Southern Alumni

Southern Illinois University Carbondale
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Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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Living the Legacy

The SIU Alumni Association believes the greatest compliment alumni can pay their Alma Mater is to entrust the educational aspirations of their children to Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The Association has decided to show its commitment by supporting alumni as they seek to pass on the SIU legacy to their children, grandchildren and siblings through the establishment a legacy scholarship program.

SIU Alumni Association Legacy Scholarships of $2,500 a year will be awarded to outstanding incoming freshmen prior to the fall semester in which they are enrolled. Eligible students must have a parent, step-parent, legal guardian, grandparent or sibling who has completed a minimum of 24 credit hours at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and who is a member of the SIU Alumni Association. Students must submit a completed application to the admission office as well as complete a legacy scholarship application to the Association.

For more information about the SIU Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship Program, please contact the SIU Alumni Association at (618) 453-2408 or by e-mail at alumni@siu.edu.

SIU definitely runs in the Martin/Gonzenbach family, one of many families who can boast several generations of Salukis. Standing are, from left to right: Robert Gonzenbach '76, M.S. '84, who works for the Illinois Department of Labor; Amy Gonzenbach (daughter of Robert and Nancy), who will graduate from SIU in 1999 with a degree in athletic training; and Nancy Gonzenbach '74, M.S. '83, Ph.D. '90, a professor in the College of Applied Sciences and Arts. Seated are Nancy's parents, Joan Martin '57, M.A. '61, professor emerita from the Department of English, and Reid Martin '53, M.S. '55, a former teacher, coach, athletic director and superintendent at Carbondale Community High School.
Southern Illinois University Alumni

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Alumnus and country music star, David Lee Murphy, here performing at the Sangamon County Fair in Springfield, is profiled by Greg Scott on page 14. T.J. Salsman of The State Journal-Register in Springfield took the photo.

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The Meaning of Legacy

by Doris McLain Rottschalk '69, president, SIU Alumni Association

Thirty years ago my husband and I graduated from SIU but never really left it. I treasure my college memories of Southern, but now, as a grandmother, I want to make sure the university and its vast programs will be available for future generations. In 1998, we reflected on the past with the 50th anniversary of Delyte Morris’ inauguration. In 1999, let us focus on the future of SIU as we invest in that future.

President Morris left us a legacy and we must now turn to building upon that legacy within our alumni association. The association has achieved tremendous growth in the last decade. Our department has expanded from eight to 14 full-time staff members. We now have three locations, in Colyer Hall, the Student Center, and suburban Chicago, to better serve the alumni and the university.

Ten years ago the association sponsored 25 events. During 1997 the association conducted a total of 76 events. One of our premier programs, the Extern Program, matched 208 students with 186 sponsors last spring.

Our recent gift of $200,000 to the university certainly sustained several programs on campus. The association’s gifts have provided significant support to Saluki Futures, Morris Library, Public Policy Institute, the SIU Marching Salukis and many other programs. We plan to continue this generosity through the SIU Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship which will encourage children of alumni families to attend SIU.

This generosity does not happen by chance. Our investment committee works diligently to insure we have the means to support the university. In 1989, the association provided approximately $9,500 in support of the university. In 1996, the association provided $60,000. During 1998 the association contributed over $200,000. Approximately 20 scholarships are provided annually by alumni chapters and the Student Alumni Council.

As members of the SIU Alumni Association, you make these gifts possible.

This is a time of change, but also a time of growth. I am optimistic about the association’s future. I have faith in the university and the loyalty found in the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors and our staff. Rather than standing on our laurels, we have moved forward by launching new initiatives such as the Distinguished Alumni Wall in the Student Recreation Center (which recently celebrated its second year by adding five more successful alumni) and the recent completion of a Successful Alumni Wall at the Admissions Office. Since 1994 we have sponsored four to six alumni international travel tours a year.

The Southern Alumni staff continues to publish a highly acclaimed magazine which does an outstanding job of profiling alumni while informing graduates of the exceptional activities and programs on campus. We have been told that in recent years the magazine has provided a powerful connection between alumni and the university—something in which the association takes tremendous pride.

As you can see, there are many reasons to believe in the legacy the SIU Alumni Association is working hard to build. We will continue to promote programs that exemplify our mission statement “to show to the world the excellence of Southern Illinois University.” Even though you may live many miles from our alma mater, your membership in the alumni association enables us to advance the association and our mission.
Editor's Letter to the Readers

For the past three years, it has been my privilege to serve as editor of your alumni magazine. Many people compliment the changes they have seen in the magazine in recent years. Such changes were only possible because of the tremendous teamwork that went into producing the magazine. I am especially pleased to give credit to two extremely talented individuals: David Lott, the magazine’s art director, and Assistant Editor Greg Scott. Many other colleagues throughout the university also provided us with invaluable support and insight during this time. They have and will continue to be an important part of this publication’s success.

As I reflect on the past several years, I am especially touched by the stories of the people whom I’ve had the opportunity to meet and interview. I believe their stories exemplify the enduring spirit of this university.

I was a little apprehensive about meeting billionaire Kenny Troutt. But I quickly learned that, despite his financial success, he still vividly remembered his days in the housing projects of Mount Vernon and valued the lessons he’d learned there from his single mother as much as any lesson he’d learned since. By the way, he was as easy to talk with as anyone I’ve ever interviewed.

I’ll never forget the afternoon I spent with Florence Robinson in Atlanta. The lyricism of her voice and words drew me into her stories about her life and the challenges she’d faced as a professional African-American woman charting a course through the 1950s until her recent retirement. Her quiet, unshakeable courage was and is inspiring.

Some of my best times at SIU were spent talking with former Chancellor Don Beggs. He remains one of the most open and honest people I’ve ever interviewed. Although it might be unusual in our jaded age to talk about an individual’s kindness, that is always how I will think of Don Beggs—as one of the kindest people I’ve ever met.

A few weeks after I accepted this position, I learned Paul Simon was retiring and coming to teach at SIU. I couldn’t believe my good fortune. A longtime admirer of Senator Simon, I looked forward to the chance to cover his arrival on campus. I wasn’t disappointed. Sitting in on the first class he taught and interviewing him over the course of several days, the distant awe I’d felt was quickly replaced with deep respect. His life of public service provides numerous examples of compassion and integrity. Now, at a time when no one could blame him for slowing down or taking a position where he would earn more money, he instead took a job where he could make a difference. No one consistently provides the magazine with more exciting news to share with readers than Senator Simon and the Public Policy Institute. And no one, I believe, serves as a better role model to students than this man who has always put his country, his principles and his family first.

As I finish my last issue, I wish everyone associated with the magazine good luck in their continued efforts. I also thank them and the readers for the chance to meet so many remarkable individuals, to learn more about this impressive university, and for the diverse experiences which have, I hope, helped me to grow as a writer and as a person.

Maureen Manier
Editor, Southern Alumni

(The SIU Alumni Association staff is appreciative of Ms. Manier’s three years of service to alumni publications. We wish her well as she returns to her home state of Indiana and Butler University. Thanks Maureen for sharing your talent.)
Chancellor Announces Administrative Changes

Chancellor Jo Ann Argersinger recently held a press conference to discuss key changes in her administrative team.

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost John Jackson will be leaving the position he has held for the past two years to return to teaching full time in the political science department. He will be replaced on an interim basis by Thomas Guernsey, the dean of the SIU Law School. Guernsey, who will not be a candidate for the position when a national search is launched in August, came to SIU from the University of Richmond Law School where he served as a professor and associate dean for 16 years. Guernsey will stay dean of the law school as the associate deans oversee its day-to-day operations.

Acting Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement Thomas Britton has returned to the law school to teach and serve as the associate dean of administration. He is being replaced on an interim basis by Raymond Lenzi. Lenzi, who will temporarily leave his position as director of economic and regional development to assume these responsibilities, will serve in this capacity while a national search for a vice chancellor is completed. A three-degree SIU graduate, Lenzi returned to the university three years ago from the University of Missouri at Columbia, where he was a tenured professor and directed an outreach center. Argersinger hopes the position will be filled on a permanent basis by the fall of this year.

Athletic Director Jim Hart has accepted an offer to leave his current position and assume a new role in the chancellor’s office. After more than a decade as athletic director, Hart will now work with the chancellor in the areas of fund raising, public relations and alumni development. The former standout quarterback came to SIU after a 19-year career in the National Football League. Harold Bardo, director of SIU’s MedPrep Program and an associate professor in the School of Medicine, will serve as interim director of athletics, with the university initiating a national search for a permanent director in August. Bardo had served as the university’s faculty representative to the NCAA.

Alumnus Philip Pfeffer has been named the chief executive officer of Borders Group, a leading global retailer of books, music and videos. Pfeffer, who earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics and his master’s degree in economics from SIU, was previously the president and chief operating officer of Random House Publishing. SIU has bestowed many awards on Pfeffer including an honorary doctor of humane letters and inclusion on the SIU Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Wall.

A new book published by SIU Press features first-person reflections by nine of the broadcast industry’s most notable journalists. Edited by Joe Foote, Dean of Mass Communication and Media Arts, the book includes chapters written by four SIU alumni: CNN’s Jim Bitterman and Walter Rodger, ABC’s Chris Bury and NBC’s Roger O’Neill. ABC Nightline’s host Ted Koppel wrote the book’s foreword.

Senior elementary major Asia Fuller has won a competitive statewide scholarship from the Illinois Association of Teachers of English. Fuller was one of two minority scholars selected on the basis of their academic achievements, writing talent and favorable teacher recommendations.

SIU’s second winter commencement was held on December 19 in the SIU Arena with more than 3,000 undergraduate, graduate and law school students in attendance. During the ceremony, Provost John Jackson presented the university’s Distinguished Service Award to retired English professor Betty Lou Mitchell. Mitchell earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the university before joining the English department.
First Fly-in Recruits Graduate

Four years ago, United Airlines and SIU joined forces to encourage minority and female high school students from Chicago to pursue a career in aviation. At this December’s commencement, that effort was brought full circle when two students (shown above at the Southern Illinois Airport) who participated in United’s first fly-in to SIU graduated with bachelor’s degrees in aviation management.

Charles Davis headed for Louisville, Ky., after graduation for a paid flight operations internship with United Parcel Service. His long-term goal is to fly for a major airline—he earned his commercial pilot’s certificate while in school—and to pursue other interests in flight safety management and accident investigation.

Gina Koestner returned to Chicago after commencement to start a post-graduate internship with Frontier Airlines at Chicago’s Midway Airport.

Sorority Honors Professor

Longtime professor Betty Lou Mitchell ’49, M.A. ’50, is being honored by the Beta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Delta, the sorority she joined in 1945, with the establishment of an endowed scholarship to be awarded to an undergraduate who demonstrates both academic excellence and leadership in a Greek organization.

Mitchell recently retired from the English department after almost 50 years of service. She was presented with the university’s Distinguished Service Award at the 1998 winter commencement and previously received the Student Affairs Award, the Lindell W. Sturgis Memorial Public Service Award and the InterGreek Council Award.

Contributions to the endowment are being accepted and may be sent to the SIU Foundation, Colyer Hall, Mailcode 6805, Carbondale, Ill. 62901.

More On the Side

SIU’s finance faculty rank ninth in the country for the amount of research they produce on financial institutions and fourteenth for the impact their work has on other researchers—this according to the recent issue of the Journal of Financial Education. The study ranked SIU’s faculty research productivity ahead of such institutions as University of California at Berkeley and Yale University.

The first Saluki Gourmet Scholarship has been awarded to Belleville native Julie Stumpf. Stumpf was chosen for the scholarship because of her academic performance in the food and nutrition program in the College of Agriculture. The scholarship endowment has and will continue to be generated from sales of the Saluki Gourmet cookbook, written by Joyce Guyon, wife of former Chancellor John Guyon. The book contains hundreds of recipes and menus derived from the numerous university events hosted by the Guyons. The book may be purchased at the university bookstore.

A question posed by an SIU student has been argued by more than 300 collegiate debate teams this year. Junior Eric Slusher developed a thesis-length proposal dealing with the virtues and pitfalls of broadening the Civil Rights Act. Slusher’s proposal was chosen from among numerous others across the nation. He is the first SIU student to have his proposal accepted by the Cross Examination Debate Association.

Dean of Library Affairs Carolyn Snyder accepts a $25,000 check from Mary and Larry DeJarnett to begin the refurbishing of the library’s Heritage Room. Mary DeJarnett serves as co-chair of Morris Library’s Board of Visitors.
An esteemed chemist has become the second SIU alumnus to be elected president of the American Chemical Society. Daryle Busch '51, who holds an endowed chair at the University of Kansas, will serve as president of ACS for the year 2000. In 1983, Fred Baslo '40, a former professor at Northwestern University, served as president of the prestigious society.

SIU nabbed roughly 40 percent of the competitive grants available from the State of Illinois Council for Food and Agriculture Research (C-FAR). With a total close to $800,000, the College of Agriculture has funded eight research projects, ranging from tracking estrogen genes in soybeans to developing a prolific, early-bearing, dwarf tree, and purchased equipment that will scan soybean DNA for susceptibility to Sudden Death Syndrome and soybean cyst nematode.

The SIU Board of Trustees has approved funding for the technological improvement of several high-traffic lecture halls on campus. Four lecture halls in Lawson Hall, a main classroom building on campus, will benefit from the $430,000 allocation which will include the purchase of a half-dozen internet-access computers with two mobile video projection units for high-quality video presentation as well as the upgrade of audio and electrical wiring in the building. Other recent board actions approved funding for renovations at the Touch of Nature Environmental Center, Greek Row and Southern Hills apartment complex.

University Initiates New Program at Nakajo Campus

Retired members of the Carbondale community and emeritus faculty and staff members are being invited to participate in an International Chautauqua Seniors' Program being forged by SIU's Office of International Programs and Services. The program's goal is to strengthen and expand ties with Nakajo, Carbondale's sister city.

In exchange for teaching 10 to 15 hours a week of English conversation and culture classes and hosting public school students and community members some weekends, participants will receive housing and some meals in the dormitory and a monthly allowance of approximately $350 per month. The program accommodates stays from three months up to one year. Participants will be responsible for their own round-trip airfare and insurance.

For more information on the International Chautauqua Seniors' Program, you may call Kathy Bury at (618) 453-3380.

Professor Will Lead Mountain Expedition

Alumni and friends are invited to participate in a one-week study of geology and life in Montana's Beartooth Mountains from August 7-13. Philip Robertson, a plant biology professor at SIU, will join Marvin Kauffman, adjunct professor of geosciences at MSU-Billings, to lead discussions and field excursions to study the geology and ecology of the Beartooth Mountains and adjacent Bighorn Basin.

Enrollment for the program is limited. For more information or to make reservations, you may call Robertson at (618) 453-3236 or contact him via e-mail at probertson@plant.siu.edu.

Chancellor Hosts Spring Outing

Organizers hope to raise $25,000 for SIU scholarships at an annual spring golf outing at Crab Orchard Golf Course in Carterville, says Seymour Bryson, executive assistant to Chancellor Jo Ann E. Argersinger. Argersinger serves as the official host of the spring event set to begin at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, May 21, at Crab Orchard Golf Club, 901 W. Grand Ave., in Carterville.

Donations are $100 per person or $500 for a corporate team of two.

For more information or to make reservations, you may call (618) 453-1186.
The Country Music Revolution
by Greg Scott

Alumni television producers have done more than participate in country music’s most dynamic decades—they’ve been part of the revolution.
Today, as country music fans marvel at the talent and charisma of Garth Brooks, Shania Twain and David Lee Murphy, it's hard to believe the television program Hee Haw once drove the country music industry. Five alumni who produce, direct and write for the two largest country music networks have made important contributions to the transformation of country music from old-fashioned barnyard humor to its current broader-based style of entertainment.

Matthew Coale '83, Ann Buchman Rotunno '84, Suzanne Martz '82, Stephen Chessor '91 and Kim Sorenson '88 have made their creative impact at Country Music Television (CMT) and The Nashville Network (TNN). From Garth Brooks and Travis Tritt videos to producing special programs to conducting interviews with major country music artists, these alumni have been in on the "ground floor."

While rubbing elbows with country music stars and reflecting on their treks to Nashville, the five alumni marvel at the changes in the industry. Coale, who initially had no intention of settling in Nashville, particularly appreciates the industry's popularity which has paralleled his own career growth.

Coale accepted an internship at Southern Production in 1984 to learn more about music video production. Coale quickly learned he would need to pay his dues to acquire the experience he sought.

"I came in before everyone and cleaned the bathrooms, emptied the trash cans and made the coffee just to be able to be there and participate. I did whatever needed to be done," he says. "They started paying me..."
$50 a week and I was able to hang out, go on shoots and learn the equipment.”

Fortunately, Coale, who has directed photography for Showcase and Spotlight on CMT, had planned for such humble financial beginnings. After graduating from SIU in 1983, he worked for seven months before moving to Nashville in January. Saving some money and living rent free at a friend’s house enabled him to survive during those early days.

“I knew this was going to happen and that is what it took,” he says. “The trade-off was that I got to learn a lot about editing on video and shooting with a professional video camera. While I was working there, I met people which led to jobs in and outside of Nashville.”

“I can’t help but think that music video has helped the industry. When people see images of youthful country music stars on the screen, it totally breaks down these stereotypes,” Rotunno says.

Coale’s connections soon paid off. His credits now include over 1,110 commercials, 360 corporate films, 299 television projects and 129 music videos. Coale remembers music videos being a new concept when he moved to Nashville 15 years ago.

“When I was in film school, there wasn’t a name for it—they weren’t called music videos. But I wanted to put film to music and the idea was rejected,” Coale says. “I remember them wondering who would want to watch a film that was dominated by the music.”

But now that the music video industry has come of age, so has Coale’s career. Coale worked with Garth Brooks and Travis Tritt before their careers took off as well.

Bonnie Garner shuffles through a pile of papers on her office desk. Items needing attention range from bills, to a request from Mercury Records to photograph her client’s memorabilia, to a television show appearance, to an invitation to a benefit.

So starts a typical day for Garner. A 1964 SIU graduate, Garner manages the career of country music artist Marty Stuart. Garner serves as the liaison between her client and everyone wishing to contact him, whether that be a record company, merchandise company, attorney or fan.

“Managers are the clearinghouse, screener, arbitrator, bad guy or the good guy. You are the conduit that everything goes through to get to the artist,” she says. “I tell people that my job involves either going for coffee or signing a contract. I do whatever needs to be done to get the artist where they want to go creatively.”

B

Kathy McClintock Harris with recording artist Keith Harling.

Kathy McClintock Harris, a 1972 graduate, can relate to Garner’s daily challenge. Harris, who previously served as the marketing director and member of the operations management team for The Oak Ridge Boys, has directed the career of recording artist Keith Harling since 1993.

“There is no end to a description of what a manager does. You might have to sew a button on a shirt if there is no one else to do it, or you’re booking tour dates,” Harris says. “A manager works with television show producers to promote albums, publicists, record labels and publishing companies. You work in every aspect that involves the artist.”

Garner and Harris, along with Cynthia Rose Painter, a 1972 SIU graduate who once served as a publicist for country stars Loretta Lynn and Conway Twitty, realize the importance of behind-the-scenes duties. All three alumnae began
“Very few people knew who Garth Brooks was at that time. But after we worked with Garth two or three days shooting that video, we all knew he was going to be huge because he had such a presence,” Coale says. “I shot the second video that Travis ever did. We felt the same way about him.”

Rotunno, who started at CMT in 1991 as a senior writer and producer for promotional spots, contest spots, and a testimonial campaign, agrees that country music videos have affected the industry’s image. While shows such as Hee Haw shaped past perceptions of country music, Rotunno says young country singers, influenced by rock music, are leading the industry through a renaissance.

“I can’t help but think that music video has helped the industry. When people see images of youthful country music stars on the screen, it totally breaks down these stereotypes,” Rotunno says. “A lot of people were exposed to country music through television who didn’t necessarily listen to country radio. The music didn’t have a twangy sound and all of a sudden this music wasn’t offensive to them.”

Rotunno also credits CMT and TNN for contributing to country music’s popularity.

“Artists have their own images on the screen and had an impact on how they wanted to be presented,” she says. “That really opened up a lot of doors for the people listening to it. People liked the image and they were like, ‘Wow, this is country music.’”

Rotunno, the creative force behind CMT’s year-end countdown show, is the manager of program specials. She says producers must work to be creative to maintain this image of country music.

“Every project requires a different set of skills,” she says. “We look for something unique that will provide a different kind of spark.”

Striving to provide this spark for CMT, Rotunno hired fellow alumni Suzanne Martz and Stephen Chessor. Martz came to CMT after serving four years as an assignment editor at KNSD Television in San Diego. Chessor previously produced programs for CMT, before becoming a promotions writer/producer.

All three alumnae began their careers as secretaries and receptionists.

Garner, who moved to Nashville in 1973, says a secretarial position can be an opportunity to someone interested in a music business career.

“I started out as a secretary in about every job I’ve held. I believe in starting where you can learn,” Garner says. “It’s hard to teach the music business. It would be like teaching a course in marriage.”

Harris also benefited from starting her career at the ground level when she discovered that The Oak Ridge Boys were looking for a receptionist.

“They were impressed that I had a college degree,” she says. “Every time a job opened up they offered it to me. It gave me an opportunity to grow professionally.”

A member of The Oak Ridge Boys staff for 25 years, Harris started a fan club for the group, did publicity and promotions work, and coordinated their recordings and music videos. Harris left The Oak Ridge Boys last summer to establish McClintock-Harris Management with her husband Larry to manage Harling’s career. Harling was one of two debut country artists to make the top 20 in country music last year. His first single, Papa Bear, from his album Write It In Stone, was one of the most popular country songs of 1998.

Initially hired as a receptionist for the Country Music Association in 1975, Painter became the director of research in the marketing department. Her new position provided invaluable insight into the country music industry. But Painter’s office location provided additional opportunities.

“The coke machines were outside the door of my office, and Loretta Lynn rented the upstairs of the building for her offices,” she says. “She would get a coke and then come in and talk to me. My dad was a coal miner, too, so we had that in common.”

Lynn was writing her book, Coal Miner’s Daughter. When she finished the book, Lynn needed someone to travel with her to promote it.

“The book company, her record label and management all decided that Loretta needed a woman to travel with her. I was hired to help her promote the book,” Painter says. “She was comfortable with me and we had become casual friends.”

Painter became Lynn’s publicist, arranging interviews and appearances to promote Coal Miner’s Daughter. Her relationship with Lynn opened other doors.

“Loretta and Conway Twitty owned a booking agency that represented about 30 of the biggest acts in Nashville at that time,” Painter says. “She hired me to set up interviews for Conway Twitty, which allowed me to work with other big name artists too.”


Working behind the scenes has kept these alumnae out of the limelight, but they wouldn’t have traded their view for all the guitars in Nashville.
“When I hired Suzanne, I knew we were going to try some country news type things including artist interviewing. She had the background and skills in news,” Rotunno says.

“I knew Suzanne had the experience to work in a highly political situation, which is what the music industry is from the television side. It can be very hard to deal with entourages, set up interviews, and work through the system to get what you need. Stephen had a strong, diverse background in production and I thought he would be an asset.”

Martz’s responsibilities at CMT include writing, producing and interviewing. She produces CMT Request Line, a call-in program for requesting videos. She also interviews country music artists for short segments on Rising Star and Showcase.

“The interviews vary from an entire day with an artist to a couple of hours,” Martz says. “My goal is to make it a pleasurable experience. I want it to be as beneficial to them as it is to me personally, let alone our viewing audience. They have been interviewed so many times that you have to make it exciting or different, or else you’re going to lose them.”

Through her work, Martz has met some of country music’s top stars including Reba McEntire, Shania Twain, John Michael Montgomery and Trisha Yearwood.

“Country music entertainers are generally nice people,” Martz says. “Many of them come from modest or middle class means and have worked hard all of their lives. Their success is something that is very special and amazing to them as well.

“These artists have a sense of normalcy about them. I haven’t worked in the other genres of music, but I have a feeling that this is a little different.”

One interview held special meaning for her.

“I did an interview with David Lee Murphy for Showcase and discovered that we had both attended SIU,” she says. “We were familiar with the same territory. From that point on we had something in common.”

Martz says the friendly atmosphere she found in Nashville was a refreshing change from the daily grind of the television news industry in San Diego. She and Rotunno had attended Southern together and kept in touch after their college years. While Martz was in San Diego, Rotunno encouraged her to apply for a job at CMT. Martz admits she was reluctant.

“I was thinking, ‘No way, I never listen to country music’ and had no interest whatsoever,” she says. “But, to be gracious, I flew out for the interview and just fell in love with Nashville. Suddenly I was exposed to country music and it wasn’t at all what my perception of country music was. It gave me an opportunity to be more creative.”

Martz believes she arrived in Nashville at just the right time.

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Country Music Television and The Nashville Network keep fans happy with music videos and programs. But 30 years ago, a country radio consultant named Bill Hudson was doing everything in his power just to keep country music on the airwaves.

After receiving a broadcasting degree from SIU in 1963, Hudson spent a year working at several radio stations, including WKDA in Nashville. At age 22, he started his own public relations and advertising firm, Bill Hudson & Associates, in the same building as the Country Music Association, a small trade organization that was also just getting started. Low on funding and staff, CMA asked Hudson to help them market country music.

“They were just getting started and didn’t have much money. But it was a tremendous time to be connected with that organization because we were just beginning to market country music,” Hudson says. “We didn’t have big budgets to work with. But we were having a lot of fun.”

CMA paid Hudson $50 a month to write their newsletter. He assisted the organization with work that led to what is now the CMA Awards Show. He helped the organization raise money for the groundbreaking of the Country Music Hall of Fame. Eventually, Hudson’s experiences made him one of the nation’s first country radio consultants. He earned the nickname of Radio Doctor, for his ability to revive struggling country radio stations.

“I was always dealing with stations that weren’t successful, were sick and needed a format change,” Hudson says. “Rock ’n’ roll was so dominant that other people wondered how they could compete. Living in Nashville, I was close to country music and knew the trends.”

Hudson’s first assignment appeared to be a tall order. He was hired as a consultant for KBOX in Dallas, which was struggling to compete with KLIF, a rock ’n’ roll station run by rock’n’roll legend Gordon McClendon.

“Gordon McClendon wrote the book on rock ’n’ roll radio. This guy...
"The professional level is rising. From working with record labels, artists, and management, everybody is taking things a little more seriously and boosting their level," she says. "The industry is more businesslike."

Sorenson, like Martz, was looking for a career change after a stint in television news. She moved to Nashville in 1995, leaving her news promotions position at KOTV in Tulsa.

"It is like night and day. In news you’re covering car crashes and burned houses. It got depressing dealing with people’s misfortunes in the community," she says. "Here it’s all entertainment. I’m enjoying it quite a bit."

Prior to her current role, Sorenson produced spots to promote Prime Time Country, TNN’s popular talk show program.

"Part of the job can include working with the artists. We may want to get them to say some short lines like, ‘Only on TNN,’" she says. "I have worked with some great artists here. Some weren’t as easy as others."

"Country music entertainers are generally nice people," Martz says. "Many of them come from modest or middle class means, and have worked hard all of their lives. Their success is something that is very special and amazing to them as well."

was like Dick Clark is to bandstand music on television. It was amazing what his stations did," Hudson says. "But in a very short time—in about 90 days—we had knocked off the rock station with country music and it just created a wave across the country. People wondered what this was all about."

Through the years, Hudson consulted with 35 radio stations. He ran his public relations firm during the week and traveled to various radio stations on weekends.

The Radio Doctor’s remedy was usually simple: create a broad-based appeal to fans through balance and variety. He encouraged radio stations to be strong in each department, including sports, sales and promotions. Hudson’s philosophy was that each of these efforts complement the country music being played.

"Traditional country music tended to be harsh in those days. You sure didn’t want to play two or three songs like that back to back if you were trying to attract people to country music," he says. "We tried to mix in what I called sugar-coated country or easy listening and kept it upbeat."

Hudson discontinued his consulting efforts in 1974 to focus on the public relations firm he had also spearheaded for 36 years.

"I would leave on a Friday at noon and return on Sunday at midnight. On Monday, the staff was refreshed and ready to go and I was dragging," he says. "I had fun, but it was time to hang it up. The firm was requiring more of my attention."

For 28 years, Bill Hudson & Associates provided services for more than 200 McDonald’s stores in the middle Tennessee area and has provided services for more than 200 stores in the middle Tennessee and southern Kentucky areas. The firm also manages McDonald’s accounts in Chattanooga and Huntsville, Ala. Some of Hudson’s other clients include Sara Lee Corporation, Sara Lee Classic, Sony/ATV Tree Publishing Company, Kentucky Fried Chicken and Jimmy Dean Sausage. His agency was the first in Nashville to handle public relations for the entertainment industry and has worked with every major label in the music business, the Grand Ole Opry, movie companies, several television specials and many events for CMA, including the very first Fan Fair.

Bill Hudson & Associates also had the distinction of being the first advertising agency in Nashville to win a CLIO award, a prestigious honor for advertising excellence.

"This firm has provided me some unique opportunities that allow us to get involved in the community and utilize our skills," Hudson says. "I hope the best is yet to come."
Talking to David Lee Murphy before a performance at a St. Louis nightclub, it was easy to forget his country music star status. While entertainers often change once they hit the “big time,” Murphy hasn’t. He is more like an old friend you might go fishing with than a superstar who earns more money in a month than you might see in 10 years. Although his adoring fans watch his every move, Murphy’s southern Illinois roots have kept him as down-to-earth as he was when he graduated from SIU 16 years ago.
After struggling for over a decade as an aspiring songwriter in Nashville, Murphy is one of the most successful recording artists in country music. His first album, *Out With A Bang*, included one of Murphy's signature hits, *Party Crowd*, which was the most played song of 1995. Another Murphy hit, *Dust On The Bottle*, was his first number one hit. *Out With A Bang* became the best selling album by any male artist in 1995, and its title song became a gold record. Murphy's success led to his nomination by the Academy of Country Music as Top New Male Vocalist for 1996.

Murphy's second album, *Gettin' Out the Good Stuff*, spawned *Every Time I Get Around You and The Road You Leave Behind*, a song dedicated to his late father. The music video for *The Road You Leave Behind* was selected as the sixth most popular video of 1996.

Despite this recent success, Murphy doesn't take anything for granted. "Country music artists are like stock car drivers. We appreciate the people who support us," Murphy says. "Most country artists come from humble backgrounds in small-town America and are friendly in general."

Murphy practices this philosophy everywhere he goes, even when he travels to places where people may not have heard of southern Illinois. "When you go to places like Philadelphia, Boston or New York, they have never heard of southern Illinois. The only thing they know about in Illinois is Chicago," Murphy says. "But whether or not you're from a small town, you're okay if you just try to be yourself."

Murphy's attitude comes through in his music. He wants fans to relate to his work. A native of Herrin, a town 10 miles east of Carbondale, many of Murphy's songs deal with life in a small town. When Murphy wrote *Dust On The Bottle*, he was inspired by Creal Williams, a gentleman from a small coal mining town near Herrin who made homemade wine. Murphy, who refers to Williams as "a character," remembers drinking Williams' wine as a teenager.

"I met some colorful characters growing up in southern Illinois. All of my songs are about southern Illinois in one way or another," he says. "Creal Williams was a natural because the song is about a guy who made homemade wine. The songs I write are about regular people doing regular things."

Murphy also dresses the way he talks. He usually wears jeans, a sleeveless shirt, cowboy hat, and a pair of cowboy boots on which he replaces the worn-out soles rather than buying a new pair. When the props were being set up for one of his premier videos, Murphy asked the crew to replace a

Murphy's success has created a loyal corps of fans nationwide.

"David thinks the person you are is more important than what you wear," she says. "He doesn't believe in trying to be something that you're not. He likes common people who do common things."
new truck with an older model that belonged to a friend of his in Ashland City, Tenn. He's clearly more comfortable with "lived in" than shiny and new.

Sometimes Murphy's casual style surprises even his family. As he prepared for a charity golf benefit in Tennessee, Murphy dressed in camouflage pants and running shoes. When his wife suggested there might be a dress code, Murphy decided to take his chances. Jessie Kibler, Murphy's mother, says such decisions are typical of her son.

"David thinks the person you are is more important than what you wear," she says. "He doesn't believe in trying to be something that you're not. He likes common people who do common things."

Murphy has been known to give the shirt off his back, literally, to the people who support him. When he was informed that one of his most devoted fans was terminally ill and retiring from the teaching profession, Murphy autographed one of his trademark sleeveless shirts, worn in several videos and performances, to be presented to the lady at her retirement party.

The same lady told Kibler at a recent performance that she had never met anyone as sincere and compassionate as her son. Kibler says she enjoys these moments more than Murphy's actual performances.

"As David's mother, I like it when people tell me that they enjoy watching him perform and listening to his music. But what means the most to me is hearing people comment on what a wonderful person he is," she says. "When people tell me that David is a kind, down-to-earth, and sensitive person who makes time for them, that pleases me more than anything else. That is more of a measure of his success than the music."

Murphy's older brother Mike agrees: "David is the same guy he was 15 to 20 years ago. Most people who know him say the same thing. He is a conservative, ordinary guy who has never gotten outside of himself."

Murphy does not like to have a big fuss made over his stardom.

"I've had people say they saw me on the Conan O'Brien Show and I acted like it was no big deal. But I took too many trips down I-24 to Nashville and came back too many times with my tail between my legs," Murphy says. "A lot of times you develop a strong sense of humility being on the bottom and you don't forget what it was like. I have always tried to keep things in perspective."

A speech communications major and journalism minor, Murphy was always an avid writer. He wrote for the Daily Egyptian while he was at Southern, which Murphy says aided his songwriting skills.

"One of the things they teach you in journalism is to be a tight writer. You do the same thing when you write songs," Murphy says. "You have to get a whole story across in three minutes and put it to music. Journalism taught me how to consolidate words."

Murphy's first experience in the music business came in 1979 when he made his first trip to Nashville and recorded some demo tapes. Getting little response, he decided to complete his degree at Southern. He took a music business class that traveled to Nashville four times a semester. Murphy took the course to earn the one liberal arts credit he needed to graduate.

But the course proved to be his door into the country music business.

Murphy, who was playing in a local band and working at a Herrin radio station during this time, says he made crucial connections because of the class. He met his future manager, Doug Casmus, and Jimbeau Henson, his co-writer for Party Crowd.

"I was moving to Nashville at the end of the semester anyway. But that class single-handedly had a big impact on my career," he says. "I owe a lot to that class."

Sleeveless shirts have been a Murphy trademark since his days as a fourth grader in Herrin.
Murphy moved to Nashville in 1983, planning a career in public relations or journalism. But he started writing songs for a small publishing company and began to concentrate on his songwriting skills.

Murphy also formed a four-piece band, the Blue Tick Hounds, which played at several establishments in Nashville. Initially, Murphy’s raw sound wasn’t a big hit in Nashville. He received a tough introduction into the music business and a record label was nowhere in sight.

“When I first moved to Nashville, I couldn’t get arrested. I was doing more company and began to concentrate on writing songs for a small publishing relations or journalism. But he started

1983, planning a career in public

inspiration. But I sat around for several

garage apartment for about a year,” he

people thought it was too young

sounding for country music. It took a

years,” he says. “It was a

phone company and kept some bologna

and Tabasco sauce in the refrigerator.”

Murphy married his wife, Donna in

1987, and the first of the couple’s three

children was born in that same year.

“We lived in a little house outside

Ashland City and really struggled for

about 10 years,” he says. “It was a
typical starving artist story. But my

wife was supportive and believed in

what I was doing.”

Murphy began having some success

as a songwriter when Reba McEntire

recorded a song that Murphy co-wrote

with Henson, Red Roses (Won’t Work

Now), in 1985, the same year she was

selected as Female Vocalist of the Year.

His songs were also recorded by Dobie

Gray and Doug Stone. But Murphy still

struggled to get his first break.

“The cut by Reba gave me some

inspiration. But I sat around for several

more years before anything happened

and got turned down on different record

deals,” he says.

“A lot of times you develop

a strong sense of humility

being on the bottom and

you don’t forget what it was

like. I have always tried to

keep things in perspective.”

Murphy continued to write songs

and perform in Nashville. Slowly, but

surely, the country music format

loosened, broadening its range to

include a more youthful audience,

creating opportunities for aspiring

young artists like Murphy.

“Some people generally believe

country music is just one sound. But

there are several segments of country

music including pop, rocking, and

traditional stuff,” he says. “People

started writing fresher stuff. The music

I had cut was by traditional artists. I

still do traditional songs, but what I do

in concert is Southern rock stuff.”

Over 10 years passed before

Murphy finally received his real break

in 1994. Tony Brown, president of

MCA, gave Murphy the record deal he

had been waiting for.

“Tony really went out on a limb for

me and that got the ball rolling. I knew

it would take a year to have a record

made,” Murphy says. “We were just

waiting for our turn. Artists waiting to

put records out is like airplanes sitting

on the runway preparing to take off.”

Murphy’s career began to take off

when Brown selected his song Just

Once off a demo tape and put it on the

soundtrack of a film starring Luke

Perry as bull-riding champion Lane

Frost.

“It was good for me to be on the

movie soundtrack because I was the

only unknown artist,” Murphy says.

“There were others like Reba McEntire,

Vince Gill and Brooks & Dunn. I was

in good company in that respect.”

But the memories of the adversity

he overcame are still fresh.

“When you work that hard for a

long period of time, you appreciate it

more than if it had happened quickly,”

he says. “Those years of trying to eek

out a career as a songwriter was a

valuable experience. I look back on that

now and say those were the good old

days.”

Murphy’s work ethic and love for

music derives from his childhood. The

son of two educators who both received

degrees from Southern, Murphy was

exposed to gospel music at an early

age. His father was a music director at

the local Baptist church and his mother

played the piano and sang in the choir.

“David was in Sunday School when

he was 10 days old,” Kibler says. “One

of my fondest Christmas memories was

David singing on Christmas Eve with

his father. I still get goose bumps when

I think about it.”

Murphy got his first guitar at the

age of seven and liked all different

forms of music. He was a fan of

Waylon Jennings, Willie Nelson and

Lynyrd Skynyrd. Murphy also enjoyed

The Beatles and The Rolling Stones. He

often fronted Southern country rock

bands during his teenage years.

“We would play wherever we could

get a gig. It might be a roadside bar that

a bunch of coal miners went to or a

biker bar,” he says. “Sometimes we

didn’t get paid anything, but we played

all over. We were in little places in

Harrisburg, Ziegler, Herrin and Sesser.”

Those humble beginnings perform-
ing around southern Illinois gave

Murphy the strength to survive the
tough music industry. It never even

occurred to him to quit.

“When your friends are out there

with great jobs and you’re still at the

poverty level, it’s not a great feeling,”

Murphy says. “The odds are so much

against you that you have to be crazy

enough to believe you can be success-

ful. But I believed even during the

leanest of years. You have to believe in

what you’re doing and be willing to

gamble your entire future.”

Some gambles just pay off.
A walk on Navy Pier has become as synonymous with Chicago summers as an afternoon at Wrigley Field. Millions of people take the leisurely stroll, or quick jog in some cases, to enjoy the pier’s shops, restaurants, and, most of all, its unparalleled view of Lake Michigan. Four years ago that view began to include contemporary sculpture in the form of the annual Pier Walk. This year the event selected over 170 works of art—a dozen from graduates of SIU’s sculpture program.

In the program for Pier Walk ’98, co-producer Terry Karpowicz explained the purpose of the event was “to demonstrate to the public that art can be part of our everyday lives, relieving monotony and enriching our souls.” On a sunny September afternoon, several alumni sculptors shared their own “everyday” stories of life since SIU.
Under the Milky Way

When Eric Lindsay earned his bachelor's degree in fine arts from SIU, he did what many aspiring artists do—he moved to New York City. The only problem was he couldn't afford to live and sculpt. Eventually moving to Chicago, Lindsay took a day job in a factory that, through the years, has allowed him to maintain a studio and continue to sculpt as well as help take care of his family.

Lindsay is the first to admit that "while I've had a lot of critical success [as a sculptor], I haven't had much commercial success." His work is massive in size and accordingly tremendously expensive to cast. His piece accepted for this year's Pier Walk was more than 12 feet high and cast in bronze, iron and granite. To create this sculpture Lindsay turned to his alma mater.

He explains there would be no way he could afford to cast his work in the Chicago area. Instead, as other graduates have done before him, Lindsay returns to SIU where he pays for all materials and the use of the foundry and hires graduate students.

But Lindsay clearly feels the benefit to the students and university is more than financial: "The fact of the matter is that these graduate students benefit from doing the work. They learn something from working with more experienced sculptors and it sure beats earning extra money working at a local dive."

Lindsay credits Tom Walsh, a professor of art and longtime head of the sculpting program, for encouraging relationships between alumni and their alma mater. Around the time Lindsay returned to campus last year to cast his Pier Walk piece, he says there was discussion about discontinuing the practice of having alumni return to campus to work with students. "I was concerned that my piece would be the last one of its kind," he says. "But the decision has now been made to continue the alumni connection, and I think that's a decision that's terrific for everyone concerned."

Lindsay's work has been featured in previous Pier Walks, but he explains that his piece in the 1998 exhibit has particular meaning for him. Titled "Under the Milk Way," the sculpture is somewhat autobiographical, he explains: "The piece is partially a large scale version of a hand-held grinder. Tools are anthropomorphistic to me, and this is a tool I've used at work for the last 20 years. Tools are something I use every day and so I relate to the tools, I become the tools."

Continuing, Lindsay describes the more personal meaning of his work: "About five years ago, I fell off my roof. I died on the operating table before being brought back and it took me a year to recuperate. I never faced anything like that in my life and, for the last five years, I've kind of danced around and avoided facing what that meant. Falling, almost dying, and now being alive. This piece is also about
what it was like when I was lying on the ground after I fell, looking up toward the sky, not knowing if I was already dead or still alive.

"Whew, that’s a relief to tell you that. I’ve kept that story to myself for a long time. But now it’s on tape!"

As Lindsay looks away for a moment, he knows it’s his work, in all its simplicity and underlying complexity positioned at the pier’s end, that tells his story of near death most eloquently and powerfully.

Deja-Vu Drive Thru

Ken Indermark, who attended SIU in the 1960s, likes to say his work resembles roadside attractions. Radically different from the massive concrete, bronze and stainless steel creations that line the pier, Indermark’s eclectic piece stands as unique.

Indermark, who earns a living as an architectural illustrator, says he’s inspired in his work by the types of signs that once adorned Route 66. “Somebody was always trying to hawk something,” he says. “And the signs were always better than the actual attractions.”

Admitting his work wouldn’t fit in front of a corporate center, several of Indermark’s pieces have been purchased for sculpture gardens. The rest, he says, have been sent back to where he found the materials in the first place.

“I guess you could say I’m a scavenger artist: I can go into any alley and find things that you wouldn’t believe people are throwing out,” says Indermark. “When the work comes down, I save what I want to use again and trash the rest.”

Indermark had hoped the work he exhibited at Pier Walk would be more accessible to passers-by. “I would have loved it if people could have entered it,” he says. “But I guess it might not have lasted the summer if we’d done that.” This work, like his others, is based on the American dream of being on the road. His hope is that a piece of that dream is relived by those who pass by his deja-vu drive thru.

Southern Passage

Cecilia Allen is happy that her sculpture is a “kid magnet.” She and her collaborator, husband Roger Blakely, both want their work to be tactile. “That’s why we like to work with a durable material like bronze. The surface’s texture is randomly created and topographical in quality.” Kids and millions of other people have touched this piece so often it has now become shiny. “We’ve come to Chicago a couple of times this summer to see the piece,” says Allen who lives in Champaign with her husband and their blended family. “It’s been fun to watch anonymously as people comment on it, touch it and look at it.”

Allen says the name of this work, Southern Passage, is a tribute to the
years she spent at SIU earning her master's degree in fine arts as a student of Tom Walsh's. "I have tremendous respect for Tom personally and professionally as a teacher and as an artist."

Allen began dating her husband while she attended SIU and feels like her years at Southern, also the period of their courtship, were among the happiest in her life.

### Striker

When Derek Malkemus talks about what he's done since earning his master's of fine arts degree at SIU in 1990, it's clear the years have not been what he expected. Well regarded as Sculpture Program Chair Tom Walsh's graduate assistant, Malkemus fully expected to get a teaching job after graduation. When it didn't happen he says, "I decided that I wanted to do my work and I wasn't going to let not getting a teaching job stop me."

His work at SIU and, in particular, with Walsh benefited him when he moved to Chicago. "The whole time I was in school I was learning how to do other things I could fall back on. Even though I didn't plan it that way, it kind of worked out." For eight years Malkemus has worked in a small custom metal company that designs and produces architectural metals for a variety of purposes. The work is tangentially connected to his own interests, but more significantly, the company's partners are sculptors who let Malkemus use the shop after hours to do his own cast steel work. "The good thing about working here is that the partners have the same background as I do so they understand when I need to take off a week or so to work on a big piece—like I did for this exhibit. I couldn't afford to do a piece like this on my own at this point," says Malkemus.

Malkemus explains the origins of his Pier Walk submission, Striker. "I approach my work as three-dimensional drawing. I do lots of little sketches and pick out what I like the best. For this piece I was playing around with ball joints, something I've always been interested in. I had a bunch of plastic molds from the American Science and Surplus place," he begins. "The idea of this piece is that it can be set up in different positions. The pivot points could come in at different angles. Stainless steel pipes sleeve the pieces together so that there's like a skeleton beneath the concrete." He concludes that he named the piece Striker because it's like a compass that can strike an arc.

Having his work included in the Pier Walk obviously pleases Malkemus, who hopes the exposure will open up some other opportunities for him. He loaned his piece from last year's exhibit to a university and hopes to do the same with this year's piece, or, better yet, sell it. Still, whatever comes from his participation, Malkemus says, "I'm happy to be involved with an exhibit where four to six million people are going to walk by my work."
At first glance, Sean Bergman appears to have changed from the clean-shaven, All-American pitching prospect who came to SIU in 1989. He has grown a goatee and added about 25 pounds to his solid frame. He is also a veteran pitcher for one of the premier teams in Major League Baseball.

But in the ways that truly count Bergman hasn’t changed much at all. From his days at Joliet Catholic High School to anchoring SIU’s pitching staff and now as a starting pitcher for the Houston Astros, Bergman has remained focused and determined. The former Saluki star believes these attributes are mandatory to succeed in the big leagues.

“As a pitcher you need to have total confidence in yourself. A pitcher has to
"As a pitcher you need to have total confidence in yourself. A pitcher has to believe that he belongs in the big leagues and can get these guys out," he says. "As a rookie I was a little intimidated by the hitters. But I know now that if I make good pitches, I can be successful."

The more he's physically changed, the more Sean Bergman's pitching motion has stayed the same, as you can tell comparing him as a Saluki (on the left) and 10 years later as a member of the Houston Astros team.
"He is a quiet guy who keeps to himself a little bit. But he goes about his business in a professional manner," Biggio says. "Sean has a professional attitude, does his homework and prepares for each start. That is what you want in a player."

Believe that he belongs in the big leagues and can get these guys out," he says. "As a rookie I was a little intimidated by the hitters. But I know now that if I make good pitches, I can be successful."

Last year, his first season with the Houston Astros, Bergman threw plenty of good pitches. He won a career high 12 games after earning a spot in the starting rotation. He also achieved career bests with 172 innings pitched and 100 strikeouts in helping the Astros capture the National League Central Division championship.

Bergman's performance earned the admiration of his teammates. Astros second baseman Craig Biggio says the team needed a boost after Darryl Kile, their top starting pitcher, left the team.

"We lost 250 innings when Daryl left so we needed a couple of guys to fill the void," Biggio says. "Sean stepped up and has done a tremendous job for us. He is just a guy who needed an opportunity and is making the most of it."

Bergman, who was traded from the San Diego Padres to Houston, fits in with the Astros, a team known for their no-nonsense approach.

"He is a quiet guy who keeps to himself a little bit. But he goes about his business in a professional manner," Biggio says. "Sean has a professional attitude, does his homework and prepares for each start. That is what you want in a player."

With four years of major league experience under his belt, culminated by last year's performance, Bergman credits a positive approach as the key factor in his development as a pitcher. But, as with the most successful athletes, Bergman has been challenged by adverse circumstances.

On July 12, 1998, in St. Louis, Bergman faced what became the toughest challenge for any major league pitcher during the 1998 season—Cardinals' slugger Mark McGwire.

On Bergman's first pitch, McGwire slammed his 39th home run of the season, en route to his record-breaking season. But Bergman, displaying the resilience he is known for, struck McGwire out in their subsequent encounter. Bergman says he approached McGwire the same as any hitter.

"If you get caught up in getting certain hitters out, that is when you make mistakes," Bergman says. "I don't picture a hitter in the batter's box. I throw to a target and pitch my game. If you're out there worrying about some guy taking you out of the yard, you're just putting negative thoughts in your head."

Bergman's attitude appealed to SIU, who recruited Bergman from Joliet Catholic High School where he was a three-sport letterman and led the football team to a Class 5A state championship. Richard "Itchy" Jones, Bergman's coach two of his three years
at Southern, says the young pitcher made an instant impression on the SIU coaching staff.

"Kirk Champion, my assistant coach at Southern, saw Sean Bergman pitch at Joliet Catholic. When Kirk returned, he told me that Bergman was a pitcher who would develop and pitch in the big leagues in a couple of years," Jones says.

Bergman never regretted coming to Carbondale.

"I wasn't recruited that heavily. But I fell in love with Carbondale and SIU was exactly what I had pictured in my mind," he says.

In 1989, Bergman's first season with the Salukis, he was challenged immediately. It was a lean season for Jones' Salukis and, because of graduating seniors and lack of pitching depth, Jones designated Bergman as his number one pitcher. Jones had planned to bring Bergman along slowly.

But Bergman earned Jones' respect in short order.

"It was really unfair to make him the number one starter as a freshman. But I was impressed with his competitiveness and ability to battle day after day even though we weren't having success," Jones says. "I asked him at one point if he was okay mentally and able to cope with it. He told me it didn't bother him. I liked Sean as a person and thought he would play in the big leagues because of his tenacity."

The Salukis' fortune turned around in 1990, and so did Bergman's. Jones' staff added some pitching depth, which included ace reliever Al Levine, another former Saluki also in the major leagues. Bergman, who no longer had to carry the entire load, hit his stride.

As a sophomore, Bergman became a dominant force in the rugged Missouri Valley Conference, going undefeated in league play (5-0), and fashioning a 9-3 overall record. He led the team in starts (14), strikeouts (62) and innings (96.2). The Salukis won the MVC regular season and tournament championships and advanced to the regional tourna-

ment in Stanford.

Despite receiving preseason, first-team All-American honors from Collegiate Baseball Magazine, Bergman's fondest SIU memory was the success of the 1990 team.

"I remember how close we were and being just a couple of games away from the College World Series," Bergman says. "The guys got along well and played good baseball. I still have contact with some of those guys."

By the end of his junior season, Bergman had made his mark in the record books. His career marks of 277.2 innings pitched and 202 strikeouts, rank second and third, respectively.

His performance attracted the scouts and Bergman was selected by the Detroit Tigers in the fourth round of the 1991 free agent draft. Bergman spent two full seasons in the minor leagues before being called up in 1993 to pitch a complete game in his first major league start. Bergman's first full major league season was 1995 when he led Detroit's pitching staff with 28 starts and seven victories, including a shutout victory against Boston.

Prior to spring training in 1996, Bergman was traded to the San Diego Padres, where he spent two seasons as a relief pitcher and occasional starter. Bergman had difficulty adjusting to his role of moving back and forth from the bullpen to the starting rotation. As a starter, Bergman uses more of his pitches. Besides his fastball and slider, Bergman uses an improving change up pitch to keep hitters off stride. He says moving to Houston was a new beginning for him.

"I just made up my mind that I wanted to be a starter for this team. I focused my energy toward that goal and it has worked out," he says. "I believe I can win a lot of games and pitch at this level."

Bergman isn't the only one with this opinion. Houston manager Larry Dierker says the best may be yet to come from the former Saluki.

"When we first saw Sean pitch he was in the low to mid 90s. Now he is in the high 80s to low 90s because I think he is concentrating on mechanics and control of his pitches," Dierker says. "He has had success with that approach. But as Sean goes along, he will build arm strength and get that velocity back. If he can do that without sacrificing his mechanics and control, he could get better."

As he heads into his fifth season as a big leaguer, and second season with a Houston team that some experts believe will compete in postseason play again, Dierker thinks Bergman's time has come.

"Over the years he has been tagged with the burden of having great potential. Sometimes if you don't come through right away that is a heavier and heavier burden," Dierker says. "But with the change of scenery and Verne Ruhle (Houston's pitching coach) helping with his mechanics, Sean has a fresh start.

"Every athlete matures at their own peculiar pace. But he is pitching well enough now to take it to the next level."

Whether or not Bergman reaches the upper echelon of pitchers in the National League remains to be seen. But one thing is certain. He is happy his determination has made his lifetime dream come true.

"I remember in Little League pretending to be some major leaguer," he says. "I knew if I kept working hard and focused all of my energy into it, I could get to this level. I thank God for giving me the ability to have this opportunity."
Remembering Brian Babcock

by Greg Scott

Brian Babcock, who died in October from complications of a leukemia-like cancer, will always be remembered as a special athlete. He is considered to be one of the university’s all-time leading athletes.

But former SIU head men’s gymnastic coach Bill Meade says Babcock was special for reasons other than athletic skill. When Babcock was nearing retirement after coaching tenure at Southern, he wanted Babcock to replace him. "Brian was well respected and everyone liked him. He was the type of person who would show well for the university," says Meade, who coached SIU from 1956 to 1989. "I could take Brian anywhere and introduce him to anyone because he knew how to handle himself."

SIU’s gymnastics program was discontinued for financial reasons in 1989. Instead of becoming Southern’s head coach, Babcock coached at Parketts Gym Club in eastern Pennsylvania. Meade says Babcock had a special knack for communicating with young athletes, which resulted in his coaching several successful athletes at Parketts. "Brian was a good leader and all of the kids responded to him," Meade says. "If I wanted somebody to coach my son, Brian would be my choice. He cared about young men and inspired them." After his stint at Parketts, Babcock and a friend formed a ranch club in Houston, Texas. But last year Babcock was diagnosed with myelodysplasia, a leukemia-like cancer that hampers the body’s ability to produce blood and fight infection. He received a bone marrow transplant in August. Doctors told him he had a 50-50 chance to live.

This was an obstacle Babcock ultimately couldn’t overcome. He died at his Houston-area home with family at his side.

Meade says Babcock remained optimistic through his struggles and was more concerned about his family than his own condition. "He didn’t give up or let it get him down. We were able to contact him by telephone and e-mail,"

Meade says. "He said it was awfully hard, but Brian handled it so well."

Meade remembers recruiting the Kansas native out of high school. He first saw Babcock compete in the Kansas High School State Championships. The coach was instantly impressed when he witnessed the youngster winning two state titles in the all-around and pommel horse competitions his junior year.

The next year, Meade met Babcock and his family, informing them that he would like the star gymnast to come to SIU. Other large schools, namely Nebraska, Penn State and Minnesota, were interested in the young talent. But after Babcock visited SIU, it didn’t take him long to make up his mind.

"I called him two days later and he said, 'Coach, I’m coming to SIU.' No one had ever committed to me that soon," Meade says.

Meade says it was difficult speaking at funeral services for Babcock in October.

"I have lost six kids that I’ve coached at SIU. You’re not supposed to outlive your kids," he says. "They were my boys...like my own sons."

Donations can still be made to Babcock’s medical fund at: Friends for Brian, 7704 Northwest Belvedere Parkway, Kansas City, Mo., 64152-4402.

Meade says Babcock “…never lost his competitive spirit and his enthusiasm for life.” Babcock felt the same about SIU. Babcock had a special knack for communicating with young athletes, which resulted in his coaching several successful athletes at Parketts. Babcock was a world champion in gymnastics from 1978 to 1985 and was a national team member for eight years.

This determination is the reason Babcock, who endured a total of nine gymnastic-related operations on his ankles, elbows and knees during his career at SIU, is considered to be one of the university’s all-time leading athletes.

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Spring Sports Preview
by Gene Green
SIU Sports Information

Baseball

After suffering through the injury-marred 1998 season, Saluki head coach, Dan Callahan is more than ready for a clean slate this year.

"If the law of averages has anything to do with it, I would suppose we have a much healthier season in store for us," he says with a smile. "I've been coaching college baseball for 11 years and had never seen anything quite like what happened to us last season."

What "happened" was a myriad of pitching injuries. Six different hurlers were sidelined with various maladies, including three who had their season ended due to surgery. The thin staff struggled to a 19-35 mark last season.

A definite key to the success of the 1999 edition will be the solid return of pitchers Jason Frasor, Brad Heuring and Adam Biggs. Frasor, a preseason all-MVC pick prior to last year, appeared in only nine games, logging a 0-1 record due to elbow problems which led to surgery. Heuring, slated to battle Frasor for the team's top slot on the hill, was 0-3 in five starts, before being sidelined for the season due to elbow surgery. Both have looked strong in their rehabilitation efforts, and are expected to regain their old form in 1999.

Biggs, ineffective with tendinitis problems in his shoulder most of the season, is also expected to be in solid form. This would give the Salukis three key hurlers they basically did without last year.

Also returning is senior Dave Piazza, who paced the Dawgs last year in virtually all pitching categories. The senior is coming off a 6-5 season, but Callahan says that is not a true gauge.

"If we had made some plays behind him last year, Dave could have won 10 games," Callahan says. "He has tremendous make-up as a pitcher, and will do a great job as a leader this season."

The SIU offense returns some quality personnel. Heading the list is center fielder Joe Schley (.355-5-30), who is within a myriad of SIU career offensive records, including the all-time hits lead. Also back is second baseman Steve Ruggeri (.355-6-24), designated hitter Dave Pohlman (.270-6-23), outfielder Marty Worsley (.231-5-23), and strong throwing receiver Brian Phelan (.205-0-13). Rusty Gibson returns for his senior season to give the Salukis some infield depth.

Softball

With the return of all eight position starters and its three pitchers, including five who earned all-conference honors a year ago, the overall picture for the 1999 SIU softball team looks bright.

"The return of all of our starters, combined with the addition of three new faces, should give us an excellent shot at winning the conference championship," says head coach Kay Brechtelsbauer, who is in her 32nd year of coaching the Salukis and enters the season seven victories shy of 600. "Our successful fall season gave us a taste of what it takes and what it feels like to win the big, close games."

After losing six seniors from a 41-16 squad, the Salukis turned the heads of any skeptics en route to posting a 32-17-1 record and a third-place finish in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Leading the Salukis offensively this year are seniors Theresa Shields and Jen Feldmeier, and sophomore Marta Viefhaus.

Shields, a first-team all-MVC selection at first base, tied Viefhaus for the team lead with a .338 batting average and drove in 21 runs, while Feldmeier hit .327 as a leadoff hitter and garnered second-team all-league honors. Meanwhile, Viefhaus is coming off a freshman campaign that earned her Rookie of the Year accolades after slamming eight home runs, which was second in the league, and driving home a team-best 34 runs. A second-team all-region choice, Viefhaus hit .429 in league play and stole a team-high 14 bases.

Other notable starters returning include first-team, all-MVC catcher Brook Hattermann, who threw out 29 percent of would-be base stealers, and junior Carisa Winters, the team's top pitcher who ranked nationally in three different categories. Winters posted a 16-9 record and a league leading 0.72 earned run average to go with 234 strikeouts in 185.1 innings. Sophomore Erin Stremsterfer was 11-6 with a 1.42 ERA and hit .315 as the team's designated player.

Also returning are juniors Jamie Campbell and Lori Greiner, the Salukis' middle infielders. After starting at shortstop in each of her first two seasons, Greiner will move to second while Campbell converts from second base to shortstop.

Near press time, the Saluki softball team received national recognition, starting the season ranked 35th in the nation. This is the highest preseason ranking SIU's softball team has ever received.
Atlanta
The association recently hosted an alumni reception in Atlanta, Ga., in conjunction with the National Association of Land Grant Colleges' annual conference. In the photo, from left to right, are Professor of History Peter Argersinger, Chancellor Jo Ann Argersinger, Reverend Richard Winn '71, and Vernita Winn '70.

Chicago
Forty-five alumni, friends and university staff members attended the second annual SI "Yule" Holiday party held this year at Liquid, Chicago's Original House of Swing. Enjoying this year's festivities are Steve Rollicki, Mary Parroga, Karen Parroga and Stacie Arseneau.

Award Nominations Sought

The SIU Alumni Association presents an Alumni Achievement Award for Service each year at its board of directors homecoming luncheon for outstanding service to the association and university. Nominees may be graduates, former students, or friends of SIU who have demonstrated their commitment to alumni by their service. The current president or current board members may not receive the recognition while on the board.

A five-member committee studies the information given for all nominations and determines the recipient. Names remain in the active file for five years.

Association members are asked to submit names with resumes and background material of those who they feel qualify for this honor. Send the material to SIU Alumni Association, c/o Nadine Lucas, Colyer Hall, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-6809.

Black Alumni Group Reunion Set for July

The Black Alumni Group Reunion, held every two years, will take place on campus Thursday, July 15, through Sunday, July 18. The reunion is organized by the Black Alumni Group, a constituent society of the SIU Alumni Association.

During the last reunion in 1997, nearly 500 alumni returned to campus.

This year's reunion will include an Institute for Black American Studies and will honor the 50th anniversary of Delyte Morris' first year at SIU.

The calendar of events begins with registration and a mixer at the Holiday Inn. A picnic and banquet are being planned, along with golf, tennis and other recreational activities. Activities also include tours of campus, a business meeting and brunch.

All black alumni should have received a brochure containing additional information. If you would like to receive a brochure or if you have additional questions, you may call Jenna Smith at (618) 453-2408.
St. Louis
The association organized a half time gathering for alumni and fans attending the SIU vs. Southeast Missouri State basketball game in December. The game was the first in a double-header at the TransWorld Dome in St. Louis. The Salukis beat SEMO 70-49 in that game.

Ed Buerger, executive director of the SIU Alumni Association, introduces Doris Rottschalk, association president, to Bob Hardcastle '63, M.S.Ed/64, a past president of the St. Louis Alumni Chapter.

Chancellor Jo Ann Argersinger meets Edward Edelman, president of the San Francisco Bay Area Alumni Chapter. Edelman was in St. Louis visiting family for the holidays and attended the game.

Association
Families Eligible
For Scholarship
The SIU Alumni Association’s Roscoe Pulliam Memorial Scholarship Fund awards four annual scholarships valued at $1,000 each. Applications are available from the alumni association and must be postmarked by May 28 to be considered.

Applicants must belong to an SIU alumnus or alumna who is a current member of the SIU Alumni Association. Applicants must either be admitted or currently enrolled undergraduate students who are registered for a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Scholarship criteria include a copy of the student’s financial aid letter and three letters of recommendation, one from the relative who is a SIU Alumni Association member.

For an application and more information, contact the SIU Alumni Association, Colyer Hall, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901-6809, or call (618) 453-2408.

Board of Directors Ballot
Please place an “x” in the square opposite the name of the candidate for whom you want to vote. If you are the sole member of your household who is an SIU Alumni Association member, use the box marked “A.” If there is a second association member in your household, he or she should vote using the box marked “B.”

Only the votes of dues-paying members are valid in this election. Ballots must reach the alumni association offices no later than noon on April 16, 1999.

Please return your ballot to:
SIU Alumni Association
Attn: Board of Directors Election
Colyer Hall
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL 62901-6809

Directors for Re-election (four year term)
A     B
[ ]     [ ]  David Crumbacher ’88, Indianapolis, Ind.
[ ]     [ ]  Donald Magee ’63, Springfield, Ill.
[ ]     [ ]  Doug Mougey ’67, ’68, Scottsdale, Ariz.
[ ]     [ ]  Richard Reynolds ’57, ’58, University City, Mo.

Election for Directors-at-large (four-year term)
A     B
[ ]     [ ]  Sheri Hunter ’76, Carterville, Ill., Life Member
[ ]     [ ]  Steven Olson ’79, Glenview, Ill., Life Member
The SIU Alumni Association has hired three staff members to coordinate membership, financial matters and student relations activities.

Kesha Williams has been hired to increase association membership. She will plan and implement marketing strategies to increase membership and to retain and serve current members.

Williams, a native of Carbondale, earned her bachelor’s degree in restaurant and travel administration at SIU in 1993. She earned a master’s in administration of recreation at the university in 1997. Williams spent two years as the coordinator of customer services at the University Recreation Center at James Madison University.

“I’m excited about returning to SIU and the opportunity to support the energy, vision and agenda of our new chancellor,” Williams says. “One of my immediate goals is to create more awareness among students, faculty, staff and alumni about alumni association services. The more people know about the association, the more likely they are to respond positively.”

Michael Dean has joined the staff as assistant director for financial affairs and controller. He is responsible for financial management of the alumni association and also coordinates the association’s travel tour and credit card programs.

Dean, who received a business administration degree from SIU in 1996, previously worked as a financial analyst at Pepsi-Cola in Marion and as a student assistant to the controller at the association from 1994 to 1996.

“The SIU Alumni Association has great potential to influence the future of the university,” Dean says. “I am looking forward to assisting this organization in accomplishing its objectives.”

Jenna Henderson Smith was recently hired as assistant director for student, college and constituent relations. She will administer 10 college alumni societies and alumni constituent societies, and advise the Student Alumni Council, the student chapter of the alumni association. Smith also oversees the association’s annual homecoming celebration and its award-winning extern program.

Smith received her master’s degree in speech communication at SIU in 1996. She earned her bachelor’s degree in speech communication and English at McKendree College in 1994. Smith joins the association after serving as an admissions counselor at the university.

“I love interacting with alumni and students. It really doesn’t seem like work to me,” she says. “It is a real honor.”

The SIU Alumni Association and the university’s colleges and schools will once again co-host the homecoming celebration on October 23 in Carbondale. Alumni and friends are invited to attend a pregame tailgate under the Alumni Tent, east of McAndrew Stadium. This marks the thirteenth year the association and university colleges and schools have hosted this event.

Festivities include music, door prizes, snacks, beverages and a complimentary lunch. Over 3,000 people are expected to attend the event, which culminates with a football game between the Salukis and Illinois State at 1:30 p.m.

The association will also host the Half Century Club reception and dinner on Oct. 22 in the Student Center Ballrooms. The Class of 1949 will be honored as Half Century Club inductees.

For more homecoming information, call the SIU Alumni Association at (618) 453-2408.
San Francisco Bay Area
Fans from the San Francisco Bay Area Alumni Chapter cheered on the Saluki women’s basketball team during the Thanksgiving holiday when they came to town to participate in the 1998 Diet Coke Shoot Out at Santa Clara University.

Jackson County
The Jackson County Alumni Chapter hosted its annual awards banquet this fall at the SIU Student Center. The chapter presented six $2,000 scholarships to local students and presented the Service to Southern Illinois Award to Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost John Jackson. Attending the event were, from left to right, John S. Jackson, Association President Doris Rottschalk, scholarship winners Amy Gonzenbach, Andrew Bencini, Alicia Jacobs, Justin Reppy and Cassandra Shewmaker, and Association Executive Director Ed Buerger.

Memphis
Members of the Memphis Area Alumni Chapter gathered to support the Saluki women’s basketball team when they came to town in November to play the Memphis Lady Tigers.

Washington, D.C.
The Capitol City Alumni Chapter of Washington, D.C., hosted a reception at The Kennedy Center in November prior to a National Symphony Orchestra performance. Alumna Amy Ellis ’94, a special events coordinator at The Kennedy Center, helped arrange the group’s reception.

Perry County
The Perry County Alumni Chapter hosted a reception in honor of Chancellor Jo Ann Argressinger in Du Quoin at Charter Bank, courtesy of chapter president Carl Eubanks ’80, ’85.

WSIU/WUSI Telefund
Volunteers from the Jackson, Williamson and Perry county chapters assisted with the recent winter telefund drive for the university-supported public television station. The chapters raised more than $4,300 during the three-day pledge drive.
1920s

James R. Spiller '29 and wife Margaret reside in Sun City Center, Fla. He retired as an industrial engineer for Olin Corp in Norwalk, Conn., in 1972 after teaching and coaching for 15 years in Illinois. They have lived in Florida for 26 years.

1930s

Robert L. Taylor '32, a former Post-Dispatch writer from southern Illinois, died in Southbury, Conn., on Sept. 30, 1998, at the age of 88. He won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1959 for The Travels of Jaimie McPheeters. The book later formed the basis for a TV series starring the Osmond Brothers. He left the Post-Dispatch in 1940 to work for The New Yorker where he wrote profiles about people as diverse as Artie Shaw, the band leader, Charles Atlas, the original bodybuilder, and Gargantua, a famous circus ape. He wrote more than a dozen books including biographies of Winston Churchill and W. C. Fields. His survivors include a son, Martin Taylor, a daughter, Elizabeth Peek, and five grandchildren.

Marion Allen Harrison '34 writes: "I survived a few minor health set backs, but glasses, hearing aids and a little extra caution enable me to get around very well. That doesn't include jogging, but I wasn't a jogger in my younger days either." She still volunteers to find a meeting place for the Women Marines Association's four luncheon meetings a year which includes contacting all 25-30 members. She designs the artwork for her Christmas cards and is active in her church.

Kate Burkhart Daniel '38 resides with husband Joseph in Colorado Springs, Colo. Her family history at Southern Illinois University goes back to her grandfather, James Monroe Burkhart, who was a trustee in the late 1890s and her father, Carl Burkhart, who graduated in 1897.

1940s

Charles E. Morgan '41 was elected to the Herrin High School Athletic Hall of Fame for track from 1934-1937. He was captain of the SIU track team in 1940-41. He is retired and lives in Golden, Colo. with wife Angelyn.

Thelma McCarty Zanetis '47 resides with song writer husband, Alex Zanetis, in Hermitage, Tenn. She is vice president of Royal Master Marketing and secretary/treasurer of Jack O'Diamson Publishing Co. She recently collaborated with her husband on a series of audio tapes for children titled Series 911 which teaches children what to do in an emergency. Her husband has written hit songs for country western artists such as George Jones and Jim Reeves. He wrote a classical pop musical on the life of Jesus Christ titled "The Carpenter's Son" which has been playing in Maine and other locations since 1976.

Tallis Argos '48 lives with wife Kathryn in Belleville, Ill. He enjoys golf and travel after a career in sales. They have two children, one of whom attended SIU in Edwardsville.

William Birch '48 retired this year from a profession in dentistry. He lives with wife Joyce in Olney, Ill., and has two children and two grandchildren. Their daughter, Mary E. Birch, M.D., attended SIU.

Christine Bryant Blank '48 met her husband, Harold Blank '48 at SIU. She resides in Mt. Vernon, Ill., and they have four children—all of whom attended SIU—and six grandchildren. She was an elementary school teacher for 27 years. Before his death in 1970, husband Harold was a manager at the southern division of C.I.P.S. Daughter Karen Blank Ewell M.S.Ed.'83 married Stephen Ewell, an SIU Law School graduate and now assistant states attorney for Jefferson County, Ill. Karen is a teacher and they reside in Woodlawn, Ill. Daughter Kathy Blank Smith '69 married

The Field of Dreams house (made famous in the movie of the same name) was the site of a July 4 reunion of classmates who knew each other during their stays at Abbott Hall on Thompson Point. Back row, from left to right, are: a relative of the house's owner, Fred Wallace '84, Megan Wallace, Jan Dutcher Kahlfiedt, Kevin Kahlfiedt, Jessica Romach, David Stookey, Jennifer Stookey, Katie Rombach, John Rombach '83, M.S. '85, Logan Wallace and Kelly Tripp Wallace.

Front row, from left to right, are: Max Collins, Rachel Wallace, Karol Stookey, Jim Kahlfiedt '82, Andrea Kahlfiedt, Matt Stookey '83, Kerri Rombach, Jordan Rombach, Mark Collins '82, Clarice Hampel, John Hampel '83, Ilene Collins and Charlotte Collins.
Charles R. Smith ’69 and is a dialysis specialist. They also own a business in Effingham, Ill. Son Jim Blank teaches computer to federal employees and is a C.P.O. in the Naval Reserves in the Washington, D.C., area. Daughter Kristine Blank Makans home-schools her daughters and is married to Jason Makans, who is editor-in-chief for McGraw Hill’s “Power and Electric World International” publication.

W. Quentin Bradley ’48 was a medical doctor radiologist and resides with wife Penny in Scottsdale, Ariz. They have two children and three grandchildren. He served on the American Board of Radiology as a diplomat and a fellow and was a national officer for both the American College of Radiology and Radiology Association of North America. In his retirement he enjoys golf, travel, and family theater.

Rev. Marlin Bunfill ’48 resides in Gainesville, Mo., with wife Betty Jo. They have one child, one grandchild, and one great-grandchild. Bunfill was a pastoral minister and a mental health counselor and still remains active as a part-time counselor. As a hobby he restores antique tractors.

Laura Baker Burgard ’48 and husband Howard have two adopted children and one grandchild and reside in Lake Worth, Fla. Laura was a home economics teacher, extension agent and homemaker and currently enjoys her family, reading and relaxing. Laura says her education gave her invaluable training for managing her home, raising her children and for the last 18 years, controlling her diabetes.

Nedra Reames Branz ’48 lives in Collinsville, Ill., and was associate professor of history at SIUE and also taught high school social studies. She has one daughter who was an SIUE graduate. She co-edited “Flagg Correspondence,” a compilation of letters written by the Flagg family. She enjoys reading, traveling, crafts and needlework in her spare time.

Wayne Lester Burkley ’48 resides with wife Marcella in Burleson, Texas. They have three children and five grandchildren. He has served as clergy in the United Methodist Church and as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force. He wrote, edited and published an area Methodist church history, and also edited and published three books of an aunt’s poetry. He has been active in the Lion’s Club for many years and is a current officer. He also teaches an adult class at church and is a member of the Military Chaplains Association.

Lora Smith Carrell ’48 and husband Verle Carrell ’48 have four children, all graduates of SIU, and 10 grandchildren and reside in Flora, Ill. She was a homemaker and a history teacher, and in 1984, one of her students wrote one of the top ten research papers in The National History Contest. She met her husband in sociology class at SIU when they were freshmen.

Mary Lou Pinkham Carter ’48 and husband Robert have one child and one grandchild and reside in St. Charles, Mo. She was a teacher for 30 years and now enjoys traveling and working in the church library.

John C. Deadman ’48 and wife Joan live in Novato, Calif. They have six children and six grandchildren. He received a law degree from Chicago Kent College and became an insurance underwriter. He now enjoys reading, golf and studying genealogy.

Kifton K. Dillon ’48 spends eight months in Florida and four months in Leland, Mich., with wife Shirley every year. He has two children and one grandchild. In 1998, they traveled to Rome and took a cruise of the Western Mediterranean. Prior to retirement, he worked for Country Companies as a claims specialist. He met his first wife, Catherine Bell ’48, at SIU.

Perry Eisenhauer ’48 and wife Iona live in Benton, Ill., and have two daughters, both of whom are graduates of SIU, and four grandchildren. He was a teacher and principal for 37 years and also coached sports. He is president of the local Kiwanis and active in his church and enjoys traveling.

Samuel L. Endicott ’48 and wife Martha have been to Europe seven times in the last 17 years. They reside in Carmi, Ill., and have three children, two of whom are graduates of SIU, and three grandchildren. Samuel worked as an insurance broker and still does some insurance work. He was awarded Citizen of the Year in 1997 in Carmi. He is active in the White County Historical Society, has C.L.U. designation, and enjoys church activities.

Joseph Calvin Evers ’48 went on to earn a master’s of divinity degree and a Ph.D. and served for 54 years as a pastor in the Methodist Church. He and wife Karen reside in Jacksonville, Ill., where he works part-time for Birdco Fabricators. They spend winters in Florida. He wrote The History of the Southern Illinois Conference Methodist Church, published in 1964. They have five children, two who attended SIU, and seven grandchildren.

Carl Ferrell ’48 and wife Vivian Baker reside in Little Rock, Ark., and have two daughters, both of whom received two degrees from SIU, and two grandchildren. He worked as an administrative officer of medical research at the V.A. hospital in Little Rock. He co-authored 18 scientific publications in the field of clinical physiology. His civic and professional activities include membership with the Society of Research Administrators and with Sigma Xi.

He currently enjoys creative projects and attending informative seminars on aging issues as well as gardening and grandparenting.

Larry C. Fiene ’48 and wife Marianne reside in Sparta, Ill. They have seven children, four of whom attended SIU, 10 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Fiene is a medical doctor and a surgeon.

William Bayless Grey ’48 resides in South Windsor, Conn., and has two children and five grandchildren. He worked as an insurance personnel manager. Since retirement Grey has traveled all of Europe. He has also produced many books on tape for the blind and print handicapped under the auspices of the Library of Congress and Connecticut State Library.

Rev. Raymond Hahn ’48 and wife Irene live in Plymouth, N.H., and have two children and four grandchildren. Daughter Nancy C. Robinson is a graduate of SIU. Hahn’s profession was teaching and pastoring. He currently fills in as a guest preacher, does counseling and conducts retirement home services. While at SIU he was chosen to be marshal in 1946 for one of the first commencements where
television series for elementary physical education. She enjoys
golfing, gardening, and "gallivanting."

Mary Evelyn Meyers Miller '48 lives with husband
James Miller '49 in New
Hudson, Mich. She is retired
from the South Redford School
system and he is a retired
accountant from Ford Motor Co.
Their four children and seven
grandchildren hosted a lawn
party to celebrate their 50 years
of marriage. She is active in
promoting the conversion of
former railroad right of ways to
biking trails. Last summer she
enjoyed an annual bike ride
across lower Michigan with the
Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring
Society.

John W. Mulkin '48 and
wife Martha live in Carterville,
Ill., and have two children and
two grandchildren. Their
daughter, Lisa Marie Mulkin
Treece, is a graduate of SIU.
Mulkin worked as the director
of SIU Information Service,
editor of Chester Herald
Tribune and Metropolis News,
was the founder and publisher
of Herrin Spokesman, the
bureau chief for Palm Beach
Post-Times in Boca Raton, Fl.,
and joined the Illinois Depart­
ment of Mental Health as
community education coordina­
tor. He retired in 1985. He was
active in various chapters of
Barbershop Choruses and wrote
the public relations manual for
the Society for the Preservation
and Encouragement of Barbershop
Quartet Singing in America.

Gus E. Paris '48 and wife
Elizabeth live in Owensboro,
Ky., and have four children and
11 grandchildren. He was a
history professor, a registrar and
a director of financial aid
throughout his professional
career. Paris has authored
various articles in professional
journals, and has enjoyed
service and membership in
historical societies, registrar
societies and in the Marine
Corps League. During his
retirement he spends time
traveling, painting and research­
ing genealogy.

Martha Stallings
Parkhurst '48 lives with
husband J. G. Parkhurst '48 in
Harrisburg, Ill. They have two
children and four grandchildren.
Her professional career spans 37
years of teaching business
education and serving as a
department chair. She belongs to
two sororities and served as
national council delegate for
one of her sororities for eight
years. She enjoys traveling,
fishing, homemaking and
resting.

Catherine Dent Patton
'48 lives with husband Earl D.
Patton '48 in Eldorado, Ill.
They have two children and
three grandchildren. She was a
secondary school teacher,
realtor, wife and mother during
her professional career. She
served in the P.T.A., the
Guidance Clinic Guild, and
Home Extension and spends her
retirement happily gardening,
sewing and enjoying her family.

Leroy Pittman '48 and
wife Vera Pittman '48 live in
Carbondale, Ill., and have two
children and three grandchil­
dren. Son Stephen L. Pittman
received a master's at SIU.
Pittman served as an administra­
tor in the United Methodist
Church for 37 1/2 years, retiring
in 1985. He is a seven-year
member of the Pinckneyville
Rotary Club. He has served as
devotional leader and interna­
tional chaplain for the Wally Byann Caravan Club International Airstream trailer organization for the past six years. They enjoy traveling and attending their grandchildren's athletic and band activities.

George W. Rodman '48 and wife Eileen live in Marissa, Ill., and have one child and two grandchildren. Their two grandchildren, Andrea Rako and Jeff Rako, attend SIU. During his professional career he worked as a realty specialist and for the Illinois Department of Transportation. He spends his retirement years "with care."

Neal Schmelzel '48 and wife Arlene live in Godfrey, Ill., and have four children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Son Mark Schmelzel received an M.D. degree at SIU. Schmelzel served as teacher and administrator in secondary schools during his professional career. He belongs to Rotary International, Phi Delta Kappa, and Kappa Phi. He enjoys traveling and volunteer work.

Albert J. Shafter '48 lives with wife Lynnette Peek Shafter '59 in Carbondale, Ill., and they have three children, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Two sons, A. James Shafter and Michael B. Shafter, received degrees at SIU. Shafter worked as superintendent of residential facilities for the mentally retarded, mentally ill during his professional career. His achievements include Fellow for the American Association of M.R., SIU Alumni Achievement Award (1983), certificate of award as co-founder of the National Association of Superintendent Residential Facilities for Mentally Retarded, and American Legion "Man of the Year" award. Currently, he serves on the Carbondale City Planning Committee and runs a "Multi-Ten Dollar" advertising company.

Quentin P. Stinson '48 and wife Barbara Stinson '48 live in Morton, III., and have four children and seven grandchildren. He worked as a teacher and coach for five years and in law enforcement for 25 years. He met his wife at SIU and they enjoy recreation travel.

Joan Fairbairn Terrell-Watson '48 lives in North Fort Myers, Fla., and has three children. Her daughter, Elaine Terrell attended SIUE. During her professional career Joan was a teacher of French and Spanish. She has served on the Lincoln Library Board in Springfield, Ill., for three years. She is spending her retirement years "very carefully on a fixed income."

Billie Nehring Wesley '48 and husband Howard live in Vergennes, Ill., and have one son, Howard Barry Wesley, who attended SIU. During her professional career, Billie was an elementary school teacher. She belongs to N.E.A., I.E.A., Jackson County Extension Association, St. Joseph Auxiliary, and Jackson County Retired Teachers Association. She enjoys traveling, gardening and quilting.

William E. Williams '48 and wife Theresa Ivanuck Williams '44 live in Alexandria, Va., and have three children and three grandchildren. Williams was a government executive of the Internal Revenue Service for 32 years. During his career he won outstanding achievement awards from the SIU Alumni Association, Harvard Business School; a Distinguished Executive Award of the President; received four commissioner awards from the Internal Revenue Service; two distinguished service awards; and the Alexander Hamilton Award upon retirement. He has served as a member of the board of directors of various companies and foundations. After retiring from the Internal Revenue Service, he worked as a consultant on the tax systems of foreign countries for the International Monetary Fund and other organizations. He has lectured at the Institute for Tax Administration in Los Angeles and has done public relations work for H & R Block. In his spare time he enjoys playing golf and tennis.

Robert Smith Winegarner '48 lives in Lakewood, Ohio, and has eight children and 17 grandchildren. He retired after 35 years in the ministry in North Dakota, Illinois and Ohio. Since then he has done interim clergy work in Ohio and Idaho. Winegarner was the first president of Seniors of Ohio in 1972-73. He enjoys traveling in the United States and abroad and painting with watercolors.

1950s

Wanda Proctor Neber '58 and husband Robert R. '50 reside in Evansville, Ind. Wanda owns her own business called Elliptical Connection Designs, where she designs and displays eggs of all shapes and sizes. She sells her creations from her home and at egg art shows throughout the country.

The Carbondale branch of the NAACP honored Seymour Bryson '59, M.S.'61, Ph.D.'72, executive assistant to the SIUC chancellor, and Benjamin A. Shepherd, former SIUC vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, as its 1998 Achievement Award Honorees; the awards were presented at the 22nd Annual Freedom Fund banquet on October 11, 1998.

Arnette Hubbard '59, Cook County circuit court judge, administered the oath of office to President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners John H. Stroger, Jr. in December 1998. Judge Hubbard said, "It is an extraordinary honor to be invited to attend this historic occasion, but to actually swear in the president of the county board is beyond my wildest dreams. I never imagined I would actually know a person who managed a $2.4 billion budget, let alone that the individual would be an African-American."
that Shirley R. Holmes M.M.Ed.’66, M.S.Ed.’66, Ph.D.’66 is a 1998 Thrasher Award recipient in recognition of superior research advancements in the development of gang prevention and intervention models for public schools. The Frederick Milton Thrasher Award is the highest honor given out once a year by the National Gang Crime Research Center.

James J. Rupert ’66 was named a National Distinguished Principal for the state of Illinois elementary and middle school division for 1998. Rupert received his award with 61 other principals at a black-tie dinner hosted by U.S. Department of Education Secretary Richard Riley in Washington, D.C. He began his educational career 33 years ago as an eighth grade science teacher in Litchfield. He became an elementary principal in Hillsboro and two years later moved to Nokomis North and has remained there since. Both of Rupert’s children, David and Andrea, graduated summa cum laude from SIU.

Theodore Flickinger ’68, M.S.Ed.’69 was elected president of the National Recreation and Park Association in November 1998. He is executive director of the Illinois Association of Park Districts and has been an NRPA member for 31 years. He has published more than 100 articles in professional magazines, co-authored two books and wrote Are You on Board (1993) for chief executives and policy-making board members. He and his wife, Judy, reside in Springfield and have two children, a son in Chicago and a daughter in Kansas.

Richard A. Haak M.A.’68, Ph.D.’72 was presented the MacMurray College Alumni Association’s 1998 Distinguished Alumni Award at the college in Jacksonville, Ill. He was a 1966 graduate of MacMurray and is now a professor at the Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis. He was cited for influencing hundreds of students through his teaching. He is author of numerous studies and professional articles and serves on committees at IU including a Medical Biophysics Steering Committee, Faculty Council and the IU Academic Standards Committee which he chairs.

Maggie O. Patterson received the Commander’s Award from Walter Reed Army Medical Center in April 1998 in recognition for outstanding support to the Equal Employment Opportunity Office. She was also selected as facilitator for the Walter Reed Army Medical Center’s Consideration of Others Program. A third commendation from the Center recognized Patterson for exceptional support as the supervisory administrative coordinator for the Gastroenterology Service, Department of Medicine.

Joseph T. Walsh ’69 was appointed deputy fire chief of the city of Joliet Fire Department in February 1998. The Department has 150 members.

1970s

Eileen Bond Antonelli, who attended SIU from 1970-72, was selected by The Friends of Nursing at Duke University Medical Center to receive the 1998 Inez “Turk” James Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice. The award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates excellence in professional skill and clinical competence as a role model and patient advocate. Antonelli worked on her studies at SIU while her husband earned his Ph.D. She went on to graduate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has been a nurse clinician at the Duke University Medical Center for 12 years. She is married to George A. Antonelli Ph.D.’72 who is an associate vice president at the University of North Carolina General Administration in Chapel Hill. They have one son who is a doctoral candidate in physics at Brown University. They reside in Mebane, N.C.

Ralph G. Moore ’71 was appointed to the board of directors of University of Chicago Hospitals. He is president of Ralph G. Moore & Associates and lives in Chicago.

Duane Dale Suits ’71 is a partner in Sikich Gardner & Co., L.L.P. and lives with wife Jeanee in Aurora, Ill. He was elected secretary of the Illinois C.P.A. Society Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Vera R. Chitty ’72 has written and published a new book of poetry titled, Now I Can Fly! Simple words for the Complex Journey through Life. Her poetry tells how it’s possible to overcome the emotional trials of life through self-love and determination. She began writing as a teacher to give encouragement to her students. After changing careers, she continued writing inspirational poems and began speaking to educators, parent groups and eventually larger, diverse audiences. She also presents Parent Involvement Seminars. Chitty resides in South Holland, Ill. One of her favorite quotations, included in her book, is “Don’t hang on to nothing going nowhere.”

Gerald Moscato ’73 is a designer/lettering artist in Downers Grove, Ill. His logo, designed for Kenya’s Bakery in Las Vegas, Nev., was selected for publication in American Corporate Identity 14 and also for Logo 2000, a book to be published in 1999. It also received the 1998 American Graphic Design Award for logo design by Graphic Design: USA in New York. He teaches staff calligraphy for The Paper Source and Hinsdale Center for the Arts.

Barry W. Birnbaum ’74 is a professor in the department of special education at Chicago State University. He was recently selected to develop and teach one of the first ten courses to be taught at the university online. He will be teaching Research Seminar in Special Education to students who will access all class information, take tests, and submit work electronically. He has also written a monograph based on technology and special education which he hopes to publish within a few months. In 1991, he received the Florida Gifted Teacher of the Year Award and in 1992, the IBM/Technology and Learning Teacher of the Year Award.

Barbara S. Butterfield M.S.Ed.’74, Ph.D.’85 is senior vice president and chief human resource officer of American InterContinental University, based in Atlanta, Ga. In October of 1998, she was the recipient of the (CUPA) College and University Personnel Association’s highest honor, the Donald E. Dickson Award which recognizes outstanding service over a period of five or more years. Her book, You Can’t Get There from Here: The Road to Downsizing in Higher Education, won CUPA’s 1994 Kathryn G. Hansen Publication Award. She co-authored two other publications and is working on another book. Butterfield was director of personnel services at SIU for 17 years. She resides in Rosewell, Ga.

David H. Schwid ’74, director of purchasing and traffic for B-Line Systems, a division of Sigma-Aldrich Co., St. Louis, Mo., earned a master
of arts degree in procurement and acquisition management from Webster University in St. Louis, in May. He began his career with B-Line Systems in 1975 as a sales trainee and advanced to national sales manager. He has been a director of the company, since 1991. He and wife Diane live in Edwardsville, Ill., with their two children, Matthew and Katie.

Michael F. Raczynski M.S.Ed.'75 was promoted to assistant vice president for Student Affairs/Student Facilities and Finance at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Loren Coleman '76, an adjunct associate professor of documentary film and sociology at two New England universities, has been featured in the London Times and interviewed on NBC's Dateline for his work as an internationally known cryptozoologist. He was recently selected to accompany Dan Scott Taylor, Jr.'s minisub expedition which will explore the mystery of the Loch Ness monster. The Nessa Expedition plans to launch the minisub in June 1999. The Expedition will attempt to return with film, sonar and tissue sample proof of the creatures' existence. Coleman is the lead author for two forthcoming books, The Field Guide to Bigfoot, Yeti, and Other Mystery Primates Worldwide (April 1999), Cryptozoology A-Z: An Encyclopedia (July 1999). He contributes a regular cryptozoology column, On the Trail, to a London-based magazine.

Coleman attended SIU from 1965-1969—and so identifies more with 1960s alumni. But after the Vietnam War and working with emotionally disturbed children in Illinois, California and Massaachusetts, he was finally awarded his bachelor's degree long distance in 1976.

John Kim Koerner '78 was promoted to manufacturing engineering manager at Dana's Spicer Clark-Hurth Off-Highway Components Facility in Stateville, N.C.

Kathleen Ann Sondag '78, Ph.D.'87 is a 1998 winner in The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching U.S. Professors of the Year Program. The program salutes the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the country and is recognized as one of the most prestigious awards honoring professors.

Melvin C. Terrell Ph.D.'78 was appointed by the president of Northeastern Illinois University, Salme H. Steinberg, to provide leadership to units in the area of public affairs. Terrell is currently vice president for student affairs at the university and was recognized by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators for his dedication, commitment and service to the organization's Minority Award Program.

Michael Rutherford '79 is a commercial photographer and studio owner in Nashville, Tenn. He has produced award-winning photography for clients that range from Fortune 500 companies to country music stars to state and national government and business leaders. He was the official photographer for the Republican National Convention in 1984 and 1988. Rutherford's photographic trips have taken him around the world and his most recent trips to Ireland and Scotland resulted in the publication of his book Ireland: Faces and Places of the Emerald Isles.
Gary L. Webb Ph.D.'82, an associate professor of criminal justice and criminology at Ball State University, Muncie, Ind., was elected for a two-year term (1998-2000) to the board of directors of the American Judicature Society, a national organization that promotes excellence in the courts. Webb previously served as an associate professor and director of the criminal justice program at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, where he also served as national advisor for the National Justice Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma. He is the author of numerous publications, most recently "United States Drug Laws and Institutionalized Discrimination." He has served on a congressional advisory committee on education and as small-group facilitator at the American Judicature Society's National Symposium on Sentencing.

Major Anthony L. Hardin '82 was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel of the 90th Comptroller Squadron at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wy. Hardin has served as commander of this squadron for over a year. He and wife Arttice also announce the birth of their third son, Isaiah Michael Harding, on July 12, 1998.

Abe Aamidor M.A.'83 has written a new book titled Real Feature Writing, which will be published in April 1999. He resides in Bloomington, Ind., and is a reporter for The Indianapolis Star.

S. K. Ramesh M.S.'83, Ph.D.'86, professor and chair of electrical engineering at California State University, Sacramento, received a $149,000 grant from the Hewlett Packard University Grants Program to establish a dedicated Digital Signal Processing Lab. Ramesh's spouse, Upala Ramesh, is a senior scientist at Dade Behring. They have two children and live in Gold River, Calif.

Joni R. Newenham Spencer '83 married in 1986 and moved to Phoenix, Ariz., where she and husband Ron had a son in 1987. They moved back to Illinois in 1995 and were expecting a second son in December 1998. She has worked in the insurance business since 1984 and her husband, after finishing a tour with the Air Force, is now involved in the industrial processing industry. They live in Auburn, Ill.

Richard Dwyer '84 has been promoted to vice president, sales and marketing for Kent Feeds, Inc. He joined the company in 1984 and previously served as vice president of sales-west and west central region sales manager. He, wife Nora and their family reside in Muscatine, Iowa.

James B. Gentry '84 has been appointed by Conner Ash PC of St. Louis, Mo., as principal of the firm after a decade of service to the company. Gentry became a manager of the audit department in 1995. He specializes in serving the printing and graphic services industry. Gentry resides in Ballwin, Mo.

Deborah K. Kuhns '84 recently won an award with Proctor & Gamble for building organizational capacity in the pharmaceuticals division. She is a field sales trainer for the company in Springfield, Ill.

A. Karl Vonheimburg '84 is an environmental scientist for Fehr-Graham & Associates in Freeport, Ill. He just completed a segment of the Des Plaines Tunnel System, identifying "Ripple Effect" structures within the rock formations during geologic mapping created by a large meteoritic impact centered within Des Plaines, Ill. Vonheimburg earned his bachelor of science degree in geophysics from SIU.

Kim Horn '86 is president of Wedding Marketing, Inc. in Tempe, Ariz. Last November, Bridal Source, published by Wedding Marketing, Inc., became a state-wide Arizona publication and is available (primarily in the Phoenix area) in bookstores, grocery stores and news stands.

Berl D. Jones, Jr. '86 left his job of 15 years with the American Red Cross and joined America Online (AOL) on July 2, 1997. In 1997 he married Briseida Rodrigues, originally from Puerto Rico, in a ceremony in Central Park in New York City. The two had met when Jones was working in the Caribbean after Hurricane Hugo had struck the region. All of Jones' SIU roommates were able to attend the wedding. He and bride from Puerto Rico moved to Sterling, Va., where he became the manager of the Community Leaders Organization, responsible for the coordination of 12,500 volunteers, 200 remote employees and six internal staff. Briseida works in the emergency management field with FEMA National Headquarters. Jones graduated from the Loudoun County Fire Academy and currently serves as a volunteer firefighter in his new community. He also earned a master's degree from New York University in 1995.

Samuel L. Phillips '87 is a research assistant for Asgrow Seed Company in Evansville, Ind. After working full time for nine years, he began graduate study at Purdue University in the botany and plant pathology department in January of 1996. He graduated with a master's degree in May 1998. He accepted his new position with Asgrow and writes that he is pleased to be closer to southern Illinois and hopes to visit his alma mater more frequently.

During the Tennessee Hospital Association's annual meeting held in October in Nashville, Pearlie Pilgrim '88, director of nursing administration for Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation, was named president-elect of the Tennessee
1990s

Robert S. Cutrell '90, M.D.'95 completed his internal medicine residency at Michigan State University in Kalamazoo, Mich., in June 1998. He became an internal medicine physician at Scott Air Force Base near O'Fallon, Ill., beginning October 1998. He and wife Heather Bollmeier Cutrell '92, '93 were expecting their first child in October 1998.

Shelley Wilson Adams '91 works part time as a photographer and is also a free-lance photographer. Daughter Keara was born in December 1996 and Adams quit her job to be a stay-at-home mother. She is secretary for the Fulton County Arts Council. She, her daughter and husband Colin reside in Canton, Ill.

Carol Besler M.A.'92 was promoted to public relations and marketing manager for Stamats Communications. She previously served for two years as a senior writer on Stamats Educational Services Group creative team and as a multimedia editor for WCBI/McGraw-Hill Higher Education. She has also taught college courses in writing and literature and published poetry in several national literary journals. She resides in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Cynthia Halieman Ph.D.'92 has been appointed assistant professor of business management at Quincy University in Quincy, Ill. She recently taught at St. Ambrose University in Iowa and Iowa Wesleyan College. She was also previously affiliated with University of Maryland-Baltimore County, Northern Virginia Community College, University of Maryland University College-College Park and Strayer University-Woodbridge, Va.

Lori A. Hanagan '92 has reported for duty with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 29, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, Jacksonville, N.C. She joined the Marine Corps in May 1984 and holds the position of chief warrant officer.

Melissa Niemeyer '92 and husband Doug had their first child, Matthew Joseph, in June 1998. Niemeyer, who received her bachelor's degree in marketing, is a homemaker and her husband is a full-time firefighter and paramedic in Hinsdale, Ill. He is also owner/president of two businesses.

Cory Curtis '93 was promoted to News Sports Director at WOLO-TV 25 in Columbia, S.C. He joined the 25 news team in 1995 as a sports reporter. Curtis began his television sports career at WLUC-TV in Marquette, Mich.

Samantha Hampton '93 is a registered dental hygienist in Yorba Linda, Calif. Prior to her recent move back home to California, she lived in the Midwest for six years. She misses SIU classmates and sends them greetings.

Gordon M. Doty '94 was recently designated a Naval Flight Officer while serving with 562nd Flying Training Squadron at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He was presented with the coveted Wings of Gold marking the culmination of 18 months of flight training. Doty joined the Navy in 1994.

Jason B. Darby '95 reported for duty with 2nd Medical Battalion, 2nd Force Service Support Group, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N. C. He joined the Navy in August 1988.

Janet L. Gomez '95 was promoted to her present rank of Marine Cpl. and reported for duty at Headquarters, Marine Aircraft Group 13, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing. Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Ariz. She joined the Marine Corps in August 1996.

Anand Gupta M.S.'95, J.D.'98 has joined the Dallas office of the international law firm of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. He will focus his practice on intellectual property and technology matters. While in law school he was a member of the Asian Law Society and articles editor for the Southern Illinois Law Journal. He co-authored a paper titled "Efficient Broadcasting in Incomplete Star Interconnection Networks," which was published at the Fourth International Conference on Computer Science and Informatics. His new law firm has offices throughout the United States as well as in London and Hong Kong.

Christopher Kubback '95 was designated Naval Aviator while serving with Training Squadron 31 in Corpus Christi, Texas. He was also presented with the coveted Wings of Gold marking his successful flight training. Kubback joined the Navy in 1997.

Patrick J. Vegeler '96 was designated a Naval Flight Officer while serving with 562nd Flying Training Squadron, Randolph Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Vegeler, who joined the Navy in 1996, received his Wings of Gold after concluding 18 months of flight training.

Michael R. Elkins Ph.D.'97 received tenure as chair and assistant professor of communications and theatre at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Martha R. Scott '98 received her degree after six years of college and was offered a position as a behavior disorder teacher in the Tri-County School District in DuQuoin, Ill. She says the timing was perfect because her husband Orlando recently retired after the mine he had worked at for many years was closed.
Alumni Deaths
Norwood, Allineal, '26
10/28/98, Centralia, Ill.
Jones, William A., '31; M.S.Ed. '55, 11/16/98, Carbondale, Ill.
Pugh, Blanche Lentz, ex30
12/6/98, Springfield, Ill.
Christie, Margaret Irene, ex32
10/17/98, Carbondale, Ill.
Taylor, Robert L., ex32
10/17/98, Carbondale, Ill.
Christie, Margaret Irene, ex32
10/11/98, Sun City, Ariz.
Herrmann, George, ex50
9/4/98, Marion, Ill.
Thomas, Albert, ex51
7/3/98, Paducah, Ky.
Daniel, George A., ex52
7/11/98, Carlyle, Ill.
Loomis, Jerry J., '58
9/18/98, St. Louis, Mo.
Robinson, Cecil A., '58
9/23/98, Okawville, Ill.
Walser, Elizabeth, ex58
10/5/98, Anna, Ill.
Hardcastle, Leymone, '60
10/2/98, Salem, Ill.
Wilkersen, Edith Marie, '60
Magnotti, Douglas R., '62
11/16/98, Mesa, Ariz.
Tice, Elmer R., '62
8/21/98, Ashley, Ill.
Wooden, Victor C., '63
10/20/98, West Frankfort, Ill.
Russell, Lowell L., '64
10/14/98, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
Karr, Earl R., '65
11/14/98, Corpus Christi, Texas
Reetz, Millie Imogene Pat, '66
11/11/98, Carlyle, Ill.
White, William T., '66; Ph.D. '73
Alsup, Jane Hester, '67
11/1/98, Edwardsville, Ill.
Watson, Georgia Lu., '67;
M.S.Ed.'75, 12/10/98, Herrin, Ill.
Crosier, Charles, M.S.Ed.'68
9/3/98, Brentwood, Tenn.
Vickery, Jenna V., '68; M.S.Ed.'73
11/24/98, Louisiville, Ky.
Fargacs, John P., '70
8/28/98, Bourbonsain, Ill.
Diggie, Douglas, '71
6/11/98, Centralia, Ill.
Goldstein, Ron, '71
12/8/98, Des Plaines, Ill.
Holding, Elinor F., '71
7/7/98, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
Jefferson, Sidney Wayne, '77
11/13/98, DuQuoin, Ill.
Boussman, Pamela L., '89
11/29/98, Fairview Heights, Ill.

Faculty & Staff
Caras, Mary, Emerita Civil Service
11/24/98, Sonoma, Calif.
Edwards, Robert Weldon, Associate Professor, Foreign Languages & Literature 10/15/98, Carbondale, Ill.

Goetz, Helen Thomas
Emerita Civil Service
10/31/98, Wolf Lake, Ill.
Great, Samuel J., Emeritus Civil Service Carpenter
7/8/98, Anna, Ill.
Hays, Edith Nell Gig, Emerita Civil Service Personnel Department
9/4/98, Herrin, Ill.
Keim, William Alvan, Emeritus Visiting Professor, College of Technical Careers
9/30/98, Carbondale, Ill.
Lethiot, Frank, Civil Service Building Service Worker
12/1/98, Christopher, Ill.
Mees, John D., '31, Emeritus Professor, Secondary Education
11/18/98, Carbondale, Ill.
Mercer, John, Emeritus Professor
Department of Cinema and Photography
8/9/98, Meadville, Md.
Neal, Clyde E., Emeritus Civil Service
10/2/98, Cedar Falls, Iowa
Shaffer, Maurice Marge, Emerita Civil Service Food Services
11/30/98, Murphysboro, Ill.
Smith, Mary Lorene, Civil Service Geology Department
11/28/98, Murphysboro, Ill.

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40 Southern Alumni
Alumni Find Romance and Future at SIU

by Mark C. Zweig, '79, M.B.A. '80

My first memories of SIU are of driving from St. Louis to Carbondale on Route 3 with my dad in his big old brown Pontiac Catalina, with just about everything I owned in the trunk, back seat or strapped to the rear bumper.

Of course, we argued about something, as most 18-year-old boys do with their dads, but I felt just a little bit homesick watching him drive away after helping get my stuff into my concrete block room at Boomer 3, #110 in the sweltering August heat. There was no air conditioning and we weren't even allowed to hook up our own window units because back then the electrical system in the dorms couldn't handle the load.

That first weekend, before school even started, I got hit in between the eyes with a Frisbee and was bleeding pretty badly. I went inside to clean myself up and ran into what I thought was the most beautiful girl I had ever seen. Her name was Sue. She was from Chicago, and had long brown hair, big eyes, frayed bell-bottom jeans and a halter top. She was looking for a former high school classmate who she heard lived on my floor.

In the weeks that followed, she and I became good friends. First, I fixed her bike after she crashed into someone coming off the pedestrian bridge. We went to El Greco and I ate my first gyro and the world's best fried mushrooms. We struggled with unwrapping pickles together at Booby's. We did our laundry together. We bowled at the Student Center.

We figured out how to get from one part of Faner Hall to the other part. We went to the beer garden at Das Fass. Later on that year, I rebuilt the carburetor of my 1967 Mustang in the hair washing sinks on the 14th floor of her dorm at Neely.

In the months and years that followed, we explored all of southern Illinois together, from Giant City State Park (as it was back then) to the back streets of Murphysboro. We often went to each other's classes. I sat in on her art appreciation class, and she came to my evening film study course. We grew up together on East College Street, on Washington Street, and in the mobile home we shared at Wildwood Park off of Giant City blacktop.

She ended up getting three degrees from SIU, a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and graduate degrees in special education and school psychology. I got my bachelor's in business and an M.B.A. Neither of us ran up a big debt to get through school. I owed $100 and Sue owed $4,800. We got married six years to the day after we met. Our entire wedding cost us $82. Today we each own our own business. She operates a reading clinic, and I own an Inc. 500 management consulting and publishing firm. We have two beautiful girls, two dogs, two cats and live in a great house in the country in a Boston area bedroom community that was founded in 1952.

I think I knew back in 1976 that's how it all would turn out. I guess you could say that SIU was pretty good to me.
Indianapolis’ Own Odd Couple

by Maureen Manier
Okay, so alumni Chuck Lofton and Bruce Kopp are not exactly an odd couple. But no one is more surprised, (or pleased) than they are that these former classmates have worked together for almost 13 years on the same morning television news show in Indianapolis. Their success as members of WTHR-13’s Sunrise Indianapolis team has brought them a long way from their days as student broadcasters at SIU, but both alumni quickly credit SIU for getting them there.

For Lofton (on the right) and Kopp, who grew up in suburban Chicago, listening to legendary broadcasters Jack Brickhouse, Bill Kurtis and John Coleman marked the beginning of their journeys. Lofton jokes about how he, a kid from the northernmost suburb of Chicago, ended up at Southern Illinois University. But he explains that he knew from the age of 10 he wanted to be in broadcasting, “I knew I had a talent in presenting material on the air.”
"SIU was the best place I could have gone because it wasn’t all theory, it was hands-on training. At that time, we had a television station that broadcast three, half-hour newscasts. And on radio we had newscasts from the beginning of the day until late night. It was serious business and you were expected to have a professional attitude. It definitely wasn’t typical college radio or television. That’s why so many people got good jobs out of that program."

—Chuck Lofton

In high school, Lofton’s adviser told him about SIU’s radio-television program, one of the best in the country. Lofton paid a visit to the university his senior year and, “I immediately fell in love with the program and campus.” He admits he harbored some doubts the first few weeks. After making the eight-hour drive from his house to Carbondale, he realized he was a long way from home for the first time: “I would have had a rough time if it weren’t for the people in the Baptist Student Center. It was a 200-person dorm and it was absolutely the best possible place I could have lived. The environment was warm, friendly and loving.”

The Baptist Student Center was also where Lofton met his wife Mary, a fellow radio-television major. Although he speaks glowingly about his SIU education, he expresses particular gratitude to the university as the place where he met his wife. “The best thing about SIU for me was and is Mary,” he begins. “How else would I have met this beautiful girl from southern Illinois who was interested in the same things as me? While she was the student station manager for the radio station, I was the assistant news director for the television and radio stations. I was on the air, doing a board shift, and she was getting the logs together, when I met her in the hall in between records and asked her to marry me. Not exactly a romantic spot, but it was the right one for us.”

But romance aside, Lofton talks powerfully about the value of his SIU education: “SIU was the best place I could have gone because it wasn’t all theory, it was hands-on training. At that time, we had a television station that broadcast three, half-hour newscasts. And on radio we had newscasts from the beginning of the day until late night. It was serious business and you were expected to have a professional attitude. It definitely wasn’t typical college radio or television. That’s why so many people got good jobs out of that program.”

Tough, experienced mentors were one of the program’s main assets from both Lofton and Kopp’s perspective. They specifically mention Ed Brown, who came to the university after being a news director at the New York City NBC affiliate, and professors John Kurtz and Charles Lynch.

Like Lofton, Kopp pays tribute to his professors and to the practical experience he acquired during his SIU years. “Three days after I arrived on campus [as a junior transfer student], there were auditions for the evening newscast. I hadn’t done television news before, but I got an anchor position right off the bat. Where else but SIU could I have gotten that kind of opportunity so quickly?” Kopp asks.

Kopp remembers being bitten by the journalism bug at a young age. By the sixth grade he was editing his class newspaper. He went on to work on his high school newspaper and continued down the same career path during the two years he attended Triton Junior College. Having worked part-time for a Des Plaines radio station, he was pleased when they offered him a full-time job. But he was equally pleased when the station manager, despite wanting him to come to work for
him, urged Kopp to finish his undergraduate degree. "It was the push I needed at the time," says Kopp. "And when he encouraged me to go to SIU, I knew it was the right decision for me."

Kopp says SIU fit his needs from a number of perspectives: "The best thing was that I was able to go to a university that had everything I could want in a radio/television program and that was as far away as I could get from Chicago and still pay in-state tuition."

Twenty years after they graduated, Kopp and Lofton are more certain than ever that they owe much of their subsequent career success to their SIU experiences. Graduating within a year of each other, the classmates first went to work for competing television stations in Evansville, Ind., jobs in which their diverse backgrounds came in handy. Lofton, who graduated on a Saturday and started work the next Monday, describes his initial responsibilities: "I did sports, weather and news. I think that was part of my appeal to the station. They knew I was coming from SIU and could do a bit of everything."

It was in Evansville that Lofton began carving out his broadcasting niche as a weatherman, the job he has held in Indianapolis since 1985. "What I like best about weather," Lofton explains, "is that it changes every day. I'm not responsible for giving people bad news all the time. There are a lot of sunny days and you can always give hope to people. I definitely like that."

With some amusement Lofton adds, "The weather person is like the guy next door. I don't have to look as good as Stone Phillips."

Kopp's first job in Evansville was as a weekend anchor. He left Evansville after several years for a similar job in the larger market of Grand Rapids, Mich. A short year later he accepted a job at Channel 13 in Indianapolis. With the exception of one year when he was temporarily reassigned, Kopp has co-anchored WTHR's two-hour morning show ever since. It's a job he loves and he grudgingly admits that one of the best parts of his job is the people he works with—especially his former classmate Lofton.

"We have a lot of respect for each other," says Lofton. "And, of course, I've made him what he is today." Kopp quickly remarks, "Egos don't get in the way of what we do here, except, of course, for Chuck's." As the two enjoy their jokes at each other's expense, Kopp adds, "Really, it sounds a little trite, but we really are like a family at this show. I think you have to work that way together to succeed at that time of the morning. The way I see it, Chuck, my co-anchor, the crew and a few hundred thousand viewers get together for coffee and talk every morning."

Whether you fully or partially credit Kopp and Lofton's longtime friendship, the success of Sunrise Indianapolis, as well as their noon time show, can't be denied. In the most recent local ratings race, the morning show scored ratings higher than the two competing network shows combined. And, although both men admit their teenage dreams had them one day working at a Chicago television station, neither expresses any interest in leaving their current positions or their mutually adopted home of Indianapolis.

"Indianapolis has been a great place for us to raise our family," says Lofton. He and his wife Mary live in a near west suburb with their three sons. Kopp concurs and adds that Chicago being a quick three-hour trip from Indianapolis makes it much more attractive than living in one of Chicago's often congested suburbs. Kopp and his wife have two children, including a newborn, and, as if they don't see enough of each other at work, lives in the same western suburb as Lofton.

Lofton and Kopp's easy manner during their interview mirrors the friendly quality that has made them so popular with television viewers. Again, they credit their SIU professor Ed Brown for teaching them what they consider their most valuable professional and personal lesson. As Kopp concludes: "This is such a strange business we're in because it's news-gathering and fact-based, but it's also theater. And no matter how you look at it broadcasting is an artificial way to communicate with people. I think that's why we both always keep in mind what Ed Brown emphasized to us, 'Be yourself.' If Chuck and I have any secret that works for us, it's that we are who we are when the camera is on and when it's off."
Membership Matters

Membership is the lifeblood of the SIU Alumni Association. Having a strong and growing membership enables the association to fund more scholarships, sponsor new programs for alumni, organize chapter events, and make numerous other contributions to the university. We have grown in membership to almost 13,000, but our continued growth will help us expand our resources even more. If you are still asking yourself how membership matters, we urge you to consider the following ways in which your association dues make a difference.

Scholarships
- Roscoe Pulliam Scholarship, funded by the Pulliam family and the alumni association and presented to close relatives of alumni.
- Alumni Legacy Scholarship, awarded by the association to a qualified incoming freshman with an immediate relative who is an alumni/alumna.

Programs
- Extend Program: A program that provides over 200 students an opportunity to spend their spring break learning more about careers in which they are interested.
- Member Appreciation Events: These events are sponsored each year at football, volleyball, men's and women's basketball, softball and baseball games. A new member appreciation event was also recently held at Shryock Auditorium.
- Homecoming: Annual event hosted by the alumni association for all alumni.

University Support
- For the past two years the association made the following major contributions to your alma mater.
  - $100,000 to the Saluki Futures Campaign for Athletics
  - $25,000 to the Public Policy Institute
  - $60,000 to renovate the Morris Library Reading Room
  - $10,000 to the Marching Salukis
  - $25,000 to establish an alumni legacy scholarship.

Chapters
The SIU Alumni Association sponsors 32 active alumni chapters that conduct more than 50 annual events across the nation. These chapters provide countless opportunities for alumni to network and become involved in supporting their community and alma mater.

Myth: If I receive the Southern Alumni magazine, then I must be an alumni association member.
Truth: The alumni association sometimes sends out quarterly Southern Alumni magazines as a promotion to non-members to create awareness and familiarize them with the association and the benefits of receiving the magazine. But only dues-paying members are guaranteed of receiving the magazine four times a year.

Myth: Donating to the Annual Fund automatically makes me an alumni association member.
Truth: Giving money to the Annual Fund directly benefits the university and is an important way for alumni to show their support. But your Annual Fund contribution does not make you an association member nor does it support the activities of the association. If you are unsure of your status, please contact us.

Myth: I belong to the Saluki Booster Club and receive the same benefits that alumni association members receive.
Truth: Booster club members do receive student discounts, many of which are also offered by the alumni association. But only alumni association members receive the Southern Alumni and other benefits and discounts unique to the association.

Myth: If I have a SIU Visa card, I am a member of the association.
Truth: The Visa card is part of our affinity program. A percentage of your credit card purchases do support the association and we are grateful for your commitment. But credit card holders need to pay annual or lifetime dues to become association members. They can easily arrange for that payment to be made one-time or automatically on an annual basis using their SIU credit card.

Myth: All persons who attended SIU are members of the SIU Alumni Association.
Truth: All students who attended SIU, are considered alumni. The association’s primary goal is to serve all 175,000 alumni. But the SIU Alumni Association is a dues-paying organization that depends on dues and other forms of revenue for more than 50 percent of its income. By paying your dues and becoming a lifetime or annual member, you assist the association in supporting the university and all alumni.

Myth: The SIU Alumni Association is a separate entity from the university.
Truth: The association does act as a corporation in conducting its business. But the university and the association have also developed a partnership by which the university financially supports the association’s efforts in many ways.

We hope we’ve answered some of your questions about who we are and what we do as an association. If you would like any more information, please call us at (618) 453-2408 or visit our web site at www.siu.edu/alumni.
## Alumni Calendar

### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Northern Iowa, 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. St. Louis, Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. Northern Iowa, 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>The King and I, Shryock Auditorium, 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Northern Iowa, Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. Eastern Illinois, Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>SIU Track &amp; Field Alumni/ Fan Appreciation Day. SIU Men vs. University of Illinois, Indiana State, Illinois State, 1 p.m. Saluki Women vs. Indiana State, Illinois State, Central Michigan, 1 p.m. Join fellow SIU alumni track &amp; field fans at festivities surrounding the Saluki's inaugural competition on their new outdoor surface at McAndrew Stadium. For more information, contact Greg Scott, SIU Alumni Association, (618) 453-2408.</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. Southeast Missouri State, 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Northern Iowa, 1 p.m.</td>
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### April

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. SW Missouri, 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball Spring Fish Fry and Sports Memorabilia Auction, Carbondale Civic Center, Carbondale, Illinois. The fish fry from 5 to 8 p.m. The auction follows at 8 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance by contacting the Saluki Baseball Office at (618) 453-2802.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. SW Missouri, Noon</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. Creighton, Noon</td>
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### May

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. Northern Iowa, Noon</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Baby With The Bathwater, McLeod Theatre, 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cherish the Ladies, Shryock Auditorium, 8 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Saluki Softball vs. Bradley, Noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Baby With The Bathwater, McLeod Theatre, 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Austin Peay, 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois State, 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois State, Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois State, 1 p.m.</td>
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### Future Dates

#### SIU Day at Wrigley Field in Chicago
The SIU Alumni Association will host its annual baseball outing on May 29 in Chicago. The Chicago Cubs and St. Louis Cardinals will be featured. Pregame activities at the Cubby Bear begin at 10 a.m., followed by the game at 1:20 p.m. The cost is $21 for members and $23 for non-members. A buffet will be available at the Cubby Bear for an additional $8. The event sold out last year and availability is limited. For more information, call Remy Billups in SIU's Chicago Region Office at (630) 574-7774, ext. 2.

#### Black Alumni Group Reunion
The SIU Alumni Association will coordinate the Black Alumni Group Reunion on July 15-18. Please call Jenna Smith at (618) 453-2408 for more information.

#### The Tenth Anniversary Chicagoland Saluki Golf Scramble
This annual event is being held on July 23. The first 144 golfers will be accommodated. Special anniversary giveaways and prizes will be presented. For more information, call the SIU Chicago Office at (630) 574-7774.

#### The Second Annual Obelisk Leadership Awards Dinner
The Obelisk Awards Dinner will be held on November 4 in Oak Brook. Nominations are being accepted at the SIU Chicago Office on behalf of the Obelisk Dinner Committee. For more information, call the SIU Chicago Office at (630) 574-7774.

To confirm the date, time and location for athletic events, please call (618) 453-7325 or check the department's web page at www.siu.edu/~athletic/. For more information on buying tickets to Shryock Auditorium performances, you may call (618) 453-2787.
Bill Norwood has always had a knack for blazing a trail for those who follow him. It began during his college years in the 1950s when he became SIU’s first African-American quarterback. He excelled in the position as a three-year starter and he was inducted into the Saluki Hall of Fame.

Norwood also received his share of accolades during a 30-year career as an airline pilot—the first African-American pilot hired by United Airlines and the first to achieve the rank of captain. When he retired in 1996, United honored Norwood by painting his name on the side of a United 727 that is part of the Take Flight exhibit in the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. Alongside the plane is a plaque that chronicles his career.

Despite his honors and distinctions, Norwood’s true contributions can be measured by the opportunities he has created for others. He belongs to an African-American pilots organization, formed in 1976, that mentors young people interested in aviation and gives aspiring pilots a chance to work with professionals. He has also been pivotal in United’s joint effort with SIU to encourage high school minority students interested in aviation. A longtime member of the SIU Board of Trustees and the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Norwood continues his commitment to higher education.

For his distinguished career in aviation, contributions to higher education and ability to blaze the trail for those who aspire to follow in his footsteps, the SIU Alumni Association proudly salutes Bill Norwood.

“This university is where I got my start and it has been very good to me. I would like to help the university be better for students—that is the reason it exists. Therefore, I am a proud member and advocate of the SIU Alumni Association. The alumni association is committed to building on the legacy of Delyte and Dorothy Morris by creating opportunities for SIU students. I encourage all alumni and friends of SIU to contribute to this mission by joining and supporting the SIU Alumni Association.”

Bill Norwood ’59
Retired Airline Pilot
Member, SIU Board of Trustees