◆ Tuesday, February 17, 2004

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Vol. 56, No.38 ◆

U.S. judge upholds pickets on campus

JAMIE FORSYTHE TYLER BENNETT News Editors

While the Southern Illinois University Board of Trustees



KWAME ROSS/ALESTLE PSA member Jeff Griffith hoists his sign at the picket.

members arrived for their monthly meeting Thursday morning, 14 Professional Staff Association members greeted them while marching in front of Morris University Center's east

PSA members walked a picket line holding hand-lettered signs and handing out fliers as trustees gathered for breakfast before the 9 a.m. meeting. The picket was to protest the Edwardsville campus administration's refusal to include all PSA members in a 2 percent pay increase given to many other SIUE workers.

"They (board members) have all been really nice. They've greeted us and a few have taken the flier," said Tom Dehner, PSA member and news coordinator for SIUE's radio station WSIE-FM, 88.7.

PSA gave out informational fliers detailing the reasons for the picket, which began at 6:30 a.m. in subfreezing temperatures.

The PSA members carried various signs. Some read, "SIUE: where injustice is hard @ work,' "81 Trees = \$108,000 Pro Staff = 0," "No Raise For You: SIUE's new fight song" and "Show me the \$\$\$ you showed the administration."

Even though organization had protested on campus in previous years with little to no opposition, SIUE warned the PSA Feb. 2 not to protest on campus since the group is not a universitysponsored organization. The PSA never changed plans and instead took the board of trustees to

Wednesday night, after approximately three hours of deliberation, the PSA was granted a temporary restraining order against the university by U.S. District Judge Michael Reagan.

The temporary restraining order states, "Plaintiff (PSA) has demonstrated a clear possibility



KWAME ROSS/ALESTLE

Professional Staff Association members march carrying signs in freezing temperatures Feb. 12 in front of the east entrance to the Morris University Center.

of irreparable injury, loss or damage in the event that defendants (SIUE) prohibit plaintiff from conduction peaceful informational picketing at multiple entrances to the University Center during the SIUE Board of Trustees' meeting on Feb. 12."

The university has so far refused a 2 percent increase to

101 PSA members, according to Dehner. Despite that, in August 2003, the SIUE administration gave unrepresented professional staff and civil service employees a 2 percent increase across the

"It's an issue of fairness and equity. It would only cost \$68,820 to give (the raise to) 101 see PICKETS, page 3

Mardi Gras spirit

KRISTEN REBER NEWS REPORTER

The Student Fitness Center was ablaze with Mardi Gras spirit Friday night when more than 600 students, faculty and staff members gathered for the second annual Parti Gras celebration.

The free event ran from 9 m until 2 a m Dr. Zhivegas began its performance at 11 p.m. to serenade partygoers with

"The students enjoyed the wide range of activities offered, and of course every single person went home with something for free, which the students appreciate," Campus Recreation graduate assistant Keith Becherer said. "The casino area was also a huge success, and Dr. Zhivegas put on a fantastic show."

One popular activity was the casino area, complete with blackjack, roulette tables and slot machines. At the end of the night, chips could be cashed in for prize

"Basically, everyone that

comes in gets 15 chips to start with," Greek Life Coordinator and casino manager John Davenport said. "For every 15 chips they have at the end of the night, they get to enter for

see PARTI GRAS, page 4



JESSICA BALADAD/ALESTLE A student enjoys free activities during Parti Gras Friday night.

Students feel the 9-ball exhibition racks up crowd

BRUCE KLOSTERMANN News Reporter

More than 150 people flocked to the Goshen Lounge of the Morris University Center Saturday night to see Allison Fisher, the No. 1 women's 9-ball player in the world, put on a billiard exhibition.

Fisher opened the exhibition by talking for a few minutes about her beginnings as a snooker pool player in her native England and her career as a 9-ball player in the United States.

"I thought it would take me a long time to win once I got here," confidence I needed to keep



KWAME ROSS/ALESTLE

Fisher said. "But I won a going. Once I knew I could do it, tournament two weeks after arriving, and that gave me the

I was a lot more confident."

Since moving to the United see POOL, page 3

Run for student governi

BRUCE KLOSTERMANN NEWS REPORTER

Starting Monday, applications for the 2004-2005 Student Government elections will be available in the Student Government office, Room 1060 of the Kimmel Leadership

Student Government president, vice president, student trustee and 12 student senator positions will be available for the 2004-2005 school year.

Interested students must have completed 12 credit hours at SIUE prior to the spring 2004 semester and be enrolled fulltime during the fall and spring semesters in which they wish to

Government Student election commissioner Nick

Williams said he would like to see as many people get involved as possible.

"We have a pretty diverse representation right now," Williams said. "But I'd really like to see people from all the different interest groups on campus get involved."

Williams said he is also going to do as much as he can to see ELECTIONS, page 4

SLAP SHOTS

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Love can't save your health

KELLY SCHOMAKER
NEWS STRINGER

The Student Fitness Center was packed from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday for Valentine's Fitness Day.

The center offered a fitness evaluation that gave SIUE students and staff recommendations on how to become more fit.

Valentine's Fitness Day offered free evaluations of blood pressure, cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, muscular strength, body composition and glucose and cholesterol levels.

"It was a pretty successful event. The numbers of people remained pretty steady throughout the day," Fitness Coordinator Aimee Knitter said.

Nurses from Alton Memorial Hospital gave glucose and cholesterol readings, and a dietician and personal trainers were available. Kinesiology students also helped out with the programs.

"The personal trainers basically gave a brief overview of the results to the students and staff," Knitter said.

The next fitness evaluation will be in the fall semester for



SHARA REYNOLDS/ALESTLE

Students participate in activities, such as having their blood pressure taken, testing flexibility and determining body fat levels during the Valentine's Fitness Day in the Student Fitness Center.

Fall for Fitness Day, Knitter "It's a good opportunity to help added students to give them

"It's an event that we like to do for students," Knitter said.

students, to give them encouragement, and they benefit from it."

Family program offers fun events

SCHALENE HOUSTON News Stringer

SIUE student families have an opportunity to view large paintings and to try painting in a larger format from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the Morris University Center.

Materials will be provided, but participants should wear painting attire. Large Painting Large is part of Cougar Kids Saturdays Family Program series.

Advanced registration is

required, and there will be no onsite admission. This program is free for SIUE students and families of up to three children. There is a \$1 charge for each additional child.

The cost for SIUE faculty and staff is \$5 up to three children and \$1 for each additional child.

This program is appropriate for children between the ages of 4 and 10.

Cougar Kids Saturdays
Family Program is a monthly
series. Kimmel Leadership
Center Director Steve

Sperotto said there will be a program for SIUE student families one Saturday per month

Sperotto said this is the first year for the series and said he expects the program to grow.

SIUE families are encouraged to come and participate in the fun.

"It meets the need for student parents," Sperotto said.

For more information, call the Kimmel Leadership Center at 650-2686 or e-mail Sperotto at ssperot@siue.edu.

Police Incidents =

Traffic .

2-9-04

Police issued a citation to Matthew Q. Hiltibidal for expired registration at Woodland Hall.

Police issued a citation to Woody A. Mitchell for expired registration on South University Drive.

2-10-04

Police issued a citation to Dan Xie for speeding on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Siow Yuen Shuenn for a stop sign violation on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Daniel R. Hellrung III for expired registration on South University Drive

2-11-04

Police issued a state citation to Eskindir Yehwalawork for a stop sign violation on North Circle Drive. 2-12-04

Police issued a citation to Jason C. Gillick for operating an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Shantel M. Miller for operating an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

2-13-04

Police issued a citation to Davie Leyba for operating an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

Police issued a citation to Patricia A. Woods for driving without a valid driver's license on Stadium Drive.

2-14-04

Police issued a citation to Andy C. Hausmann for operating an uninsured motor vehicle on South University Drive.

2-15-04

Police issued a citation to Antony R. Newton for speeding on North University Drive.

PICKETS

PSA members who would qualify for the increase. It is a small portion of an administrator's salary," Dehner said.

Mike Cook, an Illinois Education Association official for this region, said, "At this point, the administration is trying to hide behind the contract. It is fair for the university to do in the temporary restraining the right thing and give it to our members as well."

Four SIUE police cars were on hand for the peaceful picket. Three of those cars were parked in the pay lot on the east side of the MUC while the fourth was parked on the sidewalk in front of Rendleman Hall.

"We're not disrupting anything. The university is operating normally as far as we are concerned," Dehner said.

PSA members also picketed from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside the north entrance of the

Both locations were outlined

Dehner said when the protest began he didn't know whether or not a university representative would approach them.

"I would hope that since we are doing this in good faith, the university will respond in kind," Dehner said.

POOL from page 1

States eight years ago, Fisher has finished in the top five of every professional event she has played in. She is also the all-time leading purse winner in Women's Professional Billiards Association history.

After her opening remarks and a question-and-answer session with the audience, Fisher challenged members of the audience to 9-ball matches and gave playing tips between the

Roger and Barbara Cope, of Bethalto, came to see the exhibition instead of their normal Valentine's Day date.

"I've seen her play on TV before, and I heard she was coming here, so we decided to check it out," Roger Cope said.

Barbara Cope said she didn't seem to mind the unusual Valentine's Day date.

"Roger's on a pool league in Bethalto, and he really wanted to come, so here we are," she said.

Registration Feb. 12 by 5pm

Feb. 14, 8am-5pm(



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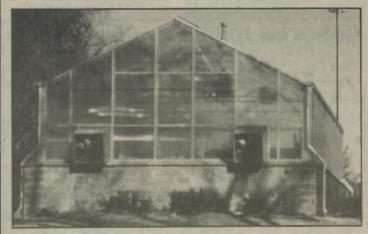
Student Fitness Center

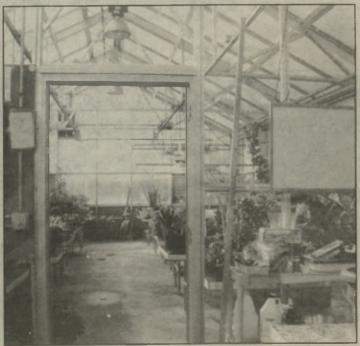
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and Members

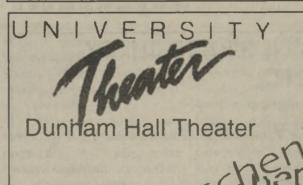
Green house face-lift





JESSICA BALLADAD/ALESTLE

The SIUE Arboretum houses plants for educational and recreational purposes. The Academic Land Use Committee will begin the first phase of its plan for continued improvement of the Arboretum.



uschen

by Charles L. Mee

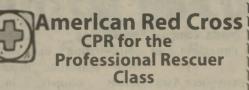
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PARTI GRAS -

Prizes were plentiful at the event. The first 200 to attend Parti Gras received a free T-shirt, and many prizes were available for the lucky tickets drawn.

"There are 200 prizes ranging in size from Mardi Gras beads to DVD players, shirts or coolers," Kimmel Leadership Center Assistant Director Amanda Rainey said. "Drawings for the prizes are every 10 or so minutes, and hopefully a lot of people will claim their prizes."

Students could also earn tickets to increase their chances of winning prizes by participating in the "American Gladiators"-style obstacle course, Jester's Court. Participants dodged flying balls in order to claim their prize of one ticket toward a prize.

"It's very fun," Jester's Court winner Rajesh Shrestha said. "I don't know what I did, but I do know I got a ticket." Limbo and piñata contests also took place throughout the night.

Freshman partygoer Asia Spencer was the first to break the piñata, as well as the first to say, "I'm the best."

The second piñata breaker, freshman Jaffer Abbas Merchant, was more modest about his achievements.

"I just took a swing in, and I got lucky. It was all God helping me out," Merchant said. "It's the happiest day of my life."

Becherer, along with senior Matt Thompson, president of the Recreational Sports Advisory Council, has been involved with Parti Gras since the beginning, and planning for Parti Gras has been in the works since October. Many on-campus organizations helped with making Parti Gras happen.

"Seeing the event be a major success because of the

outstanding cooperation, collaboration and volunteers from numerous departments across campus, including Campus Recreation, Campus Board, Activities Kimmel Leadership Center, Student Government, Housing, Health Services, the Club Sports Program and of course the major effort by members of the Recreational Sports Advisory Council is also rewarding," Becherer said. "The volunteers deserve a tremendous amount of recognition."

Attendees also may have noticed volunteers assisting with Parti Gras security. Metal detectors welcomed the students at the door in an effort to keep the party safe. Partygoers were also required to have valid SIUE identification, which was scanned as they entered.

"Mostly it's just keys or belt buckles and steel-toed boots that



The casino area was a big success during the annual Parti Gras celebrations Friday night in the Student Fitness Center.

set the metal detectors off," security volunteer and Public Affairs Director Keith Nichols said. "It's just a precaution. I'm not sure of us having any problems at events."

Parti Gras, continuing its tradition of safe fun, was labeled a success overall.

"Parti Gras was a major

success. The feedback from the students in attendance was all positive," Becherer said. "Events such as Parti Gras give the students a reason to stay on campus over the weekends. Being able to provide a major oncampus weekend event that the students truly enjoy is the most rewarding aspect of the event."

ELECTIONS from page 1

give the candidates in the upcoming election more opportunities to speak to students.

"Right now, candidates really only get one chance to speak in an open forum, and that's just not enough," Williams said

Place:

Meridian

Ballroom

Voter turnout is also a big

concern to Williams, who said he is going try his hardest to improve upon poor numbers in the past.

"We're a campus of 13,500 students, and a voter turnout of 2,000 just isn't acceptable to me," Williams said. "I'd like to see a lot more people get involved."

Candidates for the president, vice president and student trustee positions must be enrolled at least part-time during the 2004 summer semester, have a 2.5 grade point average and maintain a 2.4 GPA during their terms.

Applicants seeking student senator positions do not need to

be enrolled in the 2004 summer semester, but they must be full-time students for the fall 2004 and spring 2005 terms. Senator candidates must have a 2.4 GPA and maintain a 2.25 GPA during their terms.

Student Government officials will hold an informational meeting at 4:30

p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25, in the International Room of the Morris University Center.

Anyone interested in running for Student Government is encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact Williams at 650-4209 or Kimmel Leadership secretary Bonnie Farrington at 650-3818.

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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 Association, the Associated Collegiate Press and U-WIRE.

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 650-3528.

Have a comment? Let us know! Send us an e-mail: alestle_editor@hotmail.com

The Alestle Campus Box 1167 Edwardsville, Ill. 62026-1167

Opinions & Editorial viewpoints & Commentary

Tuesday, February 17, 2004

Alestle

Dage 5

Bush's military background is the last thing we should worry about



I've been hearing a lot from the Democrats about how, compared to presidential hopeful Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., President George W. Bush's military history is shabby. Give me a break!

Now as much as I like to jump on any bandwagon that vilifies Bush, this is one even I

can't possibly justify

The only way this is even newsworthy is if there is a coverup and Bush has led us to believe he served but never served anywhere at all. However, at this point, that doesn't seem to be the case.

I do realize there are some military types out there who will be watching this issue very closely, but the nation's population in general won't really care about whether Bush served in the Texas Air National Guard or one of the main branches of the military, especially in a time as controversial as the Vietnam War.

What does Bush's military record have to do with his capacity to serve as president?

Wouldn't it be more beneficial for the Democrats to

focus on Kerry's leadership abilities and his extensive experience in the legislative branch of government than to milk his accolades as a soldier, especially since he will use the former experience much more than the latter?

Such an approach would be a more positive and effective maneuver, in my opinion, if the Democrats want to win this race.

However, if they feel the need to take a negative approach to get their candidate into office, why not focus on issues of more substance, like the fact Bush has dragged the United States into an unprovoked war with another country?

Other issues that could be used instead of this shabby military subject are national economics, education and health

focus on Kerry's leadership care – all of which have suffered abilities and his extensive greatly under the current experience in the legislative administration.

At least then I would have something I could intelligently sink my teeth into. But no, the Democrats have to pull out something so trivial like what branch Bush served in the military.

How sad that this type of behavior comes from our leaders.

What's even more sad is most people will be bottle-fed this nonsense and follow along like good little sheep – even if their good sense tells them there's something wrong.

Democrats and Republicans alike will swallow all sorts of absurdities in the coming months, toe the proverbial line of their party and regurgitate this type of drivel to defend their candidate.

see MILITARY, page 11

Health is will power, not man power



This morning I ate fat-free yogurt and drank 2 percent milk. For the first time I walked by the pork sausage, bacon, eggs and biscuits and gravy that have been an intricate part of my life for the last three years as part of the breakfast ritual in the basement of the Morris University Center.

This is due to a voyage into the unknown that I took Friday when I participated in the Valentine's Day fitness test at the Student Fitness Center that reduced me to a mere sliver of my former self.

I have always tried to stay moderately healthy. I work out every day, run, play roller hockey, basketball, racquetball and occasionally tennis.

This is why I was surprised to learn, after running the gauntlet Friday, that my expected date of death was March 5, 2005.

I learned that, as a nonsmoker at the age of 22, I have the lungs of a 40-year-old, am about 20-percent body fat and have a cholesterol count of nearly 212, a number that I equate with bowling or baseball. There are a myriad of other numbers that enforce my evidently unhealthy lifestyle, but I threw the evil sheet away after learning that I am a walking heart attack.

According to www.healthchecksystems.com, a healthy body fat percentage ranges from 18-25 percent. The only problem is that the test that I took had a 5 percent margin of error. When I looked to the person that gave me the test for support she said that I could be 15 percent. I could do nothing but sigh and say I was probably 25.

The Web site is also merciless on cholesterol, saying a healthy cholesterol number falls below 200. Whoops.

I write this column not just to throw myself to the proverbial slaughter of what I'm sure is a healthy student body, but to also warn people who think working out for hours a day is going to keep them from checking out of the reality motel early. They're wrong.

I am not saying go on a diet because, with me, dieting is one step above scuba diving naked with sharks. However, I challenge people to, if you don't already, eat just a little bit healthier.

That way you won't work out for two hours a day just to be told by a fitness guru that you have the lungs of a 40-year-old, high cholesterol and are overweight.

All at the age of 22.

Travis L. Ross Assistant Sports Editor

Letter to the Editor

War in Iraq was not a waste of time

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to Stella Ramsaroop's column on war in the Feb. 10 issue of the Alestle. Ramsaroop made a severe statement without looking into some facts.

She stated our administration was responsible for the devastation of an entire country, Iraq. Maybe she should check her facts.

Here are just a few in a long list.

All colleges, universities and most secondary schools are now open. All hospitals are now open. There is a democratic government in place. Salaries of teachers and doctors are up at least 800 percent. About 22 million vaccinations have been given to children, and most important is that government rape, torture and execution are now extinct. Young boys are looking forward to a career in college and beyond, not just

being forced into the army. People have the freedom to see, read and hear whatever they like now. This doesn't sound like devastation to me. It sounds like a rebirth.

Pop quiz: Who would you elect? The first candidate works with corrupt politicians, consults the stars for guidance and has two mistresses. He smokes two packs and drinks 10 shots of hard liquor every day.

The second candidate has

been fired twice, always sleeps until noon, smoked opium at college and drinks an entire bottle of scotch every day.

The third candidate was awarded for his heroism by his country, is a vegetarian, does not smoke or drink and has no scandals lurking in the cupboard.

Like most people, you would probably choose the third. Congratulations, you just elected

see IRAQ, page 11



MYSTIC Society embraces

The MYSTIC Society welcomes people of all religions and levels of sp

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Paganism refers to any of the pre-Christian, polytheistic religions, or those who practice them. Wicca is one pagan religion, as are Asatru, Santeria, Voodoo and Shamanism. Pagan religions are often referred to as "nature-oriented." but that is a misconception.

Wicca is a modern version of the pagan religious beliefs handed down from pre-Christian times. Since much information was lost during the Burning Times, much has been recreated.

Wicca is a peaceful, earth-centered, polytheistic religion that has no connection to Satanism.

Druidism emerges from the beliefs of the Celtic priesthood. The popularity of all things Celtic can be seen by the success of dance shows like "Riverdance," films like "Braveheart" and in the multitude of Celtic music festivals that have sprouted all over North America.

Emphasis is placed upon that which is historically proven or historically plausible by reasoning from known facts. This is an attempt to consider the history and the spirit together. The period in history on which it focuses is the Celtic Iron Age, from approximatly 500 B.C. up to the common era.

The general characteristics and origins of Native American religion shed light upon the more contemporary sects.

But the development of the numerous individual traditions, passed down orally, remains unclear. The sheer number of groups and the diversity the nuances belief furthercomplicate matters

The religions do share some common tendencies. Religion tends to be closely related to the natural world. The local terrain is elevated with supernatural meaning, and natural objects are imbued with sacred presences.

Ceremonial rituals involving these supernatural natural objects are meant to ensure communal and individual prosperity. These common underlying features unite a diversity of contemporary Native American sects.

> WWW.RELIGIOUSMOVEMENTS.LIB.VIRGINIA.EDU WWW.PAGANWICCAN.ABOUT.COM

VICKI KRUSE LIFESTYLES STRINGER

The night was bitterly cold, but the warmth of the Religious Center welcomed members and visitors to the May You See Things In Clarity Society's Imbolc ceremony.

Five friends started a spiritual society at SIUE and meet once a week. MYSTIC was officially recognized as a student organization in September.

President and MYSTIC Society founder Meredith Bell quoted the group's constitution:

"MYSTIC Society is an informative collective of alternative spirituality including paganism, Wicca, Native American spirituality and Druidism. While these religions will be our main focus, all religions have a voice in this organization. We believe that religion is an individual's relationship with a deity or deities."

Bell said the society has five to 10 regular members and several who come at random.

"The most important thing that I personally want people to understand is that we are practicing our faith in a way that works best for us, and that brings us a feeling of fulfillment.

learn about other belief systems and to spread what knowledge we have about our own," Bell said.

Meetings are at 3 p.m. each Friday in the Religious Center and are open to

The Imbolc celebration by the MYSTIC Society took place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday as participants handed out candles and paper snowflakes to everyone in attendance.

The snowflakes symbolized lessons learned throughout life, as



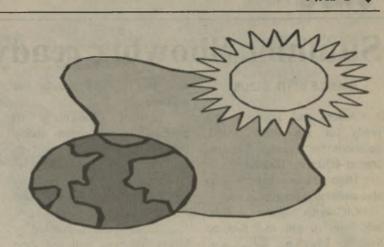
Members of the MYSTIC Society celebrate the awakening of the El snowflakes that symbolize lessons learned throughout life in a cauld

well as potential, Bell said. Imbolc is a celebration of the water and passion. awakening of the Earth.

represent elements of fuel, wind,

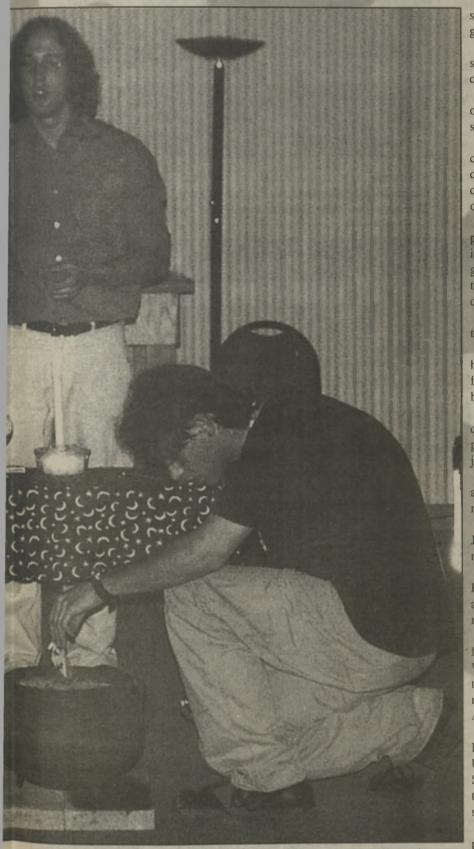
During the celebration. Four candles were lit to members sang, chanted and prayed





understanding spirituality

irituality to share in pagan ceremonies and gather at weekly meetings.



VICKI KRUSE/ALESTLE

with in a ceremony called imbolc. The ceremony involves burning paper ron, as well as singing, chanting and dancing.

while one person played a drum.

A grandmother goddess entered the center of the room.

wearing a dark blue hooded cape.

The goddess represented death and life meeting in the passage of winter.

It is the end of the cold and

spring is welcome, the grandmother goddess said.

"She changes everything she touches," members chanted.

Imbolc marks the change of seasons from winter to spring.

A candle sunk into a container of snow sat on a celestial printed cloth with a cauldron on the floor in front of it.

Members and visitors placed the paper snowflakes in the cauldron. The grandmother goddess burned the snowflakes in the cauldron.

The ceremony represents the spring rebirth of the Earth.

The goddess shed her hooded cape to reveal a floral colored dress beneath.

MYSTIC members took questions afterward as they passed out cookies and apple juice.

Bell said members dance and sing more in their usual meetings.

English graduate student James Pickrell said, "I am a random member."

Pickrell's religion is Earth-centered spirituality that acknowledges femininity and masculinity, he said.

Robin Bell, mother of founder Meredith Bell, said Wicca has many different traditions and that she draws mainly from the Native American tradition.

The Rev. Cherie Hambleton, chaplain of the United Campus Ministry at SIUE, said, "I like to think of the Religious Center as a spiritual center."

According to Hambleton, people in the past thought of the center as Christian because of the three Christian ministries housed there.

However, she noted, Buddhists, a Wiccan group, a Hindu group and various other groups use the Religious Center. WHICH
WICCAN
IS
A
WITCH?

Wicca is a religion, and someone who follows that religion is called a Wiccan.

Sometimes it can be difficult to accurately define Wicca, and not all Wiccans will define themselves the same way.

Observing the eight Wiccan Sabbats, honoring the gods and/or goddesses and creating sacred space for rituals, are a few of the ways Wiccans define themselves.

Many traditional Wiccans also feel that belonging to a coven is a requirement and that those who practice their religion alone should not refer to themselves as Wiccan.

Typical Wiccans also practice magic and, therefore, are also witches. One cannot be a "natural Wiccan" any more than a "natural Christian."

The practice of witchcraft is not associated with any religion. Therefore witches can be members of any number of religions, or none.

Using the natural energies within oneself, along with the energies of herbs, stones or other elements to make changes in the immediate environment is considered witchcraft.

Though the skills and gifts that are part of witchcraft can be inherited from parents or grandparents, a person is not automatically a witch just because their grandmother may have been one. The use of magick takes practice, experience and learning.

Another common misconception about witchcraft is that male witches are not referred to as witches, but warlocks.

WWW.PAGANWICCAN.ABOUT.COM

Summer Showbiz ready for action

ALESTLE STAFF REPORT

Actors and actresses, get ready for show time. Adult auditions for Summer Showbiz start at 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

High school students may also audition during this time.

Children's auditions will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 6.

Children will be required to sing a song of their choice.

Anyone who wants to audition should prepare 16 to 32 bars of music and a oneminute monologue. Dancing may

also be required during the audition.

Summer Showbiz will produce two productions during the summer.

The first production is "Grease," based on the book by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. who also wrote the music.

The production, directed by Mikey Thomas, will run June 10-13 and June 17-20.

The second production is "Gypsy," based on the book by Arthur Laurents, with music by Jule Styne and lyrics by Stephen

The production, directed by Peter Cocuzza, will run July 8-11 and July 15-18.

Several roles are available for men and women of various ages. To reserve an audition slot, call the Box Office at 650-

For more information, contact Cocuzza at 650-5614 or by e-mail at pcocuzz@siue.edu.

Positions are also available for behind-the-scenes work. For more information about specific positions, contact Valerie Goldston at 650-3112 or by e-mail at vgoldst@siue.edu

Film series honors black filmmakers works

ADRIENNE SMITH LIFESTYLES STRINGER

The Black Heritage Month Planning Committee has put together a black film series from 6 to 10 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 23 and 24, in the Meridian Ballroom of the Morris University Center.

This is the first time this event has been part of the Black Heritage Month series.

Joystna Kapur, film scholar and cinema and photography professor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, will talk about African-Americans in film

Kapur's presentation will also include the impact of black films and the importance of African-American filmmakers.

"It will give you a sense of development in black films and give you an idea of how far black cinema has come," SIUE mass communications professor Elza Ibroscheva said.

Two films will be screened

each day. "Lying Lips," directed by Oscar Micheaux, and "The Learning Tree," directed by Gordon Parks, will be shown Monday.

"She's Gotta Have It," directed by Spike Lee, and "The Great White Hype," directed by Reginald Hudlin, will be shown Tuesday.

Ibroscheva said encourages all to come and see these films for a historical perspective of black films. Admission is free.

Students get a taste of culture



SHARA REYNOLDS/ALESTLE

Students try their hand at eating bananas with chopsticks at the Taste of Culture event celebrating the Chinese New Year Wednesday in the Goshen Lounge.

BLACK HISTORY is AMERICAN HISTORY

Schedule of Events

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Tuesday, February 17 Poetry Reading 12:30 PM- 1:45 PM

Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center Eugene B. Redmond, Professor, Department of English Language and Literature will offer readings from his award-winning collection

Wednesday, February 18

Black Heritage Month Networking Fair 11:30 AM-1: 30 PM

Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center Come check out student organizations and what they can offer you!

Contemporary Struggles for Social Justice 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

This event is a two-day panel discussion examining both the historical and continuing vitality of social movements as agents for achieving social justice. Led by a multi-disciplinary group of SIUE faculty members, the panel presentation will focus on social movements from South Africa, the United States, Brazil, and West Africa. This symposium is open to the University public and wider community and designed to provide a forum for wide-ranging debate and discussion

Patrick Murphy, Chair, Department of Mass Communications

Participants

Moderator

ac Blankson, Assistant Professor Department of Speech Communications Stephan Bradley, Assistant Professor; Anthony Cheesboro, Associate Professor; and Thomas Jordan, Assistant Professor Department of Historical Studie Elizabeth Fonseca, Associate Professor Department of Foreign Languages and Literature Howard Rambsy, Assistant Professor Department of English Language and Literature Mark Hedley, Assistant Professor; and Monica White, Assistant Professor Department of Sociology

Lecture - Bobby Seale 7:00 PM-10:00 PM

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center
Co-founder of the Black Panther Party (BPP) will speak on a variety of topics.
Besides addressing the purposes and need for the BPP during the Civil Rights
Era, he will compare that era to that of today's, all the while clearing up myths
and misconceptions that abound about the BPP's foundation (i.e., excluding and misconceptions that abound about the BPP's foundation (i.e., excluding those of other ethnic groups, being a strictly militant organization, etc.). He will also speak on the state of higher education in American society, which will be one of the main focal points of his speech. Mr. Seale will address these topics in the hopes of educating those in attendance about the importance of the BPP and other organizations like it during that time period, while simultaneously ng the audience a chance to see a political figure of major importance in rea Co-sponsored by lota Phi Theta Fraternity.

Contemporary Struggles for Social Justice (continued) 1:00 PM-3:00 PM

Friday, February 20

6th Annual Black Heritage Month Talent Show 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center Come watch students perform their singing, dancing, poetic, and musical talents during this annual event. Tickets at the door only: \$2.00 - Students, \$3.00 during this annual event. To Faculty/Staff/General Public

Black Film Series: A Historic Perspective 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center A two-day screening of films directed by Oscar Micheaux (*Lying Lips* - 1939), Gordon Parks (*The Learning Tree* - 1969), Reginald and Warrington Hudlin (*The Great White Hype* - 1996), and a fourth film to be selected. A scholar will present a conceptualization of African-American films and filmmakers. Professors Elza Ibroscheva and Bala Baptiste, Co-Chairs.

Black Film Series: A Historic Perspective (continued)

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center

A two-day screening of films directed by Oscar Micheaux (Lying Lips - 1939), Gordon Parks (The Learning Tree - 1969), Reginald and Warrington Hudlin (The Great White Hype - 1996) and a fourth film to be selected. A scholar will present a conceptualization of African-American films and filmmakers. Professors Elza Ibroscheva and Bala Baptiste, Co-Chairs.

Wednesday, February 25 Blacks, Radio, and History 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center
A panel discussion featuring invited talk show hosts: Richard "Onion" Horton,
WGNU-AM and NewBlackCity.Com; Lizz Brown, WGNU-AM; Dr. Ray Hagins, WGNU-AM and Black Liberation Radio, among other air personalities at area stations. Dr. Bala Baptiste, Department of Mass Communications, will moderate discussion and question-and-answer session.

Are We Still Living Martin Luther King Jr.'s Dream? 7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Waple/Dogwood Room, Morris University Center Leon Dash, member of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign faculty. author, and formerly a journalist with the Washington Post, will discuss Are We Still Living Martin Luther King Jr.'s Dream? Dr. Dallas Browne, Department of Anthropology, will moderate. Sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Black Heritage Month Quiz Bowl 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Goshen Lounge, Morris University Center Come and test your Black History knowledge Hollywood Squares style

Friday, February 27

6:30 PM-10:00 PM

Meridian Ballroom, Morris University Center
The Explosion will be an inspirational evening to spread the gospels of healing, reconciliation, and unity to the campus and community. This event will feature poetry, rap, praise dance, and gospel music.

All events are free unless otherwise noted. Contact the Kimmel Leadership Center at 618.650.2686 for a detailed schedule of events, or e-mail Sharon Galen at sgalen@siue.edu. Funded in whole or part by Student Activity Fees.



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



Late heroics earn Cougars' split

Syke's buzzer-beater propels Cougars to weekend split

KEVIN CORRIGAN SPORTS EDITOR

Winning on the road is tough in any form of competition. Just ask junior guard Calvin Sykes and the Cougars.

Sykes hit a half-court buzzer beater Thursday to down Northern Kentucky University 66-65.

"It was a designed play that tries to open up me or one of the guards on the wing," Sykes said Sunday. "I basically just got the ball and avoided their (NKU) pressure and tried to put up a quality shot."

Quality was understatement as the shot banked in to give the Cougars the first season sweep of NKU since SIUE joined the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

"We got a little lucky," head coach Marty Simmons said on Monday. "We do design plays for a last second shot, but nothing can prepare you for that situation.'

The finish was preceded by a roaring comeback by the Cougars. NKU built a 15-point lead in the first half just to see

head coach Marty Simmons' squad fight back.

"We really got off to a sluggish start, and to see the kids bounce back and keep chipping away was real impressive," Simmons said. "That's (NKU) not an easy place to play."

Sykes' three-pointer was the end of a career-day for the guard from Chicago. He dumped in a career high of 22 points, including the Cougars' final 11.

"He's a winner," Simmons said. "He loves the challenge of being in that situation. He's just an awesome competitor."

The Cougars received an outstanding effort from their bench, outscoring the Norse's bench 26-5. Junior forward Joel Jaye scored 15 points while junior guard Andre Thomas added nine points.

NKU's junior guard Steve Purdon set up the dramatic finish after he drained a jump shot with 3.8 seconds to go in the game. That gave the Norse a short-lived 65-63 lead.

"We believe in each other out there," Sykes said. "Coach Simmons prepares us to play like

champions on and off the court. There is no quit in us."

Against Bellarmine University Saturday, the Cougars' fortunes were not as lucky. Shooting an astonishing 71 percent from the field, the Knights snapped the Cougars' four-game winning streak with an 89-67 victory.

"Our team signature is our defense," Thomas said. "We're not giving ourselves a great chance to win when we allow them to score on us like that."

The Knights' Zach Miller had nearly a perfect day of shooting, going eight for nine from the field and finishing with 20 points.

"They can cause a lot of problems on the offensive side of the ball." Simmons said. "We allowed them to get some good looks and they knocked down the shots."

The 71 percent was the highest field-goal percentage the Cougars have allowed all year. Coach Simmons knows that down the stretch, all aspects of the game have to be at the highest

see BASKETBALL, page 10



Junior guard Tyler Hackstadt drives past a Quincy University defender earlier this year. The Cougars are on the verge of a Great Lakes Valley Conference playoff birth this year.

woes continue in Kentucky Cougars road

Julia Carla-Lynette Jacobs SPORTS STRINGER

women's SIUE basketball team suffered another loss at the hands of Bellarmine University Saturday, falling 84-

The loss continued a dismal stretch for the Cougars in which they have lost 10 out of 12 games. In that stretch, the Cougars have been outscored an average of 12 per game, including twice by 20 points.

The Knights used a 13-0 run to start the game to propel them to victory. From there, they calmly hit their free throws down the stretch to secure the win.

At the end of the first half, the Cougars trailed the Knights 40-25. Cougar sophomore center Tanya Guell fought hard the entire game and scored 13 points. In the 34 minutes Guell was on the court, most of her points came from field goals, and she scored one free throw.

Sophomore guard Amber Wisdom helped the team by scoring another 13 points. Wisdom made two three-pointers and had three rebounds.

Among other big scorers from Saturday's loss were freshman forward Julianne McMillen, who played 21 minutes and had 10 points, and senior guard Jessica Robert, who scored one three-pointer and earned her team a total of 10 points. Senior guard Jaque Howard assisted with one threepointer and a total of five points.

"We came out and had a rough start," Guell said. "We struggled, but we fought hard and nobody gave up. Everyone gave their all."

Even with the hard teamwork and determination, the Cougars didn't manage to make the comeback necessary to defeat the Knights. The Cougars were able to generate a little more offense in the second half but couldn't stop the offensive

barrage from the Knights.

"To start off, it was rocky. But we came back," Howard said. "We all battled the whole game, though it was tough."

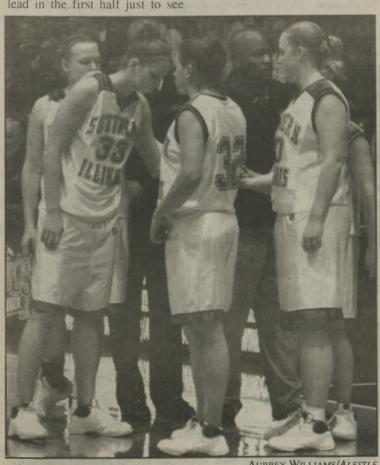
Bellarmine's Lyndsey Neal and Lynn Johnson-Thomas had a total of 41 points between them, almost half of Bellarmine's total

"I thought we played very junior guard Sara Unterbrink said. "We got a slow start and couldn't catch up. I think that our coaches push us to do the best that we can, but sometimes it doesn't show on the scoreboard."

Unterbrink scored six points Saturday.

The next women's basketball game is 7:00p.m. Thursday against the University of Southern Indiana.

If the Cougars plan on taking part in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, they will need to take care of businees this week at seeWomens B-Ball, page 10



AUBREY WILLIAMS/ALESTLE

The SIUE women's asketball team huddles up before the opening tip at a home game this year. SIUE's 5-12 Great Lakes Valley Conference record is good for eight place.

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Cougar Volleyball reloads with two area recruits

Travis L. Ross Assisstant Sports Editor

After losing two of its biggest weapons from last season, the Cougar volleyball team is starting to reload.

The Cougars lost All-American Andrea Voss as well as senior Sarah Watts last season. Voss finished the season leading the conference with 1.71 blocks per game and was second in the Great Lakes Valley Conference with a .370 hitting percentage.

In her four-year career with the Cougars, Voss has the best all-time hitting percentage with .310. She is also first in block assists with 468, second in total blocks with 607 and fourth in kills per game with 3.11.

"We're losing someone huge," assistant coach Melanie Mueller said. "But I think the girls kind of know each other now because they have been playing with each other for a while. I think they can adapt to whoever we bring in."

It might not be that difficult an adjustment.

The Cougars inked John A. Logan College transfer Shannon Winkeler and Sadie Zurliene, a product of Breese Central High School.

A 6-foot outside hitter, Winkeler was a two-time All-American and two-time Conference Player of the Year at John A. Logan.

"She could play either the left side, right side or middle, but we are looking at her to play on the left side," Mueller said. "She brings experience. experience, with her playing at a higher level, will really help us. She's very consistent."

Mueller said Winkeler should also be able to handle herself in the Cougars' fast-paced offense, as should the younger Zurliene.

"She (Zurliene) is a setter," Mueller said. "We didn't have a backup setter, so we had to bring in a new one this year."

The 5-foot-7 Zurliene earned All-Area and All-Conference honors in volleyball her senior

"Sadie (Zurliene) has good size and is very athletic," head coach Todd Gober said in an SIUE press release. "She has yet to focus her time on one sport, so this is a circumstance where we have no idea how good she'll actually become. She enters the program in a good situation because she'll have time to

According to Mueller, the women have put in a strong effort so far in the off-season.

"The girls are in here and working hard and running a lot," Mueller said. "We started individuals so they are getting in here and working."

Mueller said there are no new injuries to the team, but junior Kindra Westendorf had her knee orthoscopically treated.

"She (Westendorf) is making leaps and bounds in the weight room with running and things like that," Mueller said.

Mueller said the players are working hard and will be ready to come in and play by the first game of the season.

BASKETBALL

from page 9

level.

"You have to be motivtated game in and game out," Simmons said. "Saturday we came out flat and lifeless. We're going to have to come out with a high level of intensity from here

Sykes again led the Cougars in scoring, dumping in 19 points in the losing effort. Senior guard Ron Jones also added 12

After the wild weekend, the

Cougars still remain in fifth place in the GLVC with a 9-8 record. Overall, the Cougars sit at 13-10. Depending on games later this week, the Cougars could clinch a spot in the GLVC Tournament before their next game.

According to Sykes, however, the Cougars can't afford to get caught up in the speculation.

"We still have to take it one game at a time, especially at this stage of the season," Sykes said.

The Cougars return home this week to face the University of Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles at 7 p.m. Thursday and the University of Missouri-St. Louis Rivermen Saturday at 3

Fan support is needed and wanted from Sykes and the Cougars.

"We get energy from the crowd," Sykes said. "We know that the support has increased and we want to see that grow.

WOMEN'S B-BAI from page 9

clinging to the eighth and

home. Currently the Cougars are Tournament. The Cougars stand Missouri-St.Louis may be the final playoff spot conference play. Saturday's

at 10-14 overall and 5-12 in deciding factor for the final playoff spot. UMSL trails the GLVC game against the University of Cougars by just one game.



Sophomore guard Amber Wisdom looks to penetrate and dish in earlier action against Kentucky Wesleyan College. Wisdom and the Cougars will look to snap a three-game losing streak Thursday against the University of Southern Indiana.

Letter to the Editor ——

Grad student reminds frat brothers of their purpose

Dear Editor,

While I applaud my undergraduate brothers of Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. and Alpha Beta chapter's enthusiastic efforts in bringing Bobby Seale, co-founder of the Black Panther Party, to the SIUE community, I am concerned about the message this could possibly send.

When I was an undergraduate, like brother Filmon Tekeste, I too found the Black Panther Party interesting and have met Bobby Seale and Imam Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, formerly known as H. Rap Brown prior to his 2002 conviction for killing a Fulton County sheriff, and several other former Panther members who have presented lectures

Conversely, I think times have changed for the better, and I believe the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's commitment to nonviolence did a lot more for the black struggle during the civil

rights era of the 1960s than the radical Black Panther Party.

I would like to see the undergraduate members of the fraternity focus on our purpose: "The development and perpetuation of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, fidelity and brotherhood among men."

When I reactivated the undergraduate chapter, it was my hopes they would focus on the five principles, most importantly "brotherhood" within the chapter, by looking into lectures and workshops that would bring individuals and our community together.

Finally, I would like to add that although our fraternity was founded during a turbulent time, there were many of us who believed in and supported King, believing in the nonviolent dream.

> William White Iota Phi Theta Fraternity Inc. Graduate Student

MILITARY from page 5

What ever happened to the noble notion of a clean campaign for president?

It seems to have been lost on the mudslinging tactics of party politics. It is a putrid state of affairs when he who comes out looking the least dirty wins the most powerful position in the world. This isn't how I want to choose my president.

I'm not saying any negative information pertinent to a candidate's ability to fulfill his duties as president shouldn't be revealed.

I just don't think trivial tidbits should be blown out of proportion and used as a way to summarily dismiss a candidate's

potential as a leader.

In the last presidential election, I felt like there were no good choices because, instead of focusing on the positive aspects of what each candidate had on his resume to make him a good leader, the focus of the campaigns was on negative aspects.

In the end, I felt like I was choosing the lesser of two evils, not someone I would want to lead this great country.

Right now our campus is looking for a new chancellor. Can you imagine the college's powers-that-be choosing a leader for SIUE the way we choose a leader for our country? It's simply unthinkable.

Such behavior from one of the applicants would probably result in an instantaneous dismissal of consideration. Then why are we so willing to allow such behavior from our presidential candidates?

During election years, candidates cater to our opinions, via the polls and election results, and make their campaign decisions accordingly.

Perhaps it's time to demand a change in the way we approach these elections and choose our leaders. Otherwise, the lesser of two evils will continue to lead us.

Stella Ramsaroop

Columnist

IRAQ from page 5

Adolf Hitler! The first candidate was President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the second was Winston Churchill.

I like reading the Alestle but have found lately that the editorials are clearly liberal, leftwing supporters.

When Joshua Dake wrote a conservative viewpoint in the Feb. 10 issue of the Alestle, he was jumped upon by another leftwing supporter and was told that

his views and beliefs were wrong.

Just a reminder to the Alestle staff: No plane can fly with two left wings. I'm not electing President George W. Bush to a second term, but I have my own reasons, not just what is fed to me by CNN.

I can see past the weapons of mass destruction issue to the bigger one – has quality of life improved in Iraq? Yes. Is Bush

perfect? No. Are you and I? No. Can someone else do a better job with this country? Probably so.

Remember those people who died with honor defending the idea all men are created equal.

Don't cheapen their deaths by saying they died for an unjust war.

> Jeffrey Ahlers Senior CMIS

Quote of the Day

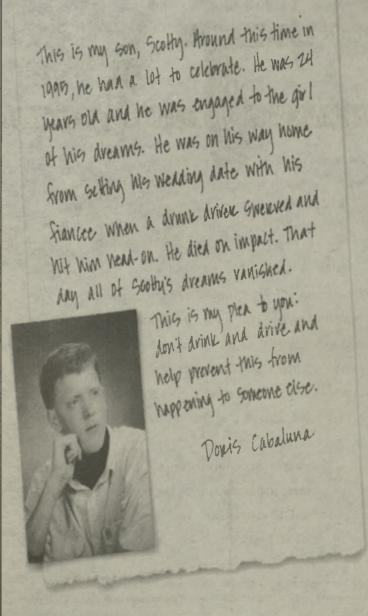
"The secret of happiness is freedom, and the secret of freedom is courage."

~Thucydides Greek philosopher, historian, 400 A.D.

Political Cartoon



COMMENTS?
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
ALESTLE_EDITOR@HOTMAIL.COM



Mothers Against Drunk Driving needs your support this holiday season to assist victims and help keep our roadways safe.

Visit www.madd.org to find out how you can volunteer or make a charitable donation.

MADD

Classifieds Rersonals

PAGE 12

Alestle

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2004

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MISCELLANEOUS

Ray Comfort (known for his message "Hell's Best Kept Secret") will be speaking at First Baptist Maryville (1/2 mile past Anderson Hospital on Illinois 162) on Sunday, February 22 at both 9:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services. Ray has spoken on many college campuses, written over 35 books and is a native of New Zealand. For information contact 667-8221. 2/19/04

FOR SALE

Spring Break Beach and Ski Trips on sale now! Call 1-800-SUNCHASE today! Or visit www.sunchase.com

2/26/04

Used Books at bargain prices. Good Buy Bookshop, Lovejoy Library Room 0012, Wednesdays and Thursdays 11am to 3pm. Sponsored by Friends of Lovejoy Library. 4/29/04



PERSONALS

Got School Spirit? Join the School Spirit and Pride Committee and Contact Nikki at share it. soccerchick0704@yahoo.com for more information. Sponsored by Student Government.

"The Passion of the Christ" movie tailgate! Come join the Student Religious Organizations February 26th to see this movie. For tickets stop by the booth. 2/26/04

ΔΦΕ Crush Party February 27th 2004. Edwardsville American Legion 9:30p.m. until 1:30a.m. 2/26/04 admission.

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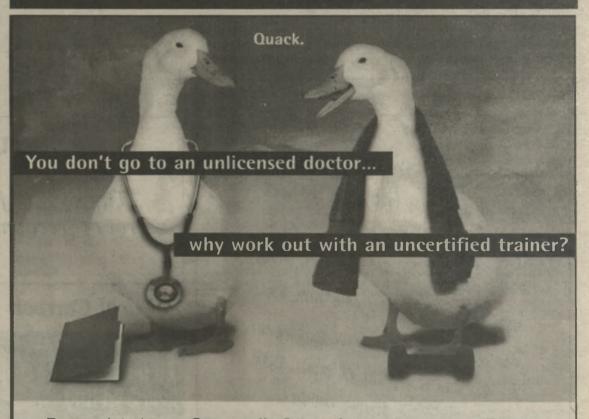
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