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UNIVERSITY ARCHINES
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Alestle

SP96!

ALTON, EAST ST. LOUIS & EDWARDSVILLE

SIUE shows off its stuff at Preview



Bob Fehringer/Alestle

Lori Arnold, (r), leads a tour group through the Peck Building during Preview SIUE activities on Monday. An estimated 1,500 parents and potential students participated in PREVIEW SIUE.

By Darryl Howlett News Editor

Lights. Camera. Action. On Monday, SIUE showcased an area it knows best, SIUE. An estimated 1,500 parents and potential students took part in Preview SIUE, the university's annual open house.

Pamela Voss, coordinator of Academic Marketing Services and coordinator of Preview SIUE, said she was pleased with this year's outcome.

"This year it went really smooth," Voss said. "I was glad how things flowed. We had two early bird tours before the day really started. It helped serve the people quickly."

The earlier tours were given at 8:30and 9 a.m.

Voss said that the day went more smoothly due to student volunteer workers who primarily conducted the campus tours.

The organization Students Assisting in Recruiting provided 22 student volunteers to help Preview SIUE.

"Preview SIUE was their big day to show off the campus," Ed Childs, admission counselor tour guide, said.

The tours for Tower Lake and the Residence Hall were also successful.

"There were 30 tickets per tour and the Tower Lake tour sold out," Suzanne Kutterer-Siburt, assistant director of the Kimmel Leadership Center, said. "Residence Hall tours have been very full. People have visited Tower Lake more this year than any other year."

Lisa McKirgan, marketing coordinator for University Housing, said she also saw a dramatic increase in tour attendance.

"It was totally surprising that so many people wanted to see Tower Lake. Usually people want to see the latest and greatest (Residence Hall). We added an extra Tower Lake tour," McKirgan said.

"This year, a lot of people wanted to see the in's and out's of the school," Kutterer-Siburt said.

One mother and daughter, Michele McHugh and Meghan McHugh of Girard, Il., gave their opinion of the university.

"It was pretty good. I did wish the (information) tables were closer together. I think people could have picked up tickets sooner," Michele McHugh said, referring to the long line for campus and Tower Lake tour tickets.

please see PREVIEW, page5

SIU President's wife launches second annual "Book in Every Home" campaign

By Danette Watt Assistant News Editor

For the second year in a row, Beverly Sanders is asking SIU to help put a book in the hands of children who otherwise may not have one. The university president's wife said last year's drive was so successful that people asked her if she was going to do it again. "I had a wonderful team of people helping me," Sanders said.

The second "Book in Every Home" campaign began the first week of November and runs through the end of the month. Sanders said she anticipates surpassing her goal of collecting 2,500 books for preschoolers.

Last year, students, staff and faculty at all SIU campuses donated more than 4,000 books. Enough, Sanders said, to establish a lending library. This year should be even better.

"I don't think it would matter what we asked for, we'd get more than that."

Five campuses will participate in the book drive: Carbondale, Edwardsville, Alton, East St. Louis and Springfield.

Preschoolers in 17 Head Starts in the Metro East, Murphysboro, Carbondale and Herrin will receive the books the week of Dec. 9.

Once the books are picked up by volunteers, they will be sorted and labels will be pasted on the inside cover. The labels will read "Presented to_____ by the SIU family, for their future and ours."Books that are not appropriate for preschoolers, she said, will be passed along to SIU's School of Medicine in Springfield. The medical school has adopted a school of fifth and sixth graders who also need books.

Fittingly enough, Sanders said, the secretary of the state has declared November Family Literacy Month.

"We are hoping to plant the seeds of college in these children," she said. "We want to give children something to hope for."



Bill Brinson/University News Services

Sean Pohl, student trustee for the Board of Trustees, (I) and Christopher Nance, Student Body President, (r) help Beverly Sanders kickoff the annual "A Book in Every Home" campaign in the University Center.

editorial

Randy Hobson talks about the impact of SIU's president Sanders' new RCM program on students.

entertainment

Corey Stulce and Marlin Thomas dual over the movie "Ransom" starring

A quick look inside:

Mel Gibson and Rene Russo AND Ty Norris reviews the new 'Men of Standard CD.

sports

Cougars win two five-set thrillers

AND Penalty kick douses Cougars hope in GLVC tourney.

weather

Tues: P-cloudy 45/27° Wed: Mostly sunny 51/30°

Thurs: Partly cloudy 57/37°

TOP STORIES

National

Court: rape was political persecution

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Nicaraguan woman who was raped

by Sandinista prison guards in 1981 suffered politically motivated persecution and should have her request for political asylum reconsidered, a federal appeals court ruled Friday. Melina Lopez-Galarza, daughter of a National Guard officer during the Somoza dictatorship, was previously denied asylum by U.S. immigration officials on the grounds that the Sandinistas no longer control Nicaragua. But the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the Board of Immigration Appeals failed to take rape seriously enough as an "atrocious form of punishment," often causing long-term psychological damage.



Greenpeace blocks U.S. shipment of soybeans

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Two dozen Greenpeace activists prevented a ship from unloading American soybeans Sunday as part of the environmental group's protest against U.S. exports of genetically engineered food. Greenpeace said it believes soybeans genetically altered to make them resistant to a popular weed killer were mixed with other soybeans on the bulk carrier Bunga Saga Empat, which docked at Ghent, 30 miles west of Brussels. The group wants genetically engineered goods to be strictly separated from others to allow consumers the choice of what they want to eat.





State and Local

Legislator proposes making adultery a felony

CHICAGO (AP) — State Rep. Sara Feigenholtz is stopping short of asking adulterers to wear big scarlet 'A's', but the Chicago Democrat does want to make adultery a felony punishable by one to three years in prison — and then have convicted offenders register with the county clerk.

Lest you think Feigenholtz a prude, be aware that her proposal is being offered to make a point. Steve Brown, spokesman for Illinois House Minority Leader Michael Madigan, said he knows what Feigenholtz was aiming for when she proposed the amendment to Illinois' adultery law Thursday.

Feigenholtz, whose North Side Chicago district includes a well-established gay community, was disgusted by recent public reaction against same-sex marriage, Brown said.

"It was a little tongue-in-cheek and a little righteous indignation," Brown said. "I think this was Sara's way of saying, 'If you think that you can legislate one type of morality — one type of relationship — let's look at this one that's on the books."

Illinois does have a law making adultery a misdemeanor punishable by no more than a year in prison, but it's an unenforced law considered as archaic as laws on public spitting.

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letter to the editor _

RCM good for university's image, bad for students

I am interested in the subject of student preparation, persistence and retention. During the past two years while attending Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, I have had ample opportunity to study this topic. I write this letter today because the university is in the process of implementing a new accounting concept (Responsibility Center Management, RCM) that has the potential to create less educational opportunity for the citizens of Illinois.

This concept, by its very nature, will create fiscal competition between our schools and departments. A group of students that cost more to educate will not fare well under this new system unless their needs and priorities are understood up front and everyone agrees to these priorities. Students that come from communities with poor property tax bases have not had the opportunity to prepare as well for college. This is not their fault and they have just as much scholarly potential as students that come from well funded school systems. A concerted effort needs to be made to ensure that their needs are met within the RCM System.

This new system is being mandated by SIU President Ted Sanders and the models being used are from schools that have higher entrance requirements than SIUE. Therefore their students do not cover as wide a range of preparation as our students. This is an important difference to consider when applying a business concept of financial accounting to a university. Our business school, which has relatively high entrance standards, is taking the lead in implementing this new program. They do not see students until they get through the general education requirements and by that time 30 to 50 percent of each new freshman class has dropped out. This lack of contact with underprepared students would not appear to give them the needed exposure to address the needs and concerns of undeclared and under-prepared students.

Approximately 30 percent of our freshman class,

each year, does not come back for a second year. Many universities that are located close to urban environments have a similar drop-out rate. Initially, I thought that a good portion of this problem was caused by institutional racism. At the very root it probably is, but there are other causes more visible, and paying attention to these other causes might give us a way to significantly reduce this drop-out rate. The people with power do not see this as a problem because they are able to point to other universities and say that the situation is normal. The old adage that "the bigger the problem the less likely it is to be considered a problem" holds true here. Those students that do not return cause very little trouble for the administration and they are relatively easy to replace with new freshmen. So my perception is that in the past most of the effort was directed at keeping the numbers of students up, and only surface efforts were made in trying to help students with difficulties.

Under Chancellor Nancy Belck this situation has improved. She has placed emphasis on student retention, and others in power are following her lead. With RCM, where decisions are based upon each department making money, it would be very easy to go back to giving priority to those students that are cheaper to educate, and under-prepared and undeclared students would receive less priority.

State universities can lead the way and correct some of the educational inequality that exists in our society. Our property tax based educational system does not provide all citizens with equal access to education. The state university is in a unique position to address some of these problems. By providing funds, reduced entrance requirements and programs directed to help students who have been victims of this system, more people would have an opportunity for education.

This is a problem of economics. Rural agricultural high schools have the same tax base problem as urban centers. As long as people are looking out for

their own communities, we will have students that are unequally prepared for university level work. The publicly funded state university is a point where some of this damage might be undone. By considering all students as scholars, but scholars unequally prepared, a system of support can be designed to provide a way for under-prepared students to come up to speed and compete equally in our classrooms. Funding of programs for undeclared and under-prepared students should be identified as a priority for state supported higher education. If we cannot provide a workable funding system for our feeder schools, then we must do what we can for those students that struggle through our flawed system and reach university level.

Our university has already raised the entrance requirements in an attempt to reduce the drop-out rate. Just think about this for a minute. We underfund some of our high schools with a system that creates inequality of education and then our state funded universities raise entrance requirements and create another barrier for those struggling to get an education. This ideology, of reducing the drop-out rate by improving the quality of the students allowed in, is only designed to make the university look better. It is not designed to provide equal education to the citizens of the state.

Under RCM this situation could get worse. We may have to live with President Sanders' directed program, but we must work to ensure that all students have an equitable chance of success. I am asking the faculty, staff, administration and students to consider the above when making decisions during the implementation of RCM, and any other program that would limit the opportunity of under-prepared and undeclared students.

Randy Hobson Student Senator

letter to the editor

Which is right?

Student calls for input on various religious beliefs

This letter that I am writing about is basically a question to SIUE students. In TIME magazine there is an interesting article about the recent debates on the book of Genesis. While I was reading this article it brought back a personal question of mine that puzzled me for a couple years. I have never understood why or how there can be a variety of religions, who are part of the Christian faith, but each one believing that their religion is the right one.

I'm not saying that everyone believes that their religion is right or the best, but I find it interesting when someone believes that I'm going to hell because I'm not part of their religion.

For instance, I know one person who believes that all Catholics are going to hell. On the other hand, I know a Catholic person who believes that anyone who is not Catholic will go to hell. These two people are obviously very extreme, but I found that even more people possess these views.

I don't know how other people have been brought up, but I was raised to treat people the way I wanted to be treated. If someone is Catholic, Baptist or whatever, that's fine with me. If someone wants to believe that I am going to hell, O.K. I feel that if a person respects others and tries to be a nice person, then he or she will be fine.

I have just begun to study religions and plan to study them in school. I would appreciate any input into my dilemma. Whether it is a similar story or a different point of view.

Please email me at: mhayman@siue.edu with your views.

Thanks, Michael Hayman Letters to the editor policy:

Please submit letters typewritten in 500 words or less. Please include phone number and signature.

We reserve the right to edit letters to the editor. Letters to the editor will not be printed anonymously except under extreme circumstances.

The Alestle is a member of the Illinois College Press Association.

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

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Ohio higher education could lose or earn state money depending upon their performance

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — The panel that oversees higher education in Ohio is expected this week to approve a plan that would make public colleges eligible for additional state money based on performance.

The plan would add \$113 million to a twoyear higher education budget of more than \$4 billion, Regent Vice Chancellor Matthew Filipic said Friday.

Most of the state money a school receives would continue to be based on enrollment, but Filipic said attaching some of that money to performance is an important step in changing the way Ohio pays for higher

"Even at the levels being proposed, the ability to have a few percent at the margin directed for specific goals can, in fact, affect behavior," he said.

Filipic said the incentive program would "provide critical resources to campuses in areas that are underfunded."

Regents are to vote on the plan Friday. It then would go to Gov. George Voinovich, who would consider it for inclusion in the 1998-99 state budget.

Voinovich asked the regents to study performance-based financing for higher education. Some performance criteria would include holding down tuition rate increases, graduating more underprivileged students and helping nearby communities.

Regent Chancellor Elaine Hairston said the percentage of state money tied to performance will increase in future budgets if the plan works.

"These dollars are, in my view, likely to grow significantly over time," Hairston said. "It's opening the door for longer-term, significant types of changes."

A similar idea was rejected two years ago. The board believes the plan now has widespread support among leaders of Ohio colleges.

Hairston said obtaining early input from the colleges was the key to reaching an agreement.

Under the plan, two-year colleges that keep annual tuition increases at 2.5 percent or less would be eligible for a share of \$31

In addition, four-year schools would agree to keep tuition increases at a maximum of 5.5 percent — lower than the current state cap of 6 percent — if the Legislature agrees to make up some of the funding slack.

Colleges would get additional money for improving graduation rates among lowincome students who qualify for Ohio Instructional Grants, working with local school districts, improving their use of information technology and attracting more sponsored research.

Cut in grants ends prison college programs

LA GRANGE, Ky. (AP)—This time of year, the sight of inmates cramming for quarterly exams was common at the Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) near West Liberty.

They studied in their cells, during dinner, even during breaks from their prison jobs. There were more than a hundred inmates, poring over English, sociology or algebra.

"Some would work all day and then go to class every night, and then study after that. Some would study all day. Some would study whenever they could," warden Michael O'Dea

"The classes in here were the first time I ever took education seriously," Mark Wilson, 29, of Pike County, said. He is serving a 20year sentence for assault and burglary. 'Sometimes I would study for 10 hours. The day was one big study hall."

But this year, there are no books, no tests, and especially, no classes.

Congress banned inmates from getting federal Pell grants for college in 1995. The state moved shortly thereafter to cut off state grants, fearing a flood of applications.

Earlier this year the General Assembly passed a law prohibiting inmates from receiving state education grants for poor students until all other requests from eligible students had been met.

Paul Borden, director of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, said 18,000 students seeking state College Access Program grants were turned away for the 1996-97 school year.

"A lot of additional funds would have to come through for (inmates) to be eligible," Borden said.

As a result, the number of inmates taking college courses at the 12 state-run prisons has dropped from a high of 799 in the 1993-94 school year to 25 this year. Twenty of those attend classes at the Luther Luckett Correctional Complex near La Grange. The rest are taking correspondence courses.

"The college programs at prisons are effectively ended," Wendell McCourt, education program administrator for the state, said.

About 150 inmates at EKCC were enrolled in college classes in the 1994-95 school year. Classes were held at the prison and the colleges provided instructors to teach about 14 offerings. That year, five inmates graduated with

bachelor's degrees and 28 with two-year associate's degrees, O'Dea said. Another 30 inmates who were just a few hours shy of a degree were left out in the cold when the grants were taken away, he said.

Wilson said the prison supported the college

"The warden would try to give the (student) inmates private cells, so they could study whenever, or he moved people around so those in the program could room together," Wilson said. "They let us form study groups to meet whenever we needed. The support meant

Opponents of the program object to tax dollars being used to finance inmates' educations while law-abiding college students are turned away. Proponents play up statistics that show inmates who earn degrees while in prison almost never return.

Caught in the middle are inmates like Mike Smith, a 22-year-old college student when he was convicted of first- and second-degree assault. Smith is now taking two courses at Luther Luckett.

"We're all going to be released some day," he said. "These guys are going to be somebody's neighbor. Wouldn't you rather your neighbor have a degree and be able to get

Wilson, who had finished three semesters toward an associate's degree, rejects the notion that funding should be withheld from inmates.

"If that's the argument, then why give us any rehabilitation," he said. "Take away some menial jobs here and use that money to educate us. How many people who live prison with a bachelor's degree come back, as opposed to someone who spent the time working in the laundry?"



International Organization comes out a winner

Danette Watt/ Alestle

Members of the International Student Council with Brett A. Champion, executive vice president and CEO of the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce. The group won third place for Service Organization in the annual Edwardsville Halloween parade. Holding the sign are Sung-Kook Yoo and Hilal Nasar. Receiving the check is Mahesh Mohnalkar, president of the organization.

PREVIEW_

from front page

"I like it all. The financial (aid) table was very informative. I liked talking to the different people in the Meridian Hall. I like it here," Meghan McHugh said. She is a senior at Girard High

School who has already been accepted to SILIE

Special sessions were also scheduled about exploring pre-dentistry, pre-medicine, and pre-law.

Democrats and Republicans hope to move forward on environmental issues

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — With the elections over, Democrats and Republicans say they will seek an end to the congressional gridlock that has slowed logging, allowed fisheries to decline and turned many Western neighbors into enemies.

Now both parties hope to bring peaceful resolution to this "War in the West" by looking beyond Washington D.C. for answers.

"I think we've shown we can stalemate one another," said Sen. Dirk Kempthorne. "Now let's get on to the public's business."

Kempthorne and the other three members of Idaho's all-Republican delegation will take leading roles in the GOP Congress on mining, forestry, wildlife and water.

How their agendas fit with the Clinton administration's could have a profound effect on the quality of life in Idaho, where people boat, hike, bike, hunt, fish and ski on federal lands, and where the timber industry, ranching and mining still are important employers.

Kempthorne may be the first to test President Clinton's promise to work with Republicans in moving the nation forward. After his own endangered species bill was dismissed by Democrats and moderate Republicans, Kempthorne began crafting a bipartisan bill earlier this year.

"I'd say we have 70 percent of the legislation written so far," Kempthorne said. "A significant portion is bipartisan."

He hopes his bill will be one of the first introduced in 1997, and he is confident he can get a bill Clinton will sign.

Sen. Larry Craig will continue to set the agenda on forest issues in the Senate. He introduced a forest health bill designed to loosen the restrictions on national forest lands so that dead and dying timber could be salvaged and fire threats reduced.

He has promised to seek an overhaul of the National Forest Management Act of 1976 to resolve the agencies' conflicting laws and mandates. That could affect how much timber is cut on the Payette and Boise National forests and whether more money is available for recreational trails and campgrounds in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. It also could affect how much elk habitat is protected.



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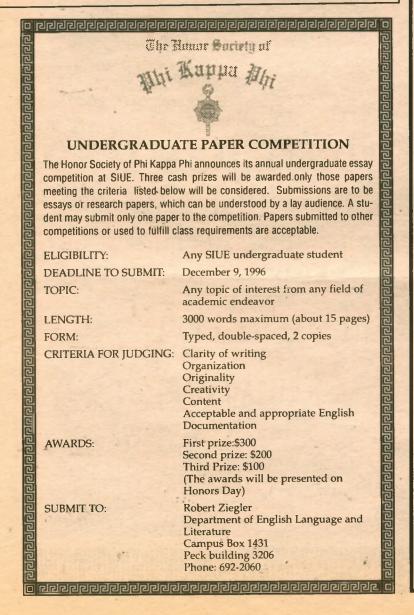
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DUI ARREST

On Nov. 2, at 5:40 p.m., police conducted a traffic stop on South University Drive and Parking Lot 2 Road. Carl Machuga, 24, of Staunton, was issued state citations for disobeying a stop sign, DUI, DUI over .10, operation of an uninsured motor vehicle and illegal transportation of alcohol by the driver. He was also issued a misdemeanor complaint for resisting a peace officer. Machuga was unable to post bond and was transported to the Madison County Jail.

ARREST

On Nov. 3, at 8:33 p.m., police arrested Michael Watts, 20, of Edwardsville for assault. The arrest was the result of a confrontation with a parking service agent over a parking ticket. Watts was issued a notice to appear and was released.

WARRANT ARREST

On Nov. 2, at 12:10 a.m., Cheko Boyd, 24, of East St. Louis, was arrested on an outstanding SIUE warrant for failure to appear for possession of cannabis. Boyd posted bond and was released.

On Nov. 3, at 11:02 p.m,. Toby McIntosh, 20, of Edwardsville, was arrested on an outstanding SIUE warrant for failure to appear for contempt and possession of liquor by a minor. McIntosh was unable to post bond and was transported to the Madison County Jail.

DUI ARREST

On Nov. 6, at 1 a.m., police arrested Kimberly Green, 33, of Pekin, for DUI, disobeying a flashing red light, uninsured motor vehicle and having no driver's license on her person. The arrest was the result of a traffic stop at the housing 4-way stop. Green was unable to post bond and was transported to the Madison County Jail.

THEFT UNDER \$300

On Nov. 5, at 2:55 p.m., a student reported he laid his cellular phone on a table in the Meridian Ballroom while he was attending a dance on Nov. 2. When he returned to get the phone it was gone. There are no suspects or witnesses. The phone is valued at \$265.



University of Va. to spend private funds to boost its faculty members' salaries

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — The University of Virginia (U.Va.) will spend about \$9 million in private funds over the next three years to increase faculty salaries.

The raises are an attempt to stem what officials say is plummeting morale and the loss of talented professors.

The university's Board of Visitors on Friday tentatively approved the move, which U.Va. President John T. Casteen III said is unprecedented for a public institution in Virginia.

"We will be dealing with a very different university in two years" if nothing is done, Casteen told the board.

Casteen's announcement came the same afternoon that a group of hourly employees protested a plan to delay state workers' pay checks, saying they always bear the brunt of budget cuts.

U.Va. faculty members have complained for most of the decade that professors' salaries in Virginia have lagged behind those in other states. In April, an internally

distributed faculty report warned of low morale and said departments were beginning to lose faculty members to schools with deeper pockets.

Following sharp cuts in higher education spending under former Gov. L. Douglas Wilder in the late 1980s, lawmakers recently have started to address the problem. This year, Virginia college professors will receive raises of between 4 percent and 6 percent in the first of a four-year plan to make the state more competitive in the academic job market.

But Casteen said the state's efforts will not be enough to keep its flagship institution competitive with the best schools in the country.

In a survey last year by the Association of American Universities, U.Va.'s average faculty salary of \$63,700 ranked 27th among peer institutions, compared with 18th in 1989 before state budget cuts took their toll.

U.Va. officials say their plan will boost the university back to its previous level.

"A class university has got

to pay salaries," U.Va. Rector Hovey S. Dabney said.

Using unrestricted endowment funds and private donations, the university plans to boost salaries 6 percent during the next three years, above increases given by the state. The increases would be merit based and affect all university schools except the graduate, law, business and medical schools, which have had their own mechanisms for keeping pace in the salary market, officials said.

Leonard W. Sandridge Jr., U.Va.'s executive vice president and chief financial officer, said the first of the increases would take effect Dec. 1 and would average between 1 percent and 2 percent.

Over the next three years, Sandridge estimated, U.Va. would spend \$1.5 million, \$3 million and \$4.5 million to achieve its salary goals. After that, the university would be committed to coming up with \$4.5 million in private money each year to maintain its salary scale.

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Christmas tree growers face unusually good season

STARKVILLE, Miss. (AP) — Mississippi Christmas trees have thrived under unusually good growing conditions this year, and the trees are ready to be harvested by spirited holiday enthusiasts.

Stephen Dicke, extension forestry specialist in Raymond, said Mississippi's trees have weathered well this year and are looking good. Growers are facing only a few problems, such as needlecast, in some areas of the state.

Starkville grower Jeffrey Krans said needlecast is a disease that causes needles to

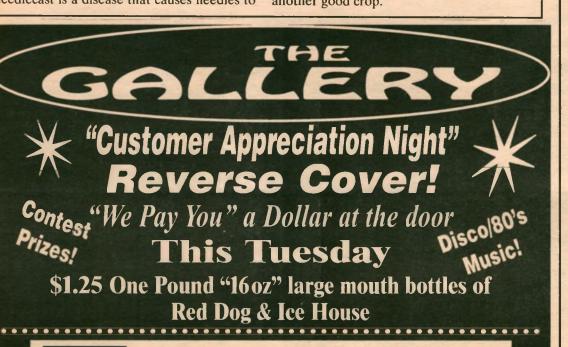
Nov 15

Sat

fall out and affects tree density. Needlecast is a problem for the Virginia pines every year, but this year's dry autumn helped lessen the severity of the disease.

Mississippi's production of Christmas trees has slowly crept up in the past few years. An estimated 250,000 trees were produced in the state this year.

"The economic forecast for Christmas trees looks good, and a high demand has been projected," Dicke said. "The last couple of years have been good for Christmas tree growers, and this year is expected to yield another good crop."



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Hollywood should be held for ransom

By Corey Stulce Assistant Lifestyle editor

Mel Gibson, who picked up reportedly \$20 million for this movie, put his action shoes back on to play airline tycoon Tom Mullen in Ron Howard's "Ransom." Howard, following up the smash drama "Apollo 13," fumbled a little with his next potential blockbuster. The movie is exciting to watch, but it is difficult to tell if it is drama or action.

The story is your basic movie of the week, a rich airline owner's son is kidnapped for the ransom of \$2 million, and mommy and daddy try everything in their power to get him back. Add an A-list director and enough big name actors, and all of a sudden the film becomes the big Fall movie.

The mix of action/drama is not new for Howard, since he was responsible for the excellent "Backdraft." Unfortunately, the hodge podge of frantic parents and chase scenes never quite came together. There are a couple of twists which come relatively early in the film, to keep it from staying too run-of-the-mill.

(Warning: Major plot twists are revealed here.) First, the audience gets to discover who the mastermind behind the kidnapping is detective Jimmy Shaker, played by Gary Sinise. Then, after a botched ransom exchange, Gibson decides to turn the tables on the bad guys. He goes on the news to offer up the ransom as a bounty on the kidnappers. These twists come early, leaving the audience to ponder what the climax may be.

Unfortunately, a false climax gets the audience riled up, then twenty or so minutes later, the real climax appears. It is a pretty cheesy let down. The entire movie is tense, taught drama, and then the ending turns into a "Lethal Weapon" outtake.

Gibson has a good time in this role, and for the paycheck he received, why shouldn't he. This was the perfect follow-up after "Braveheart" for Gibson, since he gets to be the heroic focus in most scenes. He even gets to talk directly to the camera in two scenes. First, during a commercial for his airline at the beginning of the

deal, Lili Taylor as his equally nuts girlfriend, the audience gets Donnie Wahlberg of New Kids on the Block as the sympathetic simpleton kidnapper. Were Corey Feldman or Corey Haim too busy for the role.

"Ransom" is a fun movie to watch, and it does force people to the semiedge of their seats, it just goes too far over the top during the big finale. With numerous rewrites of the script

Photo Courtesy of Touchstone Pictures the characters short of purpose.

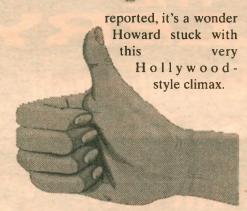
Mel Gibson and Rene Russo star as Tom and Kate Mullen in the hot new thriller Ransom". "Ransom" is currently playing at movie theaters across the nation.

movie, then during the newscast where he damns his son's kidnappers.

Rene Russo as Kate Mullen and Delroy Lindo as FBI agent Lonnie Hawkins give the movie more believability. Russo gets to cry and freak out quite a bit. She does it with style, though, and is able to garner much sympathy as the poor mother who doesn't understand why her husband is putting their child in jeopardy.

Lindo is the calm, cool cat who gets to talk some sense into Gibson and Russo. Lindo should get more recognizability for this film, which is good. He has done solid work in films like "Clockers" and "Get Shorty," and he is quite ready for a starring role.

The only casting problem, which takes away some of the realism, is the kidnappers themselves. They area ragtag group of hotheads and losers, who don't appear to have the ability to pull off a lemonade stand heist. Besides Sinise as an unstable psycho, who supposedly masterminded the whole



'Ransom is classic Hollywood, but it is Hollywood good'

By Marlin Thomas For the Alestle

You're rich and you have a very successful business. You also have a great spouse and a wonderful son. The life you have worked to attain is going easy. You turn away for one minute

and your son is kidnapped. How do you get him back?

The answer to this has to come from Tom Mullen (Mel Gibson) and his wife, Katherine (Rene Russo) in the Nov. 8 release of the film, Ransom.

In the film the Mullen's son is taken

In the film, the Mullen's son is taken from them and they desperately want him back alive. However, the kidnappers have different plans in mind.

The kidnappers are led by Jimmy, (Gary Sinise) a not-so-innocent plain clothes cop, with other talents such as Lily Taylor and Donnie Wahlberg (Yes, one of the "New Kids" got a job).

While the kidnappers have their inner struggles, Tom and Katherine have struggles with themselves and the FBI headed by Agent Lonny Hawkins (Delroy Lindo). There is some tension between every character throughout the entire film.

Ron Howard directs the actors through intense emotion and personal drama for many of the characters. In this way, he unmistakably draws us into his work.

One of the complaints I have with the film is that Howard leaves some of the characters short of purpose.

I feel that the true talent of Taylor and Lindo was not seen and their characters, if developed more in the plot, could have been more interesting. Besides those minute criticisms, I enjoyed the film.

The parallels in scenes between parents and kidnappers was simply amazing. They sparked up all of the tension among each of the characters.

Mel Gibson portrays Tom very well, and the relationship between his son Sean, played by **Brawley Nolte** and himself is very convincing.

Gary Sinise does a great job too. The evilness and mounted hatred felt for Gibson by Sinese's character is intense as shown in the exchanges between the two actors. Even the former New Kid On The Block is not as bad as I thought he would be.

So, I give Ransom a thumbs up. And recommend this film to those of you who are wanting to see a well-produced action-packed thriller. It is rather Hollywood, but it is Hollywood good.

Raising an uncompromising standard

By Ty Norris Lifestyle Editor

Webster's New World

Dictionary gives numerous definitions for the word

standard. The one that

seemed to fit best for these

four anointed brothers seemed to be the one that

defined standard as a level of

Standard" deliver on their

showcases the talents of

Carree, Bryan Pierce, and

Lowell Pye, four young men

dedicated to not only

singing, but being true men

have uncompromising standard.

Recorded by Muscle

and

Malaco

Shoals Sound Gospel and

Records & Tapes, "Men of

Standard" deliver fresh

been out eight weeks,

but is fastly securing

the group as one of

The CD has only

harmonies second to none.

"Men Of Standard"

Bacon, Isaac

newest CD.

Michael

manufactured

distributed by

after quartets.

A level of excellence is what "Men

excellence, or attainment.

everybody," Stinson said.

"They want to be able to reach adds a distinct flavor to the to enhance the group's sound. production.

Bryan Pierce, originally from New

Orleans, was the former Youth Pastor at Greater St. Stephens in New Orleans, Pastored by the famous Bishop Paul S. Morton, before embarking on his own ministry. Pierce lends a helping hand on many of the songs as well.

Michael Bacon adds balance to this stunning crew with his soft and heartfelt deliveries. Bacon's father is a pastor so Bacon is no stranger to gospel music.

Bacon joined the group when a former member didn't work out and became what was once the missing link to the chain. Bacon comes from Dallas, Texas, known for producing many talented gospel artists.

"Men Of Standard" rerecord "Trust In God", which was written by Marvin Winans and recorded by the group of the same name in the early eighties. The song gives its listener the same traditional message, only with a contemporary edge.

Men Of Standard is so unique because their lyrics are not compromising, yet their music has reached non-secular stations.

"There are secular stations playing 'Winter' in regular rotation," Stinson said.

We salute Men of Standard and support them as they tear down every stereotype of any men.

Men of Standard show that not all men are in prison, on drugs, or not true husbands.

Men of Standard's message is clear: If you believe somewhere, somebody is praying for you, you don't have to jump no pews, just keep an anointed song in your heart and keep pressing on, because even in the winter, Christ is the answer.



gospel's most sought Posing for the cover of their newest CD, "Men of Standard." Shown here (I to r) Men of Standard Gospel group members, Michael Bacon, Isaac Carree, Bryan Pierce, Lowell Pye. Their CD has been out in stores for "It's (CD) been out only eight weeks and is quickly becoming one of the most sought after gospel quartet recordings.

only eight weeks and it's doing great," Telisa Stinson, of Muscle Shoals Sound Gospel,

"They are booked for the next six weeks," Stinson added.

The men are all singers and also work full-time jobs. They are also all husbands to supportive wives.

How do these talented youngsters find time to dedicate time and effort to promote an uncompromising standard?

With that in mind "Men of Standard" entered the studio, under the production direction of gospel great Donald Lawrence, founder and director of the Tri-City Singers and Caldwell, known for Cedric producing songs for many other gospel artists like CeCe Winan, to embark on a project that showcases the talent and dedication of these four men.

All of the men sing lead and each

Isaac Carree, known for his smooth vocal delivery of runs, burst on the scene as a member John P. Kee's, New Life Community Choir. He added to what he had learned under Kee and showcases it throughout many of the cuts.

Lowell Pye also started with John P. Kee and blew the country away with his hand-clapping, foot-stomping solo on "Jesus Is Real". Pye and his husky voice add that traditional tone

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Cougars win two five-set thrillers

By Brett Licata Assistant Sports Editor

Excitement rang through the halls of the Vadalabene Center, not once but twice, last weekend as the SIUE volleyball team was pushed to five games in both of their Great Lakes Valley Conference wins.

Wisconsin-Parkside went up two games to none on Friday night before SIUE came back to take the match, 9-15, 11-15, 15-5, 15-11, 19-17.

"We got fired up after losing the first two games," head coach Sandy Montgomery said. "We made some adjustments and stepped up our hitting in the last three games."

Yvonne Welsh and Julie Litteken each had 15 kills, with Welsh digging 24 balls and Litteken hitting .306. Michelle Gilman contributed 20 kills with a .409 hitting percentage. Christy Scheller had 10 digs, to go along with 59 assists.

On Saturday afternoon, SIUE won a seesaw battle against Lewis, 15-8, 13-15, 15-10, 13-15, 15-12.

"We showed more composure and maturity than we've shown all season," Montgomery said. "This win gives us a lot of confidence going into the conference tournament."

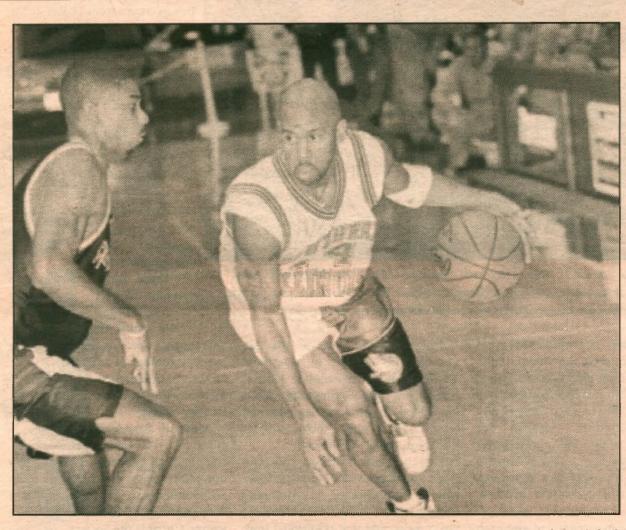
Gilman had 24 kills and hit .457, while Litteken had 14 kills for a .473 hitting percentage. Welsh and Jill Stenger added 10 and 11 kills, respectively.

The Cougars will start the GLVC tournament on Thursday against Bellarmine in Ft. Wayne, Ind. SIUE is seeded 2nd in the Blue Division and Bellarmine is the 3rd ranked team in the Green Division.

"Even though we beat Bellarmine earlier in the season, it's going to be a tough game for us," Montgomery said. "Ft. Wayne is a tough place to play in."

The volleyball team would like to thank the fans, including Chancellor Nancy Belck, for coming out to support them this past weekend.

The Cougars ended their regular season play with 22 victories and 15 losses overall and a conference mark of 12-4.



Scott Anderson/Alestle

It's time for Winter...

...And that means basketball.

The SIUE men's basketball team kicked off their season with an exhibition game against Team Reebok Monday night. The game was still in progress when the paper went to print. The women's team has also played an exhibition game preparing for their regular season opener against McKendree. A full preview of all the winter sports will be featured in the Alestle Holiday Issue on Dec. 3rd. It will be an in depth look at the teams potential for the up-coming season.

Penalty kick douses Cougars hopes in GLVC tournament

By Brett Licata Assistant Sports Editor

The SIUE men's soccer team ended their season on a sour note, losing their first round game in the Great Lakes Valley Conference Tournament.

Scoring was at a premium as the Cougars faced off against Quincy last Wednesday in Quincy, Ill. Regulation concluded in a 0-0 tie, but Quincy scored on a penalty kick in the third overtime to eliminate \$IUE from the tournament.

"It's disappointing to have our season end the way it did," head coach Ed Huneke said.

The goal was filled with controversy, as the referee called the foul which set up the penalty shot against the Cougars on a battle for a loose ball.

"There is an unwritten rule that no referee call a penalty kick in sudden death," Huneke said. "I'm sur-

prised it was called, because it wasn't even a goal-scoring opportunity for Quincy."

SIUE was without the offensive fire-power of Darren Snyder and Jerry Reed.

"Scoring becomes difficult when you're without your two big scorers," Huneke said.

Despite the lack of scoring, SIUE's bench helped the team to out-shoot Quincy 28-11.

Huneke credited the freshmen for their support in the crucial game.

"We had a good run this season," Huneke said. "We made considerable advancement and received the national respect that we deserved."

Huneke said, "I'm disappointed that we didn't go as far as we were expected, but we showed a lot of team character throughout the whole season."

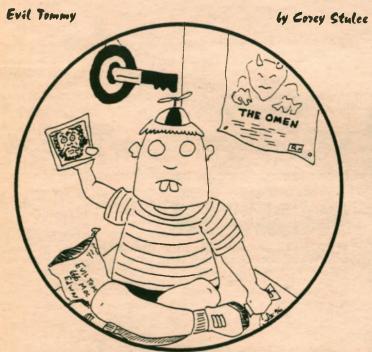
The Cougars finished the year with an 11-7-1 overall record.

Alestle college football top ten

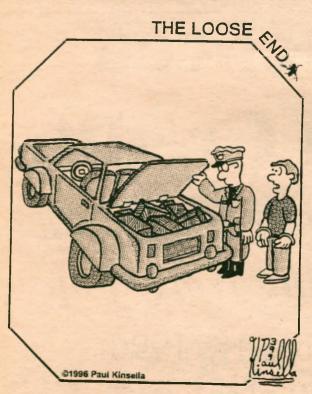
	record	points
1. Ohio State	9-0	45
2. Florida	9-0	40
3. Florida State	8-0	37
4. Arizona State	10-0	34
5. Nebraska	8-1	27
6. Colorado	8-1	22
7. Alabama	8-1	19
8. Kansas State	8-1	17
9. Penn State	8-2	15
10. Northwestern	8-2	10

Artist's Blues

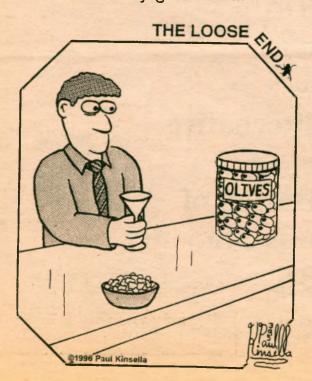
by Sam Pass

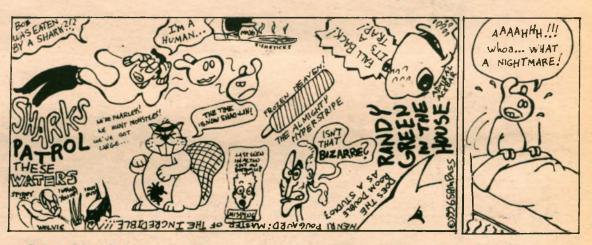


My Charles Manson fan club kit finally came, with autographed picture and rub-on swastika tattoos!



"It's for my glaucoma."





Topia Alley Brew

Livil Send her V Reality.

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J. Stuart Dent

by Edward Schulze



Life for Beginners



by Danielle Belton



The special Holiday issue of the Alestle is coming up. Please send story ideas or contributions such as poetry and artwork to Ty Norris and Corey Stulce at Box 1167 in the University Center.

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