



E. St. Louis high school gets \$1 million gift

COURTNEY HILL
 Alestle Reporter

A \$1 million donation will help the Statistics, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program build a classroom at the East St. Louis Charter High School.

According to Sharon Locke, director of the Center for STEM Research, Education and Outreach, the classroom design will provide an experiential learning environment that will

not focus entirely on lecture.

"It's a combination of what we call an active learning classroom, where students are not just sitting and listening to a teacher lecturing to them," Locke said. "They're working on projects together, working in teams [and] solving problems."

The design was created by a team of two charter school teachers, an SIUE student teacher and three high school students who assessed the needs of the high school student body

to provide a fun, interactive learning environment welcoming creative insight. Locke said the collaboration would give students and staff a sense of ownership and pride in their accomplishments.

In terms of construction, Locke said the floor plan accounts for a 1,300 square foot space that will have more than one function.

"It's one space that's divided into two parts," Locke said. "We're calling it the East

St. Louis 21st Century STEM Learning Center. There is an open space where furniture can be arranged into groups so that students can work in teams of two or teams of six. Then there's another smaller space that's called a fabrication laboratory."

The fabrication lab will be a space where students learn how to design objects, which will include a 3-D imaging scanner and printer. The technology will digitize the shape of an object for designing, and then print out

that object in a 3-D plastic mold.

The walls of the space will also be made of a glass that can be written on with markers; an important function, according to Locke.

"It's a place for them to think, create, solve math problems or they can draw designs on the space," Locke said.

According to campus architect Rick Klein, demolition and painting has begun within

STEM/pg.2

Turning plants into pixels

Team covers campus for online foliage database

LEXI CORTES
 Alestle Reporter

From nature walks to homework, community members and students have a new resource to use to identify plants and trees on campus.

Tools such as an interactive map, photographs and detailed descriptions of each species can be found on a website, are the result of more than a year's worth of effort by biological sciences professor Elizabeth Esselman, education librarian Matt Paris, digital imaging specialist Virginia Stricklin and cataloging and metadata librarian Mary Rose.

The website can be found by visiting siue.edu/digitalcollections and selecting 'plants of SIUE.'

The project has grown to include 116 species and 380 photographs since Esselman first brought the idea to Paris. Esselman said she had been thinking about the database for five years before she even attempted to make it a reality.

Rose said most digital projects do not take



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Photo courtesy of Virginia Stricklin

The New England aster blooms in August, September and October. The flower is located in the Science Building prairie lot and can grow anywhere between three and seven feet tall. Elizabeth Esselman's idea of digitizing all the plants on campus now includes 116 species as the project continues to grow.

PLANTS/pg.2

Water main break floods Cougar Commons

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

A contractor struck a water main Tuesday, leaving water flooded across the basement floor of the Cougar Village Commons and closing down the building's bathrooms and laundry room.

Director of Housing Michael Schultz said the contractor hit a water main around 10:15 a.m. while digging a foundation for the outer wall for the commons building. Schultz said the pipe did not have a "trace line" to let the contractor know where the pipe was.

"You see those commercials, 'call before you dig,'" Schultz said. "They basically use a metal detector to determine where the pipe is. But when everyone switched to plastic [pipes], when lines are put in, they install a trace

line so the pipe is located."

Schultz said both the laundry room and bathrooms should be open later Tuesday.

University workers dug a four-foot hole just outside the laundry room to gain access to the pipe, eventually filling the hole with gravel around 1:30 p.m.

The basement had water stretched from the Cougar Village Commons Grill to the back of the multi-purpose and mail rooms. Rotted tiles from the room's ceiling behind the mailroom were being shoveled into a wheelbarrow, as fans were set up to dry the basement floor. The multi-purpose room was sectioned off halfway by a tarp as well.

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



Photo by Rebecka Blake/Alestle

A foundation is being poured in the basement of the Cougar Commons where muddy walls used to exist. Throughout the years, water has seeped into the storage room prompting the change.

STEM from pg.1

the large space and will not only be used as a place for research and development, but will also prove to be aesthetically pleasing.

"It's going to be a very nice upgraded space [with] nice quality finishes, carpet tiles and rubber floors," Klein said. "We're adding some glass walls, roughly 30 feet by 40-45 feet."

According to Klein, the estimated completion date is before Christmas, but it is still uncertain.

"We hope to complete it a little sooner than [Christmas]," Klein said. "But there were some items that we had to order that were long-lead items that are going to delay the final completion. We'll get as much work done as we possibly can."

The classroom project was made possible by a \$1 million donation by an anonymous donor who had a deep-seated interest in the East St. Louis community and STEM research, according to Jerry Weinberg, acting associate provost for Research and dean of the Graduate School.

"The donor is a businessman in the area who's an engineer," Weinberg said. "He had developed a global company, and he's from the East St. Louis area. He's near retirement and really wanted to give back to the community. This [donation] is the first of its kind for SIUE and certainly the East St. Louis region."

Locke said the construction of the classroom is an important long-term investment in the future of regional STEM research that will eventually be an exponential benefit to the East St. Louis community.

"In the wealthy school districts around the country, there are many that have this equipment and it's less common in communities that are economically less well off," Locke said. "This is a tremendous opportunity for the charter school to give students every advantage."

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Photos by Rebehka Blake/Alestle
Top: Workers fill the hole outside the commons laundry room with gravel Tuesday afternoon. The laundry room and bathrooms were expected to be fully functioning by Tuesday evening.

Right: SIUE Construction Service worker Dave Eckhard works to repair the water main that was broken Tuesday morning around 10:15 a.m. The main was lacking a trace line which would have helped workers detect the line's location. The main flooded the basement of Cougar Commons and closed the building's bathrooms and laundry room.

**PLANTS** from pg.1

as long to plan and make public as this one did.

"This one was very intensive because each of the 116 different plants had to be dealt with uniquely," Rose said. "We were also creating all of the images ourselves. It's not like we were scanning something that was already made."

Stricklin and Esselman would go around campus frequently to locate and take pictures of different plants.

"We've tramped out in muddy fields, tick-infested woody walks, been belly-down in dirt taking some of the photographs of smaller species and it's been a lot of fun," Stricklin said.

Esselman came to Paris with the idea for a botanical database. Paris coordinated the project by bringing in Stricklin to work as the photographer and Rose to get the site up and running while Esselman provided the information about each species.

Esselman said the website was designed to be a tool for students in biology classes, but they also wanted to make the website as easy to navigate as possible so even a person who has no experience identifying plants could use it.

"I just thought it would be great if people would have a user-friendly thing that was better than a dry old textbook that you have to open and actually know a whole bunch of mechanical terms in order to identify a species," Esselman

said. "This way, you can just look around and get an appreciation of plants and what we have on campus."

Stricklin said navigating the website is simple because Rose has made it searchable by habitat, plant species, growth pattern, bloom color, bloom time and she included a map showing where different plants grow.

"The idea is a person could take their smart phone or their iPad and go out on these walks around campus and be able to identify these plants themselves by the photographs and the descriptions," Stricklin said.

Paris said he is glad the library was involved in the collaboration because it benefits the community, but especially because it can be implemented in the classroom.

"At the library, we collect a lot of stuff and make a lot of stuff available," Paris said. "But this is something where we would actually be creating material that would be used in course instruction."

Although the site has been

functioning since November 2010 and includes 116 species, it is far from completed. The team plans to continue to add to it in the future.

"It's not comprehensive. It's

"We've tramped out in muddy fields, tick-infested woody walks, been belly down in dirt taking some of the photographs of smaller species and it's been a lot of fun..."

— Virginia Stricklin
Digital Imaging Specialist

not like we only have 116 species on campus," Rose said. "We could continue to add species. Another thing we wanted to do was add pictures of plants in different seasons."

Esselman said they would be interested in adding GPS coordinates to the map as well as pictures and information on animals at SIUE to the website eventually. She said she hopes the website continues to grow.

"To me, if we could just [document] all living things on the SIUE campus besides human beings, I think that would be really neat," Esselman said.

Currently, the site consists of a variety of plants from, what Esselman calls "artificially

planted," including the plants in the Gardens, to the natural species on campus.

They have 28 plants listed in The Gardens and more than 50 listed in Bohm Woods and Sweet William Woods, where no one has been planting unnatural species.

Stricklin said when she and Esselman looked more closely at the campus together, they were surprised to find certain plants.

"There have been a couple of orchids that are pretty rare and [Esselman] has been quite excited during several hikes to find things growing on campus that supposedly no one knew were growing on campus," Stricklin said.

Esselman said the orchids are autumn coralroot orchids and they are not necessarily rare in the state, but they are not found everywhere on campus.

Once Stricklin took the pictures of the plants, Esselman provided the information to go with each picture and then the material was sent to Rose.

Rose had to decide how to organize all of the information and photographs so the website would be easy for students and

community members to navigate.

"I collaborated with Matt in particular," Rose said. "He had a lot of ideas about what features to include and I took his ideas and I kind of figured out how to execute them for the homepage."

Rose worked with Esselman to make sure the descriptions were uniform and they were not using different words for the same concept.

"If you search for a word, you want to express the same concept that appears for different plants in the same way, so that when you do a search, you'll retrieve everything that's relevant," Rose said.

Rose also included "predefined searches" to the homepage for users who do not know what to search for.

"We have little, clickable things that will execute a search for people," Rose said. "You can click on the word 'tree' on the homepage and it will retrieve all the trees that are in the database."

The website is now fully functioning and will continue to grow in the future.

"We're certainly not done with the plant database," Paris said. "We're going to continue adding plants, especially next spring. We'll really be going out pretty hot and heavy and collecting more photographs."

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Amazon.com to offer textbook rentals

NATHAN OLIVAREZ-GILES
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — College textbooks are getting a bit more affordable.

Amazon.com Inc. on Monday said it launched a program in which college students can rent digital copies of “tens of thousands of textbooks” at a fraction of the cost of buying them.

The online retailer said the

rental fees could be as much as 80 percent lower than the purchase price. Students can rent a textbook for as few as 30 days or up to 360 days, with fees based on how long the book is rented, Amazon said.

Rentals can be read on Amazon’s Kindle e-reader, as well as Macs and PCs that have the Kindle app. They can also be read on smartphones and tablet computers running the Apple iOS, Microsoft Windows Phone 7 and



Graphic courtesy of Amazon.com

Google Android operating systems.

Once the rental period is up for a textbook, students can choose to purchase books or rent them again for a period of as little as one extra day, Amazon said. Among publishers offering rentals through Amazon are John Wiley & Sons

Inc., Elsevier and Taylor & Francis Group Ltd.

Amazon said students will be able to take notes and highlight text.

“We’ve done a little something extra we think students will enjoy,” Dave Limp, vice president of Amazon’s Kindle unit, said. “Normally, when you sell your print textbook at the end of the semester, you lose all the margin notes and highlights you made as

you were studying. We’re extending our Whispersync technology so that you get to keep and access all of your notes and highlighted content in the Amazon Cloud, available anytime, anywhere — even after a rental expires. If you choose to rent again or buy at a later time, your notes will be there just as you left them.”

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

SIUE POLICE BLOTTER

7-13-11

Police responded to a call at Cougar Village apartment 427 of a missing 15-year-old boy. After meeting with neighbors the boy was found in Cougar Village playing video games.

Police issued Amber N. Jackson a citation for speeding on South University at Stadium Drive.

Police responded to Cougar Village 410 eight different times for a report of an active fire alarm. The alarm was being activated by cleaning.

7-14-11

Police issued Gregor Stebernak a citation for speeding on South University at Stadium Drive.

Police took a call of disorderly conduct as a subject reported he was being pursued by a black Dodge Charger occupied by several male suspects. The Charger was located in Collinsville and suspects were transported to the SIUE police department. They were questioned and released, the case is still under investigation.

Police contacted Justin W. McElroy about a previous incident. The officer determined McElroy had an outstanding

warrant for contempt of court in Jersey County. McElroy was processed and given a court date in Jersey County and released after posting \$250 bond.

7-15-11

Police responded to Cougar Village apartment 423 after a resident called to complain of people outside the apartment being loud and possibly smoking marijuana. The officer spoke with a couple of the individuals who went inside.

Police responded to the academic area of campus after receiving a call of a woman walking around in her housecoat and nightgown. The officer advised he was unable to locate her.

Police responded to a two-car accident in parking lot A. Christopher Leach was issued a citation for operating an

uninsured motor vehicle.

7-16-11

Police took a report of a missing license plate from a Dodge Stratus.

7-17-11

An officer responded to the Vadalabene Center for an active fire alarm. The alarm was activated by unknown causes, there was no fire, smoke, or damage and the alarm was reset.

7-18-11

Michelle Meloche was issued a citation for speeding at South University at Stadium Drive.

Police responded to a call of a vehicle that had been struck in parking lot B. The vehicle in question was still on the scene, officer left a note on the vehicle to contact police.

7-18-11

An officer took a call from a student who said a white Jeep followed him from lot 12 for about 20 minutes. The vehicle was occupied by possibly four white males, the officer could not locate the vehicle.

Police issued Bryenne Scott state citations for expired registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle on Cougar Lake Drive at N University Drive.

Police responded to a call of a stolen hangtag while the subject’s motorcycle was parked at Shop-N-Save.

A building service worker reported that the feminine hygiene located in the women’s restroom on the first floor of Dunham Hall had been broken into.

7.22.11
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Mix ingredients.
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Never underestimate ‘just a few.’
Buzzed driving is drunk driving.



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Include phone number, signature, class rank and major.

We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. 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.

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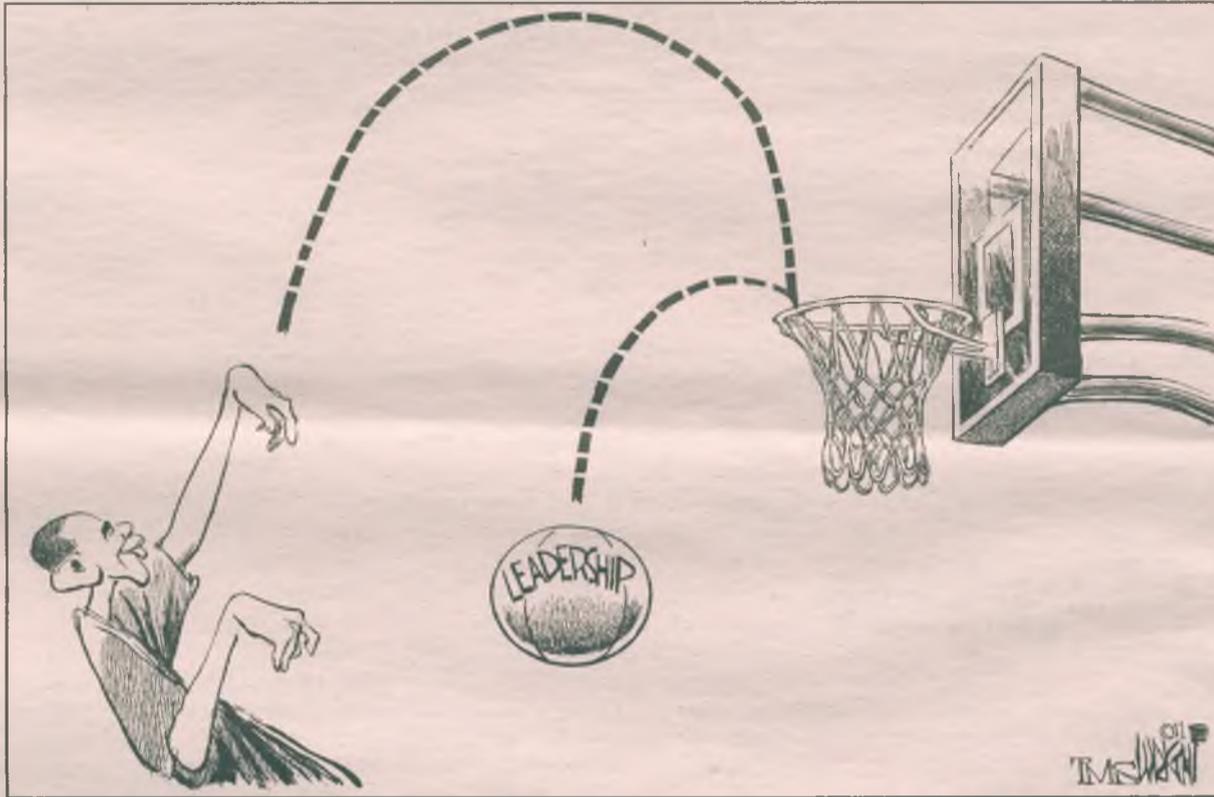
The name Alestle is an acronym derived from the names of the three campus locations of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville: Alton, East St. Louis and Edwardsville.

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Collinsville ordinance turns fashion into a crime

It's now a crime to look like a fool with your pants on the ground

Well, not exactly. But Collinsville's recently passed ordinance outlawing saggy pants is a step in that direction.

Nobody wants to see someone's boxers hanging out of their pants, that's a given. But to outright ban



Kari Williams
Editor in Chief

saggy pants is ridiculous.

If this is happening now, I can only imagine what will happen when someone gets upset about a woman's bra strap showing when she wears a tank top. We might as well ban tank tops and swim suits if this is how things are going to go.

Not only does the mere idea of such a law seem impossible to enforce, but it wastes taxpayer money.

Pine Lawn and Bel-Ridge counties in Missouri have passed similar ordinances, but just because it has been done in the recent past in a neighboring state does not mean

Collinsville needs to jump on the bandwagon. The vote on the Collinsville ordinance passed with 3-2 majority, so clearly there are people against the law.

Collinsville Councilwoman Liz Dalton pushed for and brought the ordinance to the county board's attention. In the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dalton said when she "starts hearing repeat requests as an elected official, [she] has to listen."

Just because people complain doesn't mean some sort of action needs to be taken. Sometimes people just like to vent or talk just to hear themselves talk. Elected officials should also be able to sift through complaints of personal taste and complaints of community issues.

Outlawing a clothing style or fashion statement is ridiculous. I mean, how would people have reacted if bell bottoms or parachute pants were banned?

Yeah, people look back in humiliation, but at the time it was what was "in." I'm not saying having your pants hanging half way down your legs is "in," but it's what some people like to wear.

Illinois has more financial problems than

anyone can count. Forcing police officers to waste their time on a nuisance is only enabling the state's problem. Enforcing this policy is a lot of work for police officers who have much more important issues to tend to. And what's to say that someone won't get fined more than once if another police officer sees them a few miles down the street.

Sure, there's the argument that money can be made off the young "rebels," with first time offenders forking over \$100.

And I understand the argument that the people of Collinsville want to keep their city looking nice. But city laws and ordinances are not the place to enforce these types of laws. Those types of policies should be enforced in individual households or school and work dress code policies.

City ordinances are meant to protect citizens and to better the city in which its residents live. And a few young people walking around with sagging pants isn't going to hurt anyone.

Kari Williams is a senior mass communications major from St. Louis. She can be reached at kwilliams@alestlelive.com or 650-3530. Follow Kari @Kari_Williams

Parking lot resurfacing paves the way to aggravation

With the economic and financial state of this university, I do not view it feasible to re-tar our parking lots and sidewalks the past two summers.

I understand the summer time would be the best time to carry out such a project with the traffic being lower and all, but it also causes some steamy walks to class.

That is not the issue



AJ Sanson
Managing Editor

here, I will cherish these walks come winter when I cannot feel my feet, but if timing is everything, then resurfacing during the hottest week of the summer is more dreadful than watching Colby Rasmus try to throw someone out at home.

The lots and sidewalks are not that bad, even taking into account the extremes they see on both sides of the weather scale with bitter cold and unbearably hot temperatures that can wear down the surface.

Does this really have to be done every year? I remember the street I grew up on

getting resurfaced once every five years and it was not as if we had to put our vehicles in four wheel drive to try to get home everyday.

It's not like we have to walk around cracks the size of the Grand Canyon on a regular basis. The only thing we have to worry about walking through is a flock of geese or a flock of their surprises.

It seems to me like our money could be spent elsewhere, like possibly helping fund the expansions to the Art and Engineering Buildings or even installing security cameras in the parking lots to help cut down on break-ins.

Another place where I would like to see money spent would be renovating some Cougar Village apartments. I would imagine those who inhabit the units would agree with me; I chose never to live there because I did not wish to feel as if I was living in a broom closet.

I understand this is something that, in time, has to be done, but I do not think it needs to be done every year. It also makes for some fun traffic situations.

I have already seen two cars in the past

couple weeks going down the wrong side of the one-way road.

Plus, the resurfacing is covering up those wonderful "The est. 1957" logos that blanket the side walks, the existence of which still baffles me. I think they are another example of where the university could have spent money elsewhere.

I hope at the very least we have saved up enough cash to re-paint those when this is all said and done, I mean they are a cornerstone of our campus, right?

I do not get the point of doing this every year. We do not have bulldozers and tanks roaming our campus daily, chewing up the pavement so that it needs to be resurfaced this much.

Let it go a few years until resurfacing is really needed, this is just something that seems like a waste of money to me and causes a pretty big inconvenience when it comes to parking.

AJ Sanson is a senior mass communications major from Conyers, GA. He can be reached at asanson@alestlelive.com or 650-3527. Follow AJ @AJ_Sanson

In the July 6 edition of the Alestle, an article ran with the headline, "Corn-to-Ethanol center receives \$3,000 gift." The dollar amount should have read \$300,000. The Alestle regrets the error.

Pair compile history on East St. Louis

Professor, alumnus write book using SIUE archives

LEXI CORTES
Alestle Reporter

East St. Louis is now being included in the "Images of America" Arcadia Publishing book series on the celebration of its 150th anniversary.

Professor of political science Andrew Theising said he is excited to have published a photo essay on the city's 150th anniversary. He also wrote another book about East St. Louis, "Made in USA: East St. Louis," in 2003 and published several articles about the city in the past.

Theising said East St. Louis has been his research passion for almost 20 years, but he was not always so enthusiastic. When he started his research back in 1993, he did not want to visit East St. Louis.

"My doctoral adviser at UMSL kept insisting that I go study East St. Louis," Theising said. "I wanted to study school desegregation, education issues and financial issues for cities. Each time, my advisor would say 'No, go study East St. Louis.' So I went and I have never left. I love the city. I'm fascinated by the city. I think I will be for the rest of my life."

Research assistant at the Institute for Urban Research Victor Hicks said Theising's work is very important

because people frequently have a negative impression of East St. Louis due to the

Louis. "They wanted to do one for years," Theising said. "The

"I love [East St. Louis]. I'm fascinated by the city. I think I will be for the rest of my life..."

— Andrew Theising
Political science professor

socio-economic issues and the media.

"I think Dr. Theising's work helps people understand how the city got to where it is," Hicks said. "It helps show a more full and accurate picture, especially of the history of the city. Oftentimes people assume they know the story."

Theising co-authored the "Images of America" book with Bill Nunes, who attended SIUE in 1963 when there was no campus in Edwardsville. The only buildings were in East St. Louis and Alton.

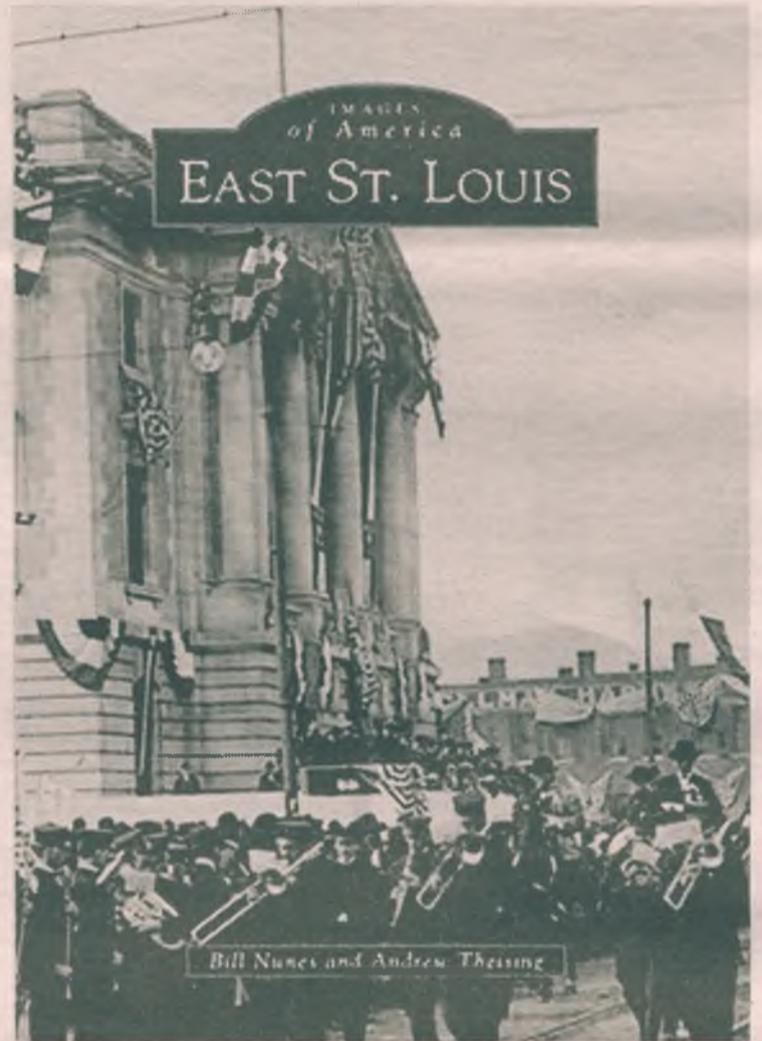
"Images of America: East St. Louis" was published July 12, in the book series that reproduces historic photographs. Theising said there has never been a book in the series written on East St.

problem is there's just no single place that has collected a critical mass of photos and memorabilia about East St. Louis except for one place: SIUE."

Theising said the university archives have a tremendous collection of East St. Louis material, much coming from his own donations over the years.

"The collection has hundreds of images and the archives [were] very kind to scan a bunch of these," Theising said. "I worked with the archives to select images. I researched the content of the images and I wrote lengthy captions for them. Really, this book is a photo essay of the East St. Louis experience in its first 75 years."

The chapters of the book include the chapter landmarks,



Graphic courtesy of Arcadia Publishing

Associate professor Andrew Theising and alumnus Bill Nunes co-authored the East St. Louis edition of 'Images of America' using research found in the SIUE university archives. The 'Images of America' series is available at local bookstores and online.

events, commerce and industry, government and leisure time. Theising chose a mix of photos from the archives to represent these titles.

University archivist Steve Kerber said working with Theising was not a complicated process because he knew his way around the

archives.

"[Theising] is really more conversant than anybody that I'm aware of with the source materials that relate to the history of East St. Louis, not just here, but anywhere," Kerber said. "He usually has a very good idea and a very good

EAST ST. LOUIS/pg.6

SlutWalk takes the streets



Photo by Rebehka Blake/Alestle

Arine Burns, 20, of Mascoutah, Olgo Cerobio, 20, of Freeburg and Lauren McGraw, 21, of Freeburg attended the SlutWalk in St. Louis July 16. The SlutWalk was inspired by a walk in Toronto, which took place after a Toronto police representative said, "Women should avoid looking like sluts in order to not be victimized."

Upcoming Events

in and around STL

7/21

We Are the Union Fubar
6 p.m. \$10
Jesse Malin and the St. Mark's Social
Firebird
9 p.m. \$12

7/22

STL Music Festival Cicero's
6 p.m. \$15
Outdoor Film Festival
St. Louis Art Museum
9 p.m. Free

7/23

Billy Gardell The Pageant
7 p.m. \$33.50
Kottonmouth Kings Pop's
7 p.m. \$15
STL Music Festival Cicero's
4 p.m. \$15

Local musician gives farewell performance

Faculty member takes Wildey Stage to entertain Edwardsville one last time

COURTNEY HILL and JILL COOK
Alestle Reporter and Writer's Coach

Through melodious shades of sound reminiscent of John Coltrane's fleeting riffs on saxophone, renowned pianist, organist, SIUE faculty member and East St. Louis native Reggie Thomas took to the stage for one last performance July 17 at the Wildey Theater.

Although it was a farewell performance for the Thomas couple. Thomas and his wife, Mardra, are heading to Michigan State University where he will be teaching in the Music Department. Thomas does not like to consider it a final performance.

"I don't want to think of any performance as my last. I hope to return and perform again or to see another performance at the Wildey," Thomas said.

With his three-part group, OGD (Organ, Guitar, Drums), and the vocal style of Mardra, the show was a graceful mélange of humor, light-heartedness and jazz.

Thomas played many of Stevie Wonder's songs during his concert, while incorporating his own touch of jazz flavor to each.



SIUE professor and jazz musician Reggie Thomas took to the Wildey Theater's stage July 17 with his wife, Mardra, one last time before the pair moves to Michigan, where Thomas will become a professor at Michigan State University.

Photo by Michelle Beard/Alestle

the old musicians, like Jimmy Smith, that he maintains in his play. He's a humble man that knows he has an art and he wants to share it."

types of music, and all of it comes out. There's blues, there's straight-ahead jazz playing, there's funk and R&B. All of it somehow comes out as whoever I am."

Even tinges of gospel rang out at times during the performance, reminding of his roots, playing gospel in his church.

"You can't ever get too far from home," Thomas said.

Mardra shared the same sentiments when describing her theatrical style of singing.

"Everything we do in life affects who we are," Mardra said. "So everything that I do colors what I sing."

Many fans, like Rudy Wilson of Edwardsville, said Thomas' style is unmatched because of his dedication to his fans as well as his level of musicianship.

"[He's committed] to try to bring the best out of everybody; through music, through writing and through thinking," Wilson said.

"You know how you get your morals and values from your family? Musically, I got that from Reggie."

- Phillip Dunlap
Reggie Thomas' former student

Chester Deanes of St. Louis said he admired Thomas' authentic interpretations of old jazz greats.

"I love the flavor of his music," Deanes said. "I'm appreciative of the jazz organ, and he has a level of swing from

In describing his style, Thomas said he has been influenced by many great jazz musicians, including Miles Davis and Duke Wellington, and has merged these styles to create one that is unique to him.

"I'm a mutt," Thomas said. "I've listened to so many different

And Reggie's time teaching has touched many people in the SIUE community, including Chancellor Vaughn Vandegrift.

"He has been one of our mainstays of our jazz program," Vandegrift said. "Thanks to Reggie, Brett Stamps and Rick Haydon, they have built an internationally known program."

Reggie also recognized Stamps and Haydon, SIUE music professors when he was a student, for guiding him toward being a professor.

"I wouldn't be a professor if not for SIU and Brett Stamps and Rick Haydon. They asked me to pursue a master's degree and even created an assistantship to help me," Reggie said.

He has passed on that influence to his former students, including Phillip Dunlap, who earned his bachelor's and master's degree under Reggie. Dunlap credits Reggie for much of his work ethics.

"You know how you get your

morals and values from your family? Musically, I got that from Reggie," Dunlap said.

Dunlap was hired on at Jazz St. Louis to help build its education and outreach program. According to Dunlap, his goals with the program were inspired by Reggie.

"His influence goes beyond me. It goes through me and to the students I work with," Dunlap said.

But Reggie did not influence just his students; he has also impacted professors he has worked with.

Music professor Prince Wells had an office next door to Reggie and saw his dedication.

"He functions at such a high level, inspiring and influencing people all around him," Wells said.

Despite the fact that he will be leaving Edwardsville and the SIUE community after more than 20 years of service, Thomas said he will always consider Edwardsville home and is looking ahead to a fulfilling future with Michigan State University.

"I happen to be at the point where I either branch out professionally or retire here," Reggie said. "And the program there is strong and fits with my philosophies."

Although the geographical settings will be changing soon for him and his wife, the jazz will remain ever-present.

"The expressiveness and the ability to create on the spot, not just to recreate music; the process of being a jazz musician is what I'm in love with," Thomas said. "I enjoy the ride along the way. Making improvised music drives me."

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memory for an appropriate illustration."

Kerber said Theising chose 39 images out of hundreds from the university archives to include in the book.

Theising gathered materials for this book while working as the director of the IUR and said his research in East St. Louis often coincides with the institute's active role in the city.

The proceeds from the sales of the book will actually be donated back to the university for the work of the IUR. The book will be available in the university bookstore and Barnes and Noble.

"The IUR is the applied research arm of the university and that means we go out and take the talents and the research of the university and we apply it at the local level," Theising said. "We work with city halls and

nonprofits and government agencies to use our research in doing their work."

Nunes and Theising have been friends for more than 15 years and they have each published separate works about East St. Louis, but this is the first project they have worked on together.

"He was very kind because he's written a lot more than I have and he let me take the lead," Theising said. "He let me have editorial control over the volume and he provided a lot of information about the pictures. He would read my writing and he would find gaps in the information that I had and he would help fill those gaps for me. We made a very good team."

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Burton releases first ever OVC schedule

Cougars open season with exhibition against Iowa State at home

ALLAN LEWIS
Alestle Sports Editor

With a full 16-game slate ahead of them, including a full run through the Ohio Valley Conference, the SIUE women's soccer team will be tested.

Women's soccer

The Cougars released their 2011 schedule last week, and look to build upon last year's 8-7-1 season.

Head Coach Derek Burton said he was not too mindful of his team's RPI next season when putting together the non-conference schedule because the Cougars will still be ineligible for postseason play. The Cougars can still compete for the OVC regular season crown and team pride.

"It doesn't affect us because we can't get into the NCAA tournament," Burton said. "It affects the rest of the conference and everyone affects everyone else, and we hope to get into a position where we can get two OVC teams into the NCAA tournament."

The journey for the Cougars begins Aug. 13, with an exhibition game against Big 12 foe Iowa State at Ralph Korte Stadium.

"It is a great opportunity for us to prepare for the

SCHEDULE/pg.8



Alestle Photo Archives

Erin DiGiovanni (24) and the SIUE Cougars will play 16 games including eight against teams from the Ohio Valley Conference in 2011. The Cougars open the season with an exhibition game against Iowa State Aug. 14 at Korte Stadium.

Clements named assistant at Western Illinois

ALLAN LEWIS
Alestle Sports Editor

Former SIUE volleyball player and assistant coach Mallory Clements was named an assistant coach at Western Illinois Monday.

Volleyball

Clements spent the past two seasons as an assistant under former Head Coach Todd Gober following a successful playing career at SIUE. Clements holds the SIUE record for service aces (189) and is second on the all-time assists (4,311) and digs (1,459).

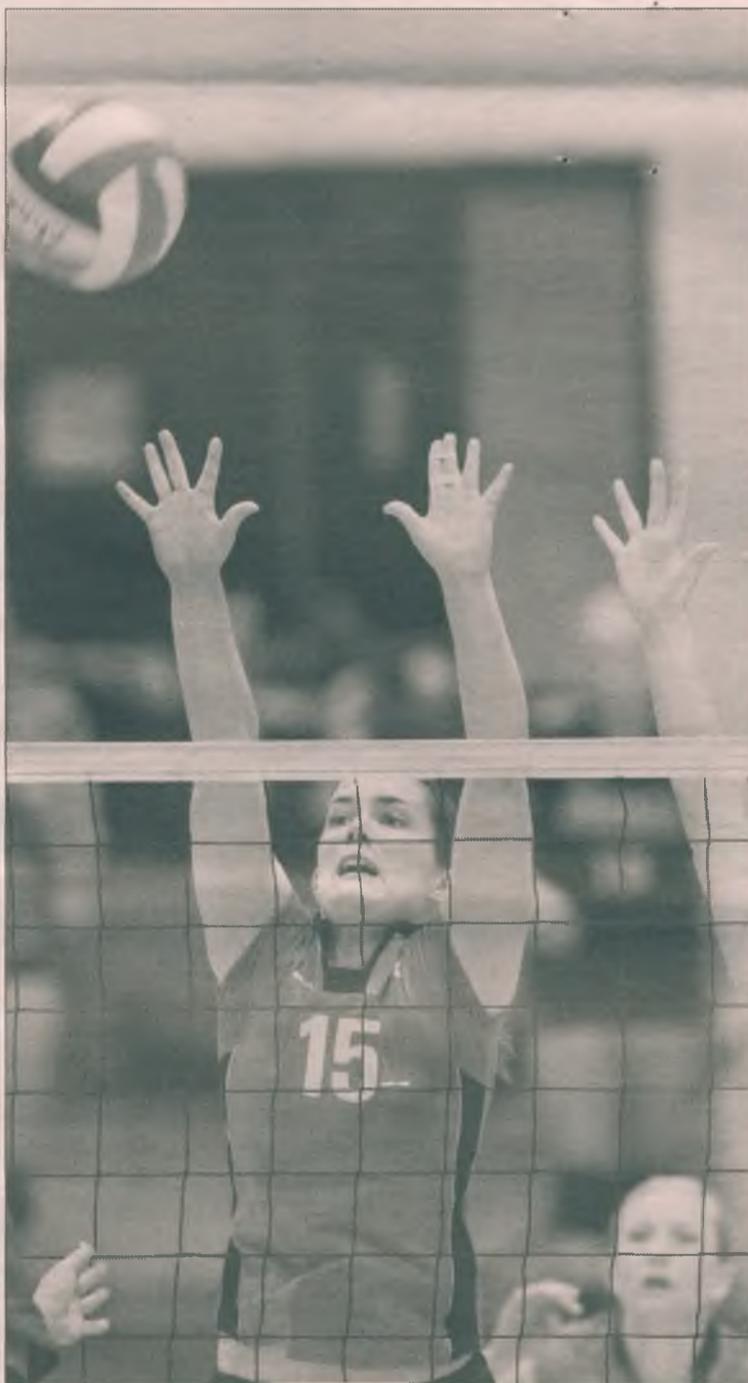
As an assistant at SIUE, Clements dealt with daily administrative duties, including coordinating travel, fundraising, recruiting and organizing practices. Clements was the interim head coach for a short time during the offseason before SIUE hired Leah Johnson to take over for Gober.

Leathernecks Head Coach Kym McKay said Clements' experience helped bring her to WIU.

"She is very familiar with the policies and procedures that we follow," McKay said. "Her most recent experience as an interim head coach exposed her to that next level of administrative work. I look forward to Mallory's smooth transition to her duties at WIU."

Clements, who is a native of Mt. Pulaski, was the team captain at SIUE for two seasons, and in 2007 was named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association All-American third team for her efforts while SIUE was still a Division II squad.

Clements helped SIUE to a 14-15 record during its first season



Courtesy of SIUE Sports Information

Mallory Clements played volleyball at SIUE for four years and served as an assistant under Todd Gober and as Interim Head Coach following Gober's resignation. Clements was named an assistant at Western Illinois Monday.

playing a full D-I schedule in 2008.

Gober said Clements is going to make an impact in her new position.

"She will bring fresh ideas to a terrific program run by a great coach," Gober said. "She will be a tremendous asset in recruiting, as she is very familiar with central Illinois and the Chicago area. We recruited the same areas as WIU at SIUE, and Mallory will compliment Kym tremendously in that aspect."

SIUE Director of Athletics Brad Hewitt said he was pleased to hear Clements landed her first volleyball job outside of SIUE.

"If Mallory were my own daughter, I could not have asked for a better start in a professional coaching career than under these two outstanding people [Kym and WIU Athletic Director Tim Van Alstine]," Hewitt said. "Like all of us, there comes a time to leave our alma mater and venture into the professional world. Her time is now."

Not only did Clements have success on the court at SIUE, she excelled in the classroom as well. Clements was a two-time first team ESPN The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-American selection. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and an MBA while at SIUE.

"Mallory exudes a maturity beyond her years and the knowledge she gained while earning her MBA makes her a great asset to this program," McKay said. "She will balance the player-coach relationship well and her business education will come through in her administration work."

Hewitt said Clements impressed her during her time at SIUE.

"Mallory did an outstanding

job in an interim role for nearly five months after our head coach resigned. She managed camps, fundraising and maintained the program's integrity knowing the likelihood that the new coach would not keep her," Hewitt said. "This demonstrated great class, character and integrity."

McKay said Clements will work with the middle hitters at WIU.

"Though she was a setter, she prefers to train middle hitters and enjoys the nuances of offensive systems and transition," McKay said. "She is familiar with the Illinois area for recruiting with ties to the central and southern portions of the state. Though she donned the red and black for the past six years, she is ready for the purple and gold."

Gober said Clements' work ethic will transition well into her becoming an assistant at WIU.

"She has a wonderful opportunity to soak up knowledge from a well-respected and accomplished coach in the college ranks," Gober said. "During her time at SIUE, Mallory had a fantastic rapport with the student-athletes and mentored a lot of my athletes. I am positive she will do the same as a Leatherneck."

It won't be long before Clements returns to SIUE. The Leathernecks will participate in the season-opening SIUE Invitational Aug. 26-27. The Cougars play Western Illinois Aug. 26 at 7 p.m. in the final game of the day. SIUE will meet Western Illinois a second time, at the Indiana State Invitational Sept. 3.

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SCHEDULE

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regular season against a quality opponent with great athletes from around the country," Burton said.

The Cougars begin the regular season in Kansas City, playing in what was to be the UMKC tournament against Youngstown State. SIUE was also scheduled to play Alabama A&M in Kansas City as well, but they dropped out of the tourney, making it a one-game trip on Aug. 19.

"Being in Kansas City and playing Youngstown State gives us an opportunity to play someone we haven't played from somewhere we normally wouldn't travel to," Burton said. "Just recently, the tournament fell apart."

The Cougars return home for two matches at Ralph Korte Stadium against Western Illinois Sept. 2 and Indiana State Sept. 4.

SIUE heads back on the road Sept. 9 to battle Northern Iowa.

The Panthers were just 4-12 last season, but Burton said UNI will be an improved team, and the distance will make it tough for the Cougars.

"It's a long trip," Burton said. "They are actually a very much emerging team with a new coaching staff I personally know and they are definitely going to be better than their 4-12 record last season. It is not going to be a cakewalk."

UNI will return the trip to Korte Stadium next year.

The Cougars have nine days off before they challenge Saint

Louis University Aug. 18.

A rivalry between SIUE and SLU has been non-existent on the women's side, despite the historical connection on the men's side. In fact, this will be the first ever meeting between the Cougars and Billikens.

"It doesn't have that traditional rivalry like the men because we haven't played them," Burton said. "I hope we can make it into one rich tradition because we definitely want to be competitive and start a tradition. They are a natural and local rival for us."

The Cougars begin their inaugural OVC campaign at Korte Stadium, squaring off against Jacksonville State Sept. 23, and two days later battle Tennessee Tech. The Cougars have yet to play either team in program history, something that will change as the team begins OVC play.

The conference slate will be the toughest test for Burton and the Cougars. Despite a 3-2 record against OVC teams last season, the Cougars will be targeted as a true conference test, rather than a non-conference game against an independent squad in 2011.

"The conference games will be different than any time we have played these teams in the past, because it was just another game," Burton said. "We will be getting everybody's best effort, and that is something our players will have to be willing to match."

The Cougars head on the road for games against a pair of OVC teams they are familiar with,

playing at UT Martin Sept. 30 and Southeast Missouri State Oct. 2. Last year, the Cougars fell 3-2 in overtime to the Skyhawks. They fared better than in 2009 though, when UTM beat the Cougars 5-0 in Martin. SEMO nipped the Cougars 1-0 in overtime the last time the teams met in 2009.

The Cougars take a break from the OVC Oct. 7, traveling to Columbia, Mo., to tussle with the Missouri Tigers.

Missouri had a down year last season, going 7-8-2. The Tigers have a history of winning though, capturing the Big 12 title in both 2008 and 2009.

Two days later, the Cougars play Missouri State at Korte Stadium in another non-conference game.

"I suspect them to be in the top two or three in the Big 12," Burton said of Missouri. "Having these games will keep us sharp during the off days in our conference schedule. We have a few more tests to gauge where we are as a team."

The game against Missouri State kicks off a three-game home stint for the Cougars, who play the defending OVC tournament champion Morehead State Oct. 14 and host Eastern Kentucky for senior day Oct. 16.

SIUE closes the year with three conference road games, at Austin Peay (Oct. 21), Murray State (Oct. 23) and Eastern Illinois

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COMING TO 'THE RALPH'



AUG. 13
(EXH.)



SEPT. 2



SEPT. 4



SEPT. 23



SEPT. 25



OCT. 9



OCT. 14



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