

Likely 43/58°



The Wild Wild West

Matthew McConaughey stars in "The Newton Boys" as they rob banks in thewestern flick. For story see page 9.



♦ Tuesday, March 31, 1998

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Vol. 50, No. 58 ◆



Bob Fehringer/Alestle

Spring has sprung!

Five-year-old Chavon Borden takes time to smell the daffodils located in the Quadrangle. Borden is the daughter of Songela Dunagan who is a sophomore majoring in biology.

## Route 159 gets funding for road repairs

# BY RENEE D. HOLLER NEWS REPORTER

Illinois District 20 Congressman John Shimkus announced last week that some much needed local road repairs are included in a transportation funding bill being reported out of committee. Over \$20 million in transportation funding will be brought into District 20, which

includes the Edwardsville area.

"The inclusion of funding for improvements to Route 159 in Edwardsville and Route 67 and the Alton Bypass is far overdue," Shimkus said. "It has been through the hard work of many local individuals and groups that this has been accomplished."

Funding of \$4.275 million has been allotted for improvements on Route 159 in Edwardsville. Also allotted transportation money is Route 67 between Godfrey and Jerseyville, which will receive \$6.8 million for engineering work and land acquisition. This allotment will also aid construction of 10.6 miles of

new four-lane road.

Funding of \$2.5 million for 1 a n d acquisition has been allotted for the Alton Bypass between Route 140 a n d Fosterburg

n e w four-lane connector will eventually join I-255/270 and US Route 67. The Alton Bypass project is being sponsored primarily by Congressman Jerry Costello and includes a 22 mile segment of roadway.

of roadway.

"On behalf of the Chamber and the City of Edwardsville, I want to thank Congressman Shimkus for all of his efforts in support of this very important infrastructure need," said Edwardsville/ Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce President Tom Lauher.



Bob Fehringer/Alestle

Fosterburg Road. This for repairs on Route 159 in Edwardsville.

River Bend Growth Association President Don Miller added, "John has kept himself aware of our area's needs and has in turn kept us informed of their progress. We hope to continue working with him on other projects of concern to Southwestern Illinois."

"Federal funding for infrastructure is money well spent," Shimkus stated. "These funds will help ease traffic congestion and provide an economic boost in both construction spending and long-term economic development along these roadways."

# Interest rate drop causes increase in financial aid money

#### ■ BY ANTHONY WATT

**NEWS STRINGER** 

Financial aid is often the deciding factor in whether or not a person can attend college. Financial aid can take the form of loans, grants, scholarships or work study programs. The government, universities and private lenders such as banks all provide these services. On July 1, 1998 the government will drop interest rates from 7.8 percent to 7 percent and increase the amount of money receivable through certain financial aid programs.

"What you will see is that the interest rate will drop nearly a whole percentage point," Marian Smithson, director of SIUE's Financial Aid Office said.

This drop in interest will save students hundreds of dollars but many private lenders fear that

it will cut into their profit margin to the point that they may stop providing loans to students.

Smithson said that a school like SIUE that provides direct government loans would not be as badly hurt by this as a school like St. Louis University whose students receive the majority of their loans through banks. A revision of the original plan has already passed through the House of Representatives and will go before the senate this week. If approved the new plan would fix all interest rates for direct and private loans and private lenders would be given money by the government for continuing to provide their services. The revision however would not be instated until sometime in 1999.

see INCREASE, page 2

# SIUE rings with sounds of glorious gospel music

# ■ BY DOREEN VAN LEE NEWS STRINGER

A spirit of joy filled the air Sunday at 7 p.m. as a small group of people assembled in the Meridian Ballroom. Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and Rhema Christian Outreach sponsored a gospel concert featuring St. Louis and Chicago based choirs. Rapture featured Amos Isaac and the Ambassadors for Christ featured Vernon Ray Bryant. The theme of the concert was "Gospel Music: Music of the People." The concert is part of a series of activities sponsored by Rhema Christian Outreach Club and Zeta Phi Beta. These organizations also held a gospel music workshop which took place Friday evening.

see GOSPEL, page 2



Jill Stevens/Alestle

Melanie Graves, member of Zeta Phi Beta performed a solo performance.

#### GOSPEL

from page 1

Melanie Graves, sophomore majoring elementary education and a member of Zeta Phi Beta, participated in the gospel music workshop.

"These events are very much needed on campus," Graves said. "The workshop taught us where gospel music originated from and different techniques in singing."

Graves said that these events had been a long time coming. She felt that they were very uplifting and hoped to do it again next year.

Kisha Hawkins-Sledge, president of Rhema Christian Outreach Club and Audrey Johnson, president of Zeta Phi Beta served as master of ceremonies for the gospel concert. Johnson said that the concert is an effort to raise spiritual awareness on campus and to let people know that there is another way to go.

"I don't want anyone to leave out of here the same way they came in," Johnson said. "I can't leave this stage without letting you know how good God has been to me."

Hawkins-Sledge encouraged the small crowd to have a good time.

"We don't have a big turnout tonight, but that just means that we have a great deal more room to praise the Lord," she said. "If there is anyone out there tonight who has not been changed, you need to be changed."

The night began with several selections from Reggie Thomas and the Jazz Combo. Melanie Graves performed a solo accompanied by a dance interpretation Yolanda Griffin.

Words of praise and worship were sprinkled throughout the concert. Members of the choir and the audience began to jump and shout as the spirit moved them.

"The concert was very moving and exciting for me," Zoi Michelle Sapp, a senior majoring in accounting and a member of the Workshop Choir said.

Rev. Robert Web sang "Draw Me Nearer." St. Paul Baptist Church performed an inspirational dance to "Precious Lamb of God." Members of New Northside Baptist Church featuring Evangelist Rolanda Ellis performed "A Change Has Come Over Me." The Workshop Choir lead by Melanie Graves performed "Holy Spirit" and "Don't Give Up."

Audrey Johnson performed several solos including a song entitled "As the Deer." The Ambassadors of Christ featuring Vernon Ray Bryant performed several tunes. The finale was performed by Rapture featuring Amos Isaac who will be releasing their first recording this

The Alestle is looking for news, lifestyle, and sports reporters. Copy editors are also needed. For more information contact the Office of Student Employment at ext. 3997.

# **Alleged** cougar is a no show

**BY DANIELLE** BELTON **EDITOR IN CHIEF** 

The cougar was either shy or was just passing through as officials from the Illinois Conservation department came last Wednesday and found no signs of a cougar on the SIUE

A Glen Carbon couple allegedly sighted the cougar on March 14, while students were away on Spring Break.

Police searched the woods, but there was no sign of a

"(There was) absolutely no indication that there was a cougar on campus," said SIUE campus police chief, Rich Harrison.

The alleged cougar sighting sparked interest in many St. Louis television news crews, who came to SIUE cover the story earlier last

#### INCREASE -

from page 1

"You have to find a happy medium," Smithson, chairwoman of the National Direct Loan Coalition, said. "You want to help your students without harming the students of other universities."

Among the other changes taking place in financial aid is an increased Pell Grant of up to \$3,000. Also the Hope Scholarship will provide tax credits of up to \$1,500 per student per family for the first two years of school. Families can also receive IRAs that have tax free interest rates as long as they are used for college and a tax credit plan that helps upperclassmen, graduate students and adults who are going back to school with their tuition. Students can also file for financial aid much faster by using the Internet services such as FAFSA on the web or FAFSA Express that automatically corrects your application, omits information you do not need and automatically updates the federal database cutting out mailing time and some paperwork. The URL for this service is HYPERLINK http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/ www.fafsa.ed.gov/ and more information can be obtained through the Financial Aid Office at (618) 692-3880.



Bobby Tessel 8:00pm- 9:00pm Cougar Den, UC

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# Meet the Candidates



Dear fellow students, once again I sought for student government elections. I am whole heartedly keen to serve and represent the students and resolve the problems faced by them. Like last year I am again running for senators position. I am Yusra Ikhlaq confident that my qualifications fulfills me for this prestigious

position. This position is important to me not only because it gives me a chance to get first hand knowledge of the problems faced by the students as a whole, but also because I am more able to help them with these difficulties. I hope that all consider me as a good candidate and select me as your student senator once again



Heather M. Petry

Throughout my enrollment at SIUE, I have worked extremely hard to not only maintain high scholastic ideals, but to become involved on campus and the surrounding community. I am actively involved in Student Government, have served on numerous University-wide committees and currently hold the position of Vice-president of Marketing for Alpha Phi. In addition, I have volunteered many hours to better the surrounding communities. As a result of my involvement, I have become aware of the issues

that plague the campus. As a senator, I promise to let the students' voice be heard. I feel communication is the most important factor in this quest. I will make myself available to all students and voice their concerns without thought of personal gain. Furthermore, I have and will continue to represent Southern Illinois University Edwardsville with dignity and pride. Through this statement, I am asking you to make your vote count; elect Heather Petry to Student Senate.





Tara Rone

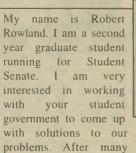
accomplishments have been made through Student Government as a whole. I have been able to take some credit in those accomplishments and feel that I am doing the job that you elected me to do. It will be my duty to continue to serve as your Student Senator and work hard to make the necessary changes for a better campus life.



Vincent T. McClane

My name is Vincent T. McClane. I feel that my experience as both a graduate of SIUE, and being currently enrolled at the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine has given opportunity

experience the strengths and weaknesses of the current and past student governments. As a student senator, my focus would be on improvements in the area of fee distribution, community service and campus recognition.



Robert Rowland

years of campus life, I have the ideas and the knowledge to help solve student problems. I am ready to work for and with you to help make SIUE a better institution.



**Edith Ann** Yurick

As Student Senator, I will take a proactive role to increase opportunities students to participate in university life. From upgrading recreational facilities to hosting more community events, student government can and should facilitate community involvement for all students. Whether you live at SIUE, commute, or attend another campus, your student Government should

be working for you. A vote for Eddi Yurick

is a vote for our Community.

School is more than just

going to classes. SIUE is

a community and needs

community leadership.





this time I have also Dustin Sexton

been an active member in the Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity. I believe that I can fully represent the student body. Through social and scholastic activities, I believe that I can relate to most of the student body. I would appreciate your vote. Thank you.



Ashley Stoneking

I, too, am concerned with the increase in housing costs, the conditions of many campus roads, and the price of parking decals. As a student senator, I want to speak out about these and many more issues that affect the student body. I would be honored to become one of the twelve voices representing the student body. I feel that I have what it takes to be a student senator: firsthand

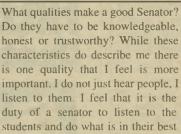
experience and knowledge of many campus problems and concerns, and the determination to challenge them. I have been an active member of a sorority through which I have gained many leadership qualities. If elected as a student senator, I will do my best to listen to the voices of the students and work towards a better campus life for everyone. So, vote for Ashley Stoneking for student senator



Tim Lueker

My name is Time Lueker and I would like to take this opportunity to tell a little bit about myself and why I would like to be considered for the position of Student Senator. I am specializing in Management and Finance with a minor in English and hope to graduate by Fall of 1999. I am a junior and have been attending SIUE for three years. I have been working at University Housing Facilities

Management as a Student Supervisor for most of that time. Through these experiences, I have become familiar with University policies and procedures and have become acquainted with various university departments and I believe this familiarity will be helpful. I believe I am qualified because I am like most other students. I attend classes, work to pay for those classes and would like to make my college experience as positive as possible.





interest, not just his own. If I am elected I would vote as I hear the student population wants me to vote. This is my third year at SIUE, and while I admit to not knowing everything about school, I am quite aware of the problems that many students face. These problems and issues are what have encouraged me to run for office. If you want a candidate that votes for the students, on the issues that concern the students, then vote Andrew Ellis for Student Senate

#### Letters to the editor policy:

The editors, staff and publishers of the Alestle believe in the free exchange of ideas, concerns and opinions and will publish as many letters to the editor as possible. All letters should be typed and double-spaced and be no longer than 500 words. Please include your phone number, signature and social security number.

We reserve the right to edit letters for grammar and content. However, great care will be taken to ensure that the message of the letter is not lost or altered.

Letters to the editor will not be printed anonymously except under extreme circumstances.

The Alestle is a member of the Illinois College Press

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

The Alestle is published on Tuesdays and Thursdays during fall and spring semesters, and on Wednesdays during summer semesters. For more information, call (618) 692-3528.

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> The Alestie Campus Box 1167 Edwardsville, III. 62026-1167 http://www.siue.edu/ALESTLE/Alestle.html

#### Student Body President and Vice President Candidates -----



Bill Anderson

My name is Bill Anderson and I am running for Student Body President, again. I currently serve as the chapter president for both Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity and the Order of Omega. I also serve as the chairman of the Campus Life Advisory Board. In

addition, I served as a Student Senator for the 96-97 school year. I am running for Student Body President because I feel that Student Government does not do a good job of meeting the needs of the students. Student Government spends its time bickering and chasing personal agendas. Meanwhile, the administration can do whatever it wants because the student leaders are preoccupied. If I am elected President, Student Government will once again pursue issues that are important to all students.



William Goldsmith

You repeatedly hear candidates saying that they want to be the voice for the student body, but do they wish to voice the concerns of the student body or their own? How can you voice the concerns of the students without hearing directly from the different communities within the student body? The Student Body President shouldn't just be a messenger; the representative should be a motivator, leader and team builder. Everyone counts, organizations and individuals,

traditional and non-traditional students, residents and commuters, and main campus as well as Alton Dental and E. St. Louis campus students. We are a diverse unit. Within our unit we have communities with different needs. I will make it my responsibility to communicate directly to the student body and contact members of different communities within our unit on matters detrimental to them and implement plans of action. Vote for the communal representative. William Goldsmith for Student Body President.



Ettrick Lucas

The students represent the heart of this university. We are powerful enough to have a dynamic influence on the operations of this institution. The new millennium is quickly approaching and we must be prepared. Now, more than ever, we must use our voices to express our concerns, concerns that pertain to housing policies, parking policies, phone rates, student organizations etc. The acts and policies that we create today will have an impact on those who attend this university in the future. As

Student Body Vice President, My actions will be in the best interest of the student body, not just the administration. My organizational experience will enable me to function cooperatively with other constituency bodies to achieve the mission and purpose of the University. With the help of the President and Senate, I will strive to make sure that the students will be heard and taken seriously.

#### Student Senator Candidates -----



Saurabh Bhakta

I. Saurabh
Bhakta. am
running for
s t u d e n t
senator. I am a
s o p h o m o r e
majoring in
B u s i n e s s
Finance and
Economics. I

came across my decision to run when I was attending a Student Leadership Module. As a group, we were working on problem solving techniques when I found myself very concerned about the issues that were being presented. I am running for this position so I can represent the student body in these issues. I feel that my leadership qualities will allow me to serve the students in the best way possible. I have always been totally dedicated to every job that I have undertaken. I plan to put forth the same commitment towards the position of Student Senator. I will put 101 percent into this job to represent you, the student body.

My name is

Julia A. Weber,

campaigning

for the Student Senate. I currently

I am

and



attend the SIU School Julia Weber Medicine in Alton after having completed most of my undergraduate studies at the Edwardsville campus. Since I have attended both campuses, I am in a unique position to both represent an absent student population and be an active agent for the main student body. I am interested in serving as a representative because I care about the future of SIU and the interests of the student population. I want to assist in the improvement of student services and the development of a more active campus life. I will be

attentive to student needs and

concerns, and I am willing to

dedicate myself to the growth and improvement of the university. Vote for me, and I will do my utmost to cultivate a better "student life" for all students.



Chris Goodman

My name is Chris Goodman and I am running for Student Senate. I am currently a second year graduate student and live in Alton. I am 29 years old and for many years have been ponderin g why and how the decisions are made in politics. This has left me with many questions and also ideas that would benefit my fellow students. I would like to become a student senator to voice some of these ideas and also bring up some of these questions to help make things better for all of us. I am seeking your vote for Student Senate and I will work for and with you to improve the students rights and life.



Kari Mueller

Hello, my name is Kari Mueller. I am running for a Student Senate position on the 98-99 Student Government Board. I feel that I would represent SIUE well as a student senator because of my vast experience working with groups and my problem solving capabilities. The best learning experiences I have had to handle along the lines of groups and problem solving have been as the Vice president of Chapter Operations of Alpha Phi Fraternity and as a

member of the Student Government Finance Board. I would like to see many changes for the students at SIUE, and I will work to the utmost of my ability to see that these changes get the chance to grow out of our ideas.

#### Candidate for Student Trustee -----



"Why has the university raised the cost of parking again?" "Why do we not a have a football team at SIUE?" "What is there to do on the weekends at SIUE?" If you find yourself asking these types of questions, you are not alone. Greetings, my name is Phil Gersman, and I want to give you the answers to these questions. I am running for the Student Trustee position, and I want to

Phil Gersman lobby for what is best for this university and how it works. Well, from giving tours of campus and

recruiting students, to being involved in Greek life, I am that candidate. I want to lobby for what the students want and need at this university. By voting for me, I will try to the best of my ability to represent the student's needs and wants to the Board of Trustees. If you are tired of asking the questions and not getting any answers, you need to remember two things: election day and my name.

# Don't forget to vote for your candidates this week in the University Center.

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Equity Accounts Rated
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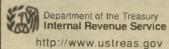
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**656-UTAN** 

## 'Black Widow': She mates, she kills

STARKE, Fla. (AP) - Judy wanted the death penalty. Buenoano filled her 13 years on death row writing letters and crocheting blankets and baby clothes. As the clock ticked down to her execution Monday and her final appeals worked through the courts, she waited in a cell a few feet from the electric chair.

She seems a paradox: either a doting mother or a ruthless "black widow" who was drowned her 19-year-old paraplegic son, poisoned her husband with arsenic and tried to kill her fiance, first with pills, then a car

Ms. Buenoano, 54, the oldest woman on Florida's death row, is the first woman scheduled to be electrocuted in Florida and the first woman set to be executed in the state since 1848 when a freed slave was hanged for killing her master. Her death was to be carried out on what would have been her son's 37th birthday.

Florida executed two killers on successive days last week. Ms. Buenoano's execution was to be followed by the electrocution Tuesday of a man who killed a convenience store clerk in Ocala and was linked to four other killings during a 1985 rampage that reached into Texas, Arkansas and Kansas.

Pensacola prosecutor Russell Edgar, who gave Ms. Buenoano the name that has dogged her to this day, described her as a scheming, cold-blooded killer.

"She's like a black widow; she feeds off her mates and her young," Edgar said last week, repeating comments he made during her trial for the 1980 drowning.

She collected about \$240,000 in insurance money from the deaths of her husband, son and a boyfriend in Colorado.

"It does appear the motive was twisted greed," Edgar said.

Michael Goodyear was 19, partially paralyzed and wearing leg and arm braces when his mother pushed him out of a canoe in the East River near Pensacola. Jurors voted for conviction and recommended a life sentence over the objections of Edgar, who

In television interviews over the past week, Ms. Buenoano said her son's death was a terrible accident, not murder.

"I suffered over it and I feel responsible for his death ... It was an accident," she told NBC.

Edgar said she gave four different versions of how Michael died: a snake fell into their canoe and it overturned; the canoe hit a log; he was decapitated by a boat propeller; he died from chemical warfare in the Army.

"It wasn't an accident. The guy was paralyzed," Edgar said. "He had 15 pounds of braces on his legs without a life jacket. He was taken up the river in a canoe and basically pitched out."

Authorities also believe she was responsible for more than Michael's drowning.

"She put that boy through a lot before she killed him. She poisoned him to make him paraplegic. And then the guy ain't home from the hospital for 24 hours before she drowns him," said Pensacola detective Ted Chamberlain, who plans to witness the execution.

"A person this cruel really needs to get what she deserves,'

Ms. Buenoano, a native of Texas, was convicted and condemned in 1985 for killing her husband of nine years, Air Force Sgt. James Goodyear. He was 37 when he died of arsenic poisoning in 1971, three months after he returned to Orlando from a year's tour in Vietnam.

Sylvia W. Smith, Ms. Buenoano's lawyer Tallahassee, is challenging evidence presented by an FBI scientist at the 1984 drowning trial. Roger Martz, who was discredited in the FBI's investigation of its lab, gave testimony that was admitted as evidence a year later at Ms. Buenoano's trial in Orlando for killing her husband.

The Florida Supreme Court ruled last week that there was more than enough evidence to convict her without Martz's

Kimberly Hawkins, 30, a waitress in Navarre, has stood by her mother, steadfastly believing in her innocence.

"She did things with us," she has told The Associated Press. "She worked a lot ... but she always made time for us."

Ms. Buenoano, whose name is Spanish for "good year," also was sentenced to 12 years on an attempted murder charge for blowing up fiance John Gentry's car in downtown Pensacola in 1983. During that investigation, Gentry told detectives about the so-called vitamins she gave him that made him sick.

"If they would allow me, I would pull the switch myself," Gentry told Fox News Channel. "There are people that are so evil that they really don't need to be amongst civilized people. She preyed upon people that loved

The information about the pills was key to uncovering the other crimes.

She was suspected but never charged in the death of Bobby Joe Morris, a boyfriend in Trinidad, Colo., who died of arsenic poisoning in 1978.

Only two women have been executed in the United States since the U.S. Supreme Court lifted the ban on capital punishment in 1976. North Carolina executed Velma Barfield in 1984 for poisoning her boyfriend and Texas executed Karla Faye Tucker on Feb. 3 for hacking a man and woman to death. Barfield and Tucker died by injection.

Gerald Stano, who confessed to 41 murders in Florida, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, was put to death last Monday for the 1973 murder of a 17-year-old girl from Port Orange. Leo Jones was executed 24 hours later for the 1981 murder of a Jacksonville police officer.

Daniel Remeta, 40, who walked into a convenience store in Ocala to buy bubble gum, then shot the clerk four times before fleeing with \$52 from the cash register, was scheduled to die Tuesday.

# **Enviroment group calls Illinois a net** exporter of toxins for fertilizer use

SPRINGFIELD, III. (AP) — Illinois companies sent nearly 14 million pounds of industrial waste to other states for use in fertilizer from 1990 to 1995, according to the Environment Working Group.

Over the same period, Illinois fertilizer companies received 6.7 million pounds of waste, the organization revealed Thursday.

A review of federal records by the organization found 19 Illinois companies exported industrial waste. Zinc and related compounds were the most common, followed by sulfuric

Zinc also was the most common waste product brought into Illinois by eight fertilizer companies and farms, the group found.

The head of the Illinois Public Interest Research Group called for labels stating whether

fertilizer includes any potentially dangerous chemicals.

Executive Director Diane Brown said current practices hide wastes under the guise of

"In this case, recycling is like money-laundering: Send your toxic waste to a fertilizer company and it comes out clean," she said at a Springfield news conference.

# Illinois woman kidnapped while bird watching in colombia

CHILLICOTHE, Ill. (AP) - Louise Augustine had been robbed during one trip to Colombia and seen guerillas on another.

But friends and family say the 63-year-old former nun was determined to take another bird-watching trip to the South American country, despite their warnings about social unrest and their suggestion she let a foot infection

This week, some of their worst fears came true when they learned she was among 30 people kidnapped Monday by a rebel group at a roadblock south of Bogota.

"I was concerned about her travels to those South American countries," said Paul March, one of Augustine's neighbors in Chillicothe. "They're in turmoil. Rebels everywhere. But she has a mind of her own, and she left."

Commander Romana, the local leader of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, confirmed Thursday that four Americans and an Italian were among the hostages. The foreigners are a prime kidnapping target because they fetch the highest ransoms.

Her brother, Jerome Augustine of Peoria, learned his sister was missing Wednesday when a fellow bird-watcher from Peoria called him.

"All we know is that she's over in Bogota or that area and is being held as a prisoner," he said of his sister.

He said his sister had spent 12 years as a nun in Terre Haute, Ind., then continued to teach after leaving the

"She used to put on a pair of jeans under her habit and

go out in the woods to bird watch and take her habit off," he said. "Some of the nuns didn't appreciate her.'

She retired in 1993 but has continued to travel the world on bird-watching trips. She was in Florida recently when she injured her toe while jogging, and an infection set in.

"It was pretty bad when she left," Jerome Augustine said. "We told her she should stay home and let it heal, but she wanted to go. She gets cabin fever pretty bad."

In 1990, Scott Heimdal of Peoria was held captive for 61 days in Ecuador's jungle by armed Colombian guerrillas until Illinois residents raised his \$60,000

Augustine said he's still waiting to hear from the U.S. State Department but has talked to Heimdal.

"He said this thing could drag on for several months," Augustine said. "I hope they take pity on an old lady and let her go."

### **Doctor pleads innocent to fraud charges**

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) - A kidney doctor has pleaded innocent to federal charges that he defrauded the government and health insurance companies of at least \$1.5 million

Dr. Mark Frazier entered the pleas in U.S. District Court on Friday.

Frazier and his former Spokane practice, Northwest Nephrology Associates, are accused of mail fraud, false statements and false claims in a 14-count indictment returned last

Frazier, 51, is accused of running a scheme to defraud Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance companies of at least \$1.5 million over five years.

If convicted, Frazier could be ordered to pay restitution plus as much as \$3.5 million in fines and spend up to 70 years in prison.

The case arose from a whistleblower lawsuit filed by Dr. Stephen Fox, who worked with Northwest Nephrology for about 15 months and now practices in

Frazier is accused in the criminal case of asking other doctors in the group to bill insurers for a higher level of care than patients needed for two major types of dialysis. This type of fraud is called "upcoding."

The other doctors — Mary Anne McDonald, Leo Obermiller and Katherine Tuttle — do not face criminal charges but are named in the civil whistle-blower lawsuit filed by Fox.

The lawsuit, which is pending, was unsealed in January after the Justice Department intervened on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Lawyers for McDonald, Obermiller and Tuttle have said those three physicians cooperated with federal investigators.

Obermiller and McDonald now run Nephrology Consultants in Spokane and Tuttle is research director at The Heart Institute. Northwest Nephrology Associates was disbanded a couple years ago.

He lost his privileges at

Spokane-area hospitals after Spokane County prosecutors charged him with threatening another doctor and interfering at Sacred Heart Medical Center, the hospital where Northwest Nephrology Associates

In December, Frazier pleaded guilty to interfering with Sacred Heart in exchange for dismissal of a more serious harassment

Frazier was sentenced to 362 days in jail and fined \$250. The jail sentence was suspended.

Last July, he voluntarily entered the C.F. Menninger Memorial Hospital in Topeka, Kan., for psychiatric treatment. He eventually moved near his family in Omaha, Neb.

Frazier said at Friday's court hearing that he will return to Menninger in mid-April for two more weeks of treatment.

He told Washington officials earlier this month he does not intend to practice medicine again

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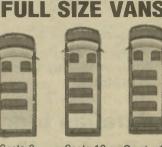
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# Lincoln students reassured they're safe after boy brings gun to school

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Lincoln parents, teachers and administrators were reassuring students of their school safety after a sixth-grade boy was suspended for allegedly bringing a gun to school.

Students told school officials of the incident Thursday, and police were notified. Police found a .380-caliber semiautomatic handgun at the 12year-old's home.

Before sending her thirdand fifth-grade daughters to

school on Friday morning, Ann Covalt told them to make sure they told a teacher if they heard anything about guns at school.

Covalt, president of the Rousseau Parent-Teacher-Student-Organization. "But you can't be scared of everything."

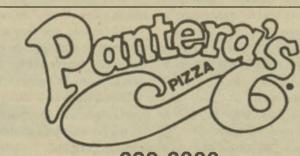
David Rutledge, Rousseau principal, said he was personally speaking to the school's fourth-, fifth- and sixth-graders to reassure them of their safety. Teachers also spoke with

kindergarten through third-grade students. And counseling was available if students needed it.

"I'm letting them know that "It's pretty scary," said bad things sometimes happen and they are safe at school," Rutledge said. "My observation is they're doing pretty good with it."

> According to police, the boy found the key to a locked gun cabinet at home. He got the gun, took it to school Wednesday, and after school, he took it home and put it back. Police didn't know if the handgun was loaded.

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# Air traffic controller suspended after claims of on-duty drug use

MIAMI (AP) \_ An air traffic controller at Miami International Airport will be fired after he was found unconscious near drug paraphernalia in a tower bathroom, federal officials said Saturday.

The Federal Aviation Administration would not name the controller, but said in a release that it is in the process of firing the air traffic controller who admitted to on-duty

WPLG-TV in Miami reported Friday night that the controller was suspended after using heroin before he was found lying on the floor. FAA spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen said she could not give the name of the controller or confirm details of the case.

The FAA's drug policy mandates terminating employees who use, possess or purchase drugs on duty, or who are under the influence of drugs while on duty.

Two managers have been transferred out of the tower and to desk jobs elsewhere at the airport because of the incident, the FAA said. The agency was investigating possible improprieties in the way the drug testing program as it is administered at the Miami Tower.

"Our employees are not warned in advance according to our drug testing policy," said Bergen, who referred to the incident as extremely unusual.

Sherrod Shim, spokeswoman for the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, which represents more than 14,000 controllers nationally, had no comment on the

"The FAA is the employer, and that is a personnel issue, and we don't get involved in personnel issues," she said Saturday. She had no idea of the frequency of drugrelated discipline among controllers.

Travelers at the Miami airport said they weren't that surprised to hear about the controller using drugs.

"Nothing is foolproof," said Terence Hood, who had just arrived from Tampa on a business trip. "Those things go on in all fields of work."

"I just hope to go up safely and come down safely."

Bob Esposito, a winter resident of Deerfield Beach, who was picking up a relative flying in from the Bahamas, said: "Nothing surprise me, I'm from New York. You can expect anything nowadays.

Maxine Cummings of Largo, who was on her way on a cruise, said, "It doesn't surprise me that it happened and it doesn't surprise me that someone covered up for him."

Her husband Bill Cummings said: "It's the plane that's supposed to fly, not the controller."

# Inspectors go near Saddam's hometown for palace searches

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) \_ U.N. arms experts inspected another of President Saddam Hussein's palace compounds Sunday as they continued to search for information on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

The experts, accompanied by 20 senior diplomats, visited the palace complex in Mosul, 400 kilometers (245 miles) north of Baghdad, Nils Carlstrom, the head of the U.N. inspection team in Baghdad, told The Associated

The inspection lasted well into the evening, he said. He did not give details or say where the team miles) south of Mosul. will go on Monday.

On Saturday, the inspectors visited the palace complex in Tikrit, Saddam's hometown, and saw a lot of construction work, said Antonio Monteiro, a Portuguese diplomat working with the inspectors.

The official Iraqi News Agency reported that Saddam visited Tikrit on Saturday and was greeted with a rapturous welcome by throngs of citizens. Saddam climbed the roof of a government building to greet the crowd, who chanted "long live beloved leader."

Tikrit is 230 kilometers (140

The Tikrit inspection lasted all

Saturday and included an aerial biological and nuclear weapons Baghdad. survey by helicopter, Monteiro told reporters. The inspectors were expected to return to Baghdad on Monday.

Everything went smoothly," Monteiro said. "Again, small problems needed clarifications, but without any interference in the work."

Monteiro is Portugal's ambassador to the United Nations and chairman of the U.N. sanctions committee on Iraq. He said he participated in the helicopter survey.

The inspectors are searching the compounds for information related to Iraqi chemical,

as well as long-range missiles.

Monteiro is among 20 diplomats chosen by the United Nations to accompany U.N. inspectors to eight presidential compounds.

This was mandated in a Feb. 23 accord between Iraq and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to open the palace complexes that Iraq earlier had declared offlimits on grounds of national sovereignty. The presence of the diplomats is meant to safeguard Iraq's dignity.

The visits to presidential sites began Thursday at the Radwaniyah complex outside

Monteiro said that from the helicopter over the Tikrit palace compound, he could see "there are a lot of things under construction." He added: "Not everything is finished."

The inspectors also entered the main palace building, as they did at Radwaniyah, he said.

The inspections of palaces and other sites will go on until the United Nations is satisfied that Iraq has eliminated its weapons of mass destruction.

Economic sanctions imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait will not be lifted until the weapons are destroyed.

#### Australian teacher seized in Thailand by Myanmar guerrillas

— An Australian aid worker captured by a Myanmar guerrilla group near Thailand three days ago is not in danger and may be released in a day or two, his aid agency said Monday.

"There's no evidence it's a kidnap or hostage (situation). He's being held for questioning at this stage and we are very hopeful that we'll soon have an outcome," Overseas Service Bureau chief executive Bill Armstrong said.

Nick Cheesman, 28, and a Thai woman were abducted by guerrillas of the pro-junta Democratic Karen Buddhist Army on Friday near Thailand's northwestern border with his colleague were in the course where rival Karen factions have been battling.

They were reported to have been ordered at gunpoint across a river into Myanmar after being caught taking photos near the Huay Kalok refugee camp, not far from the Thai border town of Mae Sot, west of Bangkok.

The Australian Government is taking no chances, negotiating for the immediate release of Cheesman and his companion, whose name is not known.

But Armstrong said it was not recent weeks.

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) a hostage situation and Cheesman could be released very soon.

> He said there might be some truth in the story the Karen group would return Cheesman after he photographed and documented the conditions of the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army camp.

> "If he does that, they'll release him in a day or two," he said.

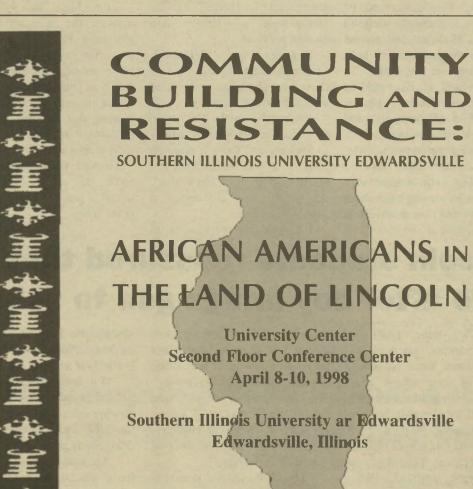
> "We're told that they're safe, that they're well and there's no immediate danger to their lives," Armstrong told Channel 9 TV.

Cheesman was working for a Bangkok-based organization Burma Issues, which investigated violations. human rights Armstrong said.

"There's no doubt Nick and Myanmar, also called Burma, of their job. My understanding is that they were involved in their job taking photographs of a village that had been burned.

> Cheesman is a teacher who has been working in the border camps for refugees from Myanmar. Friends said he is 28 years old and is believed to be a resident of Adelaide.

> There are an estimated 100,000 Karen refugees in the camps, several of which have come under attack by Democratic Karen Buddhist Army troops in



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"The world is full of guys. Be a man, don't be a guy."

(Hint: She stars in almost as many indie flicks as Parker Posey)

Vacanon Hursday's answer Chery Chare and Thursday's answer Chery Chare and

# Lifestyle People, Entertainment & Comics

Box Office Big Ones

1. Titanic \$16
2. Grease \$13
3. Primary Colors \$7.3
4. Man in the... \$6.6
5. Wild Things \$5.8

(All estimates in millions)

Titanic has now grossed over \$500 million domestic.

♦ TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1998

The Alestle

PAGE 9 •

# RANTS &



BY COREY STULCE
LIFESTYLE EDITOR
cstulce@siue.edu

As I near the end of my career as a student, I am starting to reflect on all of my experiences. I have enjoyed most of my time as a student. I even learned a thing or two in some of my classes. In others, well, I didn't learn as much.

There are two subjects that I despised having to study. The first was science. Now, I have nothing against science. I just have no interest in biology or chemistry, just as many scientists have no interest in the subject of English. I do recognize that science is a necessary subject to teach our young people.

The other subject I hated taking was history. Now, it wasn't just that I wasn't interested in the history of our country or anyone else's, but I noticed a disconcerting pattern as well. Most basic history classes focus on war. Now, why is war such an important subject in the history of a nation?

I would be curious to find out if a study has been done to find out if there is any correlation between teaching grade school children history and their tendency towards violent thinking or behaving. Are the professors of America teaching children that war is a way to solve a major problem? I think there may be some correlation.

I have the perfect solution. History is removed from every curriculum. And, after a few generations, a new history can be made up. But, this can be a happy history where everyone gets along. It's just a thought to ponder.

By now, I have every history professor on the campus in an uproar, and I'm sure they could give me a list of why my reasoning is insane.

But, hey, it's just my opinion. Take it or shove it.



"The Newton Boys" stars Vincent D'Onofrio, Matthew McConaughey, Ethan Hawke and Skeet Ulrich and is directed by Richard Linklater.

### BY BOB THOMAS AP WRITER

"I rob banks, that's what I do." This is Willis Newton's reply to his lady love's persistent questions about where he gets the money to be a big spender.

He is joined in the bank-robbing enterprise by his three brothers, Joe, Jess and Dock, and an explosives expert named Brentwood Glasscock. Together they relieve heartland banks of their assets during the early 1920s.

These lighthearted bandits actually lived, and their saga is told in "The Newton Boys," a movie in the tradition of "Jesse James" (the Tyrone Power-Henry Fonda version) and "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." While it doesn't achieve the classic status of those two, the film is an enjoyable series of capers, enhanced by a young and talented cast.

Willis (Matthew McConaughey) returns to his Texas home after a stretch in the penitentiary. Neither he nor his brothers, Joe (Skeet Ulrich) and Jess (Ethan Hawke) hanker for a life of picking cotton. The same goes for Dock (Vincent D'Onofrio), also released from the pen.

Their future is decided when they encounter the wily Glasscock (Dwight Yoakam), who can measure nitroglycerin with the skill of a hotel bartender. A friendly banker supplies the gang with a list of banks possessing square, easy-to-blow safes.

The intricately planned heists proceed flawlessly, almost baffling local and federal lawmen. Along the way, Willis falls in love with Louise Brown (Julianna Margulies). He rationalizes his profession to her by saying that he and his brothers don't kill anyone and don't hurt the depositors nor the banks, which are compensated by insurance firms.

The Newtons' plans are foiled as banks install round, impregnable safes. So Willis devises his most ambitious plan: robbing a train carrying millions. That proves to be the gang's undoing.

# Linklater's western tale comes to theaters

The true story of the Newton Boys is brought to the Silver Screen in new film.

Richard Linklater collaborated on the script with Clark Lee Walker and Claude Stanush, basing it on the latter's

book. Linklater directs with careful attention to relationships and to period authenticity. The tone is set in the opening credits, designed like those of a silent movie.

McConaughey, whose career has not quite caught fire, does his best work as the canny mastermind. Other standouts: Ethan Hawke, the erratic young brother; Vincent D'Onofrio, the gang's strongman; country singer Dwight Yoakam, the munitions expert.

The filmmakers stress that the events in "The Newton Boys" actually happened. Lengthy titles explain the later years of the principal figures (the brothers lived to old age). Tip: Stay through the closing titles. You'll see Johnny Carson interviewing one of the Newtons, and another one reciting the gang's misdeeds.

The 20th Century Fox release was produced by Anne Walker-McBay. Rated PG-13 for mild profanity, lawlessness and gunfights. Running time: 122 minutes.

### WHAT'S IN YOUR ROOM?

# ■ BY SANDRA SCHLOSSER LIFESTYLE STRINGER

Home sweet home. What a wonderful feeling it is to say that Woodland Hall is now the home of many SIUE students. After many sleepless nights trying to get homework done, partying and playing catch up for your next exam, Woodland Hall can now be considered a home for many that reside in it.

For Molly McGinn and Shanna Allen, their room has become a home over the course of the school year. With "Wizard of Oz" posters, tons of pictures of friends and family and a Bulls poster, McGinn and Allen try to make their 2-East room a home. Beanie Babies, a television, VCR, refrigerator, CDs, posters by Monet and colored pictures from friends also add to the personal touch of McGinn and Allen's home.

McGinn and Allen have been friends since about fourth or fifth grade, according to McGinn. They are both nursing majors and they even went shopping together for their room. "A lot of our stuff matches," adds both McGinn and Allen. "Our sheets match in color."

With a futon next to the bunkbeds, the room is still spacious for the size of the room. The futon makes things more comfortable when trying to watch movies. McGinn and Allen do own many movies, varying in different selections. From the '80s comedy, "Girls Just Want to Have Fun," to the classics of "Wizard of Oz" and "Grease," and the horror



Renee Holler/Alestle

Molly McGinn and Shanna Allen share a room at Woodland Hall. They decorated the space with matching bedspreads and "Wizard of Oz" memorabilia.

movies of the '90s including "Seven" and "Silence of the Lambs," to the sad drama of "Beaches," McGinn and Allen have a wide variety of movies from which to choose.

As the mystery question of the contest arose, McGinn and Allen were almost speechless. "If you found out that your parents were on their way over to visit, what would be the first thing that you would hide?" With a little bit of thought, the answer was simply, "We don't have anything to hide. Everything that is out, is nothing that we want or need to hide."

# Celebs dig new Beetle

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Beetle mania is sweeping Hollywood, where flashy luxury cars and sport utility vehicles have been the preferred mode of transportation.

Singer Lyle Lovett, actor Larry Hagman and Fleetwood Mac's John McVie couldn't wait to be the first celebrities with the new helmetshaped \$ 15,000 Volkswagen Bug in their driveway.

"I've never had a Beetle before. But I saw this car and I really wanted it. It's so cute," Hagman said before driving off the lot in Ventura last week in his 1998 silver Bug.

"It's a little lower profile, which is what I want," Hagman said.

In Thousand Oaks, McVie picked up his new silver Volkswagen, while Lovett was the first person to rent a new Beetle on Friday at Beverly Hills Budget Rent A Car, where stars usually rent Mercedes-Benz M-Class sport utility vehicles, Corvette convertibles, BMW Z3s, Jaguar XK8s or Porsche Boxsters.

"We've received calls from half the stars in Hollywood who want to rent the new Beetle. Even though they're all grown up and driving Mercedes and Ferraris, this car makes them feel young again," said Ken Kerzner, head of the rental-car office in Beverly Hills.

The new versions of the 1960s transportation icon debuted at auto shows earlier this year. Volkswagen planned to sell 50,000 new Beetles in the United States the first year, but the target number is now 60,000. Only about 4,000 will have been shipped by Tuesday, which means only an average of seven cars for each of the company's nearly 600 dealers nationwide.

#### Mr. Gnu







By Travis Dandro







### reasons not to marry a dog

- 10. They eat their own feces.
- 9. Too much discrimination from interspecies relationship resistance groups.
- 8. Most of them could use an Altoid or two.
- 7. Fleas get in the darndest places.
- 6. They are selfish lovers.
- 5. During walks on the beach, they have to stop every few seconds to pee on something.
- 4. A nice dinner is the dumpster behind a ritzy Italian joint.
- 3. Butt sniffing is bad foreplay.
- 2. They never share the covers.
- 1. Bob Barker is always hanging around with a pair of scissors.

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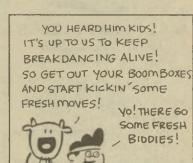
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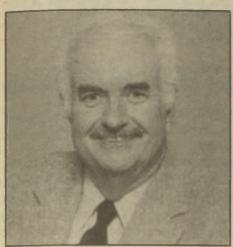








# Original Captain Kangaroo still helping and teaching children



Bob Keeshan, AKA, the original Captain Kangaroo

HANOVER, N.H. (AP) - Forty-five years after his Captain Kangaroo character debuted on NBC, Bob Keeshan has grown into the elderly character that once required makeup, a wig and padding.

Keeshan, 70, is now far from the New York set of Mr. Green Jeans and Mr. Moose. He's lived full time in Vermont since 1990.

with a huge list of accomplishments behind him, Keeshan says he's busier now than he's ever been.

Keeshan's latest project in Vermont is serving as spokesman for the Vermont Children's Trust Fund, a program that supports 138 community-based prevention programs. The trust was established by the Legislature in 1986 to support after-school programs, parenting classes and sexual abuse prevention efforts. It's funded from private and federal sources.

It supports programs to prevent child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, alcohol and drug abuse, juvenile delinquency and other social problems.

"It fills holes that are not filled by the government-funded conventional programs," Keeshan says. "It's more important recently because a lot of those programs are now not funded.'

The trust helps fulfill Keeshan's drive to improve the well-being of children and families. He also testifies before the Legislature, speaks around 40 times a year on issues related to children, writes children's books and acts as a creative consultant on programs.

"It's my joy," he says of his work, seated in the foyer of the Hanover Inn, where he tries to get the attention of a youngster bouncing around on a couch as she waits for her parents.

This year the trust made its way onto the state income tax forms, an effort legislators and children's advocates have been working on for six years. Now Vermonters can donate any portion of their tax refund or payment to the fund by checking off the children's trust fund line.

Vermont is the 14th state to include the trust on its tax forms.

According to Sandy First, the president of Vermont Children's Trust Fund, small states have raised \$14,000 through the check-off and larger states, like Michigan, have taken in more than \$300,000.

Keeshan does public announcements on local and national TV and radio on the trust and its cause.

And First says that Keeshan has made himself available whenever needed.

"He's amazing," says First, "He's had his fingers in 100 different pies all related to children. He's not someone who takes a back seat at all. He's been a joy to

Keeshan became known to the world as the gray-haired mustached captain with a red blazer lined in white piping "Captain Kangaroo." But his accomplishments extend beyond children's

He has 17 honorary degrees from colleges and universities across the country. He is the director of the National Committee on the Prevention of Child Abuse and an honorary fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He was a trustee of the National Association of Children's Hospitals. He's served on school boards and has been a college trustee.

Keeshan has a lot to say about young people and families in Vermont and nationwide. For the most part, his outlook

"We're very fortunate because Vermont is a family friendly state. But we sometimes lull ourselves into thinking that there are no problems in Vermont, but there are," he says. "There's a tremendous amount of poverty in Vermont, and you can be the best parent in the world, but when faced with poverty there are certain things

"There is indeed abuse of children in Vermont. A lot of it is because of alcohol and drug abuse. So we do have some

serious problems to address. But we are fortunate to have the right attitude in Vermont toward families and children. They are a higher priority."

As in the rest of the country, Keeshan sees fundamental changes in the family structure in Vermont. Close to 50 percent of families nationwide are now run by single parents, he says.

"Nurturing is an hourby-hour, day-by-day task and it requires investment in children, in time and in energy. And when we have a partner to help us, it helps tremendously."

Keeshan himself was prominent in the upbringing of his three children. But his wife was the primary nurturer. She worked consultant on the other end of the spectrum in gerontology. "She was a

dedicated mother, the old-fashioned kind," he says.

She died two years ago, and part of the reason he ended "Captain Kangaroo" was to help her as she grew ill. He turns his head away as he talks about her.

He's still getting used to life alone, but sees his family and six grandchildren frequently. A son has a vacation home in Quechee.

Keeshan works hard to get the six grandchildren together twice a year because he says they are at the age when they can build lasting relationships with their cousins that will be meaningful

The breakdown of the extended family is not good for children, he says.

"Today virtually every parent works outside of the home, regardless if they're an intact family or not, so it's a juggling act. If you have relatives around as a resource it makes it a lot easier to address those problems," he says.

Keeshan says that parenting is more challenging today than it was when his children were growing up.

And attitudes have changed a lot. Keeshan used to take a 4 a.m. train into New York when his children were young. He often looked tired and people on the train asked why. When he said he'd been up changing diapers or getting children to bed he said he noticed the men backing away from him. "They thought I was insane. Men didn't do this.'

Now he comes across men all the time who are far more involved in nurturing their children and he says they get a lot

Employers have changed their view of child-care, too.

In 1987, Keeshan and former Tennessee

Gov. Lamar Alexander co-founded Corporate Family Solutions, an organization that provides developmental day care programs to businesses around the country. Corporate Family Solutions now works with 110 businesses and continues to grow.

"I can remember when Lamar and I went to talk to CEOs back in '86 and '87, there were nice polite smiles. Lamar was just retiring as governor, so everybody was polite to us, but it was an absurd idea.

"Now it's a program that American business is demanding.'

Keeshan's proud of the children that come out of his day care programs, but he can't say the same for the graduates of other day cares in this country.

"Ninety-eight percent of day care is custodial; we keep them out of harm's way," says Keeshan. "Children learn more in the first six years of life than at any other time. Yet in this country we ignore kids in those first six years.

"We ought to be developing the child in those six years with formal programs and I don't mean where the child learns to play the violin or learns mathematics and becomes a brilliant mathematician by the time she's six — I mean emotional development as well as the intellectual and physical development that takes place in those six years is the platform that sets up kids for the rest of their lives.

"Play is the work of children. It's very serious stuff. And if it's properly structured in a developmental program, children can blossom. They can get to kindergarten, like, 'just show it to me, just show it to me, I'm able to handle anything," he says. "They've been taught, not told, they can handle anything.'

### **EXPLORING HOMOPHOBIA**



A series of seminars presented by

#### Paul Wesselmann

(creator of Stone Soup Seminars)

Wednesday, April 1

in the Hickory/Hackberry Room, SIUE University Center

#### **Exploring Homophobia in Your Organization and Yourself** 9:30 am and 2:00 pm

This highly interactive presentation provides a safe environment to exchange information, explore ideas, and identify our individual strengths and weaknesses around issues that are not always easy to discuss. Topics include: origins of homophobia, understanding the current climate, religion, tips to change insensitivity, and accepting without approving.

(faculty, staff and students welcome)

#### **Baby Steps & Giant Leaps: Taking the Next Steps Out of the Closet** 7:30 pm

Whether you are just starting to think about sexual orientation or already an active public defender of lesbian, gay, and bi-sexual rights, there is ALWAYS another step to take. The program will focus on the skills and motivation needed to take your next steps by exploring WHY people need to come out of the closet and HOW to take small and large steps to ensure the safety, comfort and growth of everyone involved.

(campus and surrounding community welcome)

Sponsored by: Assistant Provost for Cultural and Social Diversity, University Personnel Services, The Office of the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, SIUE Counseling Services, University Housing and G.L.O.B.A.L. (Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual Alliance of SIUE)



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sports

## Cougar softball fighting inconsistent season, late inning losses

■ BY BRETT LICATA
SPORTS REPORTER

With a record of 16-15, inconsistency has plagued the SIUE softball team after the first half of the season.

The Cougars took four out of six Great Lakes Valley Conference games over the weekend after falling to Quincy University twice on Thursday.

SIUE couldn't sustain a first inning lead against Quincy in the opening game of a doubleheader. Quincy took a 2-1 lead in the third inning and never looked back. The Cougars managed to tack on one more run in the seventh inning, but fell short 4-2. Pitcher Jessica Silbe allowed

only five hits in the loss.

Both teams had cold bats for five innings of the second game. Quincy broke a scoreless tie in the bottom of the sixth before SIUE charged back for two runs in the top half of the seventh. With a 2-1 lead, the Cougars couldn't close the door. Quincy rallied to tie the score 2-2 and send the game into extra innings.

SIUE had another chance to nail down a victory as they produced two runs in the top half of the ninth. The two run lead was short-lived as Quincy scored three runs in their half of the inning to steal a 5-4 win away from SIUE.

"We didn't come prepared to play," head coach Sandy

Montgomery said. "We played as poor as we could have played."

An eight-hit performance by the Cougars fueled a 9-1 victory over Northern Kentucky University on Saturday. The fiveinning triumph gave Silbe her fifth win of the season.

Pitcher Sarah Obrecht had little trouble in taking her record to 3-1 with an 11-6 win over Indiana University/Purdue University-Ft. Wayne. The Cougars banged out 11 hits and took their record to 6-2 in the conference.

The University of Indianapolis pulled out a 3-2 win over the Cougars on a late inning single that SIUE's defense couldn't corral.

On Sunday, the Cougars poured on the offense in their first two games of the day. Deanna Smith pitched a complete game win in a 16-0 thrashing of Northern Kentucky. SIUE had 14 hits in a five-inning affair.

IUPU-Ft. Wayne felt the same offensive attack in a 11-5 SIUE win. Stephanie Stinson recorded her second win of the year to give the Cougars their eighth GLVC win of the season.

SIUE failed to end the weekend on a good note when they lost to Indianapolis for the second time 10-1.

Sarah Sollberger, of Peoria, has come on strong for the Cougars lately. She hit .480 over the weekend.

Kari Franzen, of Rantoul, has mixed offensive production with spectacular defense in taking over behind the plate this season.

"Kari's performance has been a nice surprise," Montgomery said. "She's stepped in this season and caught every game for us."

The Cougars take on the University of Missouri-St. Louis today and continue their GLVC tour this weekend against Bellarmine University, the University of Southern Indiana and Kentucky Wesleyan College.

"There's nobody that's really dominating the conference," Montgomery said. "Everybody is beating everybody."

# CHALKTALK

BY SARAH FINLEY

TRACK & FIELD
In the beginning, there was

The SIUE outdoor track & field season started this past Friday with a not-so-warm welcome from mother nature.

After an hour rain delay, the Cougars competed with nine other schools in the Washington University Mini-Meet.

The women tied with St. Louis University and Mount Mercy College for seventh place. The men came home with eighth place.

**Individual scores:** 

Women's 1,500 meter- Lisa Ribes, 7th; Holly Watts, 20th; Jennifer Sutter, 21st.

Women's 4x100 meter relay- SIUE, 6th.

Women's Long Jump-Monica Edwards, 12th; Casey Faro, DNF.

Women's Shot Put- Mekelle Beck, 10th; Kelly Saunders, 17th.

Men's 1,500 meter- Jason Holroyd, 7th; Paul Parson, 14th; Jeremy Cecil, 15th.

Men's 110 meter hurdles-Kelly Huckleberry, 5th.

Men's 4x100 meter relay-SIUE, 7th.

The Cougars invade Charleston, Ill. in the Big Blue Classic on April 4.

MENNIS N'S

The Cougars took on four teams this past weekend and came home with four more wins under their belt.

March 25, the Cougars faced University of Missouri-St. Louis and beat them 6-1. Next up was Truman State University on March 27, they went down 5-4. Saint Joseph's College came up on March 28 and went home with a serious lashing losing 9-0. Finally, Lewis University Flyers went home

with their wings clipped after losing 7-2.

The Cougars next victims will be Quincy University at home on April 2.

WOMEN'S

The women's team lost 6-1 to Truman State this past Friday.

The lone winner for SIUE was Sarah Hardimon who defeated her opponent 6-3, 6-4 in straight sets to make their record 7-6.

The Cougars will take on Principia College at home April 1.

"You gotta be a man to play baseball for a living, but you gotta have a lot of little boy in you, too."

- Roy Companella

# Cougar baseball rallies bad weather early to come out blooming late

■ BY JASON TRIPLETT SPORTS REPORTER

After a wet and snowy early season, the SIUE baseball Cougars have managed to string together a 17-7 overall record and are 4-1 in Great Lakes Valley Conference play.

Veteran leadership and a little rookie flair fuel the offensive fire for head coach Gary Collins' team. Eleven of the 15 offensive players for SIUE have a batting average of .300 or above. There have been a total of 38 homeruns in the Cougars 24 outings and the pitching staff have collectively struckout 172 opposing batsmen this season.

Freshman Mark Bugger from Edwardsville, III. leads the Cougars with a .422 batting average in 90 at bats with seven dingers so far. Mike Robertson has displayed some senior power at the plate hitting nine homeruns to go along with his .359 batting average.

On the mound, junior Aaron Rakers is 4-1 with a 3.50 earned run average and 38 strike-outs. While 6'4', 235lb senior Rob LaMarsh has fanned 41 opposing batters in his 29.2 innings.

Over the weekend, the Cougars traveled to Louisville, Ky. to partake in a three game conference battle with Bellarmine College. Bellarmine made a statement on how they feel about visiting teams by

tallying 13 runs, 2 hits and no errors in the first game bout with SIUE. Second baseman Mark McCubbins led his team with a 2 for 3 batting performance and four runs batted in.

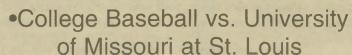
In Saturday's second game, SIUE managed 24 hits in the 18-11 victory and demonstrated the definition of team effort. Four Cougar players batted 1.000 for the game. All but two of the Cougars who put numbers on the board batted a run in and Bellarmine could only squeeze two strike-outs from the offensively toned SIUE club. Rob LaMarsh gave up 10 hits and eight runs from the mound as the Cougars headed into the Sunday tie-breaker of the three-game series.

No one on the Bellarmine team hit better than 50 percent as the Cougars took advantage and out-hit the Knights 13 to 10 in the 14-5 pummeling. Aaron Rakers nearly went the distance and struck-out six batters through eight innings and walked four. The Cougars got on base 13 times and took advantage of every chance. Junior Chris Kiefer came in for Rakers and put the game to bed not before putting three runners on base by a series of wild pitches and walked batters.

The Cougars are in Macomb, Ill. today taking on the Fighting Leathernecks of Western Illinois University. The game is scheduled for 3 p.m.

# Cougar Scoreboard April 1

Softball vs. Indianapolis at home
Women's Tennis vs. Principia at home



The Alestle is looking for sports reporters. If interested, contact the Office of Student Employment for a referral at extension 3997.

# Arena supporters trying to resuscitate plan

ST. PAUL (AP) — Despite a delay demolition of the existing finding of no wrongdoing from the state auditor, St. Paul's deal to bring NHL hockey to the city drew more criticism Friday, putting state money for an arena in deeper doubt.

Four City Council members distanced themselves from the arrangement negotiated by Mayor Norm Coleman. The deal gives the Minnesota Wild control over the RiverCentre arena and its revenue and restricts options for paying off any state contribution to the project.

"Either this was the most naive political act in the history of Minnesota or this was an outright fraud," said Council member Chris Coleman, who is not related to the mayor.

He and the others want to

arena, scheduled for next month, until the lease is renegotiated.

A Wild spokesman said the team is unwilling to renegotiate.

Team investors expect to get less than a 3 percent return on investment in the first five years, leaving little room for lease concessions, spokesman Bill Robertson said.

The lease became an issue when lawmakers learned it prevents them from assessing special arena fees to make the project self-supporting. The city would have to reimburse the Wild for such charges.

Members of Gov. Arne Carlson's staff met with St. Paul officials to devise a financing plan that would revive flagging support for the arena.

The main option being explored was using part of St. Paul's half-cent sales tax, now dedicated to community and art projects, to help retire arena debt. Such a plan would shift more of the financial burden for the arena onto the city.

Participants said they hope to have details worked out early next week

The scramble to come up with a financing plan came on the same day state Auditor Judi Dutcher said the lease and related deals violate no state laws.

But even her findings came with criticism.

Noting the team's refusal to disclose all the information requested by lawmakers, she wrote: "The Wild's need to retain confidentiality ... to protect its

business interests dramatizes the problems inherent in public funding of private ventures. The public becomes a partner but is not an informed participant.'

The report said the team's hiring of M.A. Mortenson Co. as construction manager did not violate the state's competitive bidding law because it was for professional services, which are not covered under the law.

The \$2 million-plus contract has been criticized because the company had paid the team's \$100,000 application fee to the NHL.

Dutcher also determined there was no conflict of interest by former St. Paul City Council President David Thune, who worked as a consultant to Mortenson while voting on the Wild's lease in December.

"Because the contract was between the city and the Wild and not between the city and Mortenson, Mr. Thune's financial interest was one step removed from the city," she wrote.

Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe, DFL-Erskine and a leading critic of the arena, said, "It just goes back to what many of us were saying ... it's not a good deal."

The House and Senate have been divided over arena funding. The House bonding bill would give St. Paul a \$65 million grant, the amount requested by the city and supported by the governor. The Senate has nothing in its bill.

The city is contributing \$30 million plus any shortfall in the state contribution, and the team's investors have agreed to put in \$35 million.

## Cliff Robinson admitted altercation with Washington took him out of game

PHOENIX (AP) — Cliff Robinson admitted that the altercation he had with Washington forward Juwan Howard in the opening minute of the third quarter took him out of his game.

The Phoenix Suns forward looked helpless as Howard scored nine points against him in the third quarter, including two short jump shots right over his outstretched arms. And in the waning moments of the fourth quarter, Howard's tip-in tied the score at 85.

But while Howard came away the aggressor in the scuffle, it was Robinson who had the last laugh.

Robinson's hook shot in the lane with 11 seconds remaining broke the tie and carried the Suns to an 89-85 victory, snapping a three-game losing streak. Danny Manning led Phoenix with 18 points, and Kevin Johnson had 17 points and 13 assists as the Suns overcame a 22-turnover performance.

Tracy Murray 19 for Washington, which remained tied with New Jersey, which lost to Boston, for the eighth playoff berth in the Eastern Conference.

"He came at me, but we got the win," said Robinson, who was assessed a flagrant foul on the play, while Howard received a technical foul. "It was a tough, emotional game, one I think both teams wanted to win. I was pretty shook up after the altercation. This was my first altercation of any kind in my NBA career and it affected me and it shook me up for a few minutes. It took me out of my game."

Washington was looking to win for the first time at America West Arena and for the first time since February 1988 in Phoenix.

Washington erased a 11-point fourth-quarter deficit and grabbed the lead behind the shooting of Murray, whose three 3-pointers keyed a 12-0 run that put the Wizards ahead 78-77 with 4:57 remaining. The lead Howard scored 22 points and changed five more times before

Robinson took a pass from Jason Kidd, drove the lane and scored over Howard with 11 seconds left.

"I thought I was fouled on the play," Robinson said. "I guess you could call it poetic justice, but I'm just happy we got the win because we didn't exceptionally well."

Phoenix didn't seal the victory

until Chris Webber missed two free throws with 6.7 seconds left and Kidd hit two free throws with 3.4 seconds left.

"It doesn't matter how you lose a game, whether it's a lastsecond free throw shot or a 3pointer. It really doesn't matter because all losses are hard," Murray said. "We had confidence in Chris, and if it goes down the same way another time, we will still have confidence in him. In the playoffs, it comes down to a halfcourt game, and that means a lot of free-throw shooting, so it's something we are going to have to get better at.

Antonio McDyess had 10 points in the first half as Phoenix grabbed a 52-46 lead despite 14 turnovers. Phoenix

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# **Depth paying off for Pacers**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Depth and health have the Indiana Pacers three wins away from matching their franchise record for victories in a season.

Indiana (49-21) has been able to use the same starting unit in 66 of its 70 games. Rik Smits has missed one game and Dale Davis has missed four.

Meanwhile, Derrick McKey, Jalen Rose, Antonio Davis, Travis Best and Fred Hoiberg all have taken their turns to make significant contributions off the bench.

"We've just got to continue to play as a team. We don't look at ourselves as a first vs. second unit," said Rose, who had 20 points off the bench as the Pacers defeated Charlotte 133-96 Friday night.

"If we're going to do anything in the playoffs, we're going to need all these guys to make plays."

The Pacers haven't lost two straight games since consecutive losses at Utah and Portland on Dec. 8-10. They were in danger of that happening Friday after an 86-81 loss at home to Houston on Wednesday when Indiana shot a season low 33.8 percent.

"We had a tough loss to come off of. We came out aggressive and sustained it over the whole game," said Rose, who was 6-of-10 from the field and made all eight of his free throws against Charlotte.

"It's a great character win. We were playing a team that had won 15 of its last 16 games, coming into our arena and trying to catch us in the playoff hunt.

"You'd think it would be a tight game. But fortunately, for us, we came out and got the start that we got and kept up the intensity through the whole game."

Rose led a bench that outscored Charlotte's reserves 63-37. Rose scored his 20 points in just 23 minutes and Davis had 17 points in 18 minutes.

Reggie Miller and Smits shared scoring honors for Indiana with 24 points apiece even though Miller was ejected for a flagrant foul with 5:50 left in the third quarter for an elbow that struck Vlade Divac.

The game was an enjoyable one for coach Larry Bird, who was unhappy with the team's performance against Houston.

"This was a big game. This was a playoff type game. We came through and we played hard," Bird said. "We lost the game to Houston. I was really disappointed in them ... The second half I thought we were a little lazy. ... I was a little embarrassed walking out."

It was a very different team against Charlotte, which had left Market Square Arena with a victory in each of its three previous visits. Despite having five of its reserves play 18 or more minutes, Indiana shot nearly 60 percent (52-of-87) and tied its franchise record of only four turnovers in a game.

"We played as well as we could possibly play," Bird said. "Starters get off to a good start, and your bench comes in and gives you a lift, you're off and running."

Miller scored Indiana's first nine points, giving the Pacers a 9-2 advantage and the Pacers led 31-20 before Bird began going to the bench. Charlotte never drew closer and Indiana kept building its advantage with its reserves on the court.

"If we come out like that, we're a terrific basketball team," Smits said. "We know we can go full blast when we're out there and that when we sit down, we've got the guys who can do the job."

"We have to give Reggie a lot of credit. He got off to a great start and we all fed off of that. It's fun when everybody comes ready to play and we sustain the lead," said Davis, who has scored 10 or more points in 23 games. "The offense and defense played very well."

"It was one of those nights that everything went well. We had to play well to bounce back from the Houston loss," Smits said. "What was great is we got the lead with the starters out there and kept building it with our bench."

All 12 Pacers contributed to Indiana's highest scoring game since it defeated Philadelphia 133-88 on April 22, 1994.

Indiana gets another big test on Sunday when San Antonio visits Market Square Arena.

# Padres say new ballpark critical to survival of team

SAN DIEGO (AP) — As the most crucial year in San Diego Padres history unfolds, the team's future will rest as much with lawyers, politicians and voters as it does with the performances of Tony Gwynn, Ken Caminiti and Kevin Brown.

The city hopes to have a measure on the Nov. 3 ballot asking voters to approve a new downtown ballpark. With it would come new sources of cash, the kind needed to keep Caminiti, Brown, Steve Finley, and Wally Joyner, whose contracts expire at season's end.

Without it? Majority owner John Moores expects the measure to pass, and said the Padres don't have a contingency plan if it doesn't. But the club says it lost \$41 million the last three years playing in a stadium better suited for football, where its lease expires just before the 2000 season.

"It would be horrible to contemplate the Padres not being in San Diego, so I'm not going to think about it," Moores said.

The Padres and the city have until June to negotiate a financing package, and the team has said it will pay its fair share of the estimated \$250 million price tag. In the wake of a controversial deal to keep the NFL's Chargers in town through 2020, negotiators know they must have a package acceptable

to voters — in other-words, one that doesn't raise taxes, put the general fund at risk or have ticket guarantees.

Through the summer, there will be public hearings and final city council action. Then the vote. The team wants to be in a 40,000-seat ballpark by the 2001 season.

"I would love to be here for this ballpark," said Finley, the center fielder. "I know it hinges a lot whether San Diego can put competitive teams on the field. As far as us players, all we can do is go out on the field and play. That's the only thing we can control."

The Padres will try to rebound from last year's flop, when they became the first NL West team to go from first to worst. Injuries and bad pitching — a franchise-worst 4.99 ERA — were to blame for a 76-86 record.

Gwynn needs 220 hits — the same number he had last year — to reach 3,000. He's won four straight batting titles and eight overall, tying Honus Wagner for the NL record. Caminiti is far healthier than this time last year, when he played despite coming off rotator cuff surgery. And Brown, the new staff ace, could become the Padres' first 20-game winner in 20 years.

If ever there was a win-now season, this is it.

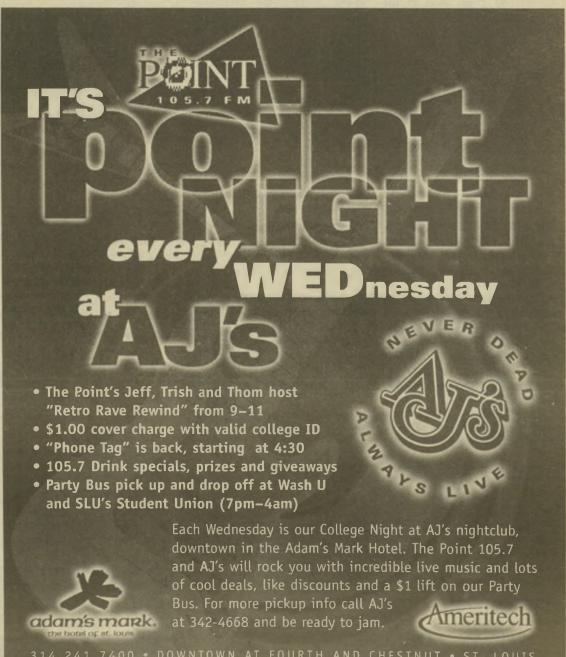




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### **Gretzky says** he will return to rangers next season

PITTSBURGH (AP) -Wayne Gretzky will return to the New York Rangers next season, although he said the team will need to make personnel changes to improve on a disappointing 1997-98

Despite published reports that he may want to finish his career outside New York as the Rangers try to rebuild their team, Gretzky told Fox's John Davidson that he will be at Rangers' training camp next season.

"I've said it before and many times after, this is my last stop and I won't play for another hockey team in this league," Gretzky said in an interview that aired before New York's 2-2 tie with Pittsburgh on Saturday.

"I'm sure the Rangers are going to make the necessary changes that will help improve this team and I plan on being front and center with that team next year."

The Rangers, who have the highest payroll in hockey, are currently in 10th place in the Eastern Conference, six points behind Ottawa for the last playoff spot with nine games remaining.

Gretzky, who has one year left in his contract that will pay him \$5 million next season, is fourth in the league in scoring this season with 81 points. For his career, he has 882 goals and 1,904 assists, best in NHL history.

#### **Federov** suspended after checking

NEW YORK (AP) Detroit's Sergei Fedorov was suspended Saturday for at least two games by the NHL for checking Anaheim's Jason Marshall from behind.

Fedorov, who will have a hearing Monday, missed Saturday's game at St. Louis and also will miss Sunday's home game against Buffalo.

The hit came during the first period Thursday night when Fedorov, playing his 13th game since ending a long holdout, delivered a blind-side hit that sent Marshall head-first into the boards. He was given a fiveminute major penalty.

### Tar Heels one and out for fourth time this decade

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — North Carolina has had no trouble getting to the Final Four in the 1990s. Closing the deal has been another matter.

A 65-59 loss to Utah on Saturday night marked the fourth time in five tries this decade the Tar Heels have lost in the NCAA tournament semifinals, including the last two years.

"The pain is awkward to describe," Ademola Okulaja said. "One day everybody loves you and the next day nobody knows you anymore."

While top-ranked North

Carolina couldn't redeem itself said Williams. "We're men, we from last year's loss to eventual national champion Arizona, neither could the program's career 3-point leader, Shammond Williams.

The senior was 1-for-13 against Arizona, and vowed to make a better showing this time around. Instead, his struggles continued in the first half against the Utes as he went 0-for-5, running his string of Final Four misses to 17 straight.

"When you don't have any more games to play it's emotional a little bit, but it wasn't that bad,"

take defeat just like we take winning, that's the game of basketball. You have to be mature throughout both situations. We are better than a lot of teams."

The guard finally made a 3pointer with 16:01 left, but finished 2-for-13 and 3-for-25 his last two Final Fours.

"It's not individuals, we win together and we die and lose together," Okulaja said. "It's nobody's fault, it's all of our fault. If we played better defense, things would have gone better. We played horrible defense."

Player of the year Antawn Jamison also had an off night, going 7-for-19 for 14 points - his lowest total since Jan. 28. The first-team All-American bent down and kissed the Final Four logo at midcourt before he exited the Alamodome floor.

"I may not have another chance to get back to the Final Four," said Jamison, a junior still mulling over his North Carolina future. "Just to make it to the Final Four two years in a row is almost impossible. Emotions were just going through me at the end of the game."

The Honor Society of



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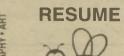
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