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Daily Egyptian Staff

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By Wm. Bryan DeVasher
Staff Writer

The Carbondale City Council will make a final decision regarding the single-family housing ordinance at its regular meeting Monday. Student leaders are encouraging students to attend.

The council has been embroiled in controversy during the last four weeks over the proposed ordinance change, which will make it easier for Reagan ready to chart a new relationship with Soviets

GENEVA (UPI) — A somber President Reagan, preparing for the first superpower summit in six years, feels ready to meet with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to chart a "road map to a new relationship," Reagan's spokesman said Sunday.

During a short walk with his wife Nancy at La Maison de Saussure, an 18th century chateau on Lake Geneva that serves as his residence, Reagan was asked to name his top priority at the first superpower summit in six years. He responded with one word, "Peace."

This Morning

Official has plan for unemployed — Page 6
Class 'Accents' Southern Illinois — Insert
Men swimmers take two weekend wins — Sports 16
Chance of showers, with a high around 60.

the city to prevent three or more unrelated people from living in R1, single-family, zones.

There has been considerable debate over enforcement of the ordinance.

Councilman Keith Tushorn said at the council's Nov. 4 meeting that only "troublemakers" need worry about the ordinance. Undergraduate Student Organization City Affairs Commissioner Dave Madison, however, says that he sees the ordinance as a means by which the city may force students into "substandard" housing areas, such as the Rawlings Street neighborhood, which is inhabited mainly by students.

Madison also said that he views the ordinance as a way to divide the city.

"Is the right direction for all the family residents living on the west side of Oakland Avenue are the students live on the east side of Oakland?" Madison asked at the Oct. 28 meeting.

The ordinance change shifts the burden of proof from the city to the residents in proving that students are related. In the past, residents with difficulty proving relatedness were presumed related unless the city could prove otherwise.

Reagan feels ready to meet with Gorbachev to chart a new course. The administration spent eight hours of formal face-to-face talks on issues ranging from arms control to human rights.

"We are looking at the long-range and did not think a summit should be set down on a roller coaster course," Speakes said.

As the president approaches the talks, he seeks to chart a course on the conduct of relations with the Soviet Union that is fundamentally different to that of his predecessors.

Reagan hopes to build a new understanding "that is more than just...to be open to the possibility of a new relationship," Speakes said.

He also said Reagan would not make any decision on whether to extend observance of the SALT II treaty until after returning to the United States and reviews the situation.

Public can stop political secrecy, Ellsberg believes

By Lisa Eisenhauer
Staff Writer

In 1969 Daniel Ellsberg challenged, and eventually helped bring an end to, a U.S. policy that had led to the deaths of tens of thousands of Americans and millions of Vietnamese.

Today he is challenging several other policies. Foremost among them, and a key to changing the others, he said, is governmental secrecy.

Ellsberg is the man who gave 7,000 pages — less than one-seventh — of the top-secret Pentagon Papers to the New York Times in 1971. He told a crowded room-only audience of about 300 in Davis Auditorium Thursday that actions such as his ensure that the United States continues to be a democracy not only in name about as much in substance.

Ellsberg, whose speech was sponsored by the Mid-America Peace Project, said public protest has already changed policy that had led to the deaths of northeastern African and could avert an invasion of Nicaragua and the use of nuclear weapons by the United States and, most importantly, brings an end to governmental secrecy.

By allowing the government to plan and conduct policies in secret, he said, Americans fail to meet their requirement as citizens of a democracy. Popular government without popular information is but the prelude to a farce or tragedy or perhaps to both," he said, quoting James Madison, one of the drafters of the Constitutions of the United States.

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Gus Bode

Gus says Reagan's road map beats his. But he questions a public opinion it he expects it to work.

Reagan ready to chart a new relationship with Soviets

Under the new ordinance, residents with different last names will be presumed unrelated unless they can prove that they are related.

The City Council is expected to approve the ordinance and direct the city staff to continue increased enforcement efforts in all areas of the city.

The City Council also is

See ZIONING LAW, Page 6
The search for survivors of a Church of England envoy Terry "Spe\n\nial's All

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AIDS investigators to go behind closed doors
NEW YORK (UPI) - The state health commissioner said Sunday his investigators would enter hotel rooms if necessary to stop sexual activities linked to the spread of the deadly disease AIDS. "I think that if we find a hotel, by virtue of information that we obtain, is catering to that kind of activity, then I think we will have reason to take an action, and if necessary, a warrant to go into rooms — if it becomes essential," said Dr. David Axelrod.

S. African council to investigate violence
JOHannesburg, South Africa (UPI) - The President's Council, South Africa's highest advisory body, will investigate the latest wave of racial unrest that has left more than 80 people dead, sources said Sunday. In the latest violence, authorities said riot police Sunday shot to death two blacks in clashes with mobs in black townships in Cape province. In incidents overnight, police shot to death two blacks in clashes with stone-throwing mobs.

Envoy gives mixed report on termination
Washington (UPI) - Chairman Dan Rostenkowski of the Ways and Means Committee said Sunday he hopes the House will pass a tax reform measure by Christmas, but acknowledged his panel still faces "the real tough issues" in the package. Rostenkowski also said he hoped that, as the committee progresses to finish its work this week, the measure will not run into delaying tactics by congressmen who do not want any bill passed.

Authorities call off search for survivors of eruption
ARMEDRO, Colombia (UPI) — The search for survivors of a devastating volcanic eruption ended Sunday after authorities ruled out the possibility of finding more people alive in the massed valley where more than 2,500 people died. The government-announcement sparked protests for a longer search of the area.

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Summit needs to address human rights, Simon says

**Obelisk sets photo session**

Simon asks residents to support budget bill

**Sponsors**

- Paul Simon spoke and stated to Carbondale at the Community Center Saturday. About 150 people

**News**

- U.S. Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., endorsed the balanced-budget amendment during a surprise visit to Carbondale Saturday. Simon said that he was satisfied with the Senate’s approval of the amendment, which would require Congress to pass a budget balanced over a five-year period. Simon, who also serves as president of the Senate, said he would support the amendment if it is approved by Congress.

**Carbondale**

- “We’re trying to get Congress to do its job,” Simon said. “We’re trying to get Congress to work together.”

**Local**

- Simon also announced that he will run for re-election in November.

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**Elephant**

- Sponsors at Illini U.S. Bank, 660 Main St., will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. to support the Carbondale community.

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**Attention students**

- The USO’s four-hour session on Nov. 11 will be at the City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m.

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**Summit**

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**Speaker**

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**Summit needs to address human rights, Simon says**

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Close look needed at fee increases

STUDENT FEES ARE ON THE RISE. If all of the fees currently being requested are approved by the Board of Trustees at its December meeting, a student living on campus next school year can expect to pay about $120 more in fees.

Some increases are necessary, of course, and expected. But others would place an unnecessary burden on students, many of whom are already struggling to pay the costs of higher education.

Some expected, but unwelcome increases, lie in housing fees. Sam Rinaldi, director of University housing, has requested a $48 per semester increase. This raises dorm fees from $1,236 to $1,284 per semester. Rinaldi said there has been an average yearly housing fee increase of 5 percent since 1996. This year's increase is about 4 percent.

OTHER INCREASES ARE NOT AS acceptable. A requested increase of $4.23 — bringing the total to $12.80 — for the student activity fee, used primarily to fund student organizations and activities on campus, is unwarranted.

One dollar of this increase is to reduce the ticket prices for University theater productions. However, increasing student fees to bring down the cost of ticket prices is merely a subsidy for theater goers. All students should not be expected to foot the bill for the few who enjoy the theater.

The proposed 10 percent increase in the medical benefit fee and the door fee increase of $3 to $5 for the Health Service should also be resisted. Having to pay $3 for each visit to the doctor, as it currently stands, is a slight deterrence for those who abuse the Health Service by using it when they are not sick. Increasing this fee to $5, however, will probably start deterring those with legitimate health complaints.

Every year the University raises the costs of higher education. And every year it becomes more difficult for many students to attend. The Board of Trustees should carefully weigh the proposed student fee increases against the duty of the University to provide an affordable education.

Bloody disrupting

I read the letter "Blood drive needs order" (Nov. 11) by Mark Sant and I agree with him. The blood drive was a disrupting experience.

I honestly believed the editorial in the Daily Egyptian (Nov. 5) that it takes eight to 10 minutes to give blood. I had donated blood several times in Japan and I have never waited more than 15 minutes. I weigh between 100 to 105 pounds and I am a healthy woman for Orientals. At the Student Center, after checking my temperature, I waited in a long line for more than 45 minutes to get to the blood check desk. Then, finally, when I sat down in front of the nurse, I was asked where I was from and how much I weighed. My nationality was OK, but my weight was not. I was rejected since I weighed less than 100 pounds. I waited nearly one hour for nothing.

I would like to ask the Red Cross to put clear qualification signs in ads and the place where the blood is given next time. Akiko Graver, Carbondale

Letters

Halloween not so ghoulish; it's an opportunity for fun

I am writing in response to a letter published in the Daily Egyptian on Nov. 12 titled "Halloween festival should end."

As a Carbondale resident for 17 years, I have been able to gain perspective on Carbondale Halloweens. I do not know all, of course, but in your letter you proved that you have very little knowledge of the subject at hand.

In your letter you stated, "If SU and Carbondale ever had a chance to prove that there is an academic world lacking somewhere in the shadow of the Strip, that chance was probably squandered with beer cans and costume remnants."

How can you base one holiday weekend on the academics for the entire year?

For the past eight or more years I have seen the Halloween festivities go on, and every year I see people having a good time, showing their talents by dressing up costumes of all sorts. I personally enjoyed the clever ideas such costumes portrayed.

Did you happen to notice the 20-foot-wide by 12-foot-tall boat that was in front of the Recreation Center? I happen to know how much time it took to make it. I happen to know how much enjoyment the builders got when it was done and stationed on Grand Avenue as they sat and watched other costumes go by and to listen to the music.

Gee, did you even get a chance to hear the bands that SPC Consorts and Miller Beer kindly put on for entertainment? Or did you go participate in the costume contest? Or bother to even walk down the Strip to grab a delicious bite to eat? There were fun things to do. It wasn't all a show of drunken and beer cans.

Can you honestly tell me that you have never had a drink in your hands in the time that you were a student here? Don't try to kid someone that has grown up in a college town.

In another paragraph you stated that, "Herrmann's article failed to state how many people were arrested for underage drinking or how much was committed." If it wasn't stated, then how do you know it was so bad? Maybe there were a lot of arrests, but then you may have been in the Daily Egyptian at that time. It was stated that the police force was going to be almost doubled compared to last year. The police were out looking for underage drinkers.

In the future there are just a bunch of "Scare" and we party all the time, or we just care about ourselves and no one else, then how can you explain the fact that in 1985 SU-C holds the United States record for bringing in the most beer donations to the American Red Cross?

Please do me a favor. Next time you decide to cut us down, at least get your sources from fact and do a little thinking about what you write down on paper. Thank you. — Kim Lanchester, sophomore, Administration of Justice, Corrections.

Chancellor search must not be rushed

In a story in the Daily Egyptian on Nov. 5 the Board of Trustees indicated that its time line for selecting a new chancellor is Feb. 1, 1986.

What's the rush?

Why do we need to select a new chancellor in less than four months? Other universities take up to a year to find a new executive officer. How can a truly adequate search be conducted in so short a time? Can the University's affirmative action policy be properly implemented within the brief period of time allotted?

SuU existed for more than 100 years without a chancellor. The chancellor's office has existed for a mere six years. It has never been clearly defined what the chancellor's office was needed for, nor what vital functions the chancellor performs that could not be performed by the campus presidents. Eliminating the office at this time of financial need would make a significant contribution to the resolution of the University "budget crisis" (and help relieve the demands of their 2 percent "tax").

If the board is truly concerned with finding the best possible candidate, the search should serve the time and care necessary to identify and recruit that candidate. — William Cucarelli, associate professor, SIU-Edwardsville Organizing Committee, IEA-NFA
Ellsberg, from Page 1

conducted terrorist activities against the people and the economy just as the Soviet Union is doing in Afghanistan. But, he said, compared to the people of the Soviet Union, Americans are “flattered because the president has to lie about such actions.”

“...We are not flattered, however, by the fact that our elected representatives in Congress this year are going along by providing funding with our tax money, which, of course, makes us accomplices with or without our will.”

ELLSBERG said he is often asked what gave him the right to disclose the Pentagon Papers — a 47,000 page history of the U.S. decision-making regarding Vietnam — but during the years 1964 to 1968 when he was working as a “president’s man,” employed either by the Department of Defense or the Rand Corporation, a military think-tank, no one asked him what gave him the right to lie to the public.

Ellsberg said he believes governmental secrecy has gotten so far out of hand that the U.S. population may die unless Americans take action to put an end to it.

ZONING LAW, from Page 1

expected to approve an endorsement of a rental hazing ordinance by the Student Organization. According to Madlener, the sponsoring of such an ordinance will be determined by the quality of rental housing available to students. Other items expected to be approved include an ordinance restricting the placement of satellite dishes in residents’ yards and an ordinance making operating a motorcycle on Main Street in the city an instance of reckless driving.

HEARING, from Page 1

very uncomfortable in the office and frustrated to think that just by following in-structions I got harassed and followed home.” Mayberry said in the speech. “I feel very intimi-
dated by Larry Geiler and I’m not sure I ever follow him again.”

GEILER, who lives in Murphyboro, said Friday that he did follow Mayberry to Grinnell but only by coincidence. He said he went to Grinnell to get a copy of the East Side newspaper and to get a Newsletter.

He also said that he called Mayberry’s former roommates in search of her phone number and address but only so he could apologize for what happened earlier in the USO Office.

USO City Affairs Commission David Madlener, who testified on behalf of Geiler, said he has heard and made derogatory remarks about Geiler in the past. Madlener also said he thinks Geiler is being treated as a “scapegoat” by some USO members.

“ISE THK in thing not to go Larry Geiler.” Madlener said. “People are jumping on this bandwagon.”
Official has mortgage plan to aid jobless homeowners

By Scott Freeman
Staff Writer

Illinois has the highest mortgage foreclosure rate in the nation, but Patrick Quinn, commissioner of the Cook County Board of Tax Appeals, believes he has a solution.

Quinn, speaking Friday at the Cartilage Holiday Inn, said his Save-A-Home plan calls for aid to homeowners who are unemployed through no fault of their own and who temporarily are unable to make mortgage payments.

"Instead of taking over homes,抱着 them up and throwing families who have legally paid property taxes for years out on the streets, the Save-A-Home plan can help preserve the property tax base and the dignity of unemployed heads of families," he said.

QUINN SAID he would also like the state to implement by Christmas a 90-day statewide moratorium on mortgage foreclosures to help carry families through the holiday season until the Save-A-Home plan can be initiated.

Foreclosures have already caused thousands of Illinois citizens to lose their homes and often have been caused by the high state unemployment rate of the 1980s. Quinn said, with the national rate at 7.1 percent and the state rate at 9.7 percent.

ILLINOIS HAS the highest mortgage delinquency rate in the nation, said Quinn, with more than 17,000 loans past due. Their Illinois foreclosure rate of 1.4 percent for all loans ranks among the country's highest and is twice the national foreclosure average.

"A house is the biggest investment most families ever make," he said. "We must find a way to help people keep their homes and their stake in the community until they can get back on their feet."

"I DON'T think we can afford to let people fall over the brink financially," Quinn said. "This program is an investment in people."

Quinn said that in order for his plan to work, there must be more cooperation between state officials, county assessment officials, organized labor, community groups, counseling services, lenders and unemployed homeowners to find ways to prevent mortgage futures.

"Illinois has lost more manufacturing jobs between 1979 and 1983 than any other state in the country," Quinn said. "The governor, state treasurer and other officials have the obligation to cushion the blow of unemployment."

"STEADY SHIP" of spending all their time bailing out McCormick Place and the Arlington Park racetrack, state officials should be focusing on the needs of hard-pressed families who have been victims of victims of economic forces beyond their control," he said.

Quinn said his Save-A-Home

See HOMEOWNERS, Page 8

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STUDENT TRANSIT

The Student Transit System

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Group honors Marine Corps' 210th birthday
By John Tindall
Staff Writer

The United States Marine Corps is 210 years old, and the Semper Fidelis Society of SIU-C celebrated the occasion.

Semper Fidelis is a society geared toward helping students enrolled in Platoon Leadership Classes of the Marine Corps prepare for basic training and life in the corps. The society chapter at SIUC is composed of a core group of 10 PLC candidates and several associate members who are active duty or former Marines.

Bill Cunningham, society president and senior in aviation technology, said about 25 people attended the Semper Fidelis celebration at the Italian Village restaurant in Carbondale Wednesday night.

It is a Marine Corps tradition for Marines all over the world to gather together and celebrate the birthday of the corps, said Cunningham.

Cunningham said Marines are like a brotherhood and the philosophy of "once a Marine, always a Marine" is one which the society follows by including all Marines and former Marines in the area in their activities.

One of the society's main community involvement events is the annual "Carbondale Clean-up" said William Martin, society member and senior in aviation technology. The society regularly takes first place in the competition for picking up the most trash, he said.

The society provides physical training opportunities for members soon to begin basic training. Beginning spring semester, Cunningham said the society will offer physical training three times a week, including five to 10 mile runs, sit-ups, push-ups, repelling and weapons firing.

Cunningham and Martin both plan to enter the Marine Corps aviation program after graduating from SIUC.

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Dairy Egyptian, November 18, 1985, Page 7
HOMEOWNERS, from Page 6

plan would utilize property tax bills to publicize the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development mortgage assignment program, which helps keep delinquent borrowers of Federal Housing Authority-backed loans in their homes. Without the program, Quinn said, HUD loses over $15,000 per foreclosure of FHA-backed mortgages.

QUINN'S PLAN also calls for a state mortgage assignment program administered by the Illinois Housing Development Authority, whose bond-issuing authority has increased by $1 billion under Governor James Thompson's "Build Illinois" program. Quinn said he will petition the IHDA to allocate funds to a program that would have the mortgages of unemployed individuals assigned to the IHDA to prevent foreclosure. The IHDA would then take the mortgage for the next three years, after which the homeowner must resume regular payments and other overdue debts.

"IN THE midst of rampant foreclosures, we have the spectacle of IHDA subsidizing mortgages for wealthy developers in fashionable neighborhoods," Quinn said. "It's high time that the IHDA contribute to the preservation of the single-family housing stock and property tax base." Quinn said his plan recommends the creation of a Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Fund as "a last resort aid to debt restructuring." Such a fund, he said, could be administered by the IHDA or the state treasurer and be funded by IHDA developer's fees, the new state tax on beneficiaries and trust 'cancelling' or voluntary citizen contributions donated through a check-off box on local property bills.

"THIS IS NOT a totally new concept," Quinn said, noting that a similar counseling and loan mortgage prevention program in Vermillion County has been very successful in keeping families in their homes. And to spread information on his proposal, Quinn called for public utilities to place information on his proposal in customer's utility bills.

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Page 6, Daily Egyptian, November 18, 1985
Briefs

MONDAY MEETINGS:
Society for Advancement of Management, 7:15 p.m., Student Center Ohio Room, Phoenix-SIU Bike Racing Team, 8 p.m., Student Center Missouri Room.

OTTIS CARTER of E. F. Hutton, will speak at the Financial Investment Society meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday in Student Center Kaukski Room.

MONSANTO A.G. Products will be interviewing on campus for sales representatives Thursday, Nov. 21. Ag majors preferred, but other majors will be considered. Contact the Career Planning and Placement receptionist at Woody Hall B-204 for information.

CIM GRADUATE Organization meeting will be at 4 p.m. Monday in Wham 201. Joyce Killian and David McIntyre will present recent search.

COMPUTING AFFAIRS will have an "Introduction to the Macintosh" from 2 to 4 p.m. Tuesday in the Microcomputer Technical Support Center, Wham B-11. To register, call 435-461, ext. 266.

RICK BAKASH from Cheshire Division of Xerox, will speak at the Pi Sigma Epsilon meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in Student Center Activity Room C.

COMPUTING AFFAIRS will have a "Job Control Language" workshop from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday in Finner 1020.

DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT Division of McDonnell Douglas, Long Beach, Calif., will interview on campus Monday and Tuesday with senior aviation management and industrial technology majors Register at Career Planning and Placement in Woody Hall B-204.

AMERICAN MARKETING Association is holding a fundraiser from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday on the first floor of the Student Center. The event will give students the chance to obtain credit cards.

CARBONDALE PARK District will sponsor a Women in History display Nov. 16 to 29 at the LIFE Community Center, 2500 Sunset Drive.

JACKSON COUNTY Right to Life will meet 7:30 p.m. Monday at Saline Logan Public Library, 18th and Walnut streets in Murphysboro. For more information call 681-2930.

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Officer called 'valuable resource' to students

By Alice Schaller
Staff Writer

Tal Hoevel, newly elected vice president of Graduate School affairs, "is just getting oriented to the position, but will be a valuable resource for the Graduate and Professional Student Council," says GPSC President Mary Brown.

Hoevel was elected Nov. 6 by the Graduate Council to remain in the position until May 9, 1986.

Besides filling the vacancy left by Mike Jacobs, who resigned Sept. 6.

Four candidates, including Hoevel, spoke to the Council at the Nov. 6 meeting, each of them addressing four qualifications called for in the position description. They are excellent communication skills, a working knowledge of the University, decision-making experience and the ability to self-motivate.

Hoevel said his classes at the law school have helped him with his public speaking and communication skills.

A graduate student in law and business, Hoevel also holds an undergraduate degree in finance and has been at SIUC for seven and a half years. "I had some general knowledge of the workings of the University, but I have a lot to learn," Hoevel said.

Employed at the Williamson County Courthouse, Hoevel does research on past cases relevant to cases pending and makes recommendations to the judges at the courthouse. "The recommendations I make have the potential to substantially affect people, and I think that will carry over to the decisions I will have to make for my constituency of graduate students in this position," Hoevel said.

As for self-motivation, Hoevel said he expects the position to "grow," his motivation and help him learn to deal with people on a professional level.

Mary Brown, GPSC president, says Hoevel will deal mostly with issues in the Graduate School that have an impact on graduate and professional students.

"He will be the main link between the GPSC and the Graduate School and will act as a communication conduit and a resource base for graduate students," Brown said.

Hoevel also will serve on the Executive Board of the GPSC and will fill the position of de facto chair for the five GPSC representatives to the Graduate Council.

Peace advocates set summit vigil

By Jim McBride
Staff Writer

The Peace Coalition of Southern Illinois, in coalition with Southern Illinoisans for a Nuclear Freeze, set a summit during the first use of nuclear weapons by the United States.

Peace advocates, said the 15-mile-long, ribbon was created to support arms control organizations.

The ceremony observed the 40th anniversary of the first use of nuclear weapons by the United States during World War II.

Steinle said the 15-mile-long, ribbon was created by people around the world to protest the use of nuclear weapons.

Puzzle answers

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2. ONLY ONE MISSING
3. NOT A SQUARE
4. ALL DIRT CLEARING
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6. $1 OFF
7. MOUNTAIN BIKE
8. SUDSY DUDY LAUNDROMAT
9. 10% OFF
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13. HUMAN'S PARTS & SERVICE
Women cagers impressive in intrasquad scrimmage

By Anita J. Stoner

The Saluki women's basketball team's top seven players pushed the maroon squad way ahead in the opening minutes of an intrasquad scrimmage played in Davies Gymnasium Saturday.

Those first seven minutes impressed coaches, who were concerned by a lack of intensity in previous scrimmages. "We played with composure and purpose, which we'd been lacking," said Coach Cindy Scott. "I think the players knew how important it was to give it all we needed."

Those first minutes were with last week's scrimmage. We've really been after them in practice to play with intensity, and that's what they did," Coach Cindy Scott said.

This, the first public scrimmage, although not widely publicized, attracted a surfaced team from an Illinois scout. The Salukis open the 1985-86 season at Illinois on Nov. 23 at 2:30 p.m., when the question of whether or not the scout did the Illini any good will be answered.

"We didn't do some things we wanted to do because she was there," Scott admitted, but said the Salukis will rehearse those things in practice.

When asked what she thought the result would be if the teams met today, the Illini scout said the game would be close, especially since both teams are ready to trade intrasquad matches for a real opponent.

Scott said the Salukis would have to get sharper, work harder on rebounding, and keep up their intensity level. "After today's scrimmage, we're closer to being ready to play, but we still have some things to iron out," Scott said. "Look at any top-20 team, and look at the bench and you'll see that everybody who plays is a quality player and that's what we're trying to achieve here.

Depth also provides for the future, and Scott's excited about what she's been seeing from the freshmen. "I think our young kids are beginning to understand the system and are starting to play with confidence, therefore, their talent is starting to show more."

"They're going to be tremendous in the future, they've made tremendous improvements in the five weeks we've been practicing. The quicker they come along, the better it will be for our ballclub," Scott said.

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What makes Monday special?

Women cagers impressive in intrasquad scrimmage
intercepted four times.

After more than six inches of rain during the week, Hanson Field in Macomb more resembled a wet cow pasture than a football field. After a few minutes in the muck, it was difficult determining the school colors of the mud-covered players.

On their first possession, the Salukis ran for three first downs on runs by Phelps, Mitchell and Mel Kirksey. After the drive stalled on the WIU 20, the Salukis faked a field goal and Brown completed a pass to tight end Robby Sloan for a first down. But the play was nulled by an illegal procedure penalty. Instead of a first down inside the WIU 20, Drew Morrison had to punt the ball away.

On SIU’s next drive, a Brown pass was tipped by Leatherneck defender Tom Troutman and caught by Mike Himley. Western had the ball at the WIU 29.

On a third and goal play at the WIU 16, Saluki defensive lineman Jim White sacked Singer for a two-yard loss, but SIUC was called offside and the Leathernecks were awarded the first down.

Two plays later, Singer found Albert Brown in middle of the end zone for a 20-yard Touchdown. Emond’s kick was good, and Western led 7-0.

Western Illinois drove down to the SIU three-yard line, but linebacker John Edwards, who replaced the injured Rick Stephan, sacked Singer for an eight-yard loss.

The Leathernecks also tried a fake field goal on fourth down, but back-up passer Rick Fahnboseck threw the ball incomplete under Saluki pressure.

Taking the ball on SIU 26 as a pass interference penalty against Western, Brown completed a pass to James "Flame" Stevenson for 29 yards, completed another to Sloan for 15, and three plays later, Stevenson dove for Brown’s 12-yard pass for a touchdown. Ron Miller’s PAT was good to tie the score at 7-7.

With Singer’s fine passes and Camillo Vallee’s hard running, the Leathernecks marched 70 yards and scored on Singer’s 13-yard pass to Nate Blanks. The score was 14-7, Western Illinois.

SIU tried to get some points back on the next possession, but Miller’s 24-yard field goal attempt was wide right into a crosswind. Emond tried to kick a 37-yarder on WIU’s next possession, but what the crosswind gave, it also took away as it blew Emond’s boot wide to the left.

Western gave the Salukis a scare when Brown had a Hail Mary pass intercepted by Bruce McCray with no time left in the first half and was returned 59 yards to the SIU 32. Only Byron Mitchell’s tackle prevented a touchdown.

The second half was fairly uneventful, except for the Salukis’ mistakes.

A Brown pass was intercepted at the WIU 5 early in the third, and an option pitch was fumbled and recovered for a 10-yard loss, both killing drives.

With four and a half minutes left in the fourth quarter, Western had to punt from their own 24-yard line, which would give the Salukis good field position. But an overzealous Sterling Haywood was called for roughing the kicker, giving the Leathernecks a first down.

“If there are people who can get to the punt and block it, we can live with that,” Dorr said. “But we have certain people who work on blocking it, but the individual didn’t have to be that person.”

Western did eventually punt to again to the WIU 15 with 1:28 left, but Brown’s pass, intended to Paul Patterson, was intercepted by a spectacular one-handed grab by Don Ferguson, which killed all SIU hopes.

“The receiver he tipped was the proper receiver,” Dorr said, “but the ball was just a tad too low. The defender made a fine play on the ball.”
Cage recruit faces choice

By Ron Warnick
Staff Writer

Jay Schafer, a 6-foot-7 forward from Benton High School, signed a letter-of-intent Saturday to play basketball for the 1986-87 Salukis, but there may be a catch.

Schafer, who averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds a game last year, may want to enroll in the Air Force Academy. Letters-of-intent aren’t binding to those wanting to enroll in military schools.

SWIMMERS, from Page 16

with double wins that established new pool records — first in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a 9:30.07, bettering Grillhammar’s Kansas performance by almost five seconds, and then with a win in the 500-yard free, touching the wall in 4:29.29.

Doing a bit more experimentation, Ingram used Bruce Dickson as the flyer on the winning medley relay in place of Van der Wall and was pleased by the outcome.

“He (Dickson) did a real nice job,” Ingram said. “He’s not quite as fast as Van der Wall, but we now know we have another combination so Gerhard can be saved for another event.

Another pool record was smashed in the 800-yard freestyle relay using the winning combination of Grillhammar, Hakanson, Kratz and Tom Nye, who sped their way to a 6:53.97.

In an additional lineup change, Spjolm and Roberts sprang the 50 free for first and second places, with respective times of 21.6 and 21.9.

Scoring for the first time in his Salukis career was freshman Tim Kelly, who did a lifetime-best time of 1:46.1 in the 200-yard freestyle which was quick enough to take third.

Additional Saluki scorers include Grillhammar’s win in the 200-yard freestyle, 1:48.9; Kratz’ win in the 400 individual medley, 4:03.7; Roberts’ win in the 200-yard backstroke, 1:55.26; and Spjolm’s 1:55.85 following for a close second. Garrett’s 2:16.22 gained him a second place in the 200 breaststroke.

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Men swimmers leave two teams in their wake

By Ron Warnick
Staff Writer

The Saluki men swimmers spent the entire week as a team to prepare for the meet on Friday, the Salukis men swept nine events to upset the Jayhawks 60-52.

"We swam pretty well considering the long travel," said Saluki coach Doug Ingram. "We were striving to be consistent and not have a let down after Indiana."

Ingram said that the team was a bit inconsistent on Friday, but apparently not enough to allow an advancing for Kansas.

The Salukis set the stage for the rest of the meet by opening with a win in the 400-yard medley relay with the formula of Scott Roberts, Carl Garrett, Gerhard Van der Walt and Tom Hakanson. The Salukis momentum gained speed as Anders Grillhammer culminated with a 1,000-yard freestyle with a first-place and Saluki season-best.

Gary Brinkman followed with a top finish in the 200-yard freestyle, won the 50 with a 0.28, only one-tenth of a second of his Indianan performance.

Ingram said that he considered that swim a good one because the Indianapolis facility is more conducive to fast swimming.

The 200-yard individual medley was finished by Erwin Kratz and succeeded with a one-two finish in the 200-yard butterfly by Grillhammer with a 22.61 and Van der Walt with a 23.5.

Grillhammer's winning performance surprised Ingram, who had shuffled the lineup to find out what kind of swimmer he had to expect this year.

"I was disappointed to have more depth in the 200 fly than I thought," he said.

Joakim Sjohlms sprinted his way to a 2.47. 1/6-yard freestyle win, with Scott Roberts level of 2.58.7 first place in the 200 breaststroke.

The only events that the Jayhawks were able to take were a 2nd in the 200-yard backstroke and the 400-yard freestyle for a win.

Next on the travel agenda was Missouri, where the Salukis were looking forward to proving their efforts in the Tigers 59-52.

Brinkman led the Salukis to SWIMMERS. Page 15

Spikers clinch playoff berth with two 3-game sweeps

By Steve Merritt
Staff Writer

The Saluki volleyball team closed out its regular season over the weekend with one of convincing three-game sweeps over Western Illinois and Bradley, and will go into the Gateway conference championships next weekend as the No. 2 seed.

The Salukis finished the season at 25-10 and 8-1 in the Gateway Conference, good enough to tie Illinois State for a share of first place.

The Redbirds, however, will go into the championship tournament ranked No. 1 because of their win over SIU-C earlier this season.

The Salukis will take a nine-match winning streak into next weekend's first-round tournament action against No. 3 seed Northern Iowa. As the No. 1 seed, Illinois State will face off against No. 4 seed Bradley in the other first-round game.

The Salukis most exciting match of the weekend came in the first game of Friday night's doubleheader against Missouri State. After being tied at 3-3 and 6-6, WIU pulled to a 91, but the Salukis came back to take a 15-16 finish in the Gateway.

The Salukis continued to roll in the third game, taking the first set by a 15-20 finish, winning the match by a final of 15-25, 25-20, and 15-7.

The Salukis dominated by a final of 15-16, 17-17, and the Salukis managed to roll off two points to win the match.

The Salukis never looked back, winning the second game by a final of 15-16.

The Salukis were highlighted by the performance of their junior middle-blocker Pat Nicholson, who raised her career kill total to 121 in a 3-1 win against the Shockers on Friday, and she proved it.

"We were pretty well to other university teams," Herrin said.

"The game was a sour note of his season. As the Salukis took the stage for the tournament, the school record for a season was partaken.

"It was a sour night. After being tied at 5-5, the Salukis continued to roll and beat Bradley in three straight games, scoring seven consecutive three-game sweeps.

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Special thanks to C. William Horrell. The cover page graphics (by Cheryl and Nora) were drawn from photographs shot by “Doc” and published in the book “Land Between the Rivers.”

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Pagliai’s Pizza & Pasta
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Jyotika Ramprasad
It was getting to be that time again. Whether looking south from her dormitory window across Campus Lake at SIU-C, or walking through the Thompson woods, Susan felt that unmistakable yearning: the desire to drop classes, work and everyday activities and go for a ride — a day-long, start-and-stop when-you-please excursion.

Her sister, Pat, a sophomore at the same university, had never been farther south than Fern Cliffs. She, too, was anxious to take a break from the daily routine. Susan had an answer: what better way to get to know southwest Illinois than to traverse Route 3 — the Illinois Great River Road?

So the two sisters from the Big City (well, okay, the suburbs of the Big City) set out one sunny October morning, barreling south along U.S. Route 51 in their rented car. They planned to pick up Route 3 in Cairo and travel back north until 5 p.m. or until the car had used three-quarters of a tank of gas, whichever came first.

All in all, it was a neat trip. Susan had picked an ideal weekend, as it turned out. The Shawnee National Forest was in the midst of turning from summer green to autumn’s hues of orange, yellow, red and purple, pretty as a picture, in evidence every time they rounded a bend. It was as if some giant artist had been at work with a brush while the sisters slept.

Their trip was not entirely nature-oriented, however. They first stopped at the Mound City National Cemetery, and it was there that they felt the other facet of the trip, the historical. They thought of the people whose graves were underfoot, how old they had been, how they died.
Susan and Pat continued on, up Route 3 through Cairo, a city historically important in many ways. The area was first discovered by a Jesuit priest, Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix, in 1721. It served as a troop outpost, and was an important trading town, containing a U.S. Customhouse, built in 1867, as well as many beautiful churches, houses and public buildings. Susan and Pat didn't stop, however; they were interested in making good time on the trip. It was already late in the morning, and there were many miles to be covered; Cairo could almost be a separate trip for another day.

The ghosts of history were with Susan and Pat again at their next stop, when they walked around the Thebes Courthouse, built in 1848 at the original Alexander County seat. The sandstone and timber building, on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi, has one claim to fame: its jail once housed Dred Scott, an escaped slave from Missouri who tried to establish the principle that blacks should not be forced to return to slave states once they escaped, and that they ought to be considered citizens. The judge at Thebes agreed that Scott did not have to be returned to Missouri. But the United States Supreme Court disagreed, ruling in 1857 that slaves were not citizens and therefore not entitled to any standing in court. The court also declared that Congress could not prohibit people from carrying slaves or other property into any territory, and declared the Missouri Compromise (which called for admitting one free state for every new slave state) unconstitutional.

From the path around the Thebes Courthouse, Susan saw a narrow, barred window, half-hidden in the weeds. She crouched down and looked in, shading her eyes. Was this the window that Dred Scott looked out of while awaiting trial, she wondered.

Susan and Pat drove back out of Thebes, on the Thebes spur of the river road, and onto Route 3 north, intending to travel possibly as far as Fort de Chartres that day, surprised at the good time and the good mileage they were getting. Pat had brought along a tape player, and all was well, as they sang along with Jim Croce and the Manhattan Transfer, and talked of family and history and plans. Occasionally, they pulled off the road to read a historical marker, such as the one that told them that the stretch of river between Cairo and St. Louis was referred to by riverboat men as ‘The Graveyard’ because of the many accidents that occurred in this stretch of shallow water. In 1867, the sign said, an investigatory expedition found 133 sunken hulls — victims of snags, explosions, collisions, or steamboat fires.

River traffic today, of course, is much less than it was when steamboats carried passengers and cargo between St. Louis and New Orleans. But boats still use the river; Susan saw a sailboat near Thebes, and another boat docking at Fort DeFlexion. Long chains of barges regularly leave wakes that wash over the ankles of bystanders at the beach at Grand Tower.

Susan and Pat passed Horseshoe Lake, a natural cypress-gum lake where Canadian geese rest on their trips down the Mississippi Flyway. The lake is a state game refuge for geese and wild turkeys, but there are public hunting sites throughout Alexander, Union and Williamson counties.

On a whim, Susan and Pat turned off the highway and into the La Rue Pine Hills National Natural Landmark in the Shawnee National Forest. This area of the forest is famous for the bi-annual migration of snakes across the gravel road; the road is closed to all traffic while this occurs in the spring and fall. It is also the only ecological area set aside by the state. The gravel road cut through the woods, but barely — avoiding an oncoming vehicle would have been difficult. After reading a map, Susan and Pat decided to try to travel these backroads to

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Susan stood on the southernmost inch of land in Illinois and touched water from the backwash of the confluence of the two rivers. She thought of the rivers' immortality, and her own mortality, even as she grinned for the camera wielded by her sister. She thought of the river gradually wearing away the point of land on which she was standing, and stared at the zig-zagged line where the green waters of the Ohio were overpowered by the muddy strength of the Mississippi.

Literary, history mixed with nature, as Susan imagined Huckleberry Finn and his raft being washed onto the Kentucky shore of the Ohio. Missouri was to the right and Kentucky to the left as she looked out from the concrete boat dock replica beached in the park. Standing where Union soldiers once did, when called in to secure Cairo as a Union troops and supplies base, ten days after Fort Sumter was fired upon, Susan watched other soldiers from the Illinois National Guard practice putting up tents.
Alto Pass, and then to Bald Knob cross, the 111-foot-high white concrete monument built on the top of a hill, the tallest Christian monument in North America.

Susan and Pat quickly discovered that it is not wise to try to ford seemingly inconsequential streams that cross gravel roads. The front wheels of the rental Nissan sunk softly into the gravel. After much straining and a few mild oaths, they realized that their efforts were only further burying the front wheels. Pat set out for help. Susan sat on a log, looked at the car and wondered how much of her damage deposit she was going to have to forfeit.

Pat returned with Carol and Kent-Pitt and their pickup truck and chains. The Pitts would accept no compensation for pulling the car out, saying this was the fifth time they had done this that week. Susan and Pat then retraced their route, whipping down and around hills, using the low gears and praying the brakes would hold out. But as they turned right onto Route 3, both found themselves feeling good, despite having lost an hour on the detour, having wet and muddy feet, and feeling humiliated. The two adopted a motto: "What's Life Without Some Adventures?" and they laughed, debating whether to tell their parents of this latest escapade.

Susan and Pat scratched their plans to visit Grand Tower, although both had been looking forward to a family-style meal of fried chicken at Ma Haie's restaurant, famous for its friendly service and generous portions. Susan had already seen Tower Rock, the smallest national park it was left as the river was dredged for navigation, and was to serve as an anchor for a long-ago and long-forgotten bridge commissioned by President Ulysses S. Grant, on previous trips to the river with a friend. Also, the La Rue Pine Hills detour had been enough raw natural beauty for the afternoon.

After a quick stop for food in Chester, the hometown of "Pepys" (one of the bridgekeepers once told Susan that the baby, Swee' Pea, had been modeled after him), Susan and Pat carried onward. They intended to view, and possibly visit, Kaskasia Island. Instead, they overshot the exit that leads to the island and ended up at Fort Kaskasia State Park. The park is designed for picnicking and hiking. During the Revolutionary War, George Rogers Clark claimed this area for the United States, establishing it as a county of Virginia. Kaskasia was the site of Illinois' first capital, from 1818 to 1820. The city is referred to as Illinois' Atlantis, because most of it was washed away when the Mississippi River flooded the small strip of land connecting what is now Kaskasia Island to the main body of Illinois.

By now, the sun had disappeared, and the wind had picked up, making it rather chilly for two girls with wet feet. It was close to 5 p.m., and although they were within a stone's throw of the island, Susan and Pat decided to visit it another day. Then they would cross the river and visit the Liberty Bell of the West and the other buildings that survived the island's violent separation from the rest of Illinois.

Driving south along Route 3, Susan and Pat noticed that the sun was shining once again, seemingly setting the cliff trees on fire, as they reflected orange and red. The sisters felt tired, but renewed; in getting away from it all, they had found much to learn and remember about a piece of their homestate they knew they might never visit again in their lives.

**Southern Illinois Travel**

Although my sister and I traveled from Carbondale to Cairo to Fort Kaskasia to Carbondale, a 250-mile round trip, in one day, I would not recommend doing so. We could not stop anywhere we wanted to stop. If possible, make it a two-day trip, travel south of Murphysboro one day and north another. You could then visit the Cahokia Mounds, Fort de Chartres, Prairie du Rocher, Kaskasia Island, the Pierre Menard home (Menard was the state's first lieutenant governor) and the Magnolia Manor in Cairo, places that we missed, as well as stop off in more state parks and read more historical markers along the roadside.

Spontaneous trips can be fun. But a semi-planned trip can be enjoyable and also save time. Why travel 50 miles to discover an attraction is closed for the winter? Call the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs tourism office in Marion, (618) 997-4371, or the Illinois Traveline, 1-800-252-8987. They will send pamphlets describing trips to take throughout Southern Illinois, a map of the Illinois Great River Road, a calendar of community events throughout the state, and a highway map. They will also send "Illinois: A Traveler's Guide to the Prairie State," a full color, 80-page book detailing attractions to be found in almost every town and county, as well as lists of hotels, motels, campgrounds, hiking trails, conservation areas and historic sites. The information is free.

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Rose Lipe is dwarfed by the woodpile she cut last fall (right). She accepted the task of cutting the wood after the Jackson County Road Crew said they needed some trees cleared from a roadside near her house. Rose Lipe digs up a culvert at her home near Boskydell (far right). The culvert needed to be replaced, so she decided to do the job herself.

The smell of freshly baked bread is the first thing to hit you as you walk into Rose Lipe’s kitchen. She works feverishly, kneading a second loaf. Her 4-H club, the Boskydell Hustlers, will sell the bread in a bake sale this weekend.

Visitors are always welcomed here. Rose loves having company for dinner because she doesn’t like eating alone.

“And I’ll have you know that just about everything I put on my table I raised myself, right here on my farm,” Rose says.

You can see by her worn hands that work is nothing new to Rose. At 64, she is typical of a lot of Southern Illinois farmers. But she does have an unusual story to tell.

In 1936, just after the Great Depression, Rose’s family ran out of money. The financial problems threatened to split the family.

Rose had an idea. She thought that if she could get to Southern Illinois, she could get a job working in the factories and earn enough money to keep her family together.

“You know how kids are, always getting crazy ideas into their heads,” Rose says. “I thought if I could get up here, my family could stay together.”

At 15, Rose hitchhiked her way to Southern Illinois from her Missouri home — a distance of 400 miles. She stayed with some friends of her mother’s on a farm near Boskydell, just south of Carbondale. Shortly after she got here, her father found out where she was. He asked her to come home.

“I told him I’d love to come home,” Rose remembers. “I asked him to send me some money for a bus ticket, but he told me I could get home the same way I got up here. I’ve been here ever since.”

There was no work in the factories, so at 16 Rose took a job taking care of twin babies, earning $1.50 a week. When her employer wanted to cut her pay in half, she quit.

By the time she was 21, Rose married Floyd Lipe, the nephew of the people she was living with. After he died in 1978, Rose continued working the 300-acre farm they started together when they were married 43 years ago. She shows no signs of slowing down.

“It makes me feel good to be able to get out every day and do something. You know, it really gives you a reason to get up every morning,” Rose says.

The only equipment Rose uses is an old International Harvester tractor and a wooden wagon. She raises chickens, cattle, corn and “just about any kind of vegetable you could ever want.”

Rose has never been afraid to work for what she needs. Last fall, the Jackson County road crew needed some trees cleared from a road near her farm. Since her two-story house is heated exclusively by a wood-burning stove, she was glad to take the work of cutting the trees.

With chainsaw in hand, she went to work cutting the trees into a 10-foot-high pile that was more than 20 feet in diameter.

Rose points out that life on the farm isn’t without its share of risks. In June, she and her son-in-law were putting a new pole barn up on her land. She was out working on it by herself when a pile of lumber fell on her, pinning her leg to the floor.

“I just said to myself, ‘Oh, Rose, what have you done this time?’” she says. “I just said a prayer and pulled that lumber off me piece by piece and got out of there.”

After freeing herself, Rose walked out to her truck and drove into Carbondale to see her doctor. After getting her leg bandaged, she spent the rest of the day shopping.

“I didn’t see any point in wasting that drive all the way to town,” Rose explains.

Rose says the experience has taught her an important lesson. She doesn’t try to do dangerous things like that by herself anymore.

“While I was laid up waiting for my leg to heal, my neighbors really took good care of me,” she says. “I’m the luckiest person on earth. I’ve really grown in wisdom and humbleness since then.”

Rose tosses the second loaf of bread into her oven. Her next chore for the day, she says, is to go out and pick the corn.

She has to get started this afternoon. She has several acres to pick by hand.
Apple Festival
By Susan Hunt
Photo by Robert Turner

The second week of September brings thousands of Southern Illinoisans together in Murphysboro to celebrate the apple orchards and honor the apple farmers of the area.

Murphysboro is the host of the annual Apple Festival, which has taken place for 34 years. The theme of the festival is a “Salute to Southern Illinois.” The four-day applefest requires a whole year of preparation and hundreds of volunteers to make it a success.

One of the most popular events at the festival is the crowning of the Apple Queen. The contestants compete for scholarships, and the queen goes on to compete in the Miss Illinois pageant. In 1976, the Apple Queen pageant became part of the Miss America system.

There is something for everyone to do at the Apple Festival — the Appletime Celebrity Golf Classic, the Appletime Auto Show and the High School Show Band contests. There is even a national apple peeling contest.

A colorful event is the Apple Festival Parade, which includes more than 100 bands from surrounding states. Participants in the parade wave to more than 30,000 onlookers who cheer and wave back.

The Murphysboro Apple Festival has consistently been a huge success. It brings fame to the small Southern Illinois town and smiles to the faces of children and adults.

Ridgway Popcorn Festival
By Jan Coats

All the popcorn you can eat for free, games, rides and exhibits are just some of the things you can do and see at the Popcorn Festival in Ridgway, Ill. “The festival began 28 years ago as a promotion for ‘Blevins’ popcorn, one of the area’s popcorn producers,” says Randy Drone, president of the popcorn board. “Plus, it was a good way for the community to get together and celebrate the harvest,” he added.

Ridgway, located approximately 60 miles east of Carbondale, is legally registered as the popcorn producing capital of the world, which means it produces more popcorn than any other place in the world. The two-day festival, usually held during the latter part of September, is organized by the popcorn board, a group of citizens from the community.

The festival begins with a parade that winds down the main avenues and concludes around the town’s square. The events centering around a popcorn theme include popcorn eating contests, popcorn exhibits and popcorn art, which is arts and crafts made entirely of popcorn. The more traditional events include carnival rides and games, free entertainment — usually consisting of country and gospel music performed by area bands — and the selection of a Popcorn Queen.

The activities, scattered through town, are an explosion of fun and entertainment for the Ridgway community and its guests.

Superman Festival
By Sandra Finn

Superman, everyone’s favorite defender of truth, justice and the American way, has an adopted home right here in Southern Illinois.

Metropolis, Ill., is a small town of 7,000 on the Ohio River, 40 miles above the Mississippi-Ohio confluence. The only city with that name, Metropolis has been the home of Superman since 1972 when “The Man of Steel” was officially adopted by the city.

The town went all out. A homecoming was held at which Superman appeared and exclaimed, “It’s great to be in my hometown, Metropolis U.S.A.” Superman, portrayed by the Rev. Charles Chandler, was wearing the original Superman costume worn by George Reeves in the television series. A billboard proclaiming Metropolis as the home of Superman welcomes people at the entrance of the town. A 16-foot painting on the town’s water tower offers another view of “The Man of Steel.”

The “Metropolis News” has become the “Metropolis Planet,” the paper where superman’s alter ego, Clark Kent, was a reporter.

Located in the Chamber of Commerce is Superman’s only official telephone booth, where you can talk to Superman.

Anyone showing an outstanding interest in the development of Metropolis can expect to be presented with the Superman Award. Since 1979, the local civic clubs each year have held a Superman Celebration on the second weekend in June.

The events are planned to entertain and give local people and visitors a chance to join Superman in the battle for truth, justice, and the American way.

Popeye Pride
By Lori Lottman

The name Elzie-Crisler Segar may not be familiar to most, but his work surely is. Segar created the Popeye cartoons, which have been loved and enjoyed for more than 50 years.

As the town of Chester, his birthplace, has grown through the years, so has the town’s pride in Segar and his cartoon character. Segar Memorial Park, on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River, is an example of this pride. The focal point of the park is a six-foot bronze statue of Popeye, who has only to look over his left shoulder and down the bluff to see the house where Segar spent many nights at work.

Many of Chester’s citizens believe that the Popeye character was inspired by a local man named Rocky Feigle. Feigle was known as the town’s “coch of the walk,” since he was famous for having never lost a fight. One day, three local brutes lured Rocky out into the woods, where they planned to rob him. In no time at all, Rocky, just like the spinach-eating Popeye, nonchalantly strolled back into town and resumed his seat in front of the saloon. The would-be muggers limped into town to receive medical aid for their injuries.

Chester also illustrates its pride in Segar every September with a Popeye Picnic. There’s a three-day carnival, a flea market, bands and dances that appeal to a variety of tastes, and many more entertaining events. Local merchants set up food stands that offer something for everyone. And the Popeye Picnic always ends with a great fireworks display.
Greg Eversden
By Susan Hunt

"In 1975 I came to Carbondale to pursue a Master of Business Administration degree at SIU," says Greg Eversden, co-owner of the Egyptian Sports Center, located on Old Route 13 East.

Eversden, born and raised in Quincy, Ill., is now a successful businessman with other investments in Collinsville, Wood River and Glen Carbon, Ill. In 1980 he bought the Carbondale Bowl, which at the time was in the Murdale Shopping Center. He moved the business to its present location, expanded it, and renamed it the Egyptian Sports Center.

Eversden lives in Carbondale with his wife, Terri, and two sons, Jeffrey and Adam. "One reason we stay in Carbondale is so our children can be raised near their grandparents," says Eversden, emphasizing his closeness to his family.

Although his business takes up a lot of his time, he enthusiastically remarks that he spends his time away from the Sports Center with his family. "My wife and I enjoy snow-skiing," says Eversden. He also plays tennis and raquetball.

Community interaction and social responsibility are important to Eversden. He proudly says that the Sports Center is used by various community and church organizations. Displayed on one wall of the Sports Center are several plaques awarded to Eversden and co-owner Carl Beck for area involvement.

"The success of the Egyptian Sports Center is due to the quality of staff employed here," says Eversden. When asked about his personal success, Eversden becomes very modest. "The key to success as a businessman is to become involved with the community," he says.

Shirlene Holmes
By Susan Sarkauskas

Some people move into and out of a town without making any sort of impact. Not so with 27-year-old Shirlene Holmes, doctoral student in speech communication in performance at SIU-C.

The Queens, N.Y., native has priorities -- the primary one being to serve the community. "I just want to be a vessel used by God to serve people," she says. Whether playing Bearnice in "A Member of the Wedding" at McLeod Theater, performing at the Tale Back the Night Rally in Carbondale, or reading her poetry to an audience, she wants to "spiritually uplift, educate and entertain" the audience.

Holmes came to town in 1982 as a guest artist, performing the role of black abolitionist Sojourner Truth in a one-woman play. She returned in 1983, and received her Master of Fine Arts degree in theater in 1984.

Holmes considers theater her vocation -- what she feels called to do, and what she does best.

It was not her original goal -- she had received an undergraduate degree in English, with training as a broadcast journalist. A recommitment to her faith in God led to changes in her life, including becoming a vegetarian.

Serving the community includes being a role model for young people, especially blacks. She hopes one day to teach at one of the colleges she attended, to encourage "people who are sitting where I sat."

Holmes says she would like to travel south after finishing her degree, perhaps working as a performance and writing artist in prisons. The will of God is what will determine her plans, however, she says.

Kyle Kinser
By Jan Coats

Beautiful yet functional, one-of-a-kind hand-crafted furniture and cabinets have made Kyle Kinser a well-known wood craftsman. Kinser, originally from the Chicago area, began to study French, English and education at Western Illinois University. But then, along with his wife, decided to try something new.

"We were looking for a change and fell in love with the Shawnee National Forest," said Kinser. In 1974 he and his wife bought property and began building a house in Makanda, Ill. It was while working on his home that Kinser discovered his interest in wood.

Kinser's pieces consist of original boxes, cabinets, desks, tables and chairs. Hours of labor are put into each piece. Kinser cuts, saws, cures and builds with wood found in Southern Illinois.

In 1982 Kinser was accepted to study in the "Fine Woodworking Program" conducted by Swedish master craftsman James Kreunen at the College of Redwoods in Fort Bragg, Calif.

His pieces reflect a Scandinavian influence. Kinser's designs are straightforward, so that the beauty of the wood is the main focus. The sculpting, carving, and fittings are all done with basic hand tools. Kinser also makes some of his own tools in order to achieve arches and curves in some of his designs.

Kinser's pieces are sold mainly through galleries and shows in the Southern Illinois region. Kinser hopes to build a showroom onto his workshop in Makanda, within the next year.

Helen Westberg
By Susan Hunt

Helen Westberg moved to Carbondale in 1952 because her husband, William, had accepted a teaching position in the Psychology Department at SIU-C. She is now the mayor of Carbondale, a position that she says is "extremely interesting and challenging."

The office of mayor is a four-year position. Westberg says she hasn't made up her mind if she'll run again when her term is up.

"I was a City Council member 10 years prior to this. I ran for mayor because I've always been active in community affairs. There's a bridge between public service and politics," she says.

She goes on to say that, although she has no plans for running for any state political office, she may have if her involvement with politics had come earlier in life.

Westberg says she is concerned for the unemployed in this area.

"We need more jobs. We're constantly working on this. The future jobs lie in the smaller businesses or enterprises likely to grow here."

Even though Westberg spends much of her time at her office, she frequently refers to her family. Both of her sons are married now and do not live in Carbondale. Her husband, now retired from teaching, is involved in some interests of his own of a public nature.

When the mayor finds time for outside activities, she is seriously involved in genealogy.

"I've found new friends and relatives that way," she says.

As far as any other activities, she has very little time and says that the city and her family come first.

Carbondale.
Working toward a better future
Vienna Correctional Center Offers an Alternative

Story by William Walker
Photos by Ken Seeber

Thirty-three-year-old Vernial Trotter, a soft spoken Vietnam veteran, relaxes in his dormitory room and talks about his decision to become an emergency medical technician.

"I like helping people," Trotter remarks. "Being an EMT has given me the opportunity to put something back into the community."

Troy DeHovos, an industrial machinist, scans the floor of the shop where he works, commenting on the equipment — lathes, drill presses, metal punches, milling machines. He explains that he went to school to learn his trade, earning an Associate of Applied Science degree. Learning to be a machinist has been a positive step in his life, he says.

Trotter and DeHovos seem to be rather ordinary men with ordinary jobs. The axiom that everyone has a story to tell probably holds some truth, but neither man, at first glance, particularly stands out.

What makes their stories special is not what they do, but what they have done. Their's are stories about how they turned their lives around, and more important, where they were able to do it.

Both men are in prison, Vernial for burglary, Troy for involuntary manslaughter. And both men have been in trouble before. Vernial served a six-year sentence for armed robbery. Troy admits that he's been in trouble all his life. His first period of incarceration — in a juvenile center — came at age 12.

Home to both men is the Vienna Correctional Center, a facility with a worldwide reputation for its progressive approach to the correctional process. Void of guard towers, fortress-like buildings and even a fence, the sight of VCC quickly dispels any stereotypical expectations of prison that a visitor might have.

And the looks are not deceiving.

On the grounds there are no prison uniforms, no cell houses, in fact, no cells. Instead, the inmates, or more appropriately residents, live in dormitory-style buildings in individual rooms. And except for periodic head counts, the residents are free to move about the grounds from 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. every day.

VCC's mission statement emphasizes this progressive correctional approach, stating that the prison was designed to give residents appropriate freedoms to help them become responsible members of society.

This mission has made VCC the "model progressive prison in the world," says Nic Howell, public relations officer for the Illinois Department of Corrections. "It is a premier prison."

Considering the advantages, many inmates would like to spend their time at VCC, rather than at other, less open institutions. But with a capacity of 745 residents, VCC becomes home for only a selected few.

To be eligible, an inmate must have a minimum security classification, be within four years of his release date and have, an exemplary behavior record at all other institutions — no participation in gangs, escapes or other aggressive activities. Those who meet all the requirements face a thorough screening process, with only the very best candidates then being selected.

It's a competitive process, says Warden Jim Greer, but one that is fair and open to most inmates in the state penal system.

"Vienna was built on the concept that inmates need a place to work up to," Greer said.

Howell agreed, calling VCC the "carrot" of corrections, the prison that serves as a difficult, yet attainable, goal for most inmates.

"This place is like a reward. If you're good, you come to Vienna, and everyone wants to come to Vienna," Trotter said.

Since VCC is, in a sense, a reward, does that mean that its residents are controlled with the threat that they could be sent to another facility for the slightest transgression? No, said Greer.

Residents at VCC must live by the rules and, of course, if they refuse to do so, one option for discipline is to send them elsewhere, Greer said, but every effort is made to rectify problems before it comes to that.

Sending someone to another institution is used as a last resort, Greer insisted. "It's not held over their heads, but it's in the back of their minds."

Assume one is selected for VCC. Then what? The relative freedom and the atypical surroundings certainly are an important part of the progressive philosophy, but they are not enough to help someone become a productive member of society.

Another key ingredient in VCC's success is the strong educational emphasis, says Hartzel L. Black, dean of correctional education at Southeastern Illinois College, which contracts with VCC to provide most of the college-level academic and vocational programs offered.

The day after entering VCC, each resident begins an eight-day orientation program. Counselors determine each resident's educational level and help them develop an appropriate educational program, which could include academic or vocational courses from high school level on through graduate degree work.

All residents are required to be assigned to some combination of school and work for eight hours each day, and about 75 percent of them choose school, at least part time, Black said.

In keeping with the basic philosophy of the mission statement, residents are responsible for their own academic progress. They are expected to get up on time, show up
for classes, do their homework — everything anyone at any school on the outside is expected to do.

"We're a free environment here," Black remarked. "And that means the residents have to make some decisions. If they can't make it here, they couldn't make it on the street. Our programs are as close to the street as possible."

But the road to education is often rocky, and guidance sometimes is needed along the way, a truth outside as well as in, and one that is not forgotten at VCC. Here, as at any school, being responsible doesn't mean one cannot seek any help. To the contrary, the dedication of the VCC staff to helping the residents is one of the institution's strongest points.

Insisted Black: "It's the fact that the staff here is dedicated to a good correctional process that the educational programs are successful."

"For Vienna to work as well as it has for as long as it has is the result of good communication. The departments work together. There's a great deal of cooperation," he said.

Vernial agreed: "Before I came here, my life was nothing. But everyone has encouraged me to do something with my life. There are a lot of caring people here. They seem more human than at other prisons."

The staff's willingness to help is the major reason behind the residents' learning to become responsible, Tony said. "Keeping a positive attitude and state of mind is what matters, and that's hard to do in most prisons. But Vienna is different."

The success of VCC is hard to measure adequately, Howell said, because of the many differences between residents, such as the time spent in prison and personal history, along with the fact that those selected for VCC are the best from the system, which makes it difficult to compare VCC to other prisons.

Even the recidivism rate — between 25 and 30 percent within two years of release for the whole system — cannot be used as a measure, because it is not calculated for individual prisons, Howell said, although such statistics may be compiled in the future.

Despite the lack of statistics, Vernial and Tony are proof that VCC is doing something right. They both agree that had they remained in other prisons things would not have turned out as well.

Vernial summed it up perfectly: "Coming to Vienna has changed my life."
As Dan parked his car in the gravel lot, I took a look around in the deepening dusk and thought, "What's the big deal about this gray, weather-beaten warehouse? What am I doing out here, in the middle of nowhere, looking for a story on this?"

I should have known that looks can be deceiving. For that tired-looking building, located at Route 148 and Little Grassy Road eight miles due south of the Williamson County Airport, next to Jim's Live Bait Shop, is home to B and B Ceramics, one of the largest ceramics shops in Southern Illinois.

I followed Dan in, smiling at the toddler in the playpen near the door, the grandchild of the proprietor, Venita Boaz. We passed into the warehouse portion.

It was then that I gathered in my full skirts and tucked in my elbows, afraid. For in front of me stretched thousands and thousands of gray panthers, pumpkins, Santa Clauses, Christmas wreaths, vases, ducks and Miss Piggy's, on plank shelving. This was before I espied the appropriate sign, "Fragile: Handle With Care. You Pay for Breakage."

Dan disappeared to take photographs; I followed Venita through a tour of the shop.

I later learned from Venita that this is the greenware section, containing figures that have not yet been fired. It is at this stage that they are most breakable; with my fingers alone, I could have pulled off a rabbit's ear, or tweaked an arm off a miniature Frankenstein.

I stepped around boxes of shredded paper used to pack the finished work, as Venita took me on a tour of the business. We dodged grandchildren, who were playing with scraps of slip, the material used to make the figures. Venita explained that such scraps can be made into tiny flowers, her nimble fingers quickly fashioning a rose.

Instead of being made on a wheel, at B and B figures are created from any of 7,000 to 8,000 plaster of Paris molds, the largest of which weighs about 200 pounds. Premixed slip, which is made up of talc, calcium, clay and water, is poured through a hose into the mold, which has halves rubber-banded together. The slip is allowed to harden, as the plaster of Paris draws out the moisture, until a one-eighth inch crust is formed. The mold is then taken apart, and the figure is allowed to dry.

Removing the seams where the edges of the mold meet is exacting work, Venita said, and important, because people do not want to buy ceramic pieces with ridges. The seams are scraped off, either with a razor knife or an abrasive pad. The figures, called greenware, are then placed on shelves to await firing.
Three barrel-shaped, stainless steel kilns with firebrick linings, in another room along the backside of the warehouse, are used to bake the greenware. The temperature inside the kilns will reach almost 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit during the six hours it takes to fire a piece. The kiln is allowed to cool another six hours before it is opened and the pieces removed. The pieces come out of the kiln as bisque, and are ready to be painted and glazed.

Plain finishes are obtained by simply applying the glaze and then refiring the piece. Several family members, including Venita's son, were painting in details, or getting a decorated piece. Colors can be applied either with a regular paint brush or with an airbrush; airbrushed figures, especially wildlife figures, tend to look more muted, more realistic. If a shiny finish is desired on the decorated piece, a glaze is then applied, and the piece is fired for a third time.

Clocks, Christmas tree lights, music boxes and light bulbs can then be installed in the piece, Boaz said.

Our tour ended back in the front of the building, which serves as an office and shop. Many of the most popular ready-made items, as well as supplies for the do-it-yourself ceramics enthusiast, can be bought there.

The Boaz's also do orders on commission, and can do repairs on some items. Venita will not accept ceramicware that has been used for cooking for repair. Because it has been fired and cooled a number of times, it is unstable, and might explode under the high temperatures of the kiln, she said.

Make Mine Country, a store in Marion, orders from her, as do kennel owners, who sell the work at dog shows. She wholesales to gift shops, but doesn't plan to advertise much. "Usually in the ceramics business, people know" if a new shop opens, she said.

Actually, it's not really a new business. Venita and her husband, Mel, bought the business about a year and a half ago from Ada Harris of Carbondale, who had run it for 28 years. Since buying the shop, the Boaz's have bought out three other shops, making theirs one of the top three ceramics businesses in Southern Illinois.

Venita has a few ideas for the business' future. She would like to teach classes to residents of area nursing homes and maybe to prisoners. She already holds occasional classes for groups of 10 to 12 people. Overall, there are about 90 students in and out of the shop in a week. Many clean greenware or decorate bisque in exchange for free greenware for themselves and the chance for individual instruction from Venita and her family. Cheryl Gosnell, one such student, said she finds working with the ceramics "real relaxing" after a day of work in a factory. She was applying an underglaze to a greenware vase, making slow, careful strokes as she talked.

Venita became involved with ceramics about four years ago, as a mother-daughter activity — she wanted to spend more time with her teenage daughter. It's a seasonal business, with the busiest time being between September and December. Christmas is the biggest holiday for the shop; last year's big seller. Venita said, was a Christmas wreath with a mouse in it. Another popular item is a series of four ducks; 200 such sets sold last year.

I took one last walk around the building, touching the greenware gingerly, staring back at the gray faces on the shelves. Then I saw it — a gray panther identical in form to the one my neighbor had received as a gift. I remembered the pride with which she displayed it, letting it sit majestically on her desk, 24 inches of still but oh so lifelike clay flesh, teeth bared and body poised. It was an object of admiration among visitors to her room, for it was easily the most beautiful and eye-catching decoration. Hers was made by a friend. But there are other people out there with similar eye-catching ceramic figures, who are similarly proud, who owe thanks to the Boaz' and their students. The Boaz' can take the ultimate pride — in work well done.
Before he retired, Herman Morrill was a welder by trade. The small business he owned in Carmi, Ill., almost became a side line to his hobby — making life-like concrete animals.

"Welding and machine shop was my line of work. I'm retired now," says Morrill, settling back in his easy chair. "Making animals was my hobby all through life. It turned out to be quite a business."

Quite a business it was. Morrill's concrete animals populate 36 states. There's a 21-foot-high giraffe in Kansas City, Mo. A 14-foot-high elephant stands in Des Moines, Iowa. A boxer dog stands watch outside of an Evansville, Ind., animal hospital.

Morrill, 76, was born and raised in Carmi. He became interested in art when he was a kid. When he was 10 years old, he mowed lawns to make pocket money. One of the people he worked for was an artist.

"She taught me all kinds of oil painting, but I liked painting animals the best," he remembers. "When I was older, I took up taxidermy, which means I had to study animals pretty well. Then one time, a fellow wanted me to make him a concrete 'bird dog, and that's how I got started."

The yard around Morrill's home is dotted with several of his animals. A bird dog guards his front door. A lion with cold, yellow eyes guards the back. A flock of bald eagles rests in his garden, poised to resume flight.

Morrill's house is filled with paintings and wood carvings he has done hobbies in which he continues to indulge.

Morrill says he was once called upon to make a plaster replica of the foot of a 16-year-old girl who stood 7 feet 2 inches tall. Her parents couldn't find shoes for her over-sized feet, so they had Morrill send his replica to a shoe manufacturer who used it to custom fit her foot.

Morrill quit making his animals about 10 years ago, although he is occasionally called upon to repair one of his pieces. Just recently, he was asked to fix the broken nose on the statue of Chief Tecumseh at the Southern Illinois 4-H Camp at West Frankfort Lake.

Morrill says he made an exception a couple of years ago and came out of retirement when the boxer dog in Evansville suffered more damage than even the animal hospital could fix.

"Some fellow came around a curve too fast and knocked that thing about 65 feet, I guess. Then he ran over it once or twice," he remembers. "The animal hospital called me up asking me to replace it, so I did."

Morrill has made mascots, including Eastern Illinois University's black panther, for a lot of high schools and colleges all over Illinois. He has made bulldogs, tigers, lions, foxes and "just about any other animal you can think of," he says. "All of the statues are made to scale," he says. "It's just like building a house. The biggest part of this is having a knowledge of animals."

"I didn't go to school to learn about animals. I did it the hard way — I learned it myself," Morrill continues. "But my best teacher was the artist I knew when I was young."

"I didn't go to school to learn about animals. I did it the hard way — I learned it myself," Morrill continues. "But my best teacher was the artist I knew when I was young."

Herman Morrill with the lion that guards his house in Carmi, Ill.

Story and photo by Ken Seeber
Graphics by Ginny Hynes

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Herrin Made War Its Business

Story by Ken Seeber

In 1939, the United States was gearing up for a war. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt announced a plan to build four or five major ammunition depots in the United States to help stockpile munitions for the battles to come. Several Southern Illinois people set out to bring one of those ammunition depots to Crab Orchard Lake in an effort to get local people back on their feet.

The Army eventually built a bomb-loading factory on Crab Orchard Lake in 1941. The decision to build U.S. Army Ordnance Depot Illinois, or Ordill for short, affects the area economy even now.

The Herrin Chamber of Commerce, under the guidance of founder O.H. Lyerla, spearheaded the effort to bring Ordill to Williamson County. The chamber was only in its formation stages in the late 1930s.

"We were interested, along with other area chambers, in getting some industry to move down here," says Clyde Brewer, one of the founders of the Herrin chamber.

The late Harry W. Deck, of Herrin, was an administrative assistant to Rep. Kent Keller. Deck and Keller met with Roosevelt to lobby for the Southern Illinois work force.

"He was all of 25 years old," says Deck's wife, Ruby. "He saw this area as a great source of workers.

Fortunately for Southern Illinoisans, the government had already built Crab Orchard Lake in Williamson County as part of Roosevelt's make-work plan to help pull the country out of the Great Depression. Having the lake and government land readily available proved to be a key factor in getting Ordill to Southern Illinois, as water was an important component in the manufacturing process.

Ordill made 500-pound bombs for Great Britain and the Soviet Union. The 3,000,000 square feet of manufacturing and storage facilities covered a 22,000-acre area of the natural wildlife refuge with more than 200 buildings and storage bunkers. Many of the buildings still stand on the eastern edge of Crab Orchard.

Ordill was operated by Sherwin-Williams. During the initial construction stages, hundreds of people were employed. At the peak of the war, the ordnance depot had more than 7,000 people on the payroll, making it by far the largest employer in the area.

"I'd say we got economically drunk around here for three or four years," Brewer says. "It took a lot of doing to get that factory here."

Then, when the war ended in 1945, Ordill became a ghost town.

Facing the reality of losing the area's largest employer, the Herrin Chamber of Commerce decided to ask the federal government to permit private industry to use Ordill in the hope that the area would be more attractive to prospective developers.

Soon after the war, the jurisdiction for Ordill was transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior.

"We finally got the government to permit the leasing of buildings to private industry," Brewster remembers. "It was quite a controversy with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service because they didn't want any of the buildings left in the refuge. From a commercial standpoint, though, it was important."

Several companies were lured to the Herrin area because of the availability of low-rent warehouse and factory buildings. In 1949, the government was renting buildings for as little as 15 cents per square foot per year.

The Olin Corporation, Diagram-Bradley and several other major companies still use the Ordill area manufacturing and storage facilities. Various companies have come and gone over the last 40 years, but the concrete storage bunkers, abandoned railroad lines and windowless manufacturing sheds still stand as monuments to a time when warfare was simpler.
The Roaring 20's in Southern Illinois

Story by Mary Lung

Looking at Southern Illinois today, one sees an area gifted with natural resources, lovely scenic areas, friendly people and much more. But a look into the recent past, back to the "roaring" 1920s, reveals an area ripe with violent events, an area infamous throughout the nation. Many unpleasant and, in some cases, horrifying incidents marred the lives of those who lived in this area, especially residents of the county known as "Bloody Williamson." Occurrences such as the Herrin Mine Massacre, the formation of a large Ku Klux Klan organization, and several years of violent gang wars established Williamson County as a dangerous place full of fearful people, ineffectual lawmen and many murders. Surrounding towns had their share of problems during these days of Prohibition and later the Depression but no other locale was so replete with trouble and tragedy.

The incident that first brought Williamson to national attention during the 20th century was known as the Herrin Mine Massacre, which took place on June 21 and 22, 1922. The economies of Williamson and many other Southern Illinois counties were largely based on coal. Mining of the area's coal began on a large commercial scale around 1850, mainly because of the coal burning trains of the rapidly expanding national railroad system.

The existence and subsequent extractor of this resource gave Southern Illinois and Williamson County an industrial economy, replacing the less lucrative agricultural one. During its peak, around the turn of the century, Williamson County produced 319,697 tons of coal. But dropping coal prices and rising production costs conflicted with the pro-labor ideas of the newly formed United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) and resulted in disaster.

Mine operators cut the wages of miners already living below subsistence level. When the UMWA called a strike on April 1, 1922, the Southern Illinois Coal Company, owned by William J. Lester of Cleveland, Ohio, began a chain of events that culminated in a wholesale massacre that the St. Louis Globe-Democrat called "The most brutal and horrifying crime that has ever stained the garments of organized labor."

On June 15, 1922, the company dismissed all of its union miners and imported some 50 non-union workers known as 'scabs' from Chicago to work the mine. This threat to organized labor was more than the striking union locals would stand for.

On the afternoon of June 21, the company was surrounded by an armed mob of some 500 striking miners and their sympathizers. The mob began shooting at the strike-breaking scabs, who returned their fire. Three strikers were killed that first day, while the scabs and mine guards remained pinned down all night, unable to escape.

On the second day, June 22, a promise of safe conduct out of the county lured the besieged guards and workmen out in the open, where they laid down their arms and surrendered. The striking miners began to march their prisoners toward Herrin, five miles away, but quickly lost control and started to attack the captives, shooting the unarmed men as they ran for their lives. Many of those lucky enough to escape the shooting were recaptured later that day. The still-violent mob, now augmented by women and children, taunted and harassed the recaptured prisoners, finally shooting them.

All in all, 19 strike-breakers and three striking miners were killed. The brutality and public participation that surrounded the killings shocked the nation deeply, resulting in scathing editorials that condemned Herrin and all of Williamson County. The national revulsion was only heightened when local juries returned not-guilty verdicts for the striking miners indicted for murder and dismissed all the remaining indictments.

After the furor over the massacre and subsequent trial had died down, Herrin slowly disappeared from the front pages. But the violence in Williamson County was far from over.

The formative and fast growth of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) within Williamson was the next sign of trouble in that county. For some time bootleggers and gamblers had been operating in the area, with little resistance from local law enforcement officers. Area citizens had more reason than most towns to wish for a clean, law-abiding county; the specter of the Herrin Mine Massacre still lingered as did an accompanying shameful reputation.

The KKK offered the citizens of Williamson County a chance to enforce the federal laws the sheriff and his officers could or would not act upon.

The KKK first appeared in Williamson County in May of 1923. At first they attracted attention by interrupting church services and giving money to the ministers; they soon got more by way of public demonstrations in which they initiated hundreds of people into to the order and killed huge trees.

Purportedly formed for the purpose of putting the bootleggers and gamblers out of business, the KKK also occupied itself with castigating local immigrants such as the Italian community in Herrin and the French nationals in Johnston City. The KKK raided private homes whenever they wished, allegedly looking for liquor - illegal under the 18th amendment - and vandalized and looted the homes. The Klan's slogan, "one hundred percent Americanism," seemed to leave no room for those who were not white Protestants.

Leading the Klan members on the path of enforcement" and handling it was enforcement agent S. Glenn Young. Hired by a Klan committee visiting Washington, D.C., Young was the chief instigator of
of buying or selling liquor. National Guard troops were sent in at the sheriff's request when Young and his men took guns into a courtroom, where Young was facing charges of assault and battery, frightening the jury into giving him an immediate acquittal. Civil war then broke out between the KKK and anti-klansmen in Herrin after the guardsmen had been sent away, necessitating their return.

Disturbed by his violence and arrogance, KKK leaders dismissed Young from his job, whereupon he went to Danville, Ill., to take part in the trials of those arrested in the Williamson County liquor raids. After the trials, Young departed for East St. Louis to begin his version of a clean up, but was soon dismissed by state klan leaders for his wild and intemperate behavior. Finally, after sporadic returns to Williamson County, the troubleshaking Young and deputy sheriff Ora Thomas shot each other to death in a Herrin cigar store on January 24, 1925.

The ex-klan leader was dead; the KKK in Southern Illinois was on its last leg. Only one last explosive episode took place, after the 1926 elections of county and state officers. Klansmen and anti-klansmen clashed outside a garage and a Masonic Temple, both in Herrin, with several casualties the result.

At last the troops that had been sent in were sent home, for the trouble with the KKK was over. Williamson County had been cleaned up on the surface, but bootleggers and other lawbreakers were too used to lawlessness to now live a quiet, peaceful life. The troubles in Williamson County continued.

After the demise of the KKK, members of the two largest area gangs, the Birger and Shelton gangs, began fighting among themselves. Roadhouses, bootleggers and gamblers had sprung into existence immediately after the defeat of the KKK until their numbers were greater than before the clean up. The gangs began feuding as a result of disagreements over their bootlegging and slot-machine operations.

The Shelton gang centered around the Shelton brothers — Carl, Earl and Bert. Natives of Southern Illinois, they operated gambling and bootlegging establishments. The small coal towns in Southern Illinois offered many opportunities for their illegal businesses, so they joined forces with the most powerful gangster in Southern Illinois — Charlie Birger.

Charlie Birger was the child of Russian Jewish immigrants who had moved to St. Louis. Birger had a long and checkered career as a U.S. soldier, a coal miner, a saloonkeeper, a bootlegger before he finally settled in Williamson County to form his notorious gang. Residing in Harrisburg with his fourth wife and two daughters from previous marriages, Birger acted as protector of the town while reaping the benefits of his roadhouses, gambling and prostitution establishments located elsewhere in Southern Illinois. Birger, his gang and the Shelton gang had banded together against the KKK clean up and were soon partners in various illegal enterprises.

Trouble between the two gangs started when Birger and the Sheltons accused each other of cheating on bootlegging and slot machine profits. Escalating into a full-scale gang war, the fighting between the Birger and Shelton gangs also took its toll on innocent citizens.

For much of the war with the Sheltons, Charlie Birger had been the loser. The Sheltons had destroyed Birger's headquarters, a fortified cabin halfway between Marion and Harrisburg, known as "Shady Rest," and had taken over his bootlegging business, and members of his gang had scattered. Birger was also under suspicion for the murder of Joe Adams, the mayor of West City, Ill., and a friend of the Sheltons.

Birger took revenge on the Sheltons in February of 1927 by perjuring himself at a trial in which the Sheltons were being tried for the robbery of the Collinsville mail. The Sheltons were convicted and sentenced to 25 years in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, but were later granted a new trial and released on bail.

Birger's troubles increased when he was arrested in April of 1927 and charged with the murder of Joe Adams. Other Birger gang members were subsequently captured and gave damaging testimony about the Adams murder and several others, in many of which Birger was implicated. Finally, on April 19, 1928, Charlie Birger was hanged in the jailyard at Benton, Ill., having been found guilty of the murder of Joe Adams.

After the gang war, the Sheltons left Williamson County, never to return. East St. Louis was again their headquarters for gambling, bootlegging and prostitution until a sheriff forced them to leave. Peoria was their next center of operations. Carl and Bert Shelton were eventually killed, but Earl Shelton still lives.

The problems that plagued Williamson County more than 50 years ago were unique to that era. Williamson County is now typical to Southern Illinois, with no visible evidence of its infamous past.

Come to the Fair

Story by Susan Sarkauskas

Mention the words “state fair” to Illinoisans, and most of them will think of the annual event staged in Sangamon County near the state capital. You know, the one where the governor has a bowl of chili with singer Willie Nelson.

But for Southern Illinoisans, the words evoke another image — that of the Du Quoin State Fair, held immediately after the Illinois State Fair. Du Quoin is the only town in Illinois that can claim it has its own state fair.

The fair has existed in one form or another since 1923, when showman and entrepreneur W.R. Hayes and business associates bought a 30-acre site one mile south of Du Quoin on the east side of U.S. Route 51. According to the Du Quoin Evening Call, almost 60,000 people attended the fair, which was held in early October. They watched 150 horses compete in harness races on a half-mile track. The audience sat in a wooden grandstand that held 3,000.

Fairgoers also watched the Cruickshank Flying Circus, heard Governor Len Small speak, and viewed horse and fashion shows.

Hayes made a promise to the people of Du Quoin when he started the fair: "The Du Quoin Fairgrounds and the quality and extent of the Fair presen-
tations will be improved yearly as the Fair exists." He kept his promise. The site has grown quite a bit. The fairowners bought 800 acres from the Black Gold Strip Mine Company in 1931, working throughout the decade to fill in the scars, establish small lakes, and plant 1,400 trees.

In 1942, another 200 acres were added. Today, the grounds encompass 1,800 acres, 900 of which are used year-round for camping, hiking, and exhibitions, including a water-skiing competition on the grounds' lagoon each August.

The first grandstand burned down in 1945; temporary bleachers were set up, and by 1946, a new grandstand was in place. The current steel-and-concrete grandstand has a seating capacity of 8,300; additional grandstands that flank it can seat another 10,000. The roof of the main grandstand also covers the 65 by 115 foot stage. Horse barns and livestock exhibition halls have been added to the grounds over the years.

The Du Quoin Fair of yesteryear, especially the entertainment, would hardly be recognizable to today's fairgoers. In the 1920s and 1930s, vaudeville-style acts reigned supreme at the fair. Indian vocalists, flying stunt teams, auto teams, aerialists, acrobats, trained animal acts, clowns and comedians were all brought in to entertain the crowd. The Magic Box Revue ushered in the debut of entertainment under the stars in 1929, as the Du Quoin Fair became the first to offer night-time entertainment, courtesy of electric lights.

When the fair moved to late August in 1926, Australian cyclists, a three-legged man, a six-foot rooster and the Kaswell Sisters ("Dancers of the Air") were performing.

By the 1940s, however, singing and dancing groups had replaced the novelty acts and the local high school bands and orchestras on stage. The first "headliner" that today's fairgoers might recognize was comedian Bob Hope, who opened the Labor Day show in 1950. Since then, the fair has featured many popular singers, comedians and television personalities, including Johnny Carson, Nat King Cole, Nelson Eddy, George Burns, Carol Channing, the Osmonds, and the rock groups Chicago and the Beach Boys, to name a few. The shows have taken a decidedly country turn; for the past few

Prakas crosses the finish line in the 1985 Magic Mile trotting race, setting a world record of 1:53.2. The driver is Bill O'Donnell. Photo by Bill West
years, supergroups Alabama and the Oak Ridge Boys have performed, and this year they were joined by Crystal Gayle and the Charlie Daniels Band.

In 1941, the word "state" was added to the fair's title — simply because Hayes felt that the fair was now important to more than the town. As promised, the fair had become bigger and better.

One of the best known features of the fairs has been the races — both horse and automobile.

Harness racing especially has been linked with Du Quoin. The tracks have always been known as "fast" tracks, conducive to record-setting times. The original half-mile track was replaced by a one-mile track in 1945; and an all-weather track was installed in 1974.

Grand Circuit Harness Racing came to Du Quoin in 1942; also in 1942, the first Du Quoin Derby Day was held, a mile and one-sixteenth race.

Hayes dreamed of one day having harness racing's premier event, the Hambletonian, run at Du Quoin, but he died in 1952 without seeing his dream fulfilled. His sons Gene and Don, however, persuaded the Hambletonian Society to bring the race to Du Quoin in 1957. A field of 21 starters competed for the winners' share of the $112,125.

The Hambletonian remained at Du Quoin until 1982.

Motorized racing has been popular at the fair. Automobile races have always been held, except from 1942-44, when automobile racing was outlawed to save gasoline and rubber for the war effort. National stock, dirt, sprint and championship car races have been run at Du Quoin. One of the most successful drivers has been A.J. Foyt, who in the late 1960s and early 1970s won four championship car, one late model stock, and several dirt car races.

The first Midwest Championship tractor pulling contest was held at Du Quoin in 1973, as was a state championship demolition derby.

The going has not been easy for the fair. During World War II, labor and material shortages forced Hayes to scrap plans for building a steel and concrete amphitheatre; this, and difficulty in programming entertainment, threatened to shut the fair down.

Declining attendance, the loss of the Hambletonian, and rising costs of entertainment have contributed to the deterioration of the fair. Current owner, Saad Jabr, once had planned to turn the fair into a year-round amusement center. But the fair is $1.7 million dollars in debt. Jabr, an Iraqi national who was the first international student to graduate from SIU, was unable for the second year in a row to meet the September fair payroll on time. The state bailed out the fair temporarily in August, depositing $350,000 in the fair's account at the Du Quoin National Bank so Jabr could pay the Charlie Daniels Band and other bills; otherwise, the fair would have been forced to close.

However, it is not likely that the fair will die; the state is negotiating with Jabr to buy the fair and fairgrounds. "I believe that state government should work to ensure that future generations can enjoy the fair," said Governor James Thompson.

He cited the track's potential for harness racing, the money that could be saved by contracting with vendors to serve both the Du Quoin and the other state fair, and the economic importance of the fair to the area as reasons for keeping this Southern Illinois fair in business.
Simon says

The freshman senator talks about his new job.

Story by William Walker

about his relationship with his constituency, "because I now have 12 million people to take care of instead of 500,000."

But although it's difficult for Simon to keep in close touch with as many people as he would like, it's certainly not from a lack of trying. The freshman senator keeps a hectic schedule, cramping 15 to 20 appointments, 25 to 30 phone calls and 50 to 75 personally dictated letters into each of his already busy days of committee hearings, floor votes, speeches and conferences.

And the 36-year-old senator's busy schedule is not confined to Washington. He usually spends two days of each week in Illinois for meetings, interviews and generally keeping in touch with the voters. For instance, during a recent Senate recess he held a series of 57 town meetings throughout the state, an ongoing program that will take him to every county in the state by year's end. So frequently is he in the public spotlight that some say he looks like an incumbent running for re-election.

But it is not an upcoming election that motivates Simon. Instead, he is driven by a strong commitment to the issues in which he is involved.

Foremost in his mind is the growing federal budget deficit, a problem he calls "horrendous," and one he says will mar the record of President Reagan.

"It is a major problem," he said.

"In the last four years we have accumulated more indebtedness than the nation accumulated in all the years from George Washington to Jimmy Carter. There's no question about it, it's a horrendous problem.

"History is going to judge the huge deficit that President Reagan has created. It's going to mar his record pretty badly."

The budget deficit is especially detrimental to Illinois, Simon said.

"The trade deficit is caused, in large part, by the federal deficit, and the trade deficit means 3 million jobs lost in the nation. In Illinois that has to mean at least 200,000 of those jobs, probably more," he said.

The loss of jobs is especially disturbing to Simon, whose primary commitment throughout his legislative career has been to bring jobs to Illinois.

And his efforts to end unemployment have not been mere short-term solutions to long-term problems. Two years ago he introduced a jobs bill in the House that, if passed, he says would be a major overhaul of the welfare system.

The plan involves community-based, minimum-wage jobs for the unemployed. Workers in the program would work four days each week and be encouraged to use the fifth day to seek employment in the private sector. Although the idea has its critics, Simon argues that it makes more sense to pay people for working rather than for doing nothing, and he believes the plan stands a reasonable chance of being implemented.

But Simon realizes that creating unskilled labor jobs is not enough. More important, he believes, is education, another area in which he has devoted considerable time and effort.

"I think if you're talking about the future of a country, you have to be talking about education," Simon was quoted as saying in an interview with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "It develops the most fundamental resource of all and that's the human resource."

Although his efforts, especially for jobs and education, have helped his district and his state, Simon's style has never been one of pork-barrel politics. He has always stressed the need to view his position and his constituency in an international context.

"We must remember that we have the ability to destroy the world," he is quick to point out.

With this in mind, he has been a major advocate of arms control and increased international understanding, both of which he believes are needed to maintain stability between nations.

To many, Simon is a paradox — a liberal supported by a strong conservative constituency, a champion of education who has no college degree. So what is his secret?

By his own admission he has wide interests and beliefs that are neither strictly conservative nor liberal, which does not mean he avoids commitment on issues, but rather suggests that he is willing to listen to opposing viewpoints.

Although this style may seem illogical in the realm of politics, Simon doesn't see it that way. His method seems to be the proper blend of compassion and common sense, caring and prudence.

Perhaps the Wall Street Journal said it best when it called him "durable, dependable and down-to-earth," and added, "He is also an idealist."
ON THE MOUNDS OF CAHOKIA

Story by Mary Lung
Graphics by Nora O’Donnell

Hundreds of years ago, before the first European explorers had set foot west of the Mississippi, the prehistoric city of Cahokia flourished along the banks of the Mississippi River in Southern Illinois. The only prehistoric Indian city north of Mexico, Cahokia is renowned for the large earth mounds located there.

Visitors to the site cannot help but be awed by the immense grass-covered mounds that dot the flat surrounding plain. Stately, their quiet endurance of both time and man, the mounds loom above the midwest landscape and inspire a sense of wonder and curiosity about events of long ago.

Archaeological research shows that the site was occupied continuously from about 700 A.D. until its abandonment around 1500 A.D. It is located in an area known to archaeologists as the American Bottom, named for boundaries set after the French and Indian War. The site itself was named by French explorers who arrived in the late 1600s and named it after the Cahokians of the Illini tribe.

The site began with the building of a series of small villages by prehistoric Indians of the Late Woodland culture. The Late Woodland Indians hunted, fished and gathered both wild and semi-cultivated plants.

Between the late 700s and 900 A.D., a transition began from the Late Woodland to the Mississippian Culture. The Mississippian Culture was much more specialized and complex with state-like societies and large-scale public projects. The Mississippian Indians had a well-developed agricultural system. They, like the Late Woodland Indians, also hunted and fished.

A dependable agricultural system, combined with hunting and fishing, allowed the Indians of Cahokia to develop a large, socially complex community similar to no other in North America at the time. Their political development, a primitive but specialized state with a hierarchy of political and religious leaders, has been compared with that of the monarchical societies of Polynesia and South America.

The city of Cahokia covered about six square miles and had a population estimated at between 10,000 and 60,000, depending on the method used to determine the figure. Various formulas used include measuring the area of land the city covered and calculating the population per foot and analyzing refuse (garbage) pits and determining how many people were necessary to produce the fill.

Cahokia was arranged around open plazas where the Indians built large earthen mounds. The mounds are constructed entirely of dirt dug from pits in the surrounding area. Depressions from the digging can still be seen. The Indians dug the dirt using wood, shell or stone tools and transported it in woven baskets to the construction area. It has been estimated that the Indians moved 600,000 cubic centimeters of dirt for the construction of the mounds and used 700,000 to one million labor hours. The mounds were probably built as part of a seasonal ritual and as a public project, by both male and female members of Cahokia and its satellite communities.

Monks Mound, which is the largest mound at Cahokia and the largest prehistoric earthen construction in the New World, is estimated to have taken more than 400 years to build. It covers 14 acres and rises to a height of 100 feet. It is called Monks Mound because a group of Trappist monks maintained a monastery there for a short time.

Three types of mounds are located at Cahokia: temple, conical and ridge-top. Temple mounds, square or rectangular mounds with flat tops, are the most common. They are thought to have been used for several purposes—such as ceremonial or religious buildings, or for residences of rulers or religious leaders.

Although the purposes of all of the conical and ridge-top mounds have not yet been determined, it is known that some mounds were used as mortuary temples. These mortuary temples, called chamel houses, were for individuals of high status. In a few cases, common people were buried with the deceased individual, perhaps as sacrifices or for slaves in the next world. As more highborn or otherwise honored individuals died, new layers of earth were added to the existing mounds and new mortuary facilities were built.

At one time more than 100 mounds dotted the area, but cultivation and modern urban construction have altered or destroyed many of them. At present, about 40 mounds are preserved on the state historic site and the rest are privately owned.

Several defensive stockades were built during the Cahokia occupation, the first around 1500 A.D. The stockades, built to enclose about 300 acres of the central city, indicate that the Indians did engage in warfare. The main agricultural plots probably were not enclosed by the stockades but instead were outside the city. It has been estimated that each stockade construction used 15,000 logs. Like the mounds, the stockades must have been a project involving much public cooperation.

Another enormous public work and great prehistoric accomplishment of the Cahokians was discovered by archaeologists in 1961. The Cahokians had built sun calendars using red cedar posts set up in a circle in accordance with the rising sun at different times of year. The Cahokians built five "woodhenges" in the same place over a period of 200 years, from about 900 to 1100 A.D. The functions of only three posts are known; the posts that mark the first day of each season. Two of the posts mark the first day of summer and winter, respectively; the other marks the first day of both spring and fall. The post that marks the spring and fall equinoxes aligns with Monks Mound and frames the rising sun on those days.

The demise of the city of Cahokia is a puzzle to archaeologists. Many factors, such as climatic fluctuation, epidemic diseases, blights, flooding or agricultural pests, singly or in combination, could have been responsible for the abandonment. Experts estimate that the city went into a decline around 1250 or 1300 A.D., and that the site was virtually abandoned by about 1350 A.D. It is believed that the Illinois, Kaskaskia, Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes absorbed some of the Cahokia Indians who left the site. It is also unclear whether the exodus took place gradually or quickly.

The 1800-acre Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site is located a few miles northeast of East St. Louis, Illinois, and west of Collinsville, Illinois. It is managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation.
Story and graphics by Ginny Hynes.

part of Seargent Trotter in The Mouse Trap, and been assistant director in the very recent production, the Oldest Living Graduate.

Those selected for a part automatically become members. The $20 membership fee does not cover all the costs of running the productions. Because the building itself is so old and heat is generated by oil, most of the fees go toward the utility bills. According to Flavin, there is a great deal of community support for The Stage Company. A used clothing store, after it went out of business, donated a great deal of its merchandise for use as costumes. Sometimes a local used-furniture store will help out by loaning items needed for sets and props. There is also the cost for lumber to build the sets for each play; construction is done by technicians or anyone who has the time. The Plays vary in the number of costumes and props they need. According to Dr. Archibald McLeod, the upcoming presentation, The Dining Room, is a very unusual play. "There are about 18 scenes, where six actors play 10 or 11 roles. The costumes are very basic, and the change in character is done by the actor himself. The actress may be aided by adding an apron or the actor will change his character by simply drawing on a moustache."

The executive board of The Stage Company consists of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, and usually changes every two years. The system for selecting directors and actors for the plays also varies from year to year, but mostly the executive board selects directors from a host of applicants.

Clark Davis, vice president in charge of public relations at The Bank of Carbondale, describes The Stage Company as "the best community stage program in the midwest. The bank has always encouraged cultural activities in the community, and I think this is a satisfactory arrangement for the both of us."

The lease between the bank and The Stage Company expires in 1988. Most of the members hope that by then the Stage Company will have its own building.

The plays for the rest of the 1985-86 season are described thus by the Stage Company's promotional brochure: The Dining Room. "A mosaic of interrelated scenes - some funny, some touching, some rueful - creating a portrait of the vanishing upper middle class." Angel Street, otherwise known as Gaslight, "A thriller about a man who slowly tortures his wife into insanity." "You Can't Take It With You, "A very popular comedy about a happily mad family whose crazy views may be much saner than our own."

History of the Building

On the northeast corner of Washington and Main streets in Carbondale stands a building with a significant amount of history. Dating back to the late 1800s, this structure has undergone many changes - inside and out.

In 1860, the building was a combined drugstore, bank and opera house. James Moody, Richard and Henry F. Campbell were partners as general merchants of the Prickett and Porter drugstore, and of the limited banking business in the same building. The Moody Opera House was located on the second and third floors.

Following a near collapse on the stock market in the late spring of 1893, and a depression throughout the country, Richard and Campbell went bankrupt, bringing down the merchandising firm that provided its financial backing. They were tried and convicted of manipulating the funds of depositors of the bank, and were sent to the penitentiary. The building had to be sold.

The bank failure, however, actually opened up the opportunity to turn tragedy into triumph. Frank A. Prickett and a group of men bought the three-story building, and had it completely remodeled. This was the beginning of the only sound banking institution in Carbondale during the depression. The First National Bank of Carbondale was chartered on May 25, 1893. It had a fully paid capital of $50,000 and Frank Prickett was president.

The Opera House was enlarged to include a gallery and a seating capacity of 500. When it reopened in October 1894, it offered programs presented by the Literary Society of Southern Illinois Normal University.

Old timers remember the Opera House in the 1920s when plays such as East Lynne and Uncle Tom's Cabin were presented. Dressed in their Sunday best, people would come from all over Southern Illinois to see vaudeville acts and melodramas. It is said that at one time, the Opera House had the finest lighting system in all of Southern Illinois.

There is little information available on the Moody Opera House after its days of glory. Today, the building once again houses a theater. This theater currently offers a full scheduled season of plays presented by the Jackson County Stage Company.

Remainder of the 1985-86 Season:
The Dining Room (last performances):
Nov. 22, 23, 24. Box office now open.

You Can't Take It With You: April 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20. Box office opens March 21.


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Piassa: The Bird of Evil Spirit

Story and graphics by Lori Lottman.

Along the McAdams highway, north of Alton, Ill., high upon a bluff, is a painting of a hideous creature widely known in Indian legends as the Piassa or "Bird of Evil Spirit."

The monster's body resembles that of an alligator. Its head is human-like, but its ears are pointed and its eyes, fierce and red. Large, sharply pointed teeth protrude from its gaping mouth. A goat-like beard covers its lower jaw. Scales and feathers of assorted colors cover its body, and its feet have enormous talons like those of an eagle. It is long enough to return over his back and head, then underneath the entire length of his body. Bat-like wings stick out from his body. If this painting sounds frightening, the creature itself surely must have been. Legend has it that only a few of the most daring Indians could look upon it long.

Indian legend also says that the Piassa lived in a high cave in the bluff. At first, it ate only serpents, and the Indians had no reason to fear it. Its diet changed, however. One day, while two tribes of Indians were engaged in fierce battle alongside the bluff, the Piassa swooped down from its cave, seized two warriors, carried them away, and feasted upon them. After the Piassa tasted human flesh and found it palatable, he no longer hunted serpents. According to legend, adults and children, often several in a day, were seized and eaten. The Indians feared that their entire tribe might be devoured by the beast.

After all the tribe's medicine men had failed to control the beast, Wassatoga, a young chief of the Illinois tribe, began a solitary fast in an attempt to find a way to overcome the Piassa. A vision came to him after many days of fasting—if a brave would stand as a living sacrifice, the tribe could be saved. Wassatoga offered himself as a sacrifice to save his tribe.

The young chief took 20 of his most trusted warriors to a prominent rocky point on the bluff. Wassatoga took position on an exposed rock where he could easily be seen. The warriors armed with their most powerful bows, hid behind a nearby rock. They all awaited the coming of the Piassa.

Shortly after, Wassatoga spotted the monster on a distant point of the bluff. Wassatoga then began his death chant. The Piassa dove toward its victim, each sweep of its enormous wings giving off the sound of thunder. From its fierce eyes, bolts of lightning flashed. When the Piassa had come very near to Wassatoga, the 20 hidden warriors "quivering arrows pierced the monster through to their feathers." The Piassa fell dead at Wassatoga's feet. To commemorate their escape from the evil bird, the Indians carved and painted the picture of the Piassa high upon the face of the cliff.

Not everyone, however, agrees with this account of the origin of the painting. Some believe that Chinese explorers who penetrated the North American continent from the west coast by following old Indian trails along the Platte and Missouri rivers, painted a dragon, their national emblem, on the bluff. Still another speculation is that the painting was done by the Lost Tribes of Israel as their conception of the beast prophesied by St. John in the Apocalypse. Others believe that members of Jacques Marquette's party, the first explorers to give an eye-witness account of the Piassa more than 300 years ago, contracted some terrible disease and painted the monster bird to appease the devil.

The people of Alton seem to put faith in the Indian origin of the painting. Recently, the Alton Godfrey Rotary Club provided an arrowhead-shaped monument depicting the legend of the Piassa bird. The citizens of Alton have, throughout the years, taken many actions to preserve the painting that has been scarred by arrows and bullets, eroded by wind and weather, and entirely obliterated by three quarreymen, repainted several times after being absent for 75 years and still remains the greatest petroglyph of the Mississippi Valley. Alton's Piassa bird is a symbol of a legend that lives on.

The source common to both of the stories on this page is:

Weather Wisdom

Story by Lori Lottman

The weather has been a popular topic of conversation throughout history. For this reason, a great deal of weather lore — or weather wisdom — has come into being.

Weather wisdom is what the early pioneers of Southern Illinois relied on to forecast the weather when meteorology was a nonexistent science. Based on signs from nature, weather wisdom is used to make long- and short-range forecasts. Since cold, snowy days are ahead, it seems only appropriate to talk about winter weather wisdom.

Exactly when will winter strike? According to weather wisdom, three months after the katydids start chirping the first killing frost will hit. If one-time frostbitten feet or ears itch severely, winter is just around the corner.

How severe will the coming winter be? The answer can be found in the breastbone of a goose. A mild winter is in store if the goose has an all-white bone. A mottled or dark bone predicts a severe winter. Further, the longer the bone, the longer the winter.

Not everyone, however, has access to a goose bone. Other signs include late maturing and slowly ripening blackberries, fruit trees that bloom twice in the same season, a heavy crop of wild grapes, a large harvest of hazel nuts, thick hulls of walnuts or heavier than usual foliage on trees and bushes, all of which indicate a hard winter. Also, the deeper the squirrels bury the nuts they have collected for the winter, the lower the temperatures will fall.

The number of snowfalls for a winter can be calculated by counting the foggy mornings in August and allowing a snowfall for each. Count on snow within 24 hours if a full moon looks like it is "wading through snow." If the family pet howls at the full moon, expect early morning snowfall. Large fluffy snowflakes indicate a heavy snowfall. More snow can be expected if there is an east wind or frost clinging to the trees in the late morning.

Weather wisdom can be useful for a variety of personal needs, too. Water from melted March snow is especially beneficial; if used to wash the hair, it will keep hair from falling out, and if used to wash the face, it will result in a good complexion. Freckles, warts, and headaches will also disappear after being in water that comes from any snow falling after the first of March.

Weather wisdom can also predict the success or failure of a marriage. If snows on the car carrying the bride or groom to the church, the couple will most likely separate, but snow at any other time on the wedding day means that the husband will be good to his wife.

Weather wisdom is by no means a threat to today's meteorologists with their advanced training and technology, but it may be interesting to see how it compares with their forecasts. Even if weather wisdom is inaccurate, it still makes an interesting story to pass down through the years to come.