and more outdoor recreation facilities, but no new construction for sand volleyball courts.

Summer does not last long in the Midwest, and this is the only time I get to play something I enjoy. I am tired of hunting and waiting for open sand volleyball courts.

I've got my game face on, and I want to play some sand volleyball.



**Soni Kumar**

*Soni Kumar is a sophomore mass communications major from St. Louis. She can be reached at [skumar@alestlelive.com](mailto:skumar@alestlelive.com) or 650-3527.*

## Response: Water, water, everywhere

Usually whenever I read an article in the Alestle that I find somewhat thought provoking I quell the need to respond. I usually forget about the article or my argument against it within a couple hours of reading it. This is not the case, though. After reading the article you published, "A plea for free water once more" I feel compelled to respond since, not only do I work at the Starbucks that was referred to in the article, but also because the argument put forth was unreasonable. There are certain facts that were ignored in the argument that I feel need to be addressed.

First argument: restaurants give water for free. Restaurants also put their water into glasses, unlike Starbucks, which utilizes plastic cups. Unlike the Starbucks plastic cup, restaurant glasses can be washed and reused. What was the last restaurant you went to that used plastic cups? I cannot think of any.

Second argument: Starbucks charging for water is a catalyst for dehydration. This argument is also unreasonable. Now, I have only been going to school at SIUE for about a year and half now, but I feel safe in saying there are indeed water fountains on campus! I know I was as surprised, as I am sure you all were, to make this grand discovery! In fact, they are not only on campus but also in every building. Water fountains: where every press is free.

But wait! We cannot possibly drink from a water fountain all day or until our thirst is quenched! This is when another grand invention comes into play—a water bottle! Water can stay within a water bottle all day or until you drink it all. Crazy!

If you are not into the whole "water bottle" thing, you can bring a cup from home to put water in. The best thing about water bottles is they can be reused. I am not trying to drop a line or anything, but I saw that Starbucks sells water bottles. On top of that, I heard they would put free ice water into

your water bottle even if the water bottle is not a Starbucks one. Think about it.

If all this sounds way too convoluted, I know of another place where water is free and uncomplicated. In the downstairs of the MUC, this place they call "Center Court", where they keep the condiments, over by the microwaves, there is free water. Oh yes, I have seen it and it is wonderful! Another free amenity they offer besides water is free cups.

Fear not potential dehydrate-ees, there is free water on campus, and I have found it in many forms. So the next time one of us Starbucks employees tries to charge you 30 cents for a plastic cup that we had to pay for and cannot be reused, simply say the following: "No thank you. I will go to a magical water fountain or the condiment bars by Center Court and get free water."

Bridgette Carter  
Senior, Criminal Justice

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## Music professor is 'a prince of a guy'

### Professor uses trumpet to teach, entertain local community

by **Kenneth Long**  
Alestle Reporter

Music professor Prince Wells III has met many famous musicians, has traveled the country and has won numerous awards.

Wells, who recently stepped down from his three-year position of music department chair, said despite meeting musicians like Benny Goodman and Miles Davis, as well as being named one of the most influential St. Louis African Americans and making his own CD, he's not one for the limelight.

"I'm no egomaniac," Wells said. "I never had the desire to be a household name."

Wells was born and raised in Brooklyn, Ill., a town he said has mistakenly been targeted by media for its strip clubs.

"There are so many good things to come out of Brooklyn," Wells said.

Wells attended Lovejoy Public School for his entire childhood, where he started playing trumpet in the fifth grade.

"The teacher asked the class what instruments we were interested in, and I said trumpet," Wells said. "I got a trumpet, and I never complained about it."

Wells said his teacher, George Hudson, was extremely influential in his musical development.

"I was lucky to learn from (Hudson)," Wells said. "He had friends like Clark Terry and Oliver Nelson, which made him even greater."

Wells graduated from Lovejoy and had his heart set on attending SIUE for music.

"I never had a second thought," Wells said.

When Wells began his undergraduate degree at SIUE in 1971, he said the university still had the attraction of a fairly new campus.

"It seemed like the whole campus fit into about six buildings," Wells said.

Rudolph Wilson, the former assistant provost for cultural and social diversity said he knew Wells even before he started going to SIUE.

"I've known Wells for a long time," Wilson said. "SIUE's tradition of making sure we grow our own has been exemplified by him."

Wells can credit himself for technically graduating with one of jazz's biggest names, Benny Goodman.

Goodman received an honorary doctorate from SIUE during Well's graduation ceremony in the summer of 1976. Wells was able to meet Goodman during the ceremony.

"(Meeting Goodman) was enough to blow my mind," Wells said.

After receiving a travel study grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Wells spent the summer in New York where he went to Miles Davis' house.

"Getting to meet some of the top people in jazz was



Courtesy Photo

Music Professor Prince Wells recently stepped down as the SIUE music department chair. Wells Graduated from SIUE in 1976 and began teaching in the music department in 1989, then worked his way up to chair in 2005.

a life changing experience," Wells said.

Wells went on to instruct Lovejoy's music program with his former director Hudson from 1976 through

**"He's a prince of a guy,  
the name says it all."**

-Darryl Coan, music professor

1978. After this, he attended New England Conservatory in Boston, Mass., for graduate school.

Wells began playing trumpet professionally for Albert King in St. Louis while living in Brooklyn.

"Brooklyn was still a blue-collar neighborhood, but there were still many famous musicians in the area," Wells said.

Wells began teaching part-time at SIUE's music department in 1989. He said coming back was a very pleasant experience.

"The campus had changed, but many the old

professors were still there," Wells said. "Suddenly I was a colleague, and it felt like home."

Wells worked his way up in the music department, eventually becoming an associate professor in 2001. He was then named chair of the department in 2005, with his term ending early last week.

"The quality of the music program is outstanding," Wells said. "We have really good people to work with, as well as great students."

Music professor Darryl Coan said despite the difficulties of the chair position, Wells has held up well.

"How anybody can be chair and still be such a people person after three years is amazing," Coan said. "He's a prince of a guy, the name says it all."

Some of the awards Wells has received include Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Artist/Entertainer of the Year and president and founder of the Black Music Society of Missouri. He is also listed as one of the 100 most influential St. Louis African-Americans of the 20th Century in the St. Louis art exhibit "Lift Every Voice and Sing: The St. Louis African American Heritage Project."

Wells said the photo exhibit, which eventually became a book, was one of his most cherished honors.

"Here I was on the front of the book, next to a congressman," Wells said. "It was a big deal."

Wilson said that Wells has proven himself to be a very dedicated and moral individual.

"I've seen him grow," Wilson said. "He was always honorable, hardworking and dedicated to becoming (music chair)."

Wells said that perhaps his easiest but most rewarding accomplishment was being named a role model for St. Louis school districts.

"It's not hard to be a role model," Wells said. "People do this kind of thing everyday."

Wilson said that whether Wells is teaching or playing, he's been very beneficial for SIUE.

"(Wells) is great," Wilson said. "Miles Davis in the flesh."

Well's CD "Tales from the Void," and the book "Lift Every Voice and Sing" are both available at the Lovejoy Library.

Kenneth Long can be reached at klong@alestlelive.com or 650-3531.

09	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Today</b> <b>Chimaira</b> with Solient Green, Mobil Deathcamp and Inimical 6:30 p.m. Pop's \$18 to \$20	<b>Thursday</b> <b>Edwardsville Municipal Band</b> 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Edwardsville City Park Free  <b>Danity Kane</b> 7 p.m. Six Flags St. Louis included with Admission	<b>Friday</b> <b>Loop Underground</b> 8 p.m. The Pageant \$5  <b>Hurt</b> 7 p.m. Pop's \$15 to \$17	<b>Saturday</b> <b>Movies in the Park</b> Charlotte's Web 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Edwardsville City Park Free  <b>Arts in the Park</b> Family Resource	<b>Sunday</b> <b>Family Sunday</b> <b>Daring Drawings</b> 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. St. Louis Art Museum Sculpture Hall Free	<b>Monday</b> <b>John Hiatt and the Ageless Beauties</b> 8 p.m. The Pageant \$36	<b>Tuesday</b> <b>DVD Releases</b> The Bank Job Penelope Shutter Step Up 2 the Streets  <b>CD Releases</b> Lloyd John Mellencamp The Hold Steady Randy Travis

# Edwardsville Municipal Band celebrates 124 years of performances

by **Soni Kumar**

Alestle Correspondant

The sounds of the Edwardsville Municipal Band have been reverberating through the community during summer with its concert in the park series every Thursday night for 124 years.

The band has been playing as a tradition every Thursday night during the summer since the late 1800's.

Current SIUE students, faculty and alumni fulfill their dreams as musicians by being a part of the Edwardsville Municipal Band's legacy.

SIUE alumnus Jerry Cabetto has played the saxophone in the Edwardsville Municipal Band for 32 years.

"I like the fact that the municipal band plays a wide variety of music, and I feel that the Edwardsville Municipal Band is one of the top municipal bands in the St. Louis area," Cabetto said. "(The) SIUE cultural influence helps with our success."

Cabetto graduated from SIUE with a master's in music in 1986. He said he has been interested in music since he was a child and has played the saxophone since he was 10 years old. Cabetto now plays as the first chair alto saxophone in the Edwardsville band.

According to Cabetto, in 1976 there were only 45 members in the band. There are now over 62 members, many who have a history at SIUE.

SIUE graduate student Joey Kurtz of Waterloo has been participating in the concert series for three summers.

"When I came to SIUE it was nice to find I had another opportunity in music here," Kurtz said. "The Edwardsville

Municipal Band gave me an outlet to continue my music."

Former SIUE faculty member and alumna Lillian Manning graduated from SIUE with a master's degree in English and was the graduate school coordinator at the university for 20 years. She has played the clarinet in the municipal band for over 30 years.

"I have been in the band ever since I graduated high school," Manning said. "I started playing the clarinet when I was 10 years old. My parents bought me my first clarinet, and I still use it to this day."

Manning learned how to read music at the same time as she learned how to read English.

"I have always loved music since I got my first accordion when I was 6 years old," Manning said. "The Edwardsville Municipal Band gives me a chance to play music and continue something I enjoy doing."

Kurtz has been a percussionist for 15 years and plans on graduating from SIUE in two years with a master's degree in music performance. Kurtz said music runs in his family because his five brothers also play instruments.

According to Shawn Etzkorn, Vice President of the Musicians' Union, an Edwardsville band organization has been traced back to 1843.

"In the late 1880's there were lots of separate, independent bands that played in Edwardsville on a regular basis with groups no more than 18 people," Etzkorn said. "In 1885 a performing organization evolved into the Enterprise Band, which started the concert in the park tradition."

According to Etzkorn, the Edwardsville Band was not municipal, or



Ashley Hinkle/Alestle

**The Edwardsville Municipal Band performed at The American Legion in Edwardsville for the Fourth of July. The band performs every Thursday during the summer at the Edwardsville City Park near the library.**

an official band of the city of Edwardsville, until 1927, when Edwardsville citizens passed a law for a portion of city taxes to help fund the band.

"The band has evolved into what it is today because of the concert traditions, community parades and having a band representing the city," Etzkorn said.

The Edwardsville Municipal Band has been highly recognized around the St. Louis region.

"The Edwardsville band paraded in the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis," Etzkorn said. The band also paraded soldiers off to their train stations during World War I.

Etzkorn said the Edwardsville

Municipal Band performs in the Halloween, Veterans Day and Memorial Day parades.

"I think the Municipal Band is good for the community, it gives that old time small town feel," Kurtz said. "It's nice to have that feeling sometimes."

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## Now Rating: HANCOCK

by **Jeff Mason**

Alestle Opinion Editor

Ever since the first X-Men movie, it seems summer has been the time for comic book heroes to shine. Movie goers have been treated to the likes of "Spider-Man," "Batman Begins" and "Iron Man," so it's no surprise to get a little backlash on the whole hero story line. That's where "Hancock" comes in, the inevitable not-so-good-guy hero movie that manages to be a rather messy summer treat.

"Hancock" follows the exploits of the title character played by Will Smith. While he ends up saving the day, Hancock does so at a hefty financial toll. He leaves gaping holes on every road he touches, slams criminals into buildings and destroys cars at a monster truck-like rate. Hancock also carries a bottle of whiskey at all times and taunts his many hecklers born out of his recklessness. In short, he's not the model hero.

But all that begins to change after Hancock saves Ray Embrey (Jason Bateman of FOX's "Arrested Development"). Ray, a struggling public relations man, decides to seize the moment and coaxes Hancock into becoming a client despite objections from his wife, Mary (Charlize Theron). Needless to say, things start to get better for the hero.

The movie can be divided into three parts: destruction, retribution and ... confusion. The destruction is fun to watch, and the retributions offers some great comic moments as Hancock adjusts to

becoming a nice guy, but the final third is just a mess set off by a twist that comes out of nowhere. It's a very interesting mess, but it's a flood of information that only partially makes sense because all of the pieces just don't come together like they should.

Helming the movie is Peter Berg, who directed "The Kingdom" and created the cult TV show "Friday Night Lights." His signature shaky-cam is in full swing in the start of the movie, but eventually settles down. Berg is also a touch excessive in the amount of damage seen on-screen, which serves to further blur the image he's trying to show.

Smith is excellent as a hardened hero in a movie that lets him play a variety of different emotions. Whether he's preparing his latest victims for their unkind fate or sitting down for a night out at a fancy restaurant, Smith makes it all feel like it's coming from the same person. Bateman works as the struggling PR guy, and Theron bounces off of the two main men well.

Lying deep in the background of the movie is the suggestion that the hero named after one of America's founding fathers is a metaphor of sorts for the U.S. He is arrogant, he can take all comers, he is the only super hero around, he often causes more damage than he fixes and his



symbol is the bald eagle. It's remarkably clear and completely invisible at the same time.

While the movie has its moments, in the end it's just too much of a mess to really enjoy. Even so, it's a fun movie to watch and attempts to pull off depth that most blockbuster films never think about touching. It's no wonder they got Theron and Smith to star.

3 out of 5 stars

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

## Exercise classes offer variety

by **Kenneth Long and Josh McCarty**

Alestle Reporter and Alestle Sports Editor

Pulsing, throbbing techno blasted away as a small group of exercise enthusiasts pumped their legs into the air Monday night in the Student Fitness Center's aerobics room.

Following this, the perspiring bunch of students, faculty and staff took turns throwing large exercise mats at each other.

This is one boot camp you won't find in the Army.

Boot Camp is just one of the free exercise classes taking place this summer at SIUE.

Paula Birke, Financial analyst for SIUE, and instructor of the Abs n' Back class, said that while the summer is less crowded, the classes are still effective at attracting students and faculty alike.

"Working out in a group does help people get involved," Birke said.

Abs n' Back is one of the most recent additions to the group exercise classes offered. It focuses on working out the abdominal and oblique muscles while strengthening the upper and lower back.

While Abs n' Back is 30 minutes long twice a week, other group exercise programs are longer.

Boot Camp, which takes place from 5 to 6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, is a total body workout.

Types of exercises in Boot Camp range from abdominal work through floor exercises to throwing large mats across the room, using the entire body.

Another class offered is Faculty/Staff Circuit Training. It is described as a "motivating" cardio and weight workout to get them "energized for the work day." This takes place on from noon to 12:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Graduate assistant Jen Davenport is the group exercise specialist and also teaches the faculty and staff class. She says the class is designed to fit student schedules.

"During the lunch hour before they eat their lunch, they get their workout in," Davenport said.

Birke said one of the most challenging classes offered is the 30-20-10 class offered from 5 to 5:55 p.m. on Wednesday. It consists of 30 minutes of cardio exercises, 20 minutes of strength training and 10 minutes of

abdominal and flexibility training.

"With cardio, abs, toning and weight work, 30-20-10 has nearly everything in it," Birke said.

If a student doesn't enjoy the typical group exercise environment, the Belly Dancing class could be the option for them. According to the SIUE group exercise homepage, Belly Dancing combines "specific controlled movements used in Middle Eastern Dancing along with choreographed dance routines to link individual movements together.

Step Interval training and Total Body Conditioning are both designed for a complete body workout, while Water Aerobics brings the intensity of the standard classes to the pool with a combination of "shallow and deep end body movements," according to the group exercise homepage.

Along with improving students' physical condition, classes also offer a fun aspect that can keep participants on their program.

"Our instructors are very friendly," Davenport said. "They encourage group interaction. They are available to talk to at the beginning and end of class, and



Sean Roberts/Alestle

**Tiffany Sippo (left), Kristen Boss (middle), and Felipe Rivera (right) participate in Boot Camp at SIUE Fitness Center.**

they talk in class."

With a variety of classes, the fitness center offers something for everyone.

"There is strength training and mixture of strength training and cardio," Davenport said. "You kind of get a mixture of everything depending on their goals."

Policy for the classes dictates that if there is a lack of interest in a class, it will be discontinued for the semester. The Mind and Body Yoga class previously offered

during the summer has met this fate.

As construction continues on the Student Fitness Center, Birke said there is a good chance more classes will be offered with the expansion.

Birke said she encourages people to get out and try the different group exercise classes.

"You have to want to be here though," Birke said.

*Kenneth Long and Josh McCarty can be reached at sports@alestlelive.com or 650-3524.*

## Brown and DeShazier edged out in Olympic trials, Bishop tries in discus

by **Josh McCarty**  
Alestle Sports Editor

Dreams for a 2008 Olympic bid fell short for two Cougars, as SIUE junior Deserea Brown and 2007 SIUE graduate Alicia DeShazier both failed to qualify for the United States Olympic team June 27 through 29 during the Olympic trials in Eugene, Ore.

While the 2008 Olympics will not be in their future, both came through with strong showings against the nation's top athletes.

Brown advanced to the semi-finals of the qualification process, and finished 16th overall in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 59.66 seconds.

To make it to the trials, Brown ran the 400 hurdles in 56.82, shaving two seconds off of her previous personal best of 58.78.

Head track and field coach David Astrauskas said progression like that does not come easy.

"She showed remarkable work ethic throughout the entire year," Astrauskas said. "That's why she showed such big improvements."

Brown has already had a memorable 2008 season, She has earned two National Championships and being named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Athlete of the Year, All-American in multiple events.

"She is a special young lady all around," said SIUE assistant track and field coach Ben Beyers. "The athletics is just a part of the whole person. It's a reflection of her whole identity. She is such

a hard worker and a great talented young lady.

Brown is still hoping to represent Team U.S.A in the U.S. versus the Caribbean Islands event held later this month.

Like Brown, DeShazier also fared well, finishing fifth overall in the javelin throw, two spots behind the top three qualifiers. For DeShazier, making it to the 2008 Olympics would have been an added bonus to her overall plan.

"Her main goal all along has been 2012," Astrauskas said. "If you look back on the 2004 results, she has shown improvements."

While the 2008 Olympic push is over for two Cougars, another will still be attempting to represent the United States.

SIUE freshman Brian Bishop is in Bydgoszcz, Poland for the 2008 International Association of Athletics Federations World Junior Championships. Bishop will attempt to qualify for the U.S.A. National team in the discus throw.

Bishop earned first-team All-GLVC honors and advanced to the National Championship in the discus throw this season for SIUE. He finished second at the GLVC championships in the discus with a throw of 54.34 meters.

To qualify, Bishop will need to finish in the top two of the field. The qualifying round began on Tuesday, with the finals set to take place Wednesday.

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## Intramurals return to SIUE

by **Jeff Mason**  
Alestle Opinion Editor

Intramural sports are back at SIUE, returning briefly for the final months of the summer semester.

"This is our first time doing (intramural sports) over the summer," graduate assistant for intramural sports Heather Olsen said. "We have four teams (in the sand volleyball league)... We looked at a few sports, and volleyball seemed like the best thing to do."

In addition to sand volleyball, a 3-on-3 basketball tournament is in the works later in July.

"It's open to students," Dave Hagedorn, assistant director of facilities and Informal Recreation, said. "It's kind of a street ball game for students. They don't have to be current students to play ... as long as they are somehow affiliated with the university. It will be officiated and there will be a champion to come out of it."

These sports will serve as a

test for future intramural events during the summer term. While SIUE has tried to start intramural sports during the summer before, they were met with relatively poor results.

"(They) tried before I started here ... but it didn't really work out," Olsen said. "They just waited too long to get it set up."

Those looking forward to intramural sports in the fall will be greeted by more than just the usual soccer and basketball options.

"(We) have quidditch, like from Harry Potter, that's brand new," Olsen said. "There's bass fishing. There's a lot more tournaments in the fall."

The registration deadline for the 3-on-3 basketball tournament is July 23 with a fee of \$15 per team. All games will be played on July 26. Registration for the sand volleyball league has closed and the first games have already been played. The league lasts from July 8 through Aug. 5.

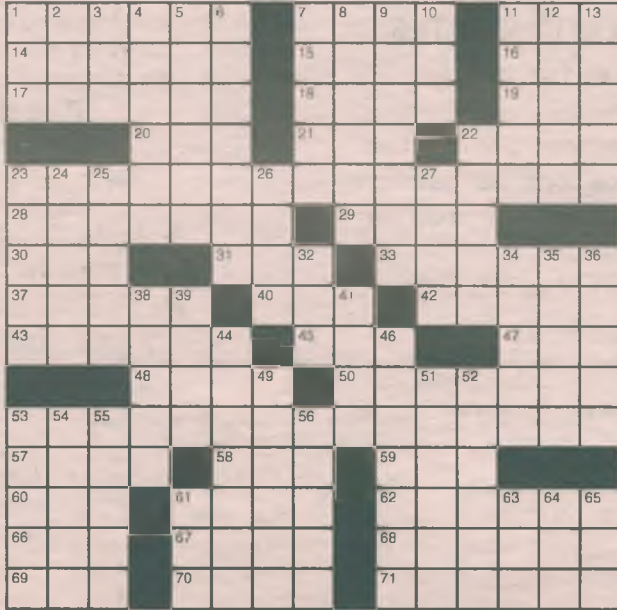
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# THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**ACROSS**

- 1 TV screening device
- 6 Luck of the Irish
- 10 Area meas.
- 14 In isolation
- 15 Bryce Canyon state
- 16 Part of FAQ
- 17 Three doctors
- 20 Expel
- 21 Goober
- 22 Smallest bill
- 23 Sumptuous
- 26 Mil. honor
- 27 Sharp turn
- 30 Crustacean's larval stage
- 32 Flamboyant promotion
- 35 Routinized
- 38 Part of MLB post-season
- 40 Gun lobby letters
- 41 Three doctors
- 44 Indonesian island group
- 45 Ditka or Schmidt
- 46 Quenches
- 47 Hoarse sound
- 49 Trees with needles
- 51 Mil. info grp.
- 52 Misfortune
- 54 Punta del Uruguay
- 56 Ship's record
- 59 Black Sea port
- 62 Desert plant
- 65 Three doctors
- 68 River of Hamburg
- 69 Shrek, for one
- 70 Ancient city on the Nile
- 71 Stone and Stallone
- 72 \_\_\_ Oreille Lake



- 73 Utopias
- DOWN**
- 1 Explorer da Gama
- 2 Just washed
- 3 Three doctors
- 4 MIT part
- 5 Tijuana cash
- 6 "Casablanca" director
- 7 LAX stat
- 8 \_\_\_ Luis Obispo
- 9 Dog of song
- 10 Press flat
- 11 Three doctors
- 12 Diner listing
- 13 "\_\_\_ It a Pity"
- 18 Bad dog
- 19 Letters in math proofs
- 24 Urgers
- 25 Maintained
- 28 Sportscaster Cross
- 29 Mariana island
- 31 Top pilots
- 33 \_\_\_-dieu
- 34 Swallows
- 35 Muslim woman's gown
- 36 Racing org.
- 37 Wage-slave's letters
- 39 Town near Caen
- 42 Ma Joad, for one
- 43 Flowed
- 48 Nosegays
- 50 Moped
- 53 Superlative suffix
- 55 N.T. book
- 57 "Loot" dramatist
- 58 Fixed looks
- 59 Poetic works
- 60 Toy person
- 61 On the summit of
- 63 Abode
- 64 Just barely managed
- 66 T-shirt size
- 67 Sea eagle

# 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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

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## Wednesday's Answers

### THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams



## SUDOKU

By Michael Mepham

4	5	6	9	1	3	7	8	2
2	1	3	8	7	4	9	6	5
7	9	8	2	5	6	3	4	1
1	7	9	5	4	8	2	3	6
3	2	4	1	6	9	8	5	7
6	8	5	3	2	7	4	1	9
5	3	1	4	9	2	6	7	8
8	6	2	7	3	5	1	9	4
9	4	7	6	8	1	5	2	3

## Girls & Sports

By Andrew Feinstein



"Pssst, honey ... let's leave now and beat the crowd"

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8

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