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BUDGET CUTS CONTINUE TEARING THROUGH ILLINOIS

PROPOSED CUTS THREATEN MAP GRANT FUNDING



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NEWS

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Thursday, October 8, 2015

University approves MAP Grant funding in hopes of reimbursement

BRIANA STEWART
Alestle Reporter

SIUE has awarded thousands of students Monetary Award Program grant funding for the fall semester, despite the absence of state appropriation from Illinois for this fiscal year.

According to Budget Director Bill Winter, about 130,000 college students receive the MAP grant in Illinois. Approximately 22 percent, or 2,600 of SIUE's undergraduate students, are awarded the MAP grant.

Toward the beginning of this fiscal year, SIUE faculty members were faced with a difficult decision.

Illinois legislators still have not approved an official budget for this fiscal year, despite the fact that we are already three months into the 2015-2016 school year; therefore, the specific amount of state appropriation awarded to SIUE remains unclear.

SIUE faculty members had to decide whether or not to credit students' accounts with MAP grant funding, even though SIUE isn't guaranteed full reimbursement of that money from the state of Illinois.

"MAP grants are basically a form of financial aid from the state of Illinois that helps students who have a demonstrated financial need," Winter said.

Student Financial Aid Director Sally Mullen said the MAP grant is based on income and need, which is determined through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA.

"MAP grants really aren't being cut; it's just that right now, the funding has not been approved for them," Mullen said. "We have applied the [MAP grant] funding to the students' accounts because we anticipated that it would be likely that we will get the funds from the state; but whether or not we'll be able to do that again for

spring, we just don't know yet."

A Missing Budget

Winter said about 90 percent of Illinois' budget is automatically funded to certain obligations through court orders and consent decrees.

However, both SIUE's state appropriation and MAP grants fall under the 10 percent of needs the state is not obligated to insure in its budget.

"We are proceeding with our full MAP grant funding for the fall semester, because we do anticipate that it'll be given, but just delayed, which has happened in the past," Winter said.

For example, last year, a budget with MAP grant funding was approved for the fall semester of 2014, and SIUE did not receive full reimbursement from the state of Illinois for those funds until December of 2014, the end of the fall semester.

"The university is doing everything we can to encourage the state to approve MAP funding," Winter said. "There are a lot of issues that challenge us that we're facing, but we do stay focused on our mission, which is to provide an affordable, quality education for our students."

A decision has not been made regarding MAP grants for the spring.

"The reason there's an issue right now is because of the lack of a state budget," Mullen said. "It isn't really that the MAP grant in particular is being targeted to go away — that's not it at all — it's just an issue of funding coming from the state for various things, including MAP grants."

In Gov. Bruce Rauner's recommended budget for this fiscal year, MAP funding was included. However, an official budget has not been approved for Illinois, so it is still unclear whether SIUE will definitely receive MAP grant

funding or not.

"State appropriation is the support from the state for public universities in order to lower the cost of tuition for students to make college more affordable," Winter said. "Until we have a budget, we're not slated to receive any state appropriation ... it's a major impact on the university."

SIUE is not the only public university affected by the lack of an approved budget from the state of Illinois. This concern also drastically affects other Illinois colleges, including Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Eastern Illinois University and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

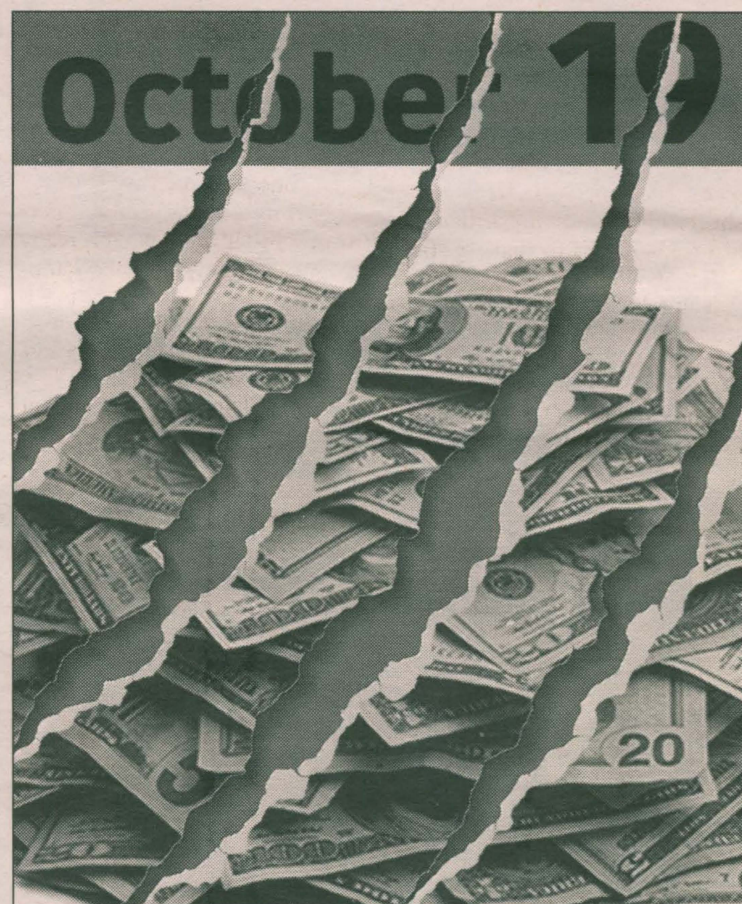
"This is a statewide issue," Winter said. "There's the issue of SIUE's enrollment, but I think the larger question is for those individual students ... If there were to be no funding for the MAP awards, what would that do to their chance of an education?"

Winter said Interim Chancellor Stephen Hansen is aware of SIUE's decision to approve MAP funding for the fall semester and Hansen completely supports it.

"We're really hopeful that they'll be able to resolve all the issues in Springfield and get things taken care of in a timely manner," Mullen said. "That's why we just went ahead and paid money to the students' accounts, and, in fact, most schools across the states did; maybe even all of them. We know that students rely on their MAP grants, and we're hoping that it's just a matter of timing."

Taking a Stand

"There are 2,077 students that have received part of the \$3.2 million for MAP grant funding," Student Trustee Dillon Santoni said. "That is a substantial amount of money that Edwardsville had to forefront, and every single one of those students will



Registration for seniors begins Oct. 19, but MAP grant funding has still not been appropriated from the state. The university will use its own money in hopes of being paid back. | Graphic by Lauren Lowe/Alestle

be impacted. It is surprising how many students don't know that — that come January 1, [2016] they might not have funding for school."

Santoni said supporting MAP grant funding should be a priority on students' minds, considering registration for the spring semester begins in only a few weeks.

On Tuesday, Oct. 20, student leaders from several Illinois public universities are traveling to the Illinois State Capitol building in Springfield to persuade Illinois legislators to support the MAP grant.

"The real impact comes when

the students start communicating with each other and begin to understand the problem ... we need to do something," Santoni said.

Santoni said they are planning to speak with the Senate Appropriations Committee in order to relay the importance of MAP grants to Illinois legislators.

"It's more of reminding them of why this budget being passed needs to happen really soon," Santoni said.

Santoni said he encourages any individuals interested in at-

Briana Stewart can be reached at bstewart@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

Zero tolerance hazing policy for Greek initiations

JESSICA ORANIKA
Alestle Reporter

Hazing has become a recurring topic at Student Government meetings. With sororities and fraternities preparing to initiate their new members, senators and faculty are looking for ways to discourage hazing.

Student Senator Cody Osborne said hazing isn't as big a problem at SIUE as it might be on other campuses.

"There's a nationwide movement to stop [hazing]. It's a problem that we definitely want to end. We feel that as Student Government, our role is to keep people informed. We're in the best position to change the way people view hazing on campus," Osborne said. "Hazing is definitely coming up, and we continue to advocate for the end of it. On our campus it's not as bad as some campuses, but in my opin-

ion it's zero tolerance. As long as it's happening at all, it's really bad. I feel that it definitely could be worse, but it definitely could be better, and that's what we're hoping for."

Osborne said the zero tolerance rule means no amount of hazing is acceptable by any SIUE organization. He said students accused of hazing meet with board members who review the situation to determine disciplinary action, and that if any amount of hazing were acceptable, people will try to push the limit.

"It's basically zero tolerance. That's how it is, and that's how I feel it should be. The second that somebody is allowed to do one thing; they're going to try doing more," Osborne said. "I think it's great that it's zero tolerance."

To prevent hazing, SG participates in an anti-violence campaign that shows students that they can make a difference. The

'It's On Us' campaign addresses sexual assault, abuse and all kinds of violence including hazing. Osborne said the campaign is a great way to raise awareness that hazing is considered a violent act and it is not OK.

"We really make an effort to make a difference through 'It's On Us.' That's our biggest campaign right now. [It's On Us] focuses on sexual assault, but it's really about all kinds of violence," Osborne said. "It's making people understand that in a lot of ways [hazing] parallels with sexual assault and violence, and puts it out there that it's not okay. It really keeps people informed."

Osborne said hazing is never OK, and he does not understand why it was ever a problem.

"Actual hazing should never have been OK in my opinion. I don't see what people get out of it. It's not something that is necessary. It doesn't prove anything,

and it's not really benefitting anyone. It's just one of those traditions that people feel like they have to do, so they do it," Osborne said.

Senior psychology major Annie Andersen, of Gurnee, also said she disapproves of hazing. Although she is not a member of a Greek organization, she said hazing is unacceptable.

"I don't think it should happen. I think it's inappropriate, and there's no reason for it. There's no reason to have someone embarrass themselves or do something that they shouldn't be doing just to prove that they're worthy enough for an organization," Andersen said.

However, junior pharmacy major Emmanuel Ogunbode, of Lynwood, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, said he believes hazing was acceptable in the past because people were unaware of the

dangerous turn it could take.

"I think it was [acceptable] in the past because of different mindsets at a different time. [There was] a lack of awareness of the dangers. I've heard stories about people sustaining injuries and even death," Ogunbode said.

Ogunbode said he agrees with the zero tolerance policy and even without it, his organization frowns upon any sort of hazing or pledging. He said he has never been hazed, and he does not know of anyone in his fraternity who has been.

Ogunbode also said he believes the purpose of hazing may have begun as a way to prove trustworthiness, and he and his fraternity brothers build that trust in other ways.

Read more about hazing at alestlelive.com.

Student Government launches 'It's On Us' campaign

KENDRA MARTIN
Alestle Reporter

The White House's national "It's On Us" campaign was designed to help bring awareness to sexual assault and educate people about how serious sexual assault is.

With the recently reported sexual assault that occurred in Cougar Village a few weeks ago, the "It's On Us" campaign will shed light as to what sexual assault really is, and how can we prevent it from happening.

Student Body President Madeline McCune said the "It's On Us" campaign is a campaign that will help educate students about sexual assault and how it can be prevented.

"Although SIUE is one of the safest campuses, I think that this is still a good learning experience," McCune said. "It is very disheartening and unfortunate, and I think it tells us that we still have some work ahead of us, and to definitely keep pushing forward with it and making students aware what [sexual] consent means."

The "It's On Us" campaign is a video marketing campaign. The campus will see public service announcements from faculty, staff and administrators.

With the "It's On Us" campaign, it will help increase awareness of sexual assault and how to prevent sexual assault.

"The 'It's On Us' campaign means how do we educate, how do we prevent and how do we let students know what sexual assault is and what [sexual] consent means, and how do we create a safe environment," McCune said.

With the "It's On Us" Cam-

paign, SG will be screening "The Hunting Ground," a documentary about sexual assault survivors and how they cope. It is insight into different colleges and how sexual assault can sometimes be overlooked.

SG teamed up with different organizations on campus to help promote the film such as Alpha Kappa Lambda, Phi Kappa Psi, Kappa Sigma, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Sigma Tau Gamma, Interfraternity Council, Alpha Xi Delta, Alpha Sigma Tau, Alpha Phi and Delta Phi Epsilon.

SG also partnered with the SIUE Police Department, Counseling Services and the Office of Equal Opportunity.

McCune said she feels this is such an important campaign to bring to SIUE, and it will help educate students on campus about consent actually means.

"I think [sexual] consent gets lost in translation of what it really means, so having an exact definition of what it really means, or having something to go off of so that students know what is right or wrong," McCune said.

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Jeffrey Waple said he feels the "It's On Us" campaign is a very important campaign to bring to SIUE and to help raise awareness.

"It means that it's on us to take a stand; it's on us to take action. It's on us to educate," Waple said. "If we don't make the change, who will?"

With the "It's On Us" campaign, Waple said he feels that education about sexual assault should never come to end.

"There is a need to further educate," Waple said. "The mes-

sage needs to be constant, and the more we put it out there, the more that they are aware about what sexual assault is and where our resources lie."

Waple said he is also working with a team of faculty and staff on writing a grant to the Department of Justice about preventing violence against women.

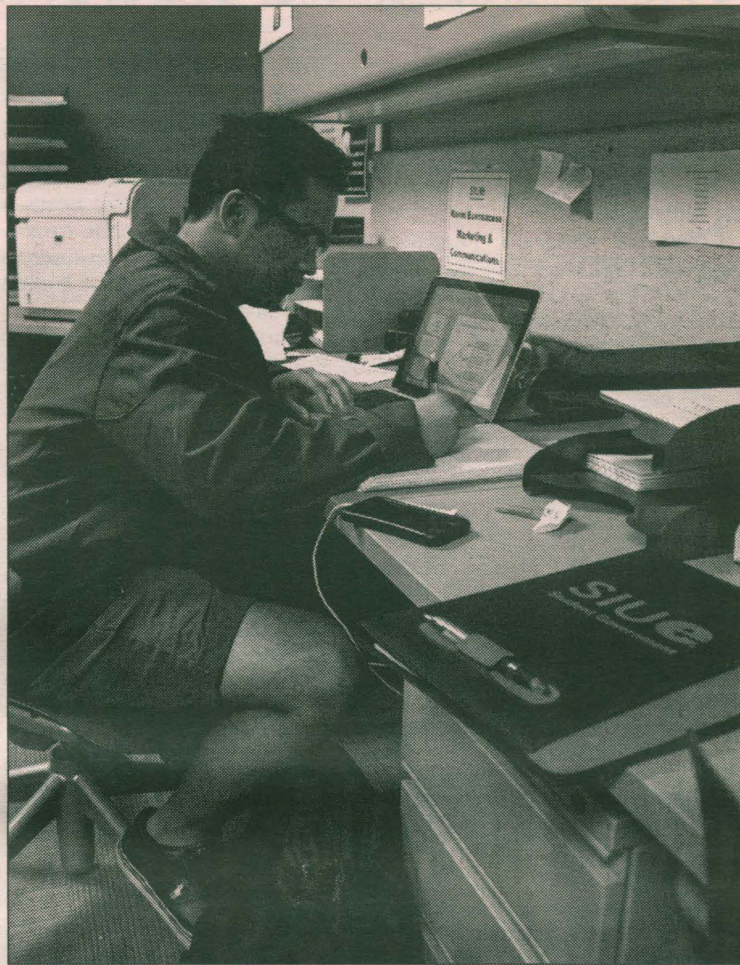
"The Department of Justice awards grants over [a] three-year period to help colleges and universities address intimate violence, dating violence and sexual assault," Waple said. "It's a grant that I was a part of at my former institution that we received, and this will provide us with not only education, but also hire a confidential advocate that could help the victim get resources and then help guide them with further help."

Waple said he feels this campaign is very important to the campus, and students who are not a part of the campaign should reach out and become involved because this is a serious issue that is happening across campus.

"I think it is important that the campus leadership as a whole be involved and knowing the statistics nationally, and what I saw at my former institution was very underreported. I think that there is more happening out there than we know, and that's scary," Waple said.

Waple said he hopes that with the campaign, he can provide education and resources for students who are dealing with sexual assault.

"This needs to be an ongoing campaign because this is not a problem that just suddenly ends," Waple said. "It cannot just end



Student Government Marketing and Communications Officer Kevin Buensuceso is in charge of the "It's On Us" campaign at SIUE.

| Photo by Christian Sykes/Alestle

in a week. We have to continue to keep getting this message out there."

The "It's On Us" campaign officially launches on Oct. 13 with the screening of the "The Hunting Ground." The film will screen in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom at 5:30 p.m.

Waple said he and his staff

are helping to promote "The Hunting Ground," and it will also include a panel at the end of the film.

If students want to get involved in the "It's On Us" campaign, students can stop by the SG office for more information.

Kendra Martin can be reached at kmartin@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

Community recognizes SIUE student as local hero

JESSICA ORANIKA
Alestle Reporter

Freshman Cole Seifert, of Holiday Shores, was honored as a hero this summer for saving three lives.

Seifert works as a lifeguard in his hometown of Holiday Shores about 20 minutes away from Edwardsville. He saved two lives in the summer of 2014 and one life in the summer of 2015.

Seifert, along with his co-worker Kayla Sparks, was awarded with the Golden Lifeguard Whistle Award at Holiday Shores 50th anniversary celebration.

Seifert said he was proud to receive the award.

"They had a little presentation in the ballroom. They had Senator William Haine present [the award] to me. My name and the year of the saves were engraved on it. I was really honored," Seifert said. "A high school senior named Kayla Sparks had a save this summer as well; she also was presented with a golden whistle."

Seifert said all of his saves involved young children or teenagers. His latest save was a teenage girl attending a birthday party at the pool. Seifert said the girl, who wasn't a strong swimmer, was attempting to reach a platform in the deep end of the pool. When

she realized she could no longer touch the ground, she began to scream for help. Seifert said the girl panicked and grabbed onto her friend, which caused her friend to panic as well.

"My most recent save was in July. There was a birthday party, and a 15-year-old girl was attending. She was swimming out to a platform, and all of a sud-

den I heard, 'Help! I can't do this — I can't touch the ground! I'm drowning!' She grabbed onto her friend. [The friend] could swim, but once she grabbed onto her, they both started drowning. I swam out to them, put them both on my rescue tube and swam them back to safety," Seifert said.

One of Seifert's first saves occurred on Independence Day. He said the situation was similar to his most recent save, except the girl was much younger.

"On [the] Fourth of July 2014, there was sort of the same incident with a younger girl,

about 5 or 6 [years old], who was trying to swim out to the dock. The same thing happened. She couldn't feel the bottom, and started to panic and scream, 'Help,'" Seifert said.

Seifert said during his third save, the little boy who was in trouble did not seem to realize what was happening. He rescued the boy when he noticed

grab him," Seifert said.

Seifert said out of all his saves, the only one he was a little worried about afterwards was the 15-year-old girl. He said her skin was pallid when he pulled her from the water and he called for help to make sure the girl wasn't going through secondary drowning.

"I always try to ask people

very seriously. Seifert received his training two years ago at the Edwardsville YMCA. His certification will expire soon, but he said he plans to renew it.

"Every two years you have to renew your certification. [Holiday Shores] really wants me to return. I have a passion for [lifeguarding], so I probably will get recertified. I definitely take the job pretty seriously. Every time I go to work, I'm focused and trying to help people," Seifert said.

Seifert said he was touched when one of the people whose life he saved came back to the beach to thank him.

"I did get a chance to talk to the 15-year-old girl. She came back to the beach and recognized me. She gave me a hug. It was really sweet. I was really glad that I got to see her again and hear what she had to say. It made me feel good," Seifert said.

Seifert said he was both surprised and proud to be honored for his lifesaving acts.

"I didn't know about any of this. I just showed up for work one day, and they had a presentation in the ballroom. It was really neat. I have a lot of respect for them for doing that," Seifert said.

Jessica Oranika can be reached at joranika@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

"She was swimming out to a platform, and all of a sudden I heard, 'Help! I can't do this — I can't touch the ground! I'm drowning!'"

Cole Seifert
Freshman biology major

den I heard, 'Help! I can't do this — I can't touch the ground! I'm drowning!' She grabbed onto her friend. [The friend] could swim, but once she grabbed onto her, they both started drowning. I swam out to them, put them both on my rescue tube and swam them back to safety," Seifert said.

One of Seifert's first saves occurred on Independence Day. He said the situation was similar to his most recent save, except the girl was much younger.

"On [the] Fourth of July 2014, there was sort of the same incident with a younger girl,

the boy was repeatedly becoming submerged under the water and jumping back up for air.

"A small boy, I think about 5 or 6 [years old], was in the water. He started to bob up and down. When he touched the ground, the water would be over his head, then he would come back up for air. He had a look of distress on his face, so I jumped in. By the time I got to him, he was underwater. I lined myself up with him to where [he was]. Even though I couldn't see him, I knew the general area of where he was. I sort of bumped into him and was able to

that I help if they have swallowed any water just because there's something called secondary drowning. You could be out of the water and still be drowning because you have water in your lungs," Seifert said. "The girl who was drowning in the first place was really pale. I kept asking her if she swallowed any water because she was so pale, and her lips were blue. I took her over to the lifeguard bench and called EMS. They responded really quickly and ran some vitals on her. She ended up being OK."

Seifert said he takes his job

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University grad students work to help the future of literacy

MADISON O'BRIEN
Alestle Reporter

The Cougar Literacy Clinic works to improve the literacy development of children in grades K-12, who have reading and writing difficulties.

Literacy Program Director Stephanie McAndrews said this program not only prepares teachers to become literacy leaders, but it also supports children in developing their social skills.

"Literacy is the ability to read, write, speak, listen, view and represent ideas to understand and communicate in society. Our job at the clinic isn't just to teach reading and learning techniques. We focus on six different areas working on comprehension and composition skills. Comprehension includes listening, reading and viewing and composition skills include speaking, writing and visually representing," McAndrews said.

The Cougar Literacy Clinic is the only certified literacy education program in the region that gives teachers an opportunity to enhance their teaching abilities.

Certified professors with literacy credentials, such as McAndrews, teach graduate students, or literacy specialist candidates, how to mentor children with literacy disabilities.

"All of the graduate students in the program are certified teachers, but they have to take four pre-requisite foundational courses in literacy and pass the state reading specialist content test before they become certified in teaching literacy to others," McAndrews said.

The program is a part of the graduate students' clinical course work and is not a paid job. Any student who wants to be able to teach literacy has to undergo three semesters of clinical courses.

"The first semester is their assessment, the second semester is tutoring elementary-age students and the third is tutoring middle school or high school-age students," McAndrews said.

Literacy education graduate student Claire Johnson currently teaches special education and sees a lot of needs presented in dealing with reading.

"As a special education teacher, I thought becoming a literacy specialist would be a good avenue to continue my education," Johnson said.

Being a part of the reading

clinic is an extension to a previous course called the assessment class.

"In the assessment class, I learned a whole lot of different ways to administer and score assessments, while also writing reports on what specific needs a child has. It gave me the opportunity to practice how to cater to certain literacy needs that a child has," Johnson said.

Johnson said the clinic has given him an opportunity to work with students at different grade levels that she would not have been able to otherwise.

"The clinic gives me different strategies on how to address needs in the classroom for children at any age," Johnson said.

Johnson said her dream job as a literacy specialist would be to educate students from kindergarten through third grade. She encourages students who are getting a degree in education to become educated in literacy as well.

"Sometimes you sit in classes at the undergrad level and don't feel like they are benefiting your degree, but being in these classes throughout the clinic have really prepared me to complete the work I want to do. The clinic is preparing me for what I need to know in the future," Johnson said.

The way children are accepted into the program is on a first come, first serve basis. The only requirement children need to meet to be accepted is, they have to be below their grade level in literacy.

During the clinic, the literacy specialist candidates learn to administer 28 different literacy assessments. They then select the appropriate assessments based on the client's needs.

"The lessons are not predetermined. The graduate students plan lessons that are specific for each child. The lessons can be pretty extensive and can include reading, writing and language every week. The tutor basically assesses the child's strengths and [weaknesses] and must plan accordingly week-to-week," McAndrews said.

The cost of the program is \$100 per semester, and spots are limited for potential candidates.

"We have an overabundance of applicants, so there is a wait list that they can be placed on. The number of kids we can take all depends on the number of grad students in the program. The program is one-on-one, which means there is one grad student to one

child. The more grad students, the more kids we can accept," McAndrews said.

The children take pre-assessments and post-assessments to show if they had an increased ability in several of the areas of literacy.

"We receive a lot of feedback from families, as well as the classroom teachers, whom the children have learned to enjoy reading and writing, and have an increased self-improving strategy that often results in higher grades," McAndrews said.

As of right now, the assessments of the children begin in the summer during two to three 75-minute sessions. After the assessments, the elementary school students begin tutoring in the fall, and middle school and high school students begin tutoring in the spring.

The classes last 14 weeks, meeting at 5:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. every Wednesday, with 10 minutes of family conference after.

McAndrews said it is important to teach students at a level they are able to excel at.

"If a child is in fifth grade and reads at a second grade reading level, teachers can't give them fifth grade learning material," McAndrews said.

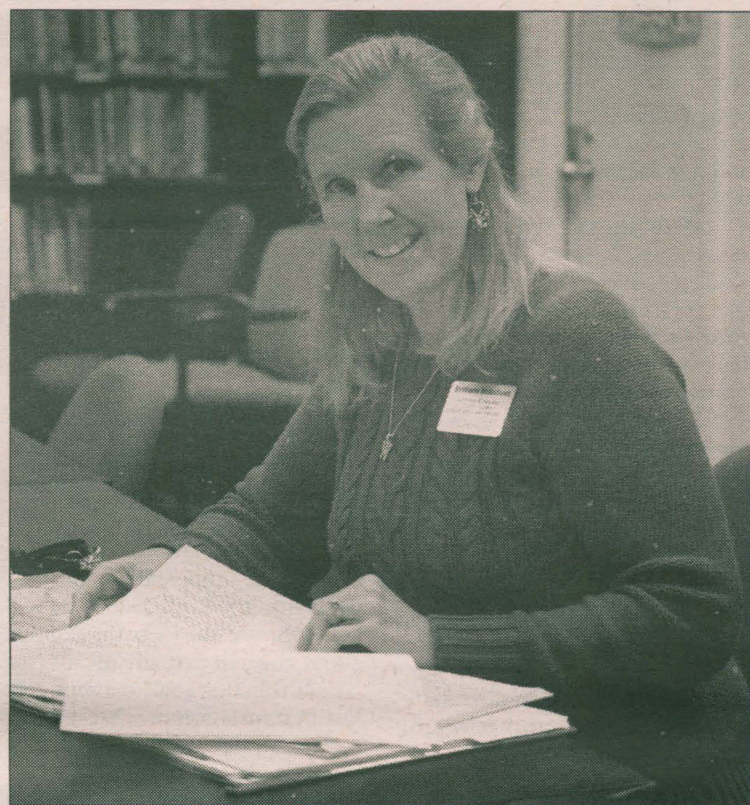
The children read books and even use computers as resources for their writing. McAndrews said she believes if children use Internet articles on topics they are interested in versus stuff that bores them, it can enhance their learning.

McAndrews said she encourages graduate students to earn their reading specialist certification.

"There is a high need for highly qualified teachers to support the literacy development of every child in the classroom, because some teachers don't know what to do with kids who don't understand and need more specific attention. Our goal is to have kids be excited about reading and writing in the world around them, rather than be frustrated," McAndrews said.

Literacy education graduate student Kylee Tippet said she sees a lot of struggling readers in today's classrooms.

"The Cougar Literacy Program is great because it teaches reading in all aspects and at all grade levels. I am getting to work with a student one-on-one, who



Literacy Program Director Stephanie McAndrews

| Photo by Christian Sykes/Alestle

has an identified learning disability in reading. I also get to communicate with peers in the clinic and Stephanie to figure out the best way to help children with literacy disabilities. It is giving me a more broad perspective on situations and challenges me," Tippet said.

Tippet wants to stay in the classroom for a while, but said she applies the skills she is learning in the program in her classroom currently.

Ultimately in five to 10 years, Tippet would like to be working as a reading teacher, working one-on-one with students in only literacy. She would even like to take on a leadership role in a school district, where she gets to educate teachers how to be the best reading teachers they can be.

"Literacy is everything you do, whether it's math, science or daily life skills, such as applying for a job. Literacy is something that our school districts are failing at teaching currently, and a lot of kids are graduating high school not being able to read at the level they need to be successful in life. Every aspiring teacher needs these skills, because they are used in any subject that you can teach, because reading is overall a life skill," Tippet said.

At the end of semester, the

clinic has a literacy celebration where the children share the writing they have published in the program and the strategies they have learned. The children also receive scholastic book club books based on the number of Cougar Bucks they earn from practicing literacy at home.

"The children leave the clinic with [higher] self-esteem knowing they are better readers, writers and communicators. They become very excited about the program, and love to come to the university like they are college students. They also love getting one-on-one attention, which is really different from other programs," McAndrews said.

Children walk away from this program with numerous strategies on how to tackle reading and writing, and the teachers walk away with the ability to differentiate instructions based on the needs of students, while also collaborating planned instructions with the support of their peers.

Families can apply for their children to participate in the clinic by registering online at www.siu.edu or contacting the Reading Center Office at 618-650-3596.

Madison O'Brien can be reached at janika@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.



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POLICE BLOTTER

10-1-15

An officer responded to a report of a smoldering dumpster in Lot D. The reporting party extinguished the fire with a water hose, and the call to the Edwardsville Fire Department was cancelled.

An officer took a report of a laptop theft from the Vadalabene Center.

An officer located an unattended backpack that had been sitting on one of the couches in the main lobby of Rendleman Hall for some time. Upon being located, the officer reported the backpack contained only textbooks and a laptop. The owner of the backpack later claimed it.

An officer responded to an active fire alarm in a Cougar Village apartment building. University Housing was notified. The officer noticed a suspicious odor and questioned the resident of the building with the active fire alarm. Brett Arceneaux was taken into custody and arrested for possession of cannabis. Arceneaux was taken to the SIUE Police Department where he was processed. He was given a notice to appear and was released. The alarm was set off due to the resident smoking in the room. The alarm was restored.

A caller stated there was a person driving around Circle Drive with no headlights on. An officer met with the caller at the Evergreen Hall parking lot. The caller had no further information and did not know where the vehicle went. The officer was unable to locate the vehicle.

10-2-15

A sergeant responded to Woodland Hall regarding a mother requesting a welfare check on her daughter. The sergeant made contact with the subject, and said subject stated she was just upset about a grade she received on a test.

An officer issued a state citation to Kyle Winkler for expired registration. The offense occurred on South Circle Drive at Lot B.

An officer issued a state citation to Donyae L. Joiner for operating a motor vehicle outside the permitted driving restriction permit time. Joiner was also issued a written warning for no headlights. The offenses occurred on North University Drive at Cougar Lake Drive.

10-3-15

Denzell G. Nicholson was taken into custody for driving on a suspended license from a traffic stop at North University Drive at New Poag Road. Nicholson was transported to the SIUE Police Department, processed and released with a notice to appear. An officer issued state citations for driving while suspended and

with no insurance, in addition to a written warning for speeding 55 mph in a 45 mph speed zone. Nicholson's vehicle was towed from the scene.

A male juvenile and a female juvenile were each taken into custody from a traffic stop on South Circle Drive and were transported to the SIUE PD. The male juvenile was arrested for DUI. He was processed and issued a notice to appear. The male was issued state citations for driving on the sidewalk, DUI and no valid driver's license. The male juvenile's father arrived and paid \$100 cash bond. The male juvenile also posted his driver's license as bond. The male juvenile was given a mandatory court date and a copy of the bond receipt. He was then released to his father. The female juvenile was processed. A juvenile petition for Illegal Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor and Curfew Violation was completed. The female juvenile was released to her father. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

An officer issued a written warning for following too closely and a state citation for no insurance to Dayinaira Lefko. The offenses occurred on North University Drive at Poag Road.

A caller reported a male subject had stolen a soft drink from the Pizza Hut inside the MUC. The Pizza Hut was reported to have fled on a bicycle in the direction of Woodland and Prairie Halls. The officer located the subject at Prairie Hall, who stated he thought he could get free refills. The officer escorted the subject to Pizza Hut. It was agreed between the subject and the manager that the subject would pay for the soda. No charges issued.

10-4-15

An officer issued a written warning for disobeying a stop sign on Circle Drive and a state citation for disobeying a stop sign on Residence Drive at Prairie Drive to Randell Griffin, Jr.

A caller advised, "Someone's about to get shot." She and her roommate were in Cougar Village building 512 and saw two vehicles, a small white four-door and a silver vehicle. They were honking horns at each other and yelling as they both approached the same area. The white car pulled in to park and the two subjects, a white male and a black male from the silver car, jumped out and rushed the white car. By the time the officers arrived on scene, the subjects were all laughing and joking. It was a group of friends just joking around.

10-5-15

A caller reported two males wearing animal masks with swords strapped to their backs in the area of Evergreen Hall. Officers located the subjects. The swords were plastic. The call was unfounded.

Early Childhood Center begins student parents support meeting for students, staff

MICHAEL ORANIKA
Alestle Reporter

SIUE's Early Childhood Center held its first student parent support group general meeting Monday, Oct. 5 for students and employees with children to hold discussions and trade child raising tips.

Early Childhood Center Director Rebecca Dabbs said she collaborated with Counseling Services to bring back the program after a two-year hiatus.

"We were just talking over the summer, and we decided to give it a try and so it was kind of a dual initiative for both of our programs," Dabbs said. "We try to get student parents to find out what your needs are and kind of try to connect you to resources, to each other and more importantly, be a support set for you guys across the stage. We also provide free child care and pizza."

Staff counselor Jessica Ulrich, an employee at Counseling Services, said she is excited to be part of the student parent support group because it gives her an opportunity to share her knowledge of parenting skills, which she taught when she was still in her bachelor's level program at SIUE.

"It's kind of refreshing to kind of be with a group of parents now when I have actually had kids and I happened to be, for a long time, one of the counselors that people would go to whenever we had students dealing with parenting things, so it's something that I totally enjoy," Ulrich said.

Civil engineering graduate student Jacqueline Wells, who has a 10-month-old son, said time management is the most important part of being a student parent, and shared her advice for prioritizing time by taking advantage of local childcare resources.

"I actually had to join the YMCA to get free time while he plays in the daycare, so that's how I manage the weekend," Wells said. You can go work out, and then you can go sit at a table and study and it's only a one time only fee. They'll watch him for two hours a day, but since he's still in diapers, they call me to come change him. He goes to sleep at 8 [p.m.] and I'm up till 12 [a.m.] doing homework, and if I'm lucky, he stays asleep until 6 [a.m.] ish."

According to Dabbs, recent state budget cuts have made it difficult for parents in the Metro East to receive assistance due to discontinuations of many local programs and resources.

"In the state of Illinois, a lot of social service have been cut because of the budget, along with those kinds of things that families take advantage of," Dabbs said. "A lot of social services agencies are having to cut back and providing less. Health District is not open anymore — that was a big resource for families in St. Clair County. Children's Home and Aide has made several cuts in their program which serves Madison and St. Clair [County]."

Dabbs said many clients are disappointed to learn that some of the programs and homeless shelters they are referred to have been shut down.

"Sometimes they say 'OK, we do do this service, but we're not taking new clients until this point,'" Dabbs said. "A good example is the childcare subsidy which subsidizes child care for many, many families, was cut to about 20 percent of its original budget, so they're serving way less families. Just to give you an example, last year we had about 25 families that received childcare subsidies from the state and this year we have less than five."



Many local assistance programs have been discontinued due to recent budget cuts.

| Photo by Christian K. Lee/ Alestle

Senior mathematics major Stacey Hodge, of Belleville, and graduate student Jacinda Zeigler, of Edwardsville, were the only two members present at the general meeting to receive childcare subsidiaries. Hodge said the subsidiaries are filled with restrictions, which according to Zeigler, led to an increase in her co-pay amount.

"There's a lot of work and restrictions around it now that we're on it," Zeigler said. "I have kind of like a full schedule between work and class so they kind of worked with me. Over the summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays, I had a big gap between my classes where they only provided me a half-day instead of a full day, and my daughter was used to the full days, so I ended having to pay extra for that."

Dabbs said the topic of future meetings depends on what issues parents find the most urgent.

Meetings will be held on the first Monday of every month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Early Childhood Center.

Michael Oranika can be reached at moranika@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

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Metro East Eats

Chili Weather

The Alestle staff visited five locations in the Metro East that offered chili on its menus. We rated the chili on a scale of one to five, with five being the highest score, for criteria such as appearance, texture, taste, price-to-portion ratio, topping choices, and originality. We rated each restaurant based on its service and atmosphere. The final score, depicted by bowls of chili, reflects the average score of the categories.

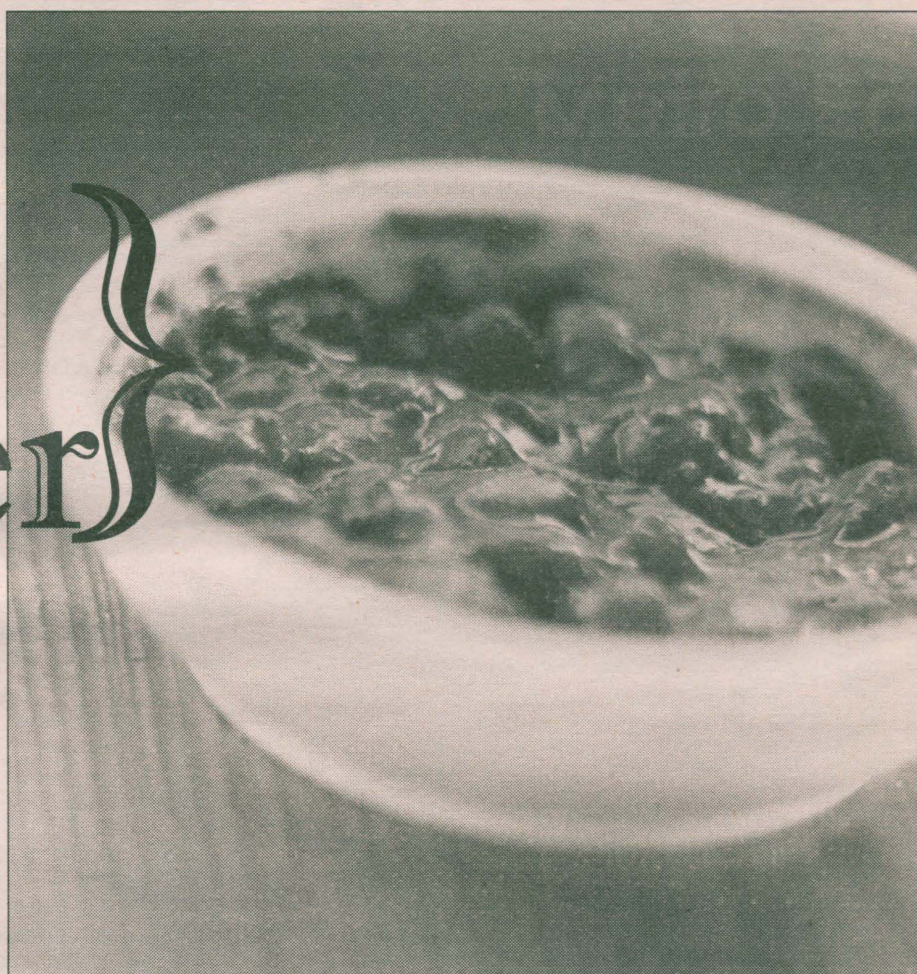


Photo by Brian Muñoz/Alestle

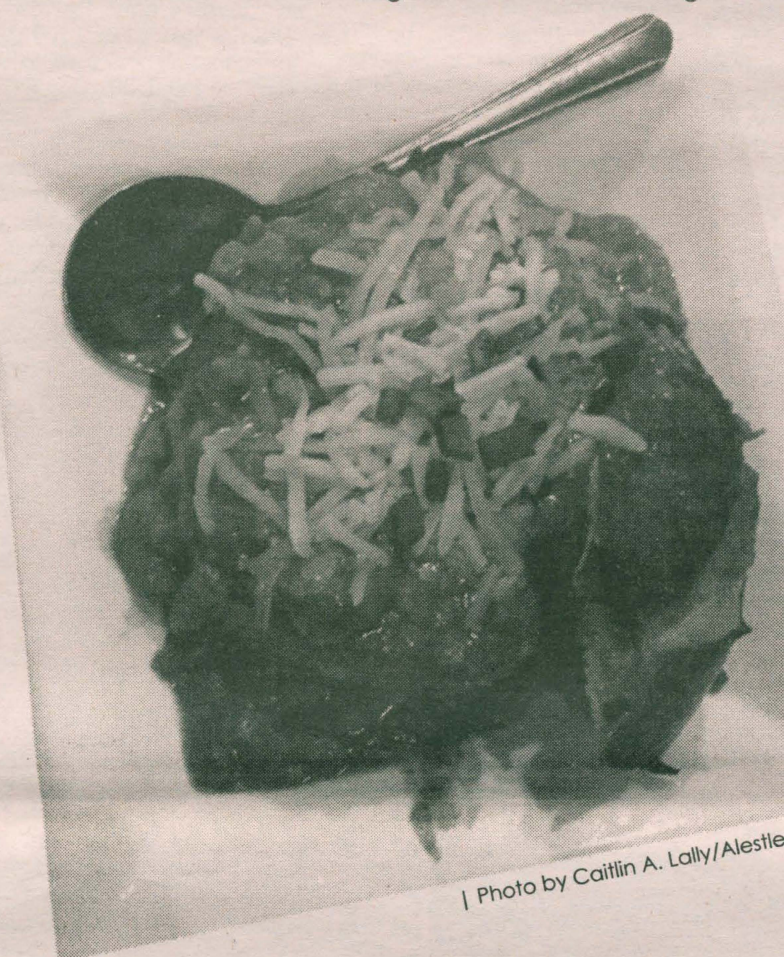


Photo by Caitlin A. Lally/Alestle

The Crow's Nest

7336 Manchester Road, Maplewood, Mo.
About 45 minutes from campus



For an alternative in both food and atmosphere, The Crow's Nest serves up a filling bowl of vegetarian chili. Amid the eclectic décor, alternative music and pinball machines, the long bar stocked with glass bottles glittered in the dim lighting. This casual dive bar did not first appear to be a great spot for a sophisticated entrée; however, our opinion changed upon opening the menu taped inside a vintage vinyl sleeve.

The veggie chili was listed as an appetizer — \$3 for a cup or \$6 for a pretzel bowl. As a substitute for an entire meal,

the pretzel bowl is a good size for one person. The red bean chili was noted on the menu to be made from scratch, garnished with cheddar cheese and green onions. Fresh out of the kitchen in 10 minutes, the round bowl juxtaposed the crisp white square plate it was served on.

Among the mixture of beans, the chili tasted like there was a medley of peppers, tomatoes and onions as well, making it not too chunky, but not too soupy either. The chili had a mild kick to it, but nothing that couldn't be washed down with a quick swig of a drink.

Accompanied by the chili

was a plate of toasted pita bread with hummus and a Schlafly Pumpkin Ale. For those opting to skip the alcohol, try Fitz's Pumpkin Pop. The combination of pumpkin and chili really accentuated the turning of the season with two great autumnal flavors.

In all, The Crow's Nest is a chill place with friendly servers who also carry out the rocker vibe of the establishment. Although it's a bit of a drive from Edwardsville, if you want a good bowl of vegetarian chili or just want to try something different and find yourself in the area, The Crow's Nest won't disappoint.

Ferguson Brewing Co.

418 S. Florissant Road, Ferguson, Mo.
About 30 minutes from campus



Taking a trip to Ferguson Brewing Co. was worthwhile, beginning with the giant concrete gorilla standing in front of the restaurant. The atmosphere was clean and family-friendly for a brewery, and there was a variety of food and beverages. The wait staff was friendly and congenial, although it seemed the restaurant was too loud for them to hear most of our orders the first — or second — time around. We thoroughly enjoyed the restaurant, and it made it even more original that the workers brew their own beer.

The dish came out looking well presented. It was clear someone had taken care to decorate this chili with

a nearly perfect sprinkling of cheese and a few beautifully bright green onions. All of the toppings blended in nicely to create a good bowl of chili; however, for the most part, it was an average bowl of chili. Not huge fans of tomato chunks, we found those to be a little disappointing. However, everything else blended together quite well. For a standard bowl of chili, it was not bad. The rest of the meal, though, far outshone the chili.

The house Hefeweizen was crisp and refreshing, and our meal consisted of a turkey burger and fries. Ferguson Brewing Co.'s fries were among the best we've had; the seasoning was a special recipe that made them ab-

solutely delicious. Overall, the meal was impressive and high-quality. The chili as a side order was relatively well-priced for the amount we received; it made a good complement to the meal.

Overall, our experience at Ferguson Brewing Co. was positive. The atmosphere provided a place that would be enjoyable for anyone to dine there; the beer was original and delicious, and the burgers were grilled to near perfection. The fries made the meal even more wonderful — for the quality of the rest of my meal, it was a shame the chili was not more original. We would definitely recommend Ferguson Brewing Co. for all ages and tastes in food!

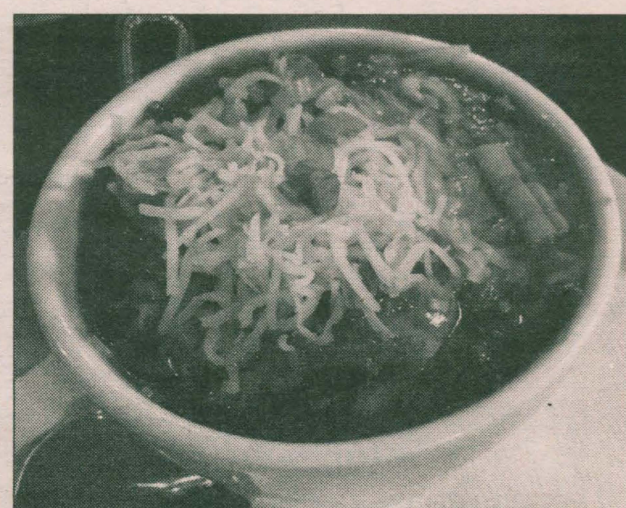
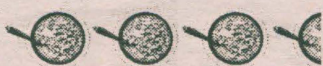


Photo by Dani Wilson/Alestle

Fire-N-Smoke Wood-Fired Kitchen

914 Edwardsville Road, Troy

About 15 minutes from campus



Fire-N-Smoke Wood-Fired Kitchen is a local barbecue restaurant, with a location in Troy and O'Fallon, Ill. We went for lunch on a lazy Sunday around noon, and there were a few families and couples eating lunch at the tables.

A little different from traditional barbecue restaurants, Fire-N-Smoke is a combination of a fast food and sit-down restaurant; you order and pay at the counter, are given a number and your drink cups, seat yourself and your food is brought to your table.

The atmosphere is warm and family-friendly, with hardwood floors and walls, gravitating toward a wood smokehouse theme. Chopped firewood is stacked high to form a dividing wall between the line to order and the dining area. The tables are surrounded with gray metal chairs with a roll of paper towels sitting on the table, to wipe your barbecue-stained fingers.

The menu is a chalkboard decorated in a rainbow of chalk colors, showing the specials and everyday menu items. Near the menu are sliding glass door refrigerators, keeping the restaurant's

wide array of soft drinks and alcohol cool. Also close to the menu is a display case full of pies and pastries, enticing you to order dessert with your meal.

We ordered a cup of the Midwest Chili. After placing our order, getting our drinks and finding our seats, we waited about 10 minutes for our food. Our server placed a simple black ceramic coffee mug, filled with steaming chili, in front of us. The chili was simply topped with fresh grated cheddar cheese, and the mug fit perfectly into our hands, gently warming them.

The chili was delicious, with a hearty helping of ground beef, with chunks of ripe tomatoes, onions, green pepper and, of course, chili beans, perfectly blended together. It was rather mild, not too spicy, but it did not have any defining characteristic that separated it from any other run-of-the-mill chili recipe.

At \$4 a cup, we were slightly disappointed with the portion size of our chili, but considering how much ground beef was in the chili, we understand why it was priced as such. It was

the perfect size for an appetizer before the main course, but not as a meal itself; if you are really hungry, we recommend ordering a burger or sandwich to go with your chili.

If you're in town and looking for a classic cup of chili, visit Fire-N-Smoke Wood-Fired Kitchen, but if you're looking for a distinctive bowl of chili with a unique twist to it, you might be best looking elsewhere.

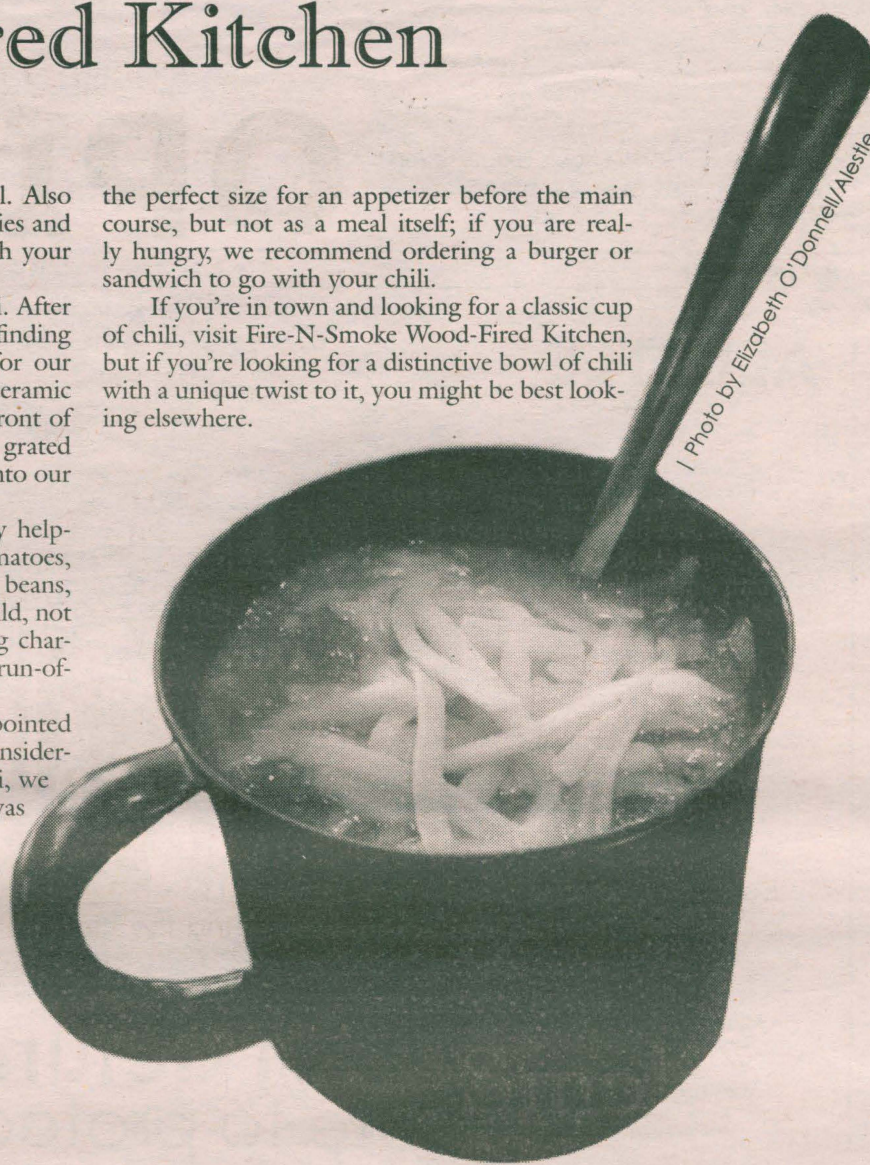


Photo by Elizabeth O'Donnell/Alestle

Smoke Pit Bar-B-Que

404 Belt Line Road, Collinsville

About 20 minutes from campus



Take a trip into the deep Southwest at Smoke Pit Bar-B-Que, nestled away in the quaint town of Collinsville. This hole-in-the-wall barbecue joint is a true gem not many people know about, and will definitely have you coming back for more.

As you drive up to the restaurant, you are whisked away into the Southwest with a covered wagon adorning the entrance to the restaurant, as well as hand crafted wooden signs and even pig decor that truly adds to the atmosphere.

When you walk into the restaurant, you feel like you are at a grandmother's home; she's been cooking all day, and you definitely can smell the feast. We arrived around 6 p.m. on a Thursday, and the restaurant only had a single customer drinking a cup of coffee.

Smoke Pit offers everything from pork steaks and pulled pork, to handmade peach cobbler. We ordered a helping of the "normal chili" and a helping of the "green chili," as well as a couple other items on the menu because there wasn't a full serving option for chili.

One of the perks that residents of Southern Illinois will truly enjoy is the wide variety of soft drinks available, includ-



Photo by Brian Muñoz/Alestle

ing Ski. Alongside the chili, we ordered a pulled-pork sandwich, a side of macaroni and cheese, and a peach cobbler a la mode.

The serving sizes were a little on the smaller end, and we would not recommend the chili as a main meal because you will get

as much satisfaction out of it as losing a sneeze right before you're going to sneeze.

Unfortunately, we also did not get any topping options for the chili, and it came as is. At first sight, the regular chili looked like a standard stock chili from the store. The chili was mostly bean based with a light hint of ground beef.

The chili was watered down and was not what we were craving. We also did not believe that the serving size was appropriate for the \$2 to \$3 price tag piggybacking on the chili. The standard chili could have used a bigger helping of spices to perk up the meal.

The "green chili" was almost the complete opposite of the standard chili. The green chili definitely had a kick to it and was filled with chicken, peppers and spices. This serving of chili was definitely the better of the two, but we were stuck with the same sad portion size and the consistency, which was that of Thanksgiving gravy.

All in all, the chili was not the best, but Smoke Pit definitely has various other items on their menu that make their locale shine. If you are looking for a hole-in-the-wall local favorite, head over to Smoke Pit Bar-B-Que for a fantastic barbecue meal.

Sgt. Pepper's Cafe

218 N. Main St., Edwardsville

About 5 minutes from campus



If you're ever in need of a large-portioned meal for a moderately low price, Sgt. Pepper's Cafe located in downtown Edwardsville, is your place. Operating since 2005, this family owned and operated Beatles-themed eatery serves up a variety of choices including, American-styled dishes like burgers, wraps, fries, Tex-Mex dishes and breakfast, which they pride themselves on serving all day.

Although their original creation, the Horseshoe, is a known crowd pleaser, we came for a taste of their chili, since

autumn has begun and chili season is upon us. Served as either a cup or bowl with oyster crackers on the side, this chili will cost you no more than \$4, which is great for your wallet, but a direct reflection of the quality of the chili you are served.

As far as ingredients, nothing about it stands out to make it appear unique or vibrant in any way. It features typical items found in the bases of most chili like ground beef, beans and tomato, but as far as toppings, you're offered onions

and cheese which adds some extra taste to their ordinary flavor profile.

Overall, Sgt. Pepper's offers good service, reasonable prices, and a relaxing unique atmosphere. It serves a variety of dishes that are sure to peak the interest of its customers, but the chili did not peak ours. Along with lacking every factor that could have elevated the flavor and created a distinctive taste, it also came with a side of stale oyster crackers and a cheese topping that did not make the chili look any more appetizing.



Photo by Lashai Spencer/Alestle

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OPINION

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Thursday, October 8, 2015

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All hard copy letters should be typed and double-spaced. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Include phone number, signature, class rank and major.

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The Alestle

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Don't defund, defend: Vote to protect Planned Parenthood funding

Republicans are calling for the federal government to withdraw its funding from Planned Parenthood, now more than ever. Although this call has long been present, this issue has recently made its way to the forefront of American politics.

Alestle Staff Editorial

This does not bode well for Americans, regardless of their beliefs of reproductive rights. Although Planned Parenthood is often associated with women's reproductive rights — most commonly abortion — abortion procedures only made up about 3 percent of Planned Parenthood's services last year, according to their 2013-2014 annual report.

Their annual report states that the majority of Planned Parenthood's services, 42 percent to be exact, are STD and STI testing and treatment; in terms of patients, that's 4,470,597 patients tested and/or treated.

The report also shows that 34 percent of its services are contraception, and that Planned Parenthood provided 3,577,348 patients with birth control information and services and prevented approximately 516,000 unplanned pregnancies, while only performing 327,653 abortion procedures.

Despite popular belief, Planned Parenthood prevents more

abortions than it provides.

However, Republicans want the government to defund Planned Parenthood, taking away needed services such as contraception and STD/STI testing and treatment, just because 3 percent of the services Planned Parenthood provides are abortion services.

According to Planned Parenthood's annual report, the federal government gave \$528.4 million to Planned Parenthood for its 2013-2014 fiscal year — 41 percent of its funding. And according to National Public Radio, those government funds come from two programs that primarily target lower-income Americans: Medicaid and Title X.

However, "Title X does not allow federal funds to be used for abortions. Medicaid, however, does allow government money to be spent on them — in very restricted cases; the 1977 Hyde Amendment dictated that federal Medicaid funds could only be used to fund abortions in cases of rape, incest or to protect the life of the mother," according to NPR.

What most people don't understand is that Planned Parenthood is crucial to keep around, not only for women, but for men as well, and it is especially important for low-income people and college students. Planned Parenthood also provides easily accessible ser-

vices and it's affordable, especially for lower-income Americans and broke college students.

It's no secret that college students have sex; preaching abstinence to college students just is not as effective as contraception. Therefore, it's important they have access to affordable contraception and STI and STD testing and treatment, especially if parents or insurance won't cover the costs.

Unless their parents' insurance covers them, most students are uninsured, or have limited insurance that usually doesn't cover contraception. But even with parental insurance, some students don't have access to contraception because of parents' beliefs, religion or otherwise, or the fear of the backlash from telling conservative parents that they're sexually active, or have an STI or STD.

In addition to preventing unplanned pregnancies, and avoiding and treating STDs and STIs, female college students can also receive Pap smears and pelvic exams, and male college students can receive prostate and testicular cancer screenings with the affordable services Planned Parenthood provides.

Besides college students, low-income Americans also benefit from Planned Parenthood's services. Planned Parenthood provides more than sexual and reproductive

health services; it also provides — varying on location — general health services including sports physicals, diabetes, cholesterol and high blood pressures screenings, flu vaccines and helping smokers quit.

This is huge for uninsured Americans who cannot afford to visit a doctor. And all of these affordable and accessible services will be taken away if we don't advocate for Planned Parenthood.

Planned Parenthood is more than the 3 percent of abortion services it provides — a small number that Republicans tend to focus on. Affluent Republicans seem to forget that the majority of Americans were not born into money, and some struggle to afford even basic health care, or are completely uninsured.

Republicans fail to see that Planned Parenthood is actually preventing more abortions than Republicans are, and if Planned Parenthood is defunded, the lack of affordable contraception will lead to more unplanned pregnancies and abortions — the opposite of what Republicans claim they want.

Raise your voice and vote. Vote for those who see how important Planned Parenthood is for Americans. Vote to keep Planned Parenthood funded.

To read more staff editorials, go to alestlelive.com.

Don't believe in Facebook's new policy, it's a hoax

The year is almost over, and Facebook still hasn't stolen any of my personal material for Mark Zuckerberg's personal use.

Dani Wilson Alestle Sports Editor

My most personal and special ideas have not yet been misused and spread as someone else's intellectual property — and I was not one of the many who posted a disclaimer filled with stern-sounding legal jargon about protecting the content of my profile.

If you don't yet know what I'm talking about, perhaps you have a supremely intelligent collection of Facebook friends. Over the last few weeks, I have seen a multitude of posts about Facebook's "changed" privacy policy and how

it relates to user posts. It seems a great amount of people are worried that Facebook is now going to "own" their statuses and photos.

Needless to say — at least, I hope as such — this is a hoax. It has circulated once or twice a year for the past several years. And it has been proven to be a hoax each time.

Yet, to my surprise, once or twice a year I see my Facebook newsfeed flooded with people who apparently missed the memo.

This hoax is a major and recurring one, but I see people falling for it on a regular basis. Whether it comes in the form of a weather forecast for next winter, a political scandal, or a religious zealot trying to take over America, it appears that there are many people who want to take advantage of the gull-

ible Internet world. And the gullible people of the Internet eat out of the palms of their hands.

I urge you as a community of people who are, in any context, part of an educational system — do not believe that Facebook will own your statuses or that your Instagram will be billed or shut down or that this winter will be the worst in history for the third year in a row. Do not repost stories from clearly satirical news sources warning all your friends that Hillary Clinton wants to burn down America.

At the very least, take the time to do a Google search on the shocking news stories you can't help but share or the millions of new crime tactics that you desperately need to warn your friends about.

You can learn what websites to avoid — for example, anything

from The Onion is satirical and almost certainly fake. You can also check by looking at legitimate news sources or searching the topic on snopes.com. For Facebook-specific fact checking, you can take a look at Facebook's "common myths" section in the help center.

Before warning everyone you know that President Obama suspended the Second Amendment or that people are handing out ecstasy in trick-or-treat bags, check your facts.

You will learn a lot about the difference between fact and fiction; you will also be more credible to your friends, family, and Facebook newsfeed. Plus, people won't laugh at you every time they scroll through their Facebook newsfeed.

Dani Wilson can be reached at dwilson@alestlelive.com.

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SPORTS

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The Alestle // 9



The SIUE men's cross country team took first place in the John Flamer Invite Saturday, Oct. 3 on the SIUE cross country course, beating second place finisher Washington University by five points. | Photo by Christian K. Lee / Alestle

Men's cross country team dominates home course in John Flamer Invite

DANI WILSON
Alestle Sports Editor

The men's cross country team dominated its home turf this weekend at the John Flamer Invite at the SIUE cross country course, beating Washington University for first place by five points.

Distance Coach Kayla Brown said the men's team is improving steadily and narrowing the space between runners.

"The men are doing well; we just needed to close down our gaps a little bit. We definitely did that this weekend; our first through fifth runners were a lot closer in time," Brown said. "That was our main goal, and we did accomplish that; the men closed the gap."

With all five top runners placing in the Top 10, Brown said the weekend was a good precursor for the rest of the season.

"We had a lot of positives from this weekend. Overall, in the men's race, we had five guys in the Top 10," Brown said.

Finishing in second place was the Cougars' No. 1 runner, junior Keith Meyer. Brown said Meyer's time of 24 minutes, 58.7 seconds was an impressive finish. Meyer's time is the eighth fastest in SIUE history.

"[Meyer] finished second overall and ran a course best for him — he broke 25 minutes on our course, which is really good," Brown said.

SIUE's No. 2 runner this weekend was sophomore Ben Scamihorn, who finished fifth with a personal best time of 25:25.7. Brown said this is Scamihorn's second personal record this season.

"[Scamihorn] actually had an overall PR, so he PR'd at ISU and then ran faster again at our course this weekend," Brown said.

Following Meyer and Scamihorn as the third, fourth and fifth runners for

the Cougars were seniors Scott Woodard, Clint Kliem, and Nick Moore. Woodard finished in sixth place, Kliem came in eighth, and Moore followed in ninth place.

The women's team came in third place with 82 points, following DePaul University with 32 points and first place finisher Washington University with 30 points. Brown said the women are continuing to build teamwork on the course and remain together.

"The women did a nice job of working together. I thought we had more of a pack run than we [had] in our previous meets," Brown said.

According to Brown, achieving this many personal bests on SIUE's course is an impressive feat because the course proves one of the more challenging courses in the area.

"Our course is pretty challenging, so it's pretty awesome to see that they did have an overall best on our course," Brown said.

The course's difficulty also gives the Cougars a benefit in training. Brown said the teams have been practicing the more challenging portions of the course to prepare for the race and that the added challenge has helped them in competition.

"We've definitely been utilizing the

"I think our most important thing is to keep using each other to improve — working off of each other. Keep working as a pack."

Kayla Brown
SIUE Distance Coach

The ladies achieved three overall PRs in the 6K race; running personal bests were junior Erin Kennedy, sophomore Haley Miller, and sophomore Allie Sweatt. Brown said Kennedy and Sweatt's records were set by substantial amounts of time.

"Both [Kennedy and Sweatt]'s PRs were [by] right around a minute, so they both had really good days," Brown said.

Kennedy took the Cougars' top spot with a ninth place finish overall. Miller followed in 17th place and Sweatt took 20th. The team's fourth and fifth runners were sophomore Jess Clarke in 24th place and senior Conradette King in 28th.

According to Brown, the women's team had not yet competed in a 6K race this season, making their times encouraging for upcoming meets.

"This was our first 6K this season, so it's really good that we can see an overall best on our first 6K," Brown said.

course in preparation for this meet specifically. There's a back portion of the course that has a fairly long and challenging hill, and we've been using that hill a lot this year," Brown said. "I think they responded a lot better to that hill in particular this year than last year."

Brown said the teams will continue working on their cohesiveness during races and strive to compete as a team to bring the top five runners closer together.

"I think our most important thing is to keep using each other to improve — working off of each other. Keep working as a pack and closing down the space between our runners," Brown said.

The Cougars' cross country teams will take a weekend off before traveling to Peoria for the Bradley Pink Classic Friday, Oct.

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Photo by Christian K. Lee / Alestle



SIUE shuts out Central Arkansas in homecoming game

DANI WILSON

Alestle Sports Editor

The homecoming game proved an exciting atmosphere for the men's soccer team and fed into a 4-0 victory against Central Arkansas University at Korte Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 3.

The Cougars' record improved to 5-3-1 for their season and 1-1 in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Central Arkansas' loss dropped them to 1-9 overall and 0-1 in conference play.

Head Coach Mario Sanchez said the game was an encouraging culmination of the team's training and discipline.

"For our team, it was good to see our work ethic pay off and create goals," Sanchez said. "When we work hard — both individually and collectively — it pays off."

Sanchez said he was particularly impressed with the performances of five players: junior defender Austin Ledbetter, senior defender Brett Lane, sophomore midfielder Keegan McHugh, junior midfielder Ivan Gutierrez and senior midfielder and defender Paul Scheipeter.

"They did a great job of leading by example," Sanchez said.

Gutierrez began the scoring with a

penalty kick in the first 10 minutes of the game and further solidified the team's win by scoring the Cougars' fourth and final goal in the final 20 minutes. He also had an assist in the second goal, handing the ball to sophomore Mohamed Awad in the first two minutes of the second half. Following

conference competition.

After fighting the wind throughout the first half, Sanchez said the Cougars made some changes to the lineup and came out with more vigor to finish strong in the last half.

"We needed a lot more energy; we made

"We want to be a team that's always on the front foot, not going to sit back and be hesitant."

Mario Sanchez
Head Men's Soccer Coach

his performance at the homecoming game, Gutierrez was named the Missouri Valley Conference's Player of the Week.

Scheipeter scored the Cougars' third goal, assisted by Lane, just a few minutes after Awad's goal.

Although Central Arkansas equaled the Cougars in shots on goal, senior goalkeeper Kyle Dal Santo's six saves allowed him to earn his sixth shutout of the season.

This was also Dal Santo's first shutout in

a few changes," Sanchez said.

The team's heightened competition in the second half was encouraging, according to Sanchez, but still needs to be intensified as the Cougars continue their season.

"I still think we need to be more aggressive and not play with fear, but to pursue winning," Sanchez said.

The overall goal for the team is to continue building its confidence, according to Sanchez.

"We want to be a team that's always on the front foot, not going to sit back and be hesitant," Sanchez said.

The Cougars will travel this week for two non-conference games. Tuesday, Oct. 6 the team competed in Indianapolis, Ind. against Butler University, and Saturday, Oct. 10 it will travel to Evanston to face Northwestern University. Sanchez said these teams are two very good opponents and will present good opportunities for the Cougars' improvement.

"It's a good challenge for our players," Sanchez said. "It's a nice break from the conference to play some of the best teams in the country."

Sanchez said he wants to thank all the Cougar fans who made the homecoming game a success. The game's attendance topped 2,000, which Sanchez said helped continue to build the Cougar soccer community at SIUE and in the Edwardsville area.

"We're hoping to build a culture in which the students and community are part of the team," Sanchez said.

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Women's soccer falls to Jacksonville State, bounces back with 1-0 win against Belmont

KENDRA MARTIN

Alestle Reporter

On Friday, Oct. 2, the Cougars faced Jacksonville State University. The game went into overtime, but Jacksonville scored the only goal of the game, causing the Cougars to fall.

Head Coach Derek Burton said he was pleased with the way his team played, but he was disappointed with the outcome of the game.

"It was a frustrating outcome," Burton said. "We didn't deserve the outcome we got, but we just couldn't put the ball in the goal. We just weren't able to do it, despite playing well."

Although Burton said he was not happy his team could not get the win, he was extremely proud of the performance the Cougars displayed throughout the game.

"We started well," Burton said. "We dominated the first half and for the majority of the game. We out-chanced them, and we outplayed them, and that was just taking what we did in practice."

During the game, the Cougars had two saves, 10 corner kicks, six shots on goal and acquired eight fouls.

Burton said he was very proud of the performance junior midfielder Cassidy Rawdon had throughout the game.

"She was outstanding the entire game and really, the whole season," Burton said. "She stepped in offensively even though she is a defender."

Burton said the Cougars have been playing at a high level, but scoring has been their main issue.

"Putting the ball in the net has been a problem and is what we are lacking," Bur-

ton said. "We have been playing well, so scoring is our next step."

Although the Cougars were not able to get the win Friday, Burton said he was still proud of the performance they displayed throughout the entire game.

"I am extremely proud of our effort, and I think that we played at a high level," Burton said. "But sometimes, the game can be difficult and cruel."

On Oct. 4, the Cougars were able to bounce back from Jacksonville to get their first win since facing Missouri State University. They beat Belmont University 1-0 with a goal near the end of the first half.

Burton said he was proud of his team's win and of the games they had over the past few weeks, although he said he believed the Cougars did not start the game very well.

"We didn't have a great start. We needed to be reactive rather than proactive," Burton said. "Once we did that, we reestablished ourselves and started to make our imprint."

Burton said he did not really notice any major differences from the way the Cougars played against Jacksonville State than the way they played against Belmont University.

"We played well on Friday, and we finally got to the level we needed to be at," Burton said. "We created some good chances, but the biggest difference was that we finally put the ball back in the net."

Freshman forward and midfielder Courtney Benning was able to score the winning goal for the Cougars.

The Cougars had 10 shots on goal, six saves, two corner kicks and only five fouls.



Senior goalkeeper Jennifer Pelley earned a shutout against Belmont University Sunday, Oct. 4.

Lashai Spencer / Alestle

Burton said he was especially proud of the performance sophomore defender Sarah Olson had.

"She played a defensive midfield role, and really helped sacrificing for the win," Burton said. "She did what she had to do in order to make the play and putting everything out their for her teammates."

Burton said he is happy with his team and hopes the win will allow them to move

forward with the rest of the season.

"The result that we had for the game was very positive," Burton said. "Hopefully with the result that we received today, it can be something that we can build with."

The Cougars play against Morehead State University Friday, Oct. 9 at Korte Stadium at 7 p.m.

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SEASON WRAP-UP: STL CARDS

CODY KING

Alestle Opinion Editor

The St. Louis Cardinals have once again conquered the National League Central Division for their third consecutive title after defeating the Pittsburgh Pirates Wednesday, Sept. 30. Following this victory, the Pirates and the Cubs will go head-to-head in a Wild Card game Tuesday, Oct. 7.

Pitcher-Tyler Lyons made his first appearance on the field since pitcher Carlos Martinez's shoulder injury, which led the Cards in seven scoreless innings, allowing four hits and striking out five. Let's not forget right fielder Jason Heyward's third inning grand slam and third baseman Matt Carpenter's game opening triple, setting the stage for the 11-1 win.

Carpenter, center fielder Jon Jay, shortstop Jhonny Peralta, and Heyward formed a dangerous tag-team, going 7-for-12, scoring eight runs and driving in seven.

Coming from the Atlanta Braves, Heyward has been a huge asset to the team, with a batting average of .292, 60 RBIs and 13 home runs so far this season. It's rare that we see Heyward go to the plate, bat in hand, without a hit to the outfield. The rest of the season looks promising for Heyward and the team as they face the winner of the Wild Card game on Friday, Oct. 9.

Despite success on the field, there was an incident during last Monday's game against the Pirates when left fielder Stephen Piscotty collided with teammate and center fielder Peter Bourjos after chasing a

fly ball in left-center field. Piscotty lay motionless on the field after hitting his head on Bourjos' knee and was carted off the field to receive medical attention. Luckily, the injury was reported to be a concussion rather than something more serious. Currently, Piscotty is said to be back in batting practice and ran on the field during training, according to bleacherreport.com. Piscotty should be back in the game in no time.

The Cards also celebrated winning 100 games following the NLC victory. The last time the Cards reached 100 successful games was in 2005 — quite the turnaround from past years. The 100th win brought smiles to all of the players and the fans. Although the team suffered a loss in Turner Field against the Atlanta

Braves 0-4 on Friday, Oct. 2, the Cards still stand tall as more games approach.

With all of the challenges and wins thus far, the Cards are one of the top teams in the 2015 MLB season. The playoffs are not far away, and with the current rankings, it will be no surprise to see the Cards make an appearance.

The competition is heating up, as the Cubs and the Pirates are also making their way up on the standings as well. The end of the season will be an interesting one, to say the least, but that's what makes the major leagues fun. Any baseball fan, regardless of the team they are rooting for, will enjoy what's to come.

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Softball remains undefeated in preseason

KYLE STEPP
Alestle Reporter

The Cougar softball team continued its fall season with two wins this weekend on the road against Southern Illinois University Carbondale and John A. Logan College Saturday, Oct. 3. The Cougars improved to 6-0 in the fall season with a 14-5 rout of John A. Logan and a 3-2 win over SIUC.

Head Coach Sandy Montgomery said she was satisfied with the overall play in both games.

"We have many new players, and I am pleased with the way our team was able to work together and bring home both wins," Montgomery said. "It's always a good day when you can pick up two wins in one day."

Montgomery said she was also happy with the way her team adapted to each game.

"There was a huge difference between playing John A. Logan, a smaller team that made more mistakes, and a Division I Carbondale team who executed really well, both on offense and defense," Montgomery said.

Sophomore pitcher Ashley Koziol

held the Volunteers to just seven hits and picked up her third win of the season. The Cougars were able to score a season high of 14 runs against John A. Logan.

"Our team did really well in capitalizing on the other team's mistakes in our first game," Montgomery said. "We executed well on offense while playing strong defense."

The Cougars edged past the Salukis 3-2 in the last inning. The teams traded runs throughout the game until junior outfielder Whitney Lanphier drove in the game-winning RBI for the third consecutive hit of the inning.

Lanphier, along with senior outfielder Jordan LaFave and freshman utility player Alyssa Heren, finished the double header with three hits each.

Sophomore pitcher Baylee Douglass had seven strikeouts while earning her third win of the season. Douglass pitched three up, three down in the last two innings of the game.

"I was very happy with the way [Douglass] pitched. She was able to get us out of some jams," Montgomery said.

Although the fall season is coming to an end, Montgomery said she still has a

few goals in place for the team's last two games.

"There are no exhibition games in our sport, so we are using this season to make sure all cylinders are running for our upcoming spring season," Montgomery said.

With a tough spring season that will open at Florida Atlantic University, Montgomery said the main focus of their fall season is to help strengthen the mindset of this young team. Montgomery said she wants to focus on building trust and a strong mentality that will carry the team late into its spring season.

"We have a lot of young players, five freshmen and six sophomores. So of course we have experienced some growing pains," Montgomery said. "Trusting one another is crucial for the success of any team."

The Cougars will close their fall season with a double header against Lakeland Community College at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10 at Cougar Field. They will defend their perfect record and hope to keep the steam rolling into the spring season.

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Men's tennis sweeps doubles at Bluejay Invite

DANI WILSON
Alestle Sports Editor

The men's tennis team competed in the Bluejay Invitational in Omaha, Neb. hosted by Creighton University. Head Coach Jason Coomer said the Cougars steadily improved throughout the weekend.

"We definitely had a strong weekend; we got better each day of the tournament, and we were able to get some guys some good experience that we will hopefully carry over to our next tournament," Coomer said.

The Cougars swept the doubles competition on the first day of the invitational with victories by the doubles teams of senior Patrick Gaffigan and sophomore Tristan Houle, senior Nico Kuehn and sophomore Jack Desse, and sophomore Mike Raymond and freshman Dan Lineberry.

On day two, the men played one round of singles and the two finishing rounds of doubles. The Cougars earned seven wins overall, three in doubles and four in singles.

The singles competition ended with the Cougars finishing strong on the last day of the tournament. Of the six singles flights, SIUE clinched three victories.

Coomer said the Cougars' doubles matchups did not go according to plan due to injuries, but the team will continue to search for the best combinations through

the rest of their fall competition season.

"Our plan was to try and look at some different combinations this past weekend, but we had a couple more injuries come into play — about 30 minutes before the tournament started — so that had an impact on what we wanted to do," Coomer said. "We're still going to look to try and put some different guys together, and we've got two more tournaments to get that done."

Standout performances in this tournament came from Lineberry and Houle. Coomer said the two athletes are continuing to show improvement.

"Daniel Lineberry and Tristan Houle definitely stepped up this past weekend and showed the improvement they've made in just two weeks," Coomer said.

Coomer said Lineberry competed well and gained more experience in collegiate play, a benefit for the beginning of Lineberry's freshman season.

"The most important thing for [Lineberry] is getting some college matches under his belt, and he was very comfortable and confident out there this weekend, which we need from him because he's a very good player and will certainly help this team," Coomer said.

Houle had the Cougars' only straight-

sets victory in singles for the weekend, beating South Dakota State's Marco Paulo Castro 6-3, 6-0. Coomer said Houle's work ethic is proving to pay off as he advances and improves as an athlete.

"[Houle has] been pretty solid all the way around, singles and doubles. He's worked really hard the past month and a half, and we know he'll continue to work hard," Coomer said. "He's proven that he can be one of the top players on our team if he continues to maintain his work ethic."

Coomer said the team will continue to build its decisiveness on the court as it continues competition in the fall season.

"I think we have to continue to [work on] being smart when opportunities present themselves to be aggressive. We're still trying to work on our decision making, but at the same time having the confidence to make those decisions," Coomer said. "That's only going to come with a little more experience throughout the fall."

The Cougars' next tournament will be the UTSA/ITA Regional Championship in Fayetteville, Ark. beginning Thursday, Oct. 15 and lasting through Sunday, Oct. 18. This is the team's second-to-last event of the pre-season.

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Cougar volleyball falls to Eastern Illinois

JESSICA ORANIKA
Alestle Reporter

The volleyball team was defeated 25-20, 25-20, 25-22 by Eastern Illinois University on Wednesday, Sept. 30. Although disappointed at the loss, Head Coach Leah Johnson said she was satisfied by the way the Cougars played. They were able to cause the Panther's hitting percentage to fall below .200 in two of their sets. Even so, Eastern ended the competition with a .275 hitting percentage.

"Eastern is a very efficient team. They make very few errors. We put a lot of pressure on them and forced them to have to revamp their game a little. Obviously no one is satisfied with the outcome of the game, but I thought our execution was satisfactory," Johnson said.

With a .208 hitting percentage — down from last week's .224, Johnson said the Cougars had a lot of errors, though some of them were due to increased vigor. Johnson said playing at home increased the team's aggression, which helped the team to remain competitive against Eastern, who is now 3-0 in the Ohio Valley

Conference.

"Playing at home always gives you that extra edge. Nothing beats the atmosphere, the energy, [and] familiarity with the court," Johnson said. "I think our cheering section was great. There's nothing like playing at home."

The Cougars dropped to 3-11 overall and 1-3 in the OVC after a 30-28, 25-14, 25-12 loss to Tennessee State University during their first away OVC match. With another .208 hitting percentage, Johnson said the match was disappointing, but she is confident that the team will be able to improve.

"We weren't playing Cougar volleyball out there. We need to redefine what Cougar volleyball is and get back to playing that," Johnson said.

Johnson said the Cougar's offensive game has been consistently strong, their serving game was particularly faulty during this match. She said she plans on making it a priority to work on reducing errors this week at practice.

"Our serving game was pretty weak. We will definitely have to work on that this week [at practice]," Johnson said.

Senior middle blocker Kristen Torre led the team against TSU with eight kills and four blocks. She also led against EIU with 17 kills and a .429 hitting percentage. Johnson said Torre has been consistent with her leadership and accuracy on the court.

"Torre has been consistently playing with high efficiency. I think she only had about three errors this weekend. She was the main standout this week," Johnson said.

The Cougars will face Austin Peay State University Friday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. Johnson said the match will be a difficult one due to Austin Peay's rapid playing style.

"Austin Peay has a very unique style of playing — very fast. We will have to get used to it. We will be in the gym working on putting pressure on our setters, so they can get used to the urgency of the situation and be able to adjust accordingly," Johnson said.

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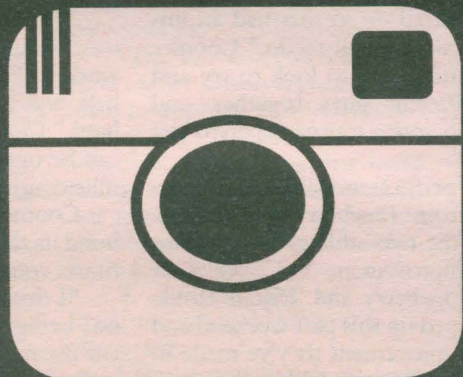
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