GRID LOCK:
Authorities prepare as 100,000 converge on area for Street Machines.

GRID FAILURE DARKENS 15 BUILDINGS

POWER: Officials hope to restore electricity this morning; cause of outage remains unknown.

WILLIAM HATFIELD
DE POUTJCS 'ErnroR

Physical Plant's main feeder No. 2 went down on Wednesday, causing about 15 buildings on campus to be plunged into darkness without air conditioning and forcing Morris Library to close early.

Harry Wirth, Physical Plant director said main feeders Nos. 2 went off-line at about 3:15 p.m. Wednesday. Anthony Hall, Pulliam Hall, Allgeld Hall and Morris Library were among the buildings left powerless.

"We hope power will be restored by (Thursday) morning," he said. "But we can make no guarantees."

As of press time Wednesday, reasons for the outage were unknown. Wednesday’s outage was one in a series of outages that began after main feeder No. 1 went down last summer. SIUC administrators then announced the campus power grid was in jeopardy.

A power outage in feeder No. 12 in September left most of the east side of campus without power for about 12 hours. An April outage in feeder No. 11 left Wright, Boomer and Trueblood halls in darkness. (Wednesday’s outage) is no surprise to anyone," Wirth said.

Wirth said repair workers were expected to know the cause Wednesday night.

He said, however, that the problem probably wasn’t caused by overuse of air conditioning on campus. "I don’t think we overloaded it," he said. "It was most likely a bad cable.

CEREMONIES TO ALLOW FOUR GUESTS PER GRADUATE

Gus Bode

Gus says: I’ll throw the tickets in the air and let my family fend for themselves.

BRIAN EBERS
DE POUTJCS 'ErnroR

Graduate students participating in summer commencement will be allotted four guest tickets for family and friends because of seating limitations in Shryock Auditorium.

Traditionally, commencement is conducted in the SIU Arena for all graduating students, but ongoing construction on the Arena floor has resulted in the relocation of the ceremony.

Steven Foster, director of Admissions and Records, said administrators accepted a revised guest admission schedule allowing for four ceremonies on Aug. 2 to accommodate as many guests as possible.

This year marks the first graduation commencement at Shryock in SIUC history.

Guests attending the ceremony at Shryock are expected to overcrowd the 1,200 available seats there. To cope with the problem, administrators restricted the available tickets.

John Jackson, University vice chancellor for Student Affairs and provost, said the anticipated crowds could not allow for the usual "first come, first served" guest admission.

"Each graduate student has four tickets available so they can get their closest relatives there," Jackson said.

Three undergraduate commencement ceremonies also are scheduled for Aug. 2 at Shryock. Because the ceremonies are split by academic area, there are no guest limitations for undergraduate ceremonies.

The Graduate School is in charge of graduate ticket distribution. Graduating students will receive notification that they can secure their tickets in the Graduate School office.

Foster said other options exist for graduate students’ guests in case four tickets per student are not enough to accommodate attendees.

"We are planning to have closed-circuit monitors (showing the ceremony) available for guests in Davies Gymnasium or Brown Auditorium," Foster said.

Donald Deckard, a doctoral student in geography from Harris, said he would have to pay for tickets if he couldn’t get enough guests to go to the ceremony.

"Now we are going on a hunting expedition to open up all the switch panels and find the bad cable that probably caused the problem, and hopefully we’ll rectify it."

Wirth said that in past outages, the power could be restored in a matter of hours.

He said, however, that it will be difficult to rectify main feeder No. 11 before the weekend.

STUDENTS study to allow four guests per graduate

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY AT CARBONDALE

See GRID LOCK, PAGE 6

Ginger study earns fair winner scholarship

SCIENCE PROJECT:
Ginger beats garlic in slowing deterioration of body tissue.

TAMEREA HICKS
DE POUTJCS 'ErnroR

A former Carbondale high school student, with the help of some SIUC faculty, won enough money from his ginger-and-garlic science project to help him attend the college of his choice.

"I definitely wouldn’t have won this money if they hadn’t helped me out," Timothy You said. "I never thought I’d win this much money in such little time.

You, who graduated from Carbondale Community High School in May, plans to use the $6,000 he received in two high-school science competitions as part of his first-year’s tuition at St. Louis University.

His project, "Nature’s Gift to Better Health: Ginger and Garlic," won a third-place prize of $2,000 last month at the Missouri Association for Science Teachers.

In the Illinois Junior Science and Humanities Symposium in Raleigh, N.C., and a first-place prize of $5,000 in the Illinois Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

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JASON WELLS/DAILY EGYPTIAN

LABORING IN THE LAB: Timothy You, an award-winning Carbondale High School graduate, examines a bulb of garlic in the Life Science II building on Tuesday.

See GINGER, PAGE 7

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See GRID LOCK, PAGE 6

See GINGER, PAGE 7

See CEREMONIES, PAGE 5
**TODAY:**

**Monday, sunny.**  
High: 88  
Low: 74

**FRIDAY:**

Scattered thunderstorms.  
High: 83  
Low: 66

**SATURDAY:**

Scattered thunderstorms.  
High: 91  
Low: 66

**SUNDAY:**

Partly cloudy.  
High: 88  
Low: 63

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**Corrections**

If readers spot errors in a news article, they can contact the Daily Egyptian Accuracy Desk at 536-3311, extension 233 or the editor at 536-5290. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**July Events**

**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

The Daily Egyptian provides a calendar of events and activities to help students and the Carbondale community. This includes workshops, seminars, and other events of interest. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

** unpack dinner and business meeting**

Since 1996, the organization has been committed to providing a program that allows the community to gather and discuss current events. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Shawnie Audubon Society meeting**

The event began at 2:30 p.m. on June 26. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**American Red Cross/SUU Blood Drive**

The drive took place on June 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with Student Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Room 220, 10-11 a.m. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Library Affairs**

Library Affairs include a variety of events, such as blood drives, seminars, and workshops. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Fuller Center for Housing**

The Fuller Center for Housing is a community center for housing and provides a variety of services to its clients. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Support Group**

The support group provides assistance to members of the LGBTQ community, including counseling and resources. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Reading Program**

The Reading Program is a community outreach program that provides reading materials and resources to the public. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Library Affairs**

The Library Affairs include a variety of programs, such as reading programs and seminars. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Local News**

Local news includes updates on events and activities in the Carbondale community. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Next week's events**

The events for next week are scheduled and include workshops, seminars, and other activities. 

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**Southern Illinois University at Carbondale**

**Calendar**

The calendar includes events for upcoming weeks, including social gatherings, workshops, and seminars. 

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Simon observes Croatian voting

FIRST ELECTION: Former senator says political process is second-rate.

MIKHAIL L. HARRIS
DE CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

After witnessing Croatia's recent attempt at democracy, Paul Simon, may reflect upon the country's elections the next time he steps into a voting booth.

UNION, administrators begin contract talks

The retired U.S. Senator and SIUC professor monitored the Republic of Croatia's presidential election on June 15. It was the first election since a peace accord halted the country's civil war 2 1/2 years ago. He said the former communist country has a long way to go before it has a fully democratic voting process.

"(American citizens) have secret ballots, and we go into a voting booth and just vote," he said. "It's a built-in American tradition, and you build up those traditions over time.

"The voters in Croatia had so much secrecy. Other people would come into the voting area and ask the voters, 'Who are you going to vote for?'"

At the request of the U.S. State Department, Simon spent five days as one of 25 international representatives, along with Croatian officials, monitoring the elections. Simon served as the group's special coordinator.

The monitoring of the election was coordinated by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

"Simon witnessed: voting across the war-torn region, which has been scarred by the ethnic cleansing of its Serbian citizens and clashes over Muslim fundamentalism. He met incumbent President Franjo Tudjman, who won the elections. "I met with Tudjman and the other two (presidential) candidates, and I talked to a lot of people," Simon said.

Union, administrators begin contract talks

The faculty and administration negotiators said there are no timelines for when the union can begin to negotiate hours, wages and terms and conditions of employment for a new contract. The administration will discuss in the next contract the proposal on the bargaining table.

"We will discuss the proposal point by point," said Malik, who has been a part of the contract proposal for the last week, and the administration will be reviewing it.

"The negotiation team submitted its proposal to the administration last week. The faculty union represents more than 740 tenure- and tenured-track faculty in contract organizations, which began in March. Malik said he would not release how many faculty are members of the union, but said that its members continue to grow.

"Membership is growing very close to the halfway point," he said. "The union may negotiate hours, wages and terms and conditions of employment with the administration."

"In March, both sides agreed that bargaining issues would not be discussed publicly until a contract has been agreed upon," said Malik, acting union president. "We will discuss the proposal point by point."..."
Sarcasm lesson needed for crazies, cowards and freaks

Rob Neff

An alarming number of whoacks seems to be convinced there is a University-wide conspiracy of administrators who want nothing more than to rob students of their increases and spend all of the money on themselves.

Clearly, more of you are unfamiliar with the concept of sarcasm than I had imagined. It saddens me that so many of you need to be taught the basics of higher learning could be so ignorant, but I guess I'm just thin for a total lack of use of sarcasm. The following definitions are from the Random House Webster's Dictionary:

sarcasm n. 1. harsh or bitter derision. 2. irony. 3. dramatic irony. 4. an outcome of events contrary to what was, or might have been, expected. 5. the incongruity of this, an objectively sarcastic style of speech or writing. 7. an objectively or humorously sardonic utterance, disposition, quality, etc.

In other words, sarcasm is LITERARY TOOL used by writers and others to make points. It is the point that is important, not the literal meaning of the comments themselves. To help those of you who still are confused, I have placed helper messages in brackets throughout the remainder of this week's column. This little lesson was inspired by the astonishing number of phone calls I have been plagued with since last week's column, in which I opposed the plan to increase the student-athletes' fee. Some were from quite intelligent students and professors, who not only displayed a mental grasp of the meaning and uses of sarcasm, but also displayed an ability to use sarcasm all by themselves to make important and well-thought-out points. And then there were the whoacks (naturally, sarcasm).

When I say crazies, I mean the cowards who call me anonymously both at my office and at my home, to voice their particular conspiracy theories. An alarming number of whoacks seems to be convinced there is a University-wide conspiracy of administrators who want anything more than to rob students through fee increases and spend all of the money on themselves. One individual went so far as to suggest that I call Ralph Nader or even a congressperson, as though I had thought the "testicular fortune to essentially take this issue to Washington, D.C."

You all know, who ram-fulfill my name. While I do think that these fee increases are a form of highway robbery [sarcasm], I don't think the members of our administration are power-mad, stupid or indifferent to the students' concerns [not sarcasm]. I merely think their priorities are misplaced, and I used my position as a columnist for the Daily Egyptian, along with a generous helping of sarcasm, to make that point.

That said, I want to address the crazies, cowards and freaks at this institution directly. First, DON'T CALL ME AT HOME. My home is my castle, and I don't look favorably upon intruders, even if you are not physically in my house, you are invading my privacy by calling me anonymously, both at my office and at my home.

Another part of the extra money would go for more computer equipment in classrooms. The document states that students and faculty expect undergraduate education to prepare students for today's workplaces. SIUC must not let itself fall behind other universities in offering access to the latest technology.

However, the union document states, SIUC already has fallen behind in its faculty's salaries.

THE PROPOSED 3-PERCENT SALARY INCREASE for SIUC faculty in fiscal 1998 keeps pace with the rate of inflation. According to the National Education Association 1997 Almanac of Higher Education, the average SIUC faculty salary is $45,900, ranking the University last among the five other state research institutions: Illinois State and Northern Illinois universities, SIUE and the University of Illinois Urbana and at Chicago. If SIUC were a faculty salary, its salaries must rival those of its peer institutions.

UNION REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOT ASKING for the extra SIUE salary as part of their bargaining activities. They simply want to inform the BEH of their concerns, and they have drafted a proposal they believe would help remedy them.

No SIU Board of Trustees vote has been scheduled on the union's proposal. But the proposal, at least, should be allowed before the IBHE for consideration.

TO KILL THE REQUEST BEFORE IT REACHES the IBHE deprives the students and faculty of the chance to get the things that, presumably, the entire University wants them to have.

"Our Word" represents the consensus of the Daily Egyptian Editorial Board.
MYTHS DISPELLED: Vegetarianism doesn’t mean a lack of variety in food, student says.

VASSILIS NEMITSAS
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Michelle Stopa took a break during her Vegetarian Nutrition lecture to hummus to her class.

"People think, ‘Oh my god, what am I going to eat?’" said Stopa. "It’s not really hard, and if you use your imagination and create food, you can do a lot. The more you use it, the more you like it."

Nowadays, people are getting more information about nutrition and finding about the benefits of being a vegetarian, she said. "It's a healthy lifestyle, and people need to be educated on nutrition."

The workshop was given at the LIFIE Community Center, 2500 Sunset Drive, and was sponsored by the Carbondale Public Library. Six people attended.

Stopa explored several myths about vegetarians. She said some people say vegetarians do not get enough vitamins, especially calcium. However, she said, people can get the necessary amounts of vitamins in vegetarian fare such as fruits and grains. She said some people also have the perception that a vegetarian diet is unbalanced and complicated.

"People need to eat a variety of foods," Stopa said. "You don’t have to make specific combinations."


Stopa has tried many types of vegetarian dishes because her vegetarian mother influenced her lifestyle. "I’ve been a vegetarian for 13 years," she said. "My younger brother is also a vegetarian. My father, though, is not."

Carbondale resident Lorie Allen said she once had a pizza with apples among its vegetable toppings.

"It was actually the apples that made the pizza nice," Allen said. Jane Redmon was there with her husband, Noble, who took his daughter’s advice to try a vegetarian diet because of his heart condition. She said her husband had even found someone to help with his conversion.

"My husband has an e-mail friend who is a vegetarian," she said, "and every day he receives the meals she had the previous day on the Internet. She is a big help."

Stopa said people should not be afraid to become vegetarians, because it does not mean a lack of variety in dishes.

"People think, ‘Oh my god, what am I going to eat?’" she said. "It’s not really hard, and if you use your imagination and create food, you can do a lot. The more you use it, the more you like it."

That African country also is struggling to forge a new government after civil unrest. Simon said those similar struggles can serve as a plea for racial and religious harmony, something he said is possible in a culturally diverse institution such as SIUC.

"The lesson for our country is to reach out across barriers of race and religion to understand each other," he said. "One of the advantages of being at a university is that you are able to do that on a regular basis."

But Simon realizes that changes in political thinking can be a long process for those who never have had a taste of freedom.

"Our country never had freedom," he said. "It’s very tough to go from communism to democracy overnight."
Police expect crowds at Street Machine Nationals

MUSCLE MADNESS:
Traffic comes to a standstill as thousands crowd into area.

JENNIFER CAMDEN
DE NEWS EDITOR

Having more than 100,000 people converge on Du Quoin for the 21st annual Street Machine Nationals may seem like a law enforcement nightmare, but police say any slow-moving traffic should be a friendly crowd making their jobs easier.

Trooper David Turner, safety education and public information officer for the Illinois State Police, District 13 in Du Quoin, said that last year, state police gave 574 citations connected with the event, which is Friday through Sunday.

Most citations were given during the par-4 on Main feeder No. 2 to main feeder No. 1 because No. 1 is the main feeder that runs under the Illinois Central Railroad tracks, and Tweedy said that Physical Plant is cautious that cars are only going a few miles per hour," Turner said.

The police do, however, plan to reroute traffic within the city and near the fairgrounds. Turner said about 225 state police will be called in to work in Du Quoin this weekend.

No special ordinances will be in effect this weekend in Du Quoin, but state and city police will be enforcing the ones now in effect.

Carbondale Police Chief Don Strom said the department always puts out additional patrols in Carbondale during Street Machine weekend, because much of the crowd tends to stay in the city.

"But we find it's a pretty congenial crowd," he said. "We have a lot of people gathered on private property.

"We do enforce the laws very strictly on that, but at the same time, we want people to have fun," he said.

SIUC Police Chief Sam Jordan said the Street Machines do not affect campus much, and the department plans no changes this weekend.

"We will probably be staffed at normal levels," he said, "but much more aware that it is going on."

"Just like on snow days, to announce any changes on the radio or television before 5 a.m."

Tweedie said the Physical Plant is cautious about rerouting power to the powerless buildings through another feeder because it could overload that feeder.

"Overruling a feeder would only aggravate the problem and cause a domino effect," he said.

Tweedie said, however that power will be restored to What Education Building by 9 a.m. Thursday, if necessary, so that University payroll can be completed.

"There's so much traffic within the city and near the fairgrounds. There will be in effect this weekend, but state and city police will be enforcing the ones now in effect.

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Seventeen senior citizens have invited students, citizens, city government representatives and business owners to the meeting. The idea to have a town meeting started when Flanagan approached the student government about one month ago to discuss how to handle problems that could occur when the bar-area age limit is increased.

"It's not an us-them thing anymore," Kelly said. "We want students to have a sense of civic pride."

One topic that could be discussed is how to make Carbondale more attractive to students by providing more entertainment and business options.

"That's not a time for people to vent their frustrations, it's a chance to hash out ideas," said David Briggs, USG president.

People at the meeting will be divided into small discussion groups.

Each will be led by a moderator to keep the discussion focused.

City Councilman Larry Briggs said he will attend.

"I hope it has benefits; it's a nice gesture," he said. "You never know until you try."
FURNISHED 2 BEDROOM APART, parking, cable, all UTILS included. $650/1st, $350/2nd, $150 security deposit. 842-6242.

RAWINGS ST, 1 BR, 1 bedroom efficiency, 1 bath, near 4th, 549-6480.

1 BEDRM, furn. 173 W. Main, 2nd fl., heat, water, stove, refrigerator, 274-5859.

1 BEDRM apt, Furn., 173 W. Main, 2nd fl., heat, water, stove, refrigerator, 274-5859.

UASSlFIED

2 BEDROOM APTS, water includ, all util, double, do, 10 moll, 9-12 month leases available. Call 529-7037.

1 BEDROOM, 2nd fl., quiet, 201 W. Sunset, 549-7400.

2 ROOMS 2 BRM apt, 9th fl., furnished, no pets, 549-6001.

605 W. FLEMING, 2bd, 52lb from U, 4657.

1 BEDROOM APTS, water includ, all util, do, 10 moll, 9-12 month leases available. Call 529-7037.

1 BEDROOM, 2nd fl., quiet, 201 W. Sunset, 549-7400.

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1 BEDRM, furn. 173 W. Main, 2nd fl., heat, water, stove, refrigerator, 274-5859.
The Daily Egyptian is accepting applications for the following positions for the summer 1997 semester.

**Copy Editor**
- At least 20 hours a week.
- Experience in newspaper copy editing and work schedule required, other times as needed.
- Must be detail-oriented and able to work quickly and efficiently under deadline pressure.
- Strong knowledge of spelling, grammar and usage rules required. Knowledge of journalistic writing preferred.
- Must be enrolled in at least three credit hours.

**Circulation Drivers**
- Hours: 2 a.m. - 6 a.m.
- Good driving record a must.

**Web Help Wanted**
- Must be able to type swiftly, 25 words a minute, 100% error-free.
- Good typing skills a must.

**Positions Available for Summer**
- Advertising Sales Representatives
- Circulation Drivers
- Web Help Wanted

**Visit the Dawg House, The Daily Egyptian’s online housing guide, 24 hours a day to find out more about the following property owners:**

- **Country Village/REMAX**
  - townhomes
  - Wedgewood Hills
  - mobile homes
  - Glisson Mobile Homes
  - mobile homes
  - Street Wall Quads
  - apartments
  - Schilling Property Mgmt
  - mobile homes, apartments
  - Andy Wallace (Alpha)
  - townhomes, houses, apartments
  - Georgetown/Trails West
  - apartments

- **University Heights Rentals**
  - mobile homes
  - apartments

- **JVP Company**
  - apartments

- **Paper Rentals**
  - apartments, houses

- **Marshall Reed Apts**
  - apartments

- **Lewis Park Apts**
  - apartments

- **SugarTree Apartments**
  - apartments

- **Pine Shores Apts**
  - apartments

- **LWYER'S LAWN CARE**
  - 20 acres

- **MOWING & LAWN CARE**
  - Licensed, bonded, and insured. 628-4009.

- **TOWN & COUNTRY MOBILE HOMES**
  - 778-0713, 751-1491.

- **CARLISLE VILLAGE**
  - 775-0713, 751-1491.

- **Web Help Wanted**
  - 1200 S. College, Carbondale, IL 62903.
  - 581-9212.

- **WANTED**
  - 1000 S. Main St. Carbondale, IL 62901.
  - 581-9212.

- **CARBONDALE MOBILE HOMES**
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NFL teams counting on QBs

FIELD GENERALS: Quarterbacks a blessing for some teams (Green Bay), a liability for others (Baltimore).

T.J. SIMERS

SPORTS THE NEWS REPORT

You have people in Philadelphia right now planning down good money to buy tickets, all fired up about the Eagles — as if they have a mar­

case to play this season.

Same thing in Baltimore, when you and I know Vinny Testa­

teed is going to need a ticket himself if he ever wants to go to the Super Bowl. It's June, and the folks at The Sports News want me to be positive, because every June every

NFL fan thinks his team has had the very best off­

season and make that slight adjustment in order to make the playoffs, or go all the way to the Super Bowl.

So here I am — positive that Atlanta, New­

Or­

the Saints, are going to win the NFC West, Kansas City and Philadelphia are not going. It's Paul Allen, with all the money, spending it for a team designed to be perfect by Coach Dom

in that other universe: $500 and said the general manager wanted to see)

And he said: “Wasn’t nothing the white Barons did; we made it. I figured I’d be moving up to Triple-A. But

Do you know <p> from <b>?

Can you find the magic “W”?

Photoshop?

It’s just a guess, but maybe it was the answer. The Red Sox were infirmous for making decisions based on a bunch of nebulous economical conditions, ‘at least he said.

Maybe it was money, maybe race, the Red Sox were infirmous for making decisions based on a bunch of nebulous economical conditions, ‘at least he said.

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Please refer to page 12 for more information.
PostGame

SOFTBALL
Saluki pitcher has chance to play professional softball

SIUC softball pitcher Jamie Schuetz has signed a two-week contract to pitch for the Orlando Wahoos, a team in the Women's Professional Fastpitch League.

She was scheduled to join the team Tuesday in Georgia. The Wahoos are in first place in the league with a record of 15-3.

The league began playing this year and consists of six teams.

Schuetz was the Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year last year, and she was named Third Team All-American.

She threw for a record of 28-2 and an ERA of 0.87 in 210 innings pitched last season.

Schuetz's 148 strikeouts were good for third-place ranking in the MVC. She also led the conference in shutouts with nine.

SAILING
SIUC Sailing Club to sponsor boat race

The SIUC Sailing Club is sponsoring an open boat regatta at Crab Orchard State Route 13 east of Carbondale, 111.

The regatta is determined by the amount of wind the Future Saluki nets 14.

Coaches Association Class A all-star baseball player.

The regatta will be at Crab Orchard on June 16. The Gateway Conference gave him hardship waiver, granting him a fifth year of eligibility.

Bonner remembers how proud his mother was of him.

"After the race, the game running out of the water," Bonner said. "At that moment, I knew football was for me."

SIUC's 1996 softball season setup to be Bonner's last year as a college football player. But on June 15, the Gateway Conference gave him hardship waiver, granting him a fifth year of eligibility.

Bonner grew up idolizing his favorite players in his hometown of Franklin, Ga.

"I enjoyed watching Herschel Walker dive over the top in college," Bonner said. "But I adored Walter (Payton) because of his work ethic."

Bonner has been more than just a football game for Bonner. He said it is a part of his life.

"I love the game of football," Bonner said. "I was a first, and a close second would be family and football in the same category."

Without football, Bonner does not know what he would be doing.

"I'd probably be working a 9-to-5 job somewhere," Bonner said. "I'm impressed with coaches' desire to work and production."

He worked very hard in the weight room. He said the summer workouts will help him.

"In the off-season I get better work done," he said. "I'm steadily building my body, while during the season I'm just maintaining it."

Heal athletic trainer Ed Thompson said Bonner spends a lot of time in the weight room.

"All the players are required to spend time in the weight room, but Cox is in there on his own sometimes," Thompson said. "I'm impressed with Cox's desire to excel and to have coaches and other players notice."

Working out eases Bonner's mind.

The weight room is his retreat from the world.

"After a bad day, I'll go lift to blow off some steam," Bonner said. "It's a great way for me to relieve stress."

Power: Cox Bonner, a senior from Franklin, Ga., and the 1996 Saluki Football MVP, prepares for the 1997 football season with the help of Brian Saunders, a junior from West Chester, Ohio.

Bonner earned a full scholarship in spring 1995 after rushing for 349 yards on 85 carries.

Cox, SIUC running back coach, was not surprised by Bonner's success.

"When he came in as a walk-on, he thought he was overrated," Boos said. "He wanted very hard in the weight room and on the field."

After missing the team's 1997 spring practices because he did not expect to play a fifth year, Bonner once again will have to rely on his work ethic.

Bonner said the coaching staff has not decided who will start at the running-back position for the Salukis this season.

However, he said Bonner will have no problem getting back in the flow.

"He has some catching up to do, but he will be right in the mix of things when the season starts," Boos said.

Training twice a day is how Bonner plans to prepare for the upcoming season. He said the summer workouts will help him.

"After a bad day, I'll go lift to blow off some steam," Bonner said. "It's a great way for me to relieve stress."

Piper Davis just wanted to play baseball

The Sporting News

Of the segregation that kept baseball white, the grand old man Piper Davis said, "Wasn't the game's fault." Of his years in the Negro Leagues, trapped in a parallel universe, he said, "Wanted no cramping." Asked how he could have placed no blame and felt no need to right obvious wrongs, Piper Davis said, "We looked to play ball, in all. We knew what we could do.

There is, it truth stronger man feel. If white folks didn't want us to play Davis, said, "We didn't want to play baseball with them, our actions said more about them than about him. Their loss. Fun, is what we had," he said.

Piper Davis' death last month at 79 is season to see. Did anybody ever enjoy baseball more?

The last time I saw him, eight years ago, memories of base hit a half-century old moved him to glorious laughter. "Praise the Lord," he said, "baseball got me out of the mines and into the sunlight."

His father was a miner for the Piper Coal Company. They lived in the company town, Piper, south of Birmingham. The town is not on Alabama's map today because it disappeared when there was no more black/tun or coal to be scratched out by men lowered into the earth at the end of a rope. - Piper Davis, June 8, 1996