Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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SIU Alumni Association

Veteran character actor Don Davis' work in television and film has allowed him to delve into his other artistic talents.
IN SEARCH OF EXCELLENCE

The SIU Foundation offers numerous ways for alumni and friends to help students have the best possible experience at Southern Illinois University. The Foundation uses the long range Southern At 150 plan as a guide to focus contributions on building scholarship programs for students, academic endeavors, faculty excellence, research, and campus resources.

The goal of Southern At 150: Building Excellence Through Commitment is to articulate a series of commitments and actions that will place SIU among the top 75 public research universities in the United States by the year 2019, the University's 150th anniversary.

According to Dr. Rickey McCurry, vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement and CEO of the SIU Foundation, there are many ways for the University to receive gifts, including cash, securities, mutual funds, life insurance bequests, or property. To learn how you can make a contribution contact the SIU Foundation at 618-453-4900.
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ON THE COVER
SIU alum Don Davis, shown here in his role as Major Garland Briggs in Twin Peaks, uses his acting to fuel a passion for other artistic talents. His paintings are shown in various galleries around the world, and he is also an expert carver and designer.

FEATURES

10 The Renaissance Man
Don Davis M.S. '70, Ph. D. '82, a veteran character actor best known for his television roles in Stargate SG-1, Twin Peaks, and The X-Files, splits his passion for acting with a love of art. It is a balance he has always worked to maintain, dating back to his days at Southern.

26 Coming Home
Former assistant coach and Saluki star Chris Lowery recently was named as head coach of the SIU men's basketball team. The selection of one of its own was something SIU Athletics Director Paul Kowalczyk felt was crucial. "He played here, won here, and has been a winner everywhere he's been," Kowalczyk notes. "He helped build this program, and it is great to bring him back to SIU."

38 It's Miller Time
Lance Miller, a native of Fairfield and a 1992 SIU alumnus, was a top-four finalist in the USA Network reality TV show, "Nashville Star," which began airing in early March. He auditioned along with thousands of other aspiring artists, and through the weeks, judges and voters chose their favorites, with the winner receiving a recording contract from Sony Records. As one of the final four contestants remaining, he recently returned to his hometown to give a free concert to benefit the American Red Cross.

Early Influences Pave Her Way
As one of SIU's top Radio-Television students, Gwyn Bevel points to a childhood where her parents kept her informed of community events and news. "I saw the value my parents placed in staying abreast of things such as knowing how the city council voted last night. They valued this family hour of watching the local and national news," the May graduate says. "Once I witnessed how important the news was to my parents, it became equally important to me." With this background firmly in place, Bevel, an SIU Distinguished Senior recipient and Extern participant, says there was no doubt what her major would be.
Although his name might not ring a bell, many alumni will immediately recognize veteran character actor Don Davis from the cover of *Southern Alumni*. For the past seven years he has portrayed General George Hammond in the series *Stargate SG-1*, after earlier gracing the screen as Major Garland Briggs in *Twin Peaks* and Captain William Scully in the *X-Files*.

This trio of science fiction favorites created huge cult followings for each series and has made the Vancouver, Canada, resident one of the most popular science fiction fantasy conventions around the world.

A native of the Missouri Ozarks, the two-degree SIU alumnus has appeared in almost 50 motion pictures and on countless television shows. Davis’ true passion, however, is painting, carving and writing.

The modern day renaissance man explains, “acting was a way to make a living that would feed my family while I pursued my art.”

And no matter what art form he is involved in, Davis realizes a foundation was formed at Southern. His days in Carbondale are still with him, as is an unrelenting respect for people like former instructor Darwin Payne, a man he calls “the single most creative person I have ever met.”

“The University bent over backwards for me – I have fond memories of SIU.”

SIU’s basketball programs are now under new leadership. Dana Eikenberg (page 24) will try to rebuild Southern’s once-proud women’s program, while Chris Lowery (page 25) will attempt to keep the Salukis atop the Missouri Valley Conference standings.

For Lowery, the new role serves as a homecoming. As a star player for the Dawgs in the early 1990s and a former assistant coach in recent years, his return to the SIU Arena was met with widespread enthusiasm.

“I had a hand in either recruiting or coaching every single player on the roster,” Lowery says. “With that in mind, the transition should be smooth and I can’t wait to put the team on the floor. The University, the athletic department, and these young men are part of my family – I’m so happy to be back home.”

You might notice that many stories in this issue feature current SIU students. The past year has served as a spectacular time for some of Southern’s best and brightest, including students who earned the University’s first Udall and Goldwater Scholarships (page 16).

We also feature material on SIU’s Super Students and Distinguished Seniors, as we showcase some of the University’s finest young men and women. This issue of *Southern Alumni* also is being mailed with our compliments to all graduating seniors, as we extend our congratulations for the continued accomplishments and prestige these young alumni bring to our University.
Southern Alumni

Even though I am now retired Southern Alumni County where I taught in a tion of assistant chemist. My quickly moved into the posi­ Company. Starting as a laborer, duties included determin­ing the purity, moisture con­ and other various mining qualities of the fluor­ lead and zinc that was mined, milled and marketed.

The money I saved from working at Minerva allowed me to begin attending SIU in 1946, and due to a teacher shortage, I decided to pursue courses in education and obtained my teaching certificate in 1949.

With this educational accomplish­ I landed a teaching position in Hardin County where I taught in a one-room schoolhouse for three years. Just like the visions

invoked by the term "one-room schoolhouse," I taught every subject and every grade first through eighth, and in addition was the janitor, counselor, principal and administrator.

Although this all-inclusive position was one of the greatest learning experiences of my life, I didn't stop there. During the summer, I attended classes inter­ Southern as my finances allowed, graduating in 1953. It was during this time that I found the love of my life, Doris, and we were married in 1951. My continued affiliation with SIU led to another opportunity. In 1954, the placement office advised me of an opening for a math teacher in Bloomington, Ill. I applied for the position and was hired by the Bloomington Public School District. My wife and I pulled up our rural stakes and headed for the "big city."

My first year teaching in Bloomington went fast, and before I knew it the school year was over, which meant I had to find summer employment. Fortunately for me, I was hired by State Farm Insurance Company and began my career in the insurance industry. From 1955 to 1965 I worked in various positions in the life insurance area. When State Farm decided to diversify and enter the health insurance market in 1965, I became the first health division employee assigned to work on the monumental project of entering the health insurance market.

During the remainder of my career at State Farm, I helped develop and administer a full line of health insurance poli­ As the various state insurance departments approved these policies, I traveled extensively throughout the U.S. introduc­ ing the new health policies to State Farm agents.

My SIU education and teaching experiences allowed me to become successful in my insurance career. I retired in 1992 as vice president of health insurance administration.

In one respect, working and retirement have a common thread. During my working years, I ran to catch up, keep up or forge ahead. In retirement, I am enjoying my loving family - my wife of 52 years, my son and his wife, and my bright little 22-month-old granddaughter, Anna. Although my stride is shorter, my current race is the one I find most enjoyable - keeping up with Anna.

Prentice Blair '53
Annual Member
Bloomington, Ill.

A Wedding Full Of Salukis

After we saw the picture of the license plate in the last issue of Southern Alumni magazine, we knew we should share a story and photo regarding our wedding. Last August, Michael Stine and I, Laura Johnson, were married.

After the wedding, we decided to have a picture taken with all the Southern Illinois University alumni who were there. It was quite a group, and I thought it would be a fun picture to share.

Go Salukis!

Michael '01 and Laura Stine '01

Life Members
Lake Zurich, Ill.

From left, on the floor: Corey (Boehm) Owens and Brian Owens. Front row sitting: Andrea Donaldson, Jon Zenker, Catie Barfield, Michael Greenspan, Laura (Johnson) Stine, Michael Stine, Tabitha (Poggenpohl) Stine, Melissa Pearson, Bruce DeVantier, and Karen DeVantier. Back row: Augie Hallman, Merilee Hallman, Herbert Stemler, Cathy Cosimi, Jessica Andrews, Shane Harris, Jason Christensen, Bob Johnson, Chris Goble, Courtney (Smith) Goble, Chris Stine, Scott Doyle, Sam Casleton, Joanie (DeVantier) Casleton, Doug Richards, Jared Stine, Larry DeVantier, Ross McKnight, Tammy (Stine) McKnight, and Dan Stine.
Alumni Orders For DELL Computers Rolling In

SIU alumni are beginning to take advantage of the membership benefit offered to members who purchase DELL computers and equipment. The program, which was announced in the last issue of Saluki Pride, allows Association members to save between 2-13 percent when ordering DELL equipment. 710 Bookstore in Carbondale is serving as the local representative for DELL Computers, with the SIU Purchasing Department responsible for the DELL contract at Southern. Some of the people involved with the Association in this project are, from left, Dan Fox (computer products manager at 710), Shannon Newman (computer products trade book manager at 710), Randy Johnson (manager at 710), Tina Logan (purchasing officer at the SIU Purchasing Department), and Jeff Holder (director at the SIU Purchasing Department). To find out more on how this membership benefit can save you money, contact the SIU Alumni Association office at 618-453-2408.

Mehta Motors’ Motto Is Service

As a benefit partner of the SIU Alumni Association, the family-owned business of Mehta Motors in Elmhurst, Ill., offers a 10 percent discount on oil changes and safety checks to all Association members.

In addition, the business offers an extensive line of services and offers customers rides home or to the train. The mission statement of the business is “to give honest service and advice at a fair price which creates a win-win situation for our customers, our suppliers, our employees and ourselves.”

The business is a family affair made up of owner, Hosi Mehta, and his three sons, Shawn, Sheroy ‘01, and Shazad ‘04.

Mehta Motors, a partner of AAA Motor Club, is located at 463 Spring Road in Elmhurst, Ill. Contact them on their Web site, www.mehtamotors.com, or at 630-279-0566.

Chicago’s Best Western River North

SIU alumni visiting Chicago can save year around by staying at the Best Western River North Hotel located at the corner of LaSalle and Ohio. Carol Bader, general manager, stresses the value of the hotel’s free parking, noting that it saves from $25 to $30 since many downtown hotels charge for parking. River North also features a complimentary fitness center, indoor heated pool, and easy access to fine dining, transportation, art galleries and shopping (just six blocks from Michigan Avenue). “We are in the heart of just about everything there is to do,” says Bader.

The rates, $109 Sunday through Thursday and $119 for Friday and Saturday, can be secured by requesting the college/university rate. Other amenities include coffee in the rooms, free local calls (first 30 minutes) and free long distance access.

For the 27th annual SIU Day at Wrigley coming up on July 19, Bader points out that the “El” going to Wrigley is just a block and a half from the hotel. To check out the hotel log on to its Web site at www.chicagosbesthotel.com.

Contact us on-line at www.siualumni.com or call 618-453-2408.
Check Out Our Benefit Partners

The following businesses are graciously offering our members a variety of discounts.

For contact information, links, and questions please visit www.siu alumni.com or call 618-453-2408

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS
Sherwin Williams Paints: 20% on regular priced items, 5% on sale items. Call the Alumni Office for account number.
European Auto and Hotel: via destination Europe

NATIONWIDE PARTNERS
Car Rental: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Hertz, and National
Choice Hotels: at participating: Clarion Inn, Comfort Inn, Quality Inn, Friendship Inn, Econo Lodge, Rodeway Inn, Sleep Inn (up to 15%)
DELL Computers: 2-13% savings on DELL computers and products. Please call the SIU Alumni Association office at 618-453-2408 for the promotional code.

REGIONAL PARTNERS
Six Flags Amusement Park, St. Louis Mo.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS PARTNERS
Barton House Bed & Breakfast: Carbondale – advanced registration required for 10% discount. Call 618-457-7717
Big Boys O’N Restaurants: Carbondale – 10%
Carlson Wagonlit Travel Agency: Herin’s Marion, 5% off all preferred cruises & vacations
Coleman-Rhodes: West Frankfort – 15% off accessories
Days Inn Carbondale – 15% off Sun. – Thur., 10% off Fri. – Sat.
El Bajo Restaurants: Carbondale – 10%
Enterprise Rent-a-Car: Carbondale – 10%
Fernwood Gardens: Cobden – 10% off purchases
Garfield’s Restaurant: Carbondale, University Mall – 20%
Gold’s Gym: Marion – 10% off membership fee waived
Hampton Inn: Carbondale – 10% off standard room rate
Intimate Foundations: Carbondale – 10% off Norvell custom fit bras and body shapers
Mastercuts Salon: Carbondale, University Mall – $5 off all cuts
Motel 6: Carbondale – 10%
Mugsy McGuire’s Restaurant: Carbondale – 10%
Papa Mikes: Olney – 10% dine in only
Red Hawk Country Club: Du Quoin – 20% off greens fees

Ruby Tuesdays Restaurant: Marion – 10%
Saluki Bookstore: Carbondale – 20% for life members, 15% off for annual members on SIU apparel
Saluki Central: Carbondale – 10% off SIU apparel
710 Bookstore: Carbondale – Illinois Ave., location only, 20% for life members, 15% for annual members discount on SIU imprinted items
Stiles Corporate Express – 10%
Super 8: Carbondale – 15% off standard room rate
Tres Hombres: Carbondale – $1 off dinner entree; $0.50 off lunch entree
Quatro’s Pizza: Carbondale – free pitcher of soda with medium or large pizza
Vogler Ford: Carbondale – 10% off any car rental
Walt’s Pizza: Marion – 10%

OTHER PARTNERS
Best Western River North Hotel: Chicago, Lake Shore Drive – Sun-Thur. $115 per night; Fri-Sat. $125 per night.
Davis Manor Bed & Breakfasts: Bloomington, IL – 20%
Four Peaks Property Evaluations (Home Inspections): Peoria, Az. – $20 off home inspections
Keller Williams Realty: Austin, TX – ask for Steve or Judy Scott
Mehta Motors: Elmhurst, IL – 10% off oil change and safety check

CAMPUS PARTNERS
McLeod Theater: Communications Building – 20% adult/senior citizen tickets
Morris Library privileges
Old Main Restaurant: Student Center – 10%
Shryock Auditorium: $3 off Celebrity Series tickets
Student Center: Bowling & Billiards: members receive SIU student rates; Craft Shop: 10% off Saluki merchandise
Student Recreation Center: eligible to join
Touch of Nature: 20% off lodging, 15% off programs
University Bookstore: Student Center – $20 discount off textbooks when $300 or more is purchased in textbooks per semester; and 20% for life members
University Press Publications: 20%

This list is subject to change. Present your membership card to receive your discount.

EACH MEMBER ALSO RECEIVES:
- Southern Alumni magazine
- Nationwide Alumni chapters and clubs
- Special events & ceremonies
- SIU Alumni Association decal
- Saluki Pride newsletter

A Larger SIU Alumni Association Means A Greater Voice
Can you remember the feeling the day you graduated? As you look back on your college days and reminisce about some of the best years of your life, you realize how important it is to keep those memories alive. That is why the SIU Alumni Association is here. We help keep those memories alive.

Stay connected through the pages of the Southern Alumni magazine, Saluki Pride newsletter, and with events such as reunions, homecomings, alumni events, and programs. If you would like a friend or relative to experience those same feelings, please consider purchasing an SIU Alumni Association membership as a gift. Share your love for Southern with others.

For more information contact: SIU Alumni Association
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Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Illinois 62901
(618) 453-2408
(618) 453-ALUM (fax)
www.siu alumni.com

New SIU Alumni Association Life Members

NEW LIFE MEMBERS
Between 2/1/04 and 4/30/04

Mr. Curtis D. Benham
Mrs. Amy J. Bishel
Mr. Donald L. Bixler
Dr. John L. and Mrs. Linda L. Bobell
Mr. Jon D. Brooks
Mrs. Claudia B. Broom
Mr. and Mrs. David D. Campbell
Mr. James C. and Mrs. Dianne T. Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Neil Claussen
Mr. Carl J. and Mrs. Kristin E. Crawford
Mrs. Betty B. and Dr. Donald R. Darling
Mr. William T. Darling

Mrs. Anne M. Durst
Mrs. Jane H. and Mr. Helmer A. Engh Jr.
Mr. David Engram
Dr. Joan F. and Mr. Donald V. Ferrell Esg.
Mr. James L. Ford
Mr. Eric N. Frazier
Mr. Terrence J. Gannon
Mr. Joseph C. Glasser
Mrs. Kathleen M. Hahn
Mrs. Mary T. Haines
Mr. Benjamin K. Harks
Mr. Michael G. Jennings
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Mrs. Susan C. Kelley-Powers
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Miss Carlas A. Leggs
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Mrs. Cynthia M. Punke
Mr. Duane T. Quick
Mr. Joseph R. Raben
Dr. Milo E. and Mrs. Bonnie S. Richmond
Mrs. Dorothea A. Riddle
Mr. Ann E. Robinson
Mr. Daniel A. Robinson
Mr. Roy A. Rountree
Mr. Gene D. and Mrs. Cora S. Sams
Mrs. Kathryn A. Schwartz-Balsano

Dr. Katherine L. Sermersheim
Mr. Stacey C. Sisk
Mary H. Steinauer, PhD.
Mr. Rodney A. Sterlmer
Ms. Melinda S.Stubbee
Mr. Gil R. and Mrs. Cathy L. Swalls
Mr. Anthony A. and Mrs. Sharrol L. Toenjes
Mrs. Daria K. Treece
Mr. Donnie J. Trogolo
Mr. Erik J. Utgaard
Mr. Trent M. Walker
Mrs. Karen S. and Mr. Ralph J. Ward
Mr. Bradley S. and Mrs. Lori A. Weiss
Mr. Clarence E. and Mrs. Kristy White
Mr. Andrew P. Zinner
Sigler Wins Civil Service Award

Todd Sigler, a captain in the SIU Police Department who began his career at Southern in 1979 as a member of the Saluki Patrol during his student days, has been named the top Civil Service employee at the University for 2004.

He joined the department full time in 1985 and except for a short stint elsewhere, he's been with the department ever since, working steadily through the ranks. His 2003 promotion to captain places him as commander of two units: the patrol division and support services. As head of the patrol division, he supervises 34 officers and the entire Saluki Patrol program. Leading the support services means supervising the training program, the pressure point and control tactics program, the field training officer program and the disaster preparedness program. In addition, he is commander of the department's tactical response team, crisis management negotiators and explosive ordnance disposal unit.

Sigler will receive $2,000 from the SIU Foundation and his name will be on a plaque that hangs in the Student Center.

"It's flattering," Sigler says, "but I look at it as something on behalf of all the Civil Service employees. I think about all the individuals who work with me across campus, whether it's a project, a program or day-to-day assignments. I have the chance to work with them all and it's those folks, those who work with me, who deserve this, because they are the ones who allow me to do this."

Sigler, an SIU Alumni Association Life Member, holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice and a master's in public affairs from SIU. He is currently a doctoral candidate at Southern in educational administration and higher education. He and his wife, Patti, have two children, Jason and Austin.

Bame Named Top AP Employee

Kevin Bame, the director of accounting services at Southern Illinois University received the Administrative/Professional Staff Outstanding Service Award for 2004. The Murphysboro resident was among four finalists for the award, which recognizes individuals who give above and beyond to the University and community. A University employee for the past 17 years, Bame started his current position in May.

"It's quite an honor," says the SIU Alumni Association Life Member. "I'm proud of this institution and what we accomplish. I'm proud to be part of it. SIU has been good to my family and me. I'm proud to work here and proud to accomplish what we do."

He receives $2,000 from the SIU Foundation and a personal parking space for a year. Bame's name also will appear on a plaque that hangs in the Student Center.

Bame is a 24-year veteran of the accounting and tax fields who began his University service in October 1986 as an internal auditor. In July 1995, he became director of tax management and compliance, before becoming director of the University's risk management and self-insurance program in July 1999.

Bame obtained his bachelor's degree in accounting from SIU in 1979 and an MBA from the University in 2002. Bame and his wife, Lyn, have two children, Alex and Alyssa.

Postal Service To Issue Bucky Fuller Stamp

On Monday, July 12th, the United States Post Office will release a commemorative Bucky Fuller Stamp on the anniversary of his 109th birthday. This date was chosen to honor the former legendary SIU professor as it marks the 50th anniversary of Fuller's patent for the geodesic dome.

This event comes at a time when a growing number of local volunteers are continuing their efforts to restore Fuller's Dome - his home during his time in Carbondale - which is still located on Forest Avenue. The group will be raising money to buy a large number of the Fuller stamps to use for fundraising. If alumni and friends would like to help in this restoration project, any tax-deductible donations may be sent to: RBF Dome NFP 407 S. Forest Ave. Carbondale, IL 62901

Fuller, shown above during his SIU days, remains a revered figure among students of that era.

Landmark Preservation Council of Illinois has placed the structure on its list of the 10 Most Endangered Historic Places in Illinois for 2004, noting the Dome's historical significance.

Architectural firms with preservation experience have been queried about their interest in such a restoration project. From there a historic structure report, master plan, and detailed budget can be developed, serving as the first step in the restoration process.

For more information about the Dome and the activities of RBF Dome NFP, please check their Web site at www.buckysdome.org. You may also learn more about the stamp by visiting the U.S. Postal Service at www.usps.com/communications/news/stamps/2003/sr03065stamps.htm
Roger Neuhaus, SIU's associate vice chancellor for institutional advancement and director of development for the SIU Foundation since July 2001, will be leaving the University on July 31. The SIU Alumni Association Life Member and his family are relocating to Oak Creek, Ariz., where he will become vice president for community outreach and president of the foundation for The Verde Valley Medical Center.

Neuhaus had earlier served as the Association's assistant director for corporate relations and chapter development from May 1989 until June 1993. He also was assistant director for chapter relations for the Association from February 1986 until June 1987, and coordinator of the SIU Parents Association from June 1985 until February 1986.

He spent nearly five years in various development roles for Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and from 1998 to 2001 was vice president for development for Finley Tri-States Health Group and executive director of the Finley Health Foundation in Dubuque.

"My family and I appreciate and value our 20-year relationship with the University and the people of southern Illinois," says Neuhaus, who earned a master's degree in organizational administration and education from Southern in 1990. "We are grateful to have lived in a truly wonderful place and feel fortunate to have served SIU professionally, and the broader community through our volunteer efforts. It is our sincere hope that our time and work here have allowed us to touch the lives of others in positive, lasting and meaningful ways."

Rickey McCurry, SIU's vice chancellor for institutional advancement, called Neuhaus' pending departure "a big loss to this University and to me personally. This is a great opportunity for Roger and it is well deserved," he notes. "We can't replace Roger - he's unique - but we will find someone who will be capable and we will continue to move in the right direction."

SIU Honors Top Student Employees

A "team player and innovator" at SIU Press is Southern Illinois University's Student Employee of the Year.

Aaron Richart, a senior majoring in electronic systems technologies from Robinson, Ill., received the award recently during a reception at Lentz Hall, held annually in conjunction with National Student Employment Week.

With 6,000 student workers, Southern runs one of the largest such programs in the country. The financial aid office sponsors the annual award, selecting winners based on their reliability, initiative, professionalism and the quality and uniqueness of their work.

Also recognized during the ceremony were the two finalists for the award: Andrea Wolfe, a sophomore in speech communication from Du Quoin, Ill., and Luke Sherrill, a senior in psychology from Jacksonville, Ill.

Richart, the son of Donald and Kathy Richart, is "a true colleague respected by the editors and support professionals here at the Press and an integral part of our operation," says SIU Press Associate Director Susan Wilson. "His contribution to SIU Press is significant: He has initiated, set up and maintained a new method of selling scholarly books online."

The SIU student, who created online stores that attract and keep a large number of returning customers, received a $500 scholarship on April 22 during Chancellor Walter Wendler's "Excellence Through Commitment" awards dinner.

Wolfe, the daughter of Joseph and Karen Wolfe, handles a variety of tasks for graduate programs in Workforce Education and Development. She is responsible for word processing, maintaining accurate records and helps solve technological programs.

Sherrill, the son of Steve and Sue Sherrill, works in the psychology department's behavioral neuroscience laboratory. He conducts animal behavioral assessments, training and shaping animal behavior, handling and caring for laboratory rats, and building and maintaining laboratory equipment, among other duties.

Svec Retires From SIU After Long Career

erry Svec, a rural Ava resident whose nearly 39-year career at Southern Illinois University Carbondale dates to as a student worker, recently retired from Southern. He was director of SIU Photocommunications in 1989, serving in that role until 2003, when he became associate director of special projects for Media & Communication Resources.

The Chicago native came to SIU in 1965 after graduating from Wauconda High School. During his first year on campus, he served as a typography assistant in the design department. Other student jobs included serving as an instructional assistant in the design department, resident fellow for an off-campus residence hall, instructional assistant in the design department and exhibit technologist for University Exhibits.

The SIU Alumni Association Life Member earned his bachelor's degree in 1970, then pursued a master's degree through the Department of Occupational Education from 1970 to 1972. During those two years, he was a graduate assistant for University Exhibits. In 1972, he became a staff assistant for that unit, which was the forerunner of University Photocommunications.

In 1975, he began a four-year stint as assistant coordinator for University Exhibits, helping coordinate multi-image and slide film distribution, exhibit fabrication and support service for special events and activities. He served as University Exhibits coordinator from 1979 to 1981, then became assistant director of University Photocommunications in 1981 — a position he would hold for the next eight years before becoming the director.

Svec, a resident of rural Ava since 1971, is the son of Frances Svec of Murphysboro and the late Paul Svec. He and his wife of 35-plus years, Christine, have two children, Brian, 31, and Sharon, 26. Christine is an associate director of SIU's International Programs and Services.

"I always have had a passion for my parents and my relatives, and I had always heard from my parents about how they'd love to see me get a degree," Svec says. "My dad came to this country as a 2-year-old in about 1911 from Czechoslovakia, so for me to be a first-generation American and the first one in my family to get a degree has been a source of great pride. Both of our kids chose to go to school here, also."
SIU Honors 2004 Alumni Achievement Recipients At Spring Commencement

Some 3,600 professional, graduate and undergraduate students were candidates for degrees during last month's Southern Illinois University spring commencement exercises.

Commencement speakers included the vice president and chief financial officer of Caterpillar Inc., the director of the Navy Medical Service Corps and the retired vice president for student affairs at Howard University.

Accomplished alumni gave the address to various colleges and received Alumni Achievement Awards as part of individual college and school ceremonies. These awards represent the highest honor the SIU Alumni Association can bestow.

The honorees, listed below, gave both the address and received the Alumni Achievement Award, unless otherwise noted:

- **Agricultural Sciences** – Robert Godke, Boyd Professor of Reproductive Physiology in Louisiana State University's Department of Animal Science. An award-winning teaching and researcher, Godke earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from SIU in 1966 and his master's degree in animal physiology, also from the University, in 1968. He earned a doctorate in reproductive physiology at the University of Missouri in 1974. Godke, who lives in Baton Rouge, began his academic career at Louisiana State in 1974. His primary teaching responsibilities include reproductive physiology, reproductive management of zoo, laboratory and companion animals, animal biotechnology and gamete and embryo physiology.

- **Applied Arts and Sciences** – Brian Brannman, Rear Admiral, Medical Service Corps, U.S. Navy. A native of National City, Calif., Brannman enlisted in the Navy as a hospital corpsman after graduating from high school in Manhattan, Mont. He earned his bachelor's degree in health services administration from SIU in 1979. He then earned a master's degree in management from Webster College, and received a direct appointment into the Medical Service Corps. In 1983, he earned a master's degree in administrative science (financial management) at the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, Calif. His duties in the Navy included serving as director of programs on the staff of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (health budgets and programs). Beginning in July 1996, Brannman was executive officer at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Bremerton, Wash., and concurrently served as commanding officer, Fleet Hospital, FIVE. He deployed with Fleet Hospital, FIVE to Haiti from February to August 1997 in support of Operation Restore Democracy/Exercice Fairwinds. In 1998, he assumed command of the U.S. Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan. In January, Brannman, who lives in Alexandria, Va., became the 14th director of the Navy Medical Service Corps. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), the Navy Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal and various service and unit awards.

- **Business and Administration** – Lynn McPheeters, vice president and chief financial officer for Caterpillar Inc., in Peoria, Ill. McPheeters started with Caterpillar in 1964 as part of the company's College Graduate Trainee program after receiving a bachelor's degree in accounting from Southern. In 1973, he moved to the Caterpillar subsidiary in Geneva, Switzerland, as an assistant finance manager. He became manager of distribution finance for Shin Caterpillar Mitsubishi Ltd. in 1975 before returning to Geneva as manager of finance services in 1978. In 1983, McPheeters became secretary-treasurer of Caterpillar Far East Ltd. and vice president of Caterpillar Financial Services Corp. in 1987.

In 1990, he became executive vice president of Caterpillar Financial Services Corp., a position he held until 1996, when he became corporate treasurer of Caterpillar Inc. In 1998, he was elected a company vice president.

In his current role, McPheeters is responsible for the corporate services division, which includes accounting, tax, treasury, investor relations functions and Carter Machinery Co. Inc. Memberships include the business college's external advisory board and the SIU Foundation board.

- **Education and Human Services** – Carl Anderson, retired vice president for student affairs at Howard University, gave the address, and Jackie Cox (left), University supervisor/clinical instructor and adjunct instructor in the college received the Alumni Achievement Award.

Anderson, who lives in Washington, D.C., served as vice president for student affairs at Howard University from 1969 to 1990. From 1984 to 1990, he was vice president for student affairs for the Howard University Foundation. He earned a bachelor's degree in government in 1956 and a master's degree in college student personnel administration in 1958, both from SIU. He earned a doctorate in student personnel administration in higher education from the University of Maryland in 1969.

Following his retirement from Howard, Anderson was a member of the professional staff of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1992 to 1995.

Cox, of Murphysboro, Ill., holds three bachelor's degrees: elementary education, special education-learning disabilities and special education-educable mentally handicapped. She earned a master's in curriculum and instruction, specializing in mathematics education, and a doctorate in curriculum and instruction, specializing in teacher education and supervision.

All of her degrees are from Southern. Cox spent 26 years teaching in the Carbondale Elementary School District and has been teaching in the college since 1995.

- **Engineering** – Glenn Norem, chairman and chief executive officer of eeParts Inc. The Austin, Texas, resident earned his bachelor's degree in electrical sciences and systems engineering from SIU in 1978. He holds a master's of business administration from the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business.

Norem founded eeParts Inc., a leading supply-chain systems and services provider for the electronic component spot market, in April 1999 in Carrollton, Texas. The firm became profitable in December 2001 and achieved more than 200 percent growth in revenues last year.
Norem serves on the board of directors of American Electronics Association Texas Council and is co-chairman of the association's Texas Economic Development Committee. He served on the national board of directors of the association—the nation's largest high-tech trade association with more than 3,200 members—from October 2000 to September 2003.

• Graduate School – Traditionally there is no guest speaker for this program. The SIU Alumni Association presented its Outstanding Thesis Award to Haogenn Klaus, anthropology department, and recognized English Professor Charles Fanning as the University's Outstanding Scholar. In addition, longtime public servant Howard Peters III received the Distinguished Service Award.

Peters (above), who earned his master's degree in guidance and educational psychology from SIU in 1971, has a long history of public service that includes two Cabinet positions under former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar. In 1991, he became the first African-American to head the state's Department of Corrections.


• School of Law – Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan gave the address, and the law school's Mary Rudasill (left) received the Alumni Achievement Award. Attorney Sevil Dabali, imprisoned in Kirschir, Turkey, from March 1994 until 2002, received the Rule of Law Citation. Madigan won election as the state's first female attorney general in 2002. A former state senator from Chicago, Madigan received her bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in 1988. She then moved to Africa at the height of apartheid and served as a volunteer school teacher to young Zulu women in KwaZulu, South Africa.

Rudasill is an associate professor, associate dean for academic affairs and director of the law school's clinical program. She received a bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in 1971, and her master's four years later from the University of Illinois. She received her law degree, magna cum laude, in 1980 from SIU.

Rudasill was in private practice in Carbondale from 1981 until 1988 and began her professional association with the law school in 1985 as a part-time staff attorney. In 1988, she became a staff attorney for the clinical program, and in 1990-91 served as an adjunct law professor. She became acting clinical director in 1991 and clinical director and associate law professor in 1992.

• Liberal Arts – Howard Spiegil, account manager for Arrow Electronics in Itasca, Ill., Spiegil, who lives in Buffalo Grove, received his bachelor's degree in administration of justice from the University in 1975, graduating with honors. While on campus, he was a New Student Week leader, vice president of Pierce Hall, vice president of Thompson Point and a member of the University Honors Program.

He is a member of the SIU Alumni Association's board of directors, where he serves on the executive committee. A 29-year veteran of the electronics distributing industry, he is a member of the select Arrow Pacesetter Team, an honor given to less than 1 percent of all Arrow employees worldwide. In his spare time, Spiegil is a beer vendor at Wrigley Field, which he has been doing for the last 34 years.

Also honored was JoAnn Boydstun, retired director of SIU's Center for Dewey Studies. She received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. The SIU Board of Trustees approved the award, which honors outstanding scholarship or accomplishments benefiting society, during its February meeting.

Boydstun, who lives in Naples, Fla., earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Oklahoma State University. She received her doctorate from Columbia University in 1950. She came to Southern in 1955 as executive director of the Educational Council of 100 and assistant director of teacher training. In 1961, she became director of the new Dewey research project. Five years later, she became director of the fledgling Center for Dewey Studies and helped turn it into the world's top repository of books, articles and other source materials for the study of America's best-known philosopher. She retired in 1990.

• Communication and Media Arts – Charles Ramirez Berg, the University of Texas at Austin's Distinguished Teaching Professor, gave the address. Donald Stork, president of PHD St. Louis, received the Alumni Achievement Award.

• Science – Duy Hua, professor of chemistry at Kansas State University. A native of Vietnam, he received his undergraduate degree from Kyoto University in Japan in 1976. He came to SIU, completing his doctorate in chemistry and biochemistry in two years, 11 months. He then moved to Harvard University to conduct his post-doctoral research.

He joined the faculty of Kansas State University as an assistant professor in 1982. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship, the Research Corporation Research Opportunity Award and the Segebrecht Award for Excellence in Instruction, Research and Publications from Kansas State University.

Hua, who lives in Manhattan, Kan., is the recipient of nearly 50 research grants and four patents, and is the author of more than 100 papers in professional journals.

• School of Medicine – The commencement speaker was Dr. Thomas Inui, professor of medicine and associate dean for health care research at the Indiana University School of Medicine.
Don Davis is an accomplished artist and performer. At left, he works on a painting in his studio in Vancouver. Although Davis is no longer a regular on the popular Stargate SG-1 television series, he will recreate his role as Gen. George Hammond (below) in an upcoming episode that will air during the show's eighth season.

SIU two-degree alumnus Don Davis has achieved notoriety not only for his film and television work, but as an artist, carver, professor, writer and designer.

by Marianne Lawrence
The seeds of creativity were firmly planted in Don Davis as he grew up in the pastoral beauty of the Ozark Mountains. By the time he arrived at Southern Illinois University, however, interests in art, theater and design had already produced deep roots.

Davis M.S. '70, Ph. D. '82, a veteran character actor best known for his television roles in Stargate SG-1, Twin Peaks, and The X-Files, splits his passion for acting with his love of art. It is a balance he has always worked to maintain, dating back to his days at Southern. "While working on my master's degree, the theater department really took care of me in terms of my art interests, allowing me to take graduate level studio courses," recalls Davis. "They bent over backwards and, in my mind, are the reason I've become whatever artist I've become. I have fond memories of SIU."

The youngest of the four Davis children had a keen interest in woodworking that was supported wholeheartedly by his father who owned a lumberyard. He set up a shop in the basement of the family's home and nurtured his son's interest in creating furniture, teaching him to whittle and carve wood.

Today, Davis enjoys carving whenever he can find spare time. His work includes duck decoys, birds and animals. "Most of my carved pieces reflect my upbringing. I grew up in the Ozarks, and that's what carvers carve," he laughs. Davis treasures the environment his parents created to provide a nurturing home for him and his siblings. "Although our parents are now gone, my two older sisters and brother and I stay in touch by phone and are close spiritually and emotionally, even though we live long distances apart."

When it came time for college, Southwest Missouri State University was not far from home, and Davis was able to study what he loved doing: theater and art. He helped his family pay for his education by decorating windows, doing stock work at a fabric store, and working as a scene shop assistant in the theater department at SMS.

While working behind the scenes for the university's theater productions, he was drafted into performing in a couple of plays. He discovered he liked the experience, but kept his focus on set design and art history.

In 1965 he received his bachelor's degree with a double major in theater and art and, because of his commitment to the university's ROTC program, began his required active duty as a second lieutenant in the Army. He was based at Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri.
The cast of Stargate SG-1, from left, Michael Shanks, Amanda Tapping, Christopher Judge, Richard Dean Anderson, Don Davis, and Teryl Rothery.

and Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indiana, finally serving a 13-month assignment in Korea with the 7th Infantry Division where he reached the rank of captain.

Davis enjoyed his time in the Army and years later harvested his experiences to create three of his best known television characters: Gen. Hammond, the stern military leader in Stargate SG-1, Maj. Briggs in Twin Peaks, and Capt. William Scully in The X-Files. In addition to paying for his master's and doctorate work via the GI Bill, another by-product of those years was the development of his artwork. "I really taught myself how to draw and paint while I was in the service," recalls Davis.

After his discharge he headed to SIU for a master's degree in theater. Davis mostly stayed behind the scenes of the theater department's productions where he met the man who would become his mentor. Darwin Payne '53, M.F.A. '55 taught scene design courses and became an important influence in Davis' life.

"Darwin Payne is the single most creative person I have ever met," says Davis. "He was my mentor but also had an effect on many other lives." Payne, who received an honorary degree in fine arts in 1996 from SIU's College of Liberal Arts, is a nationally known scenographer, who pioneered the use of computers in theater set designs and at one time served as chair of the theater department.

Payne, now retired and living in Carbondale, enjoys keeping up with Davis and recalls his particular talent for cabinetmaking. "He was primarily a designer, but also a very good craftsman and cabinet maker," says Payne. "He just does perfect work."

Christian Moe, emeritus professor and former theater department chair, served on Davis' committee for his doctorate on the history of scene design and calls him a "multi-talented guy, good student and very good technician."

Moe remembers the theater department taking two plays to Springfield with Davis as the technical director. "I think he may have designed the scenery for one or both of them, too. He was a..."
very good worker – a little bit like a master sergeant and very firm minded." Moe recalls that when Davis was on stage, he loved to play melodrama. "As we say in MacGyver stunt guy on the television series

When Davis graduated from SIU in 1970, he returned to Missouri and taught theater for several years at Drury College, where friends persuaded him to enter his art in an upcoming show. To his surprise, his application was accepted and he enjoys recalling that images of his painting were used on fliers to advertise the show. "After that people started contacting me and buying my paintings. It had never occurred to me to sell them before that," he says.

Even though that experience hooked Davis, he ended up teaching theater another year at Hollins University in Roanoke, Va., before deciding that his main interest was art and he was going to get out of theater.

"I had applied and was accepted at Tulsa University for a master's in fine art, but when I called SIU to get references they informed me that I had credits toward my Ph.D. and encouraged me to come back and complete the degree. They assured me they would accommodate my lust for art," chuckles Davis.

They were true to their word and arranged for Davis to study life drawing and print making with Herb Fink. "He was a wonderful man, the one who taught me how to etch." Etchings and paintings of both Davis and Fink hang in Carbondale homes today, long after both left campus. However, Davis, with all the art and theater he could pack into his SIU years, graduated with his Ph.D. in Speech Communication.

So as not to become a starving artist, in 1981 Davis accepted a job as assistant professor in the theater department of the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, where he still lives. The university insisted he do something in his off time related to theater and it was easy because the film industry had a strong presence in Canada.

"I began to get bit parts, became a stunt guy on the television series MacGyver and worked my way into the film business that way." Before long, Davis was getting speaking parts that eventually led to feature roles and guest appearances. By 1987 he was making more money acting part time than he was teaching full time and decided to make the leap from university professor to full-time actor.

"When I started acting it was really only a way to make a living that would feed my family while I pursued my art. What happened was I became obsessed. It is such a wonderfully unique way to make a living," he says.

His recurring roles in Twin Peaks and The X-Files showcased Davis' talents as a strong character actor and exposed him to a wider audience. He thinks that fans most closely identify him with Major Briggs on Twin Peaks and that the role moved his acting career to a higher level. "If there was one show that changed my career, it was Twin Peaks," says Davis.

Twin Peaks, a quirky off-beat series, lasted only two seasons but its fan base is still going strong enough to support annual "Twin Peaks Festivals" that welcome back members of the cast and crew. Davis even uses the "Twin Peaks" film business that way. "Before long, it is such a wonderfully unique way to make a living," he says. It is such a wonderfully unique way to make a living, he says.

By 1987 he was making more money acting part time than he was teaching full time and decided to make the leap from university professor to full-time actor.
Gen. Hammond (Davis) is shown with Teal'c, a wise alien and member of the Stargate SG-1 crew, played by Christopher Judge.

devoted fans. Davis is usually on hand for these and especially enjoys catching up with other members of the cast and is looking forward to the next one July 31-Aug. 1 in Seattle.

His role in the Emmy-award winning show The X-Files added another military figure as he played lead star Dana Scully's father, Capt. William Scully. Next, Davis assumed the role of General George Hammond when Stargate SG-1 began its run in 1997, but quickly points out that not all of his roles have been military figures.

"In fact, most of the roles I've played over the years have been cops and bad guys. Because of my large physique and deep voice, I've usually played characters who are authority figures or who are aggressive, but only a few of those are military characters."

Stargate's Gen. Hammond was a stern military type who seldom was in the thick of the action. "I was the guy who stayed at home safely in my little tufted leather chair and told four other people to go out through the Stargate and save the Universe," says Davis.

As Stargate SG-1 begins its eighth season, Hammond will not be on board to command the troops. After seven years, Davis has decided to move on to other roles and other goals. He just concluded shooting a made-for-television movie, American Meltdown, that is scheduled for a summer release.

However, in a move that reveals an increased commitment to his art, he recently leased a studio in Vancouver and hopes to find an outlet for his prints. Davis explains that shortly after leaving SIU he searched for a gallery to represent his artwork and encountered an unexpected roadblock. "They wanted me to have a specific style, and I didn't have that. I enjoyed doing a variety - abstracts, some realistic pieces - and didn't want to be labeled. That's when I decided that I would paint for myself and not what some gallery dictates."

Over the past few years, his agent has encouraged him to make use of his celebrity to sell his art, but as Davis explains, "I said no. I didn't want to pros-
His Favorite Role

Actor Don Davis has a favorite role out of the many he has played in nearly 25 years of television and movies, but it's not one found in his official filmography.

"My favorite character was a total slob," laughs Davis, "a sleaze-ball private eye named Donald P. Carstairs." The character appeared in a short-lived series called *Slick Air*.

According to Davis, Carstairs was a Columbo-type character with the same disheveled look and who drove a beat-up old car. "He was such a bad private eye that he had to make his true living in repossession, and he had an interesting technique," says Davis.

"He always carried with him a little tin of gasoline. He would knock on the door where he was to make the repossession and if no one answered the door, but he thought someone might be inside, he would simply pour the gasoline over the door and set it on fire."

Davis enjoys recalling the fun he had with the role — even though he only did six episodes.

Titstitute the artwork. They kept telling me I was stupid, and I finally decided they were right."

Davis plans to search for another gallery to represent him and has entered some art shows close to home. Currently a selection of his prints can be viewed at www.callowayframing.com/DONS_JDAV.HTM.

Although he has sold a few of his originals, he wants to keep them in his possession, selling only prints. He views the originals as an inheritance for his son, Matthew Corey, who lives and works in Missouri.

He dreams of establishing a home in Europe where he would live perhaps six months out of the year. "I want to live in a little farm village so that I can spend the rest of my life painting and traveling to Florence, Venice and Rome to bask in that architecture and art."

Sharing this dream is his new wife, Ruby Fleming, who also works in show business as a wardrobe supervisor. The two met when she and a partner took out an option on a film script Davis had written. Although the script did not get funded, the couple became good friends and eventually got married.

Davis will soon begin his annual circuit of science fiction and fantasy conventions, first across the U.S. and then to New Zealand, Australia and Europe. He points out that *Twin Peaks* and *Stargate* both have a larger international audience and part of his job over the last decade has been to make appearances at the conventions.

Far from the typical celebrity glitz, Davis is a modest, down-to-earth Midwesterner who is thankful for the opportunities he's had and the people he's met along the way. "I have had the opportunity to work with some incredible artists. It has been a storybook career for me."

As Davis weighs the importance of his acting as opposed to his art, he says, "I can't imagine living without acting, yet all my life I've wanted to be a painter or a carver or sculptor. I can't imagine not doing either one of them."

This multi-talented man will no doubt continue to practice his art of acting while making considerable contributions to the world of art.
Southern Illinois University undergraduate student is one of only 80 nationwide to win a prestigious Morris K. Udall Foundation Scholarship.

Raphi Rechitsky, a junior majoring in sociology and philosophy from Northbrook, Ill., is the University’s first-ever Udall Scholar.

This is the second time this year that Southern students captured “firsts” in major national scholarship competitions. Teresa Gisburne, a junior majoring in zoology, won a $7,500 scholarship from the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation.

Congress established the Morris K. Udall Foundation in 1992 to honor Udall’s 30 years of service in the U.S. The Arizona Democrat retired from Congress in 1991 and died in 1998. The foundation is an executive branch agency. The President appoints its board of trustees with the advice and consent of the U.S. Senate.

The foundation’s purpose is educating a new generation of Americans to preserve and protect their national heritage through studies in the environment, Native American health and tribal policy and effective public policy conflict resolution.

“The Udall Scholarship is a prestigious national honor, and we congratulate Raphi Rechitsky,” says Provost and Vice Chancellor John Dunn. “He and other accomplished students on our campus continue to build our national reputation for academic achievement.”

Laurie Bell, assistant director of the University Honors Program and head of the major scholarship office, says the applicant pool was “extremely strong,” with 513 nominees.

“Raphi’s award speaks highly about his commitment and potential,” Bell says. “He’s involved and has an impressive resume, so it was no surprise to me that his application would catch the judges’ attention.”

Rechitsky says he has a lifetime commitment to positive, progressive social change. “A lot of what I’m doing academically is to look at the ways social movements frame different problems and then see what kinds of tactics they commit to so they can make positive environmental change,” he notes. “My objective is to analyze the tactics so activists can use them to change the world, so they have research to know what works and what doesn’t.”

A self-described “environmental activist,” Rechitsky participates in the Student Environmental Center on campus and the Campus Shawnee Greens, the campus affiliate of the Green Party. He helps out with events at the Interfaith Center and belongs to the Peace Coalition of Southern Illinois. Over the past year, Rechitsky says his primary community activity has been helping with the creation of the Big Muddy Independent Media Center, an online source of independent news and commentary.

Though he has yet to hear the amount of his Udall scholarship— it can be as much as $5,000—Rechitsky knows he will use the money for graduate school.
Art Students Win Coveted Prize

Four gifted art seniors at Southern Illinois University recently won coveted 2004 Rickert-Ziebold Awards and will split its $20,000 purse. The annual competition was open only to undergraduate art majors who are in their senior year at Southern.

This year's finalists included 20 talented young creators who are painters, sculptors, graphic designers, potters, metalsmiths, and product designers. Top honors went to cartoonist Jim Tierney of Lake Villa, metalsmith and jeweler Amy Winkel of Salt Lake City, sculptor Chris Davis of Du Quoin and printmaker Steven Foutch Jr. of Centralia. The competition memorializes the Joseph Rickert family of Waterloo, Ill. Friends of several early SIU presidents, the family established the award to encourage excellence in the arts. Art school faculty chose the winners after viewing individual displays of their work.

The winners' works were on display through April 25 in the University Museum on campus, with a special reception honoring the young artists held earlier in the month.

SIU Grad Student Earns Two Research Awards

An SIU graduate student from Cameroon is the recipient of two prestigious research awards. Geraldine Nzokwe is receiving a $1,300 graduate student research grant from the Geological Society of America and a $1,000 Hugh E. McKinstry Student Research Award from the Society of Economic Geologists. She is only the second geology department student in many years to receive the Society of Economic Geologists Award.

Her project, "Peridotitic Laterite Soil Magneto-Stratigraphy," focuses on alteration profiles from New Caledonia and their similarities with disintegrated and decomposed rock fragments, including soil, on the Martian surface. The most current knowledge of surface processes on Mars comes from images gathered by lunar orbiters and two lunar rover expeditions.

Nzokwe is a native of Yaounde, the capital of Cameroon. She earned her bachelor's degree in environmental sciences from the University of Buea in Cameroon in 2000, and is currently working on her master's degree in geology at Southern.

Student Ceramics Creations Displayed At Conference

For the first time ever, ceramic art works by 11 Southern Illinois University Carbondale students were on exhibit in conjunction with a national ceramic arts conference recently in Indianapolis, Ind.

Seven graduate and four undergraduate students in the University's School of Art and Design created the pieces. The works ran the gamut from functional porcelain to sculptures, installation pieces and figurative work. The four-day National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference attracted an estimated 4,000 artist-educators.

"If you want to be exposed in the ceramics art world, this is the place to do it - it's the biggie," says art school faculty member Stephen Grimmer, a ceramics arts teacher. "The conference attracts gallery directors, museum curators, art collectors, professors, students and independent artists."

The student artists included graduate students Ivan Albreht, Greg Cochenet, Mandy Gerth, Dyan Green, Andrew Magliathin, Gabe Roberge and Seth Weisel and undergraduates Scott Gamble, Kristina Lindahl, Hillary Pierceall and Nathan Sandberg.

The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts is a nonprofit professional group for individuals and organizations whose interests, talents and careers focus on the ceramic arts.
One ‘Super’ Student

Time Management And Dedication Are Keys To Her Success

by Greg Scott

It may be hard for some to believe that a single mother can raise two young children, hold three jobs, and stay actively involved in University and community activities, while earning Dean’s List status academically.

But Karan Hustedt does it.

Taking aspects of dedication and time management to new levels, the sociology major says Southern’s openness to non-traditional students has been a key to her success. “SIU’s structure allows me to attend classes, work, and schedule everything in so I can spend time with my children in the evening,” Hustedt says. “In addition, my professors are open to students with children. Some of them give me that extra kick when I need it.”

While Hustedt says raising her children, Nirvana (5) and Phoenix (3), in addition to fulfilling requirements for her degree can be a challenge, the 22-year-old junior always finds time to spend with her loved ones.

“During finals week it can be stressful. But it is just a matter of setting priorities and getting it done,” she says. “I can still take my children to practice. My daughter was in tae kwon do for a while. Frankly, I don’t know what I would do with extra time.”

Hustedt stays busy. Her job responsibilities include serving as a supplemental instruction leader for SIU Supplemental Instruction, planning and implementing study sessions for peer students studying sociology, serving as a note taker for Project Achieve students, and holding a clerical position in the University Honors Program.

She is also involved in University organizations. Hustedt is a founding member and president of the undergraduate sociology club, serves on the promotions committee for the College of Liberal Arts Student Council (the college’s governing body), and is a member of SIU Concerned Students, a progressive student activist group addressing university and community issues.

Hustedt is a University Honors Program scholarship recipient and a

Karan Hustedt displays her Super Student Honors plaque presented by the SIU Alumni Association. She is pictured with Larry Dietz, SIUC vice chancellor for student affairs and enrollment management, and Sheri Hunter, president-elect of the SIU Alumni Association national board of directors.
nominee for the American Sociological Society Honors Program. In April, the SIU Alumni Association recognized her with an award that she typifies in many ways: the Super Student Junior Scholarship.

"The Super Student Scholarship was a blessing. It is just wonderful to receive acknowledgement from people for what you're striving to accomplish," she says. "That is what keeps me going."

At age 17, Hustedt gave birth to her first child while attending McArthur High School in Decatur. An honors student, she was urged to pursue a district diploma at a vocational school that didn't even equate to requirements for a GED. After refusing to attend the center, Hustedt found herself in a battle to attain her high school diploma. Some teachers refused to give her books and served as obstacles in her pursuit to take college preparatory courses.

"The vice principal told me that high school was too much for a girl with a baby and I should leave," Hustedt recalls. "I was planning to take chemistry my junior year, but they placed me in a physical science course with the same book I had used in seventh grade. It was just one fight after another — fighting to stay in college prep courses, fighting the school, teachers and students. No one thought I should be there."

Advisors at Hustedt's high school and local community college told her that college wasn't an option because her priorities were different. They advised her to get married and try to help support her family. She didn't get married, but began working 50 hours-per-week at a gas station to make ends meet.

However, it was a struggle financially, and she was in the midst of an abusive relationship that was escalating to a dangerous level. "I was in a make or break point in my life," she bluntly asserts. "I had to leave town and investigate options. Two of my brothers attended SIU and told me this would be a good environment for me."

And they were right. "SIU is family-oriented and conducive to serving the needs of non-traditional students," Hustedt says. "The University gave me the ability to do a number of things with absolutely no money in my pocket. SIU saved my life — literally — and has given me a reason to live."

Hustedt says she didn't initially plan to pursue a degree in sociology, but was hooked on to the subject by one of her core curriculum instructors. With minors in speech communication, women's studies, and Black American studies, adversity in personal life has never deterred her, and she knows all the effort hasn't been in vain.

"Staying in high school (refusing to attend the vocational center) made it easier for other teenage mothers to stay in school," she says proudly. "Once I stayed, others followed suit, and in the midst of it all I was able to keep my grades stayed up. Even when I got pregnant and had my child, I was determined to maintain my status as a good student."

It's time to revamp that title — she's officially now a "Super" Student.

"SIU saved my life — literally — and has given me a reason to live."

—Karan Hustedt

Gabriel Smith of Murphysboro joined Karan Hustedt as one of two recipients of the 2004 Super Student Scholarships. Smith, an industrial technology major at Southern, is vice president of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers at the University and member of the National Association for Industry Technology's SIU chapter. He is an active member of the American Society for Quality at SIU and a Dean's List student. He is married to Kelly Jo Smith of Murphysboro.

The Super Student Scholarships are valued at $500 each and are awarded each year to outstanding juniors at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. In order to qualify, students must be currently employed, belong to at least two Registered Student Organizations, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.5.
Six Added To Business Hall Of Fame

Six graduates of Southern's College of Business and Administration are the newest members of their college's Hall of Fame. The college recently honored Rodney Kinzinger, Gregory Lee, Michael "Mickey" Levitt, Thomas Mowatt, Scott Pranger and Gus Smith.

The Hall of Fame, created in 1986, salutes business alumni who have advanced through the ranks to senior-level jobs or who have achieved other noteworthy career goals.

Kinzinger earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from SIU in 1987, and his master's of business administration from St. Louis University in 1992. He is a partner in the Enterprise Risk Services Division of Deloitte & Touche.

Lee earned his bachelor's degree in marketing from SIU in 1972. He is senior vice president of human resources at Sears, Roebuck and Co., headquartered in Hoffman Estates. From 1983 to 1992, Lee was vice president of human resources for PepsiCo. He then became senior vice president for human resources for the Saint Paul Companies. In 1998, he joined the Whirlpool team and served as senior vice president of the human resources department until joining Sears in 2000.

Levitt earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from SIU in 1961. After his discharge from the Army in 1964, Levitt joined the accounting department for Intercraft, a manufacturer of picture frames/framed art. In 1968, he joined Gotham Industries, a plastic housewares manufacturer, as sales manager. He started Consolidated Foam Inc., in 1972, and is owner and CEO of the Lincolnshire manufacturer of lawn and garden products for consumer and commercial use.

Mowatt earned his bachelor's degree in management from SIUC in 1963. He recently retired as president of Champion Laboratories Inc., a provider of filtration products for automotive, industrial, marine, fuel dispensing and hydraulic applications. He is the founder of CST Inc., in Mt. Carmel and is a board member of Gibbs Die Casting Corp. in Henderson, Ky., as well as Red Spot Paint & Varnish Co. Inc., of Evansville, Ind.

Pranger earned his bachelor's degree in marketing from Southern in 1986. He is senior vice president and general manager of Digital Insight Corp., a leader in Internet banking services. Pranger has more than 17 years of information technology, sales, marketing and executive management experience. As general manager of Digital Insight, he oversees the company's sales, business development, service bureau, product management, research and development, professional services, customer support and quality assurance functions.

Smith earned a bachelor's degree from SIU in 1977 in financial management and business economics. In 1979, he received his MBA from SIU, with a concentration in finance. He is a managing partner in the western region of Accenture in San Francisco. Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company with net revenues of $11.8 billion in 2003.

SIU's College of Business and Administration recently added six alumni to its Hall of Fame. The college also honored its Southern Illinois Business Leader of the Year and Executive of the Year. Pictured, from left, are: Rodney Kinzinger, Scott Pranger, Michael "Mickey" Levitt, college Dean Dan Worrell, Reyburn Kraft (Business Leader of the Year), Gus Smith, and James Tally (Executive of the Year). Gregory Lee and Thomas Mowett were not present for photo.
James Tally, president and chief executive officer of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, is the Southern Illinois University College of Business and Administration’s executive of the year. The college recognized Tally, a three-degree graduate of SIU, during an April awards banquet.

The award honors business leaders who have distinguished themselves during their careers, achieved an outstanding measure of success and contributed to the global economy. Award criteria include leadership, innovation and prominence.

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, formerly ESR Children’s Health Care System Inc., is a pediatric health system that includes two freestanding hospitals, 18 satellite locations, 5,000 employees and 1,300 pediatric specialists.

Prior to joining Children’s Healthcare as president and CEO, Tally worked at Scottish Rite Children’s Medical Center. He joined Scottish Rite in 1984 when it was a 92-bed children’s hospital with 200 employees. He served as president/CEO from 1989 to 1997, and under his leadership, Scottish Rite developed into an integrated health system including a 165-bed hospital with more than 2,000 employees and multiple satellite locations.

Previous positions also included serving as vice chancellor for administration and fiscal affairs at the University of Arkansas for Medical Services in Little Rock; assistant dean and director of the University of Arkansas’ Medical College Physicians Group of the College of Medicine; and various positions in SIUC’s medical school.

Tally, a life member of the SIU Alumni Association, earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Southern in 1965, a master’s degree in education in 1971, and his doctorate in higher education administration in 1977.

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Paul Sarvela has been appointed dean of the College of Applied Sciences and Arts after a national search that attracted many qualified candidates. Sarvela, 45, became interim dean on Oct. 1, 2002.

"I am confident that Paul will continue to lead the College of Applied Sciences and Arts with the same degree of skill, enthusiasm and commitment he has shown over the past 20 months," Provost and Vice Chancellor John Dunn says. "He has done an outstanding job, and I know he will continue to further enhance the college's national recognition."

Sarvela was chosen from a field of four finalists, who each spent two days in April interviewing on campus and participating in candidate presentations and forums. "I am delighted, pleased and honored," says the 18-year SIU employee.

With a combined enrollment of nearly 3,000 undergraduate students on campus and at 19 off-campus sites across the United States, CASA is the third-largest college at Southern. There are 236 on-campus faculty and staff, and 212 off-campus faculty and staff.

Among Sarvela's goals is "absolutely continuing to maintain an outstanding undergraduate education program, which includes continuing to hire a fine faculty," he said. "We have done a real good job in hiring a highly qualified and diverse faculty."

Prior to becoming interim dean, Sarvela served as chair of Southern's Department of Health Care Professions since 1999. Sarvela came to the University in 1986 as an assistant professor of health education. He became an associate professor in 1989 and achieved the rank of full professor in 1992.

Gary Minish To Lead College Of Agricultural Sciences

An internationally respected livestock expert with a 35-year record of success as a professor and administrator will become dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern Illinois beginning Aug. 1.

Gary Minish, former department head and professor of animal and poultry sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VT), will take the reins from Robert Arthur, interim dean of the SIU agriculture college.

"Professor Minish was selected from a fine pool of excellent candidates," Provost and Vice Chancellor John Dunn notes. "His appointment will help to transform our nationally acclaimed College of Agricultural Sciences into one of even greater prominence."

Minish earned a bachelor's degree in animal science at Iowa State University. Four years later, he earned a doctorate in animal science at Michigan State University. After graduation, he joined the faculty in VT's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. During a 35-year career he rose through the faculty ranks to become a full professor in the department of animal science and later assistant dean and assistant director of resident instruction and then associate dean and director of development and agriculture technology for the ag college. When he headed the animal and poultry sciences department (1994 to 2001), undergraduate enrollments rose 76 percent.
Using his love of aviation to help children calculate math, science and physics principles is fun for Charles Rodriguez, an assistant professor in the aviation technologies program at Southern Illinois University. That approach is why Rodriguez was recently inducted into the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame in Peoria, Ill.

“I don’t even have dreams this high,” says Rodriguez. “To be grouped with those people is beyond my capacity to dream that high. It’s quite an honor and certainly I’m grateful to the committee who made the selection for making this possible.”

With the selection, Rodriguez joins ranks with other Illinois aviation pioneers such as Gene Siebert, a leader in the early development of the Southern Illinois Airport and SIU’s aviation programs; Octave Chanute, whose 1894 book Progress in Flying Machines was a guide for early aviators, including the Wright brothers; and Merril Miegs, a Chicago newspaper publisher who was among those responsible for creation of Chicago’s Miegs Field.

Rodriguez, 48, of Murphysboro, was the youngest aviator to be inducted into the Hall of Fame since its inception in 1970, according to department chair Michael Most.

“Southern aviation programs are among the most highly rated in the nation because of the outstanding scholarship, expertise, service and commitment of faculty members such as Dr. Rodriguez,” says Paul Sarvela, dean of the College of Applied Sciences and Arts.

In 2003 the National Congress on Aerospace Education named Rodriguez Educator of the Year. He also received the Ray Lein Award at the Sun’n Fun fly-in in Lakeland, Fla. The award goes to an outstanding educator who makes significant contributions to aviation.

Charles Rodriguez is the youngest aviator to be inducted into the Hall of Fame since its inception in 1970.

The annual Aerospace Educator’s Workshop at the weeklong event provides educators from all grade levels and subject areas with aviation-related ideas and materials that can be integrated into the curriculum. In 1995, Rodriguez received the Outstanding Educator of the Year by the Aviation Technician Education Council.

Rodriguez attends numerous educator workshops throughout the country sharing techniques for teaching science, math and physics using aviation examples. His demonstrations include hands-on visuals to show how drag is a factor in flight and how airplanes develop lift. Rodriguez uses the same demonstrations for youth groups, including 4-H clubs, scouting groups and community organizations.

“It’s all a matter of science and sound aerodynamics. Even with young children who may not understand some of the science involved, they take away images they see and don’t forget those things,” he says.

Rodriguez received his associate, bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees at SIU in 1977, 1978, 1987 and 1997, respectively. He is a 1973 graduate of Murphysboro High School.

Midden Wins Sturgis Award

A n SIU professor described as “a champion of community service” is the winner of the 2004 Lindell W. Sturgis Memorial Public Service Award. Karen Midden ’77, M.S. ’80, of plant, soil and agricultural systems, recently received her award during a luncheon at the Student Center.

The Sturgis Award, given annually by the SIU Board of Trustees since 1980, recognizes Southern employees for public service unrelated to their jobs. It carries a $500 cash prize and is named after a Metropolis native who served on the SIU Board for more than 30 years. Sturgis chaired the board from 1969 until his retirement in 1971. He died in 1972.

Midden joined the SIU faculty in 1985 as an instructor in plant and soil science in the College of Agricultural Sciences. She became an assistant professor in 1988, associate professor in 1994 and full professor last year. Her numerous awards include the 2001 Community Service Award from the Illinois Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Midden is flattered and honored to receive the Sturgis award. “Most of the services I’m involved with I do for the environment or for people in the environment, and I find that satisfying in itself,” she says. “To be honored for that is quite rewarding.”

Midden shares her time and expertise on projects and endeavors across campus and with communities and schools in the region. She has served as a member of the Carbondale Recycling Committee since 1988, has been executive director of Carbondale Clean and Green since 1986 and has been a member of the advisory board for SIUS Child Development Laboratories since 1992. Since 2001, she has been manager of one of the Sting Soccer Club’s girls’ teams.

Midden, husband Chris ’86, ’95, and their two daughters live in Carbondale.
Eikenberg Selected To Rebuild SIU Women's Basketball Program

After revitalizing women's basketball at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Dana Eikenberg has been hired to rebuild SIU's once-proud program. The seventh head coach in the program's 44-year history takes over a team that posted a 3-24 record last year and has lost 20 or more games for six straight seasons. She succeeds Lori Opp, who coached the Salukis from 2000-04 to a combined 23-85 overall record and 11-61 slate in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Turning the program around is a challenge Eikenberg is excited about. "Obviously SIU is not measuring up to where we want to be in the Valley, so we have to get some help," she says. "If we can do that, I think you're going to see a Saluki team that makes strides right away."

But don't expect any miracles or quick fixes. "I'd love to say next year we are going to turn it around," Eikenberg notes, "but we've got some work to do. It takes work and time to restore tradition. Hopefully we're going to have the right mind-frame to do that."

Rebuilding struggling programs is nothing new for Eikenberg, however, who did just that in four years with the Kangaroos. In her first year as head coach at UMKC in 2000-01, she inherited a team with four ineligible players that posted a 2-25 record. Two years later, the team recorded a 14-14 mark, its first .500 season in 10 years, and finished tied for second place in the Mid-Continent Conference. Last year, she guided her team to a 15-14 overall record and another second place finish in the MCC with an 11-5 mark.

"Dana's coaching credentials are most impressive and she's done an amazing job rebuilding UMKC," SIU Athletics Director Paul Kowalczyk says. "She's the total package - experienced, successful, knowledgeable, a team player, leader, hard worker, organized, articulate and ethical. She will no doubt restore the pride and tradition of SIU's women's basketball program."

Prior to accepting her first head coaching position at UMKC, Eikenberg served as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of Iowa (1997-2000). She organized Iowa's national recruiting strategy and helped lead the Hawkeyes to a Big Ten Championship in 1998.

As a player at Penn State, Eikenberg was a four-year starter at point guard from 1988-92 under nationally respected head coach Rene Portland. During her career with the Nittany Lions, Eikenberg played on three consecutive NCAA Tournament teams (1990, 1991 and 1992), while helping the program achieve its first No. 1 national ranking in 1991.

Eikenberg's first order of business was to announce the hiring of associate head coach Jody Adams and assistant coach Susan Koering. Both were with her at UMKC. Adams is a 1993 graduate of Tennessee, where she played four seasons for legendary head coach Pat Summitt. Koering graduated from the University of Iowa in 1997, where she twice earned the Big Ten Conference Scholar-Athlete Award.
Softball Salukis Win First MVC Title

The long 12-year wait for SIU's Softball's first-ever Missouri Valley Conference regular season title is finally over. A three-game home sweep of Indiana State ended the league season in clinching fashion and the 2004 Salukis claimed the Valley crown.

Southern, which would go on to finish second to Creighton while hosting the MVC Tournament, eventually secured a second straight at-large bid to the NCAAs. The Salukis went 3-2 in the Region VII Tournament at Stanford University, finishing third and ending with a school-best 45-17 overall record and an 18-6 mark in league action. Amy Harre and senior shortstop Jenny Doehring were named to the Region VII All-Tournament Team.

Harre went 2-1 with a perfect 0.00 ERA with two shutouts, 21 strikeouts, five walks, one unearned run, and a .161 opponent's batting average in 25.2 innings. Her only loss was a 1-0 marathon to Hofstra in 12 innings on an unearned run. She finished the season 21-7 with a .790 ERA and a school-record 14 shutouts. To end the regular season, the junior hurler eliminated any doubt that SIU would win the elusive MVC crown, throwing a clinching two-hit shutout featuring a season-high 12 strikeouts.

Doehring led SIU at Stanford, hitting .429 (6-for-14) with three doubles, a home run, 12 total bases, an .857 slugging percentage, and errorless innings at shortstop in 26 chances. For the year, she had a leading .287 average and tied for the team high with 12 doubles.

SIU would win the elusive MVC crown, throwing a clinching two-hit shutout featuring a season-high 12 strikeouts.

Advancing in post-season might have been the team's ultimate goal, but winning the Valley Championship certainly ranked as a sweet moment for SIU Head Coach Kerri Blaylock and her squad. "It felt fantastic," she said. "It also shows how our team has grown and our program has progressed." She and her assistants, Skip Cosgrove and Buddy Foster, earned the Valley's "Coaching Staff of the Year" award.

Four-year starters like Haley Viefhaus saw the season as a memorable way to close out stellar careers.

"I wasn't aware we had never won an MVC title, but it sure felt good being a senior and knowing this was my last chance," she said. Added twin sister, Adie, also a four-year starter: "This topped everything off. I felt like we had done almost everything except win the title. It was exciting - when it happened I just ran over and hugged my sister."

To see a full list of scores and statistics for the season, go to:

SIU Baseball Again Reaches Valley Title Game

For the second straight season, the SIU baseball team reached the championship game of the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament, and for the second straight year, regular season champ Wichita State prevented the Salukis from advancing to the NCAA Regionals.

SIU jumped out of the gate to win the first three games of the double elimination event with victories over host Southwest Missouri, Creighton, and Evansville, only to fall twice on the final day of the tournament to Wichita State (5-1 and 11-3). The Dawgs finished 27-32-1 overall and claimed fourth-place in the Missouri Valley regular season with a 15-16-1 mark.

Southern began the season with the unenviable task of playing nationally-ranked Florida Atlantic, Notre Dame and

Southeastern Conference foe Vanderbilt in seven of its first 12 games. During that 0-12 start, the Salukis lost four games by two runs or less, before finally defeating Penn State 12-9 in the final game of the Irish Classic in San Antonio, Tex. SIU then won six of its next seven games, including an 8-4 home win over Notre Dame, which was ranked 8th in the country.

In league play, SIU lost only two series (to Southwest Missouri State and Wichita State), en route to finishing in the middle of the pack in Valley play. Leading the team in 2004 were MVC first-team selections Nathan Emrick (utility) and Andrew Weber relief pitcher), along with second-team selections Nathan Boldt (3B) and Eric Haberer (starting pitcher), Cory Newman (OF) and Jason Chavez (starting pitcher) were tabbed honorable mention.

Emrick played at six different positions for the Salukis this season, leading his team in several offensive categories, including batting average (.353), runs (36), hits (84) and tied for most stolen bases (16). Weber had an outstanding year as SIU’s closer. The right-hander boasted a 5-1 record to go with 11 saves – second most ever for a Saluki. Boldt hit a third-best .282 with 30 runs scored, while the left-handed Haberer produced a 6-4 record to go with a 3.43 ERA.

To view final statistics, go to:

For the remainder of Spring Sports Roundup see page 36
NEW SALUKI HEAD BASKETBALL COACH CHRIS LOWERY RETURNS TO SOUTHERN AND NOURISHES HIS ROOTS.

By Gene Green
Lowery is welcomed back to the program by Saluki Athletics Director Paul Kowalczyk. He quickly hired the former SIU star when Matt Painter returned to Purdue.

When Southern Illinois University Athletic Director Paul Kowalczyk began searching for Matt Painter’s replacement to lead the SIU men’s basketball program, he knew certain qualities were crucial. The team’s recent success, coupled with a roster full of returning players, made it important to hire someone with a knowledge—and commitment—to the current squad.

Looking north to the University of Illinois, Southern’s AD quickly brought back former coach and Saluki star Chris Lowery following a year’s stint as former coach Bruce Weber’s top assistant. On April 9, only hours after Painter resigned to return to his alma mater (Purdue), SIU introduced the 12th head coach in the institution’s history.

“I took stock of our basketball program, and what I saw was a group of terrific, eager-to-please young men,” Kowalczyk says. “I saw a team that, between our returning veterans and incoming rookies, may well end up being the most talented squad in SIU’s history. So the question was, ‘Where do we go from here, and who can continue building on this success?’

After speaking with Lowery, Kowalczyk knew he had his man.

“Chris impressed me with his confidence and knowledge” Kowalczyk says, also noting Lowery’s integrity, work ethic, experience and recruiting record. “He played here, won here, and has been a winner everywhere he’s been. And he helped build this program.”

After seeing SIU lose two straight head coaches to the Big Ten, it took Lowery only a moment to put an overflow press conference crowd at ease.

“First of all, I’d like to say that I have no ties to any other program—that’s very important,” he said before a loud round of applause and laughter erupted. “My only ties are to Bruce Weber at the University of Illinois, and we hope he stays there, because we don’t want him as an assistant.”

Lowery, 31, best sums up his return in a simple sentence: “My roots are here—this, for me, is coming home.”

Following a hectic two weeks on the job, Lowery took some time to reflect on his new job:

**Southern Alumni:** Compared with your days as an assistant, what changes have you already sensed as a head coach?

**Chris Lowery:** It’s incredible how many directions I’m pulled in each day. From my family, to players, assistant coaches, administrators, and media—everyone needs some of my time for good reasons. It’s easy to lose sight of what you planned on doing at the beginning of the day. Those plans usually get thrown out the window.
Working with elite athletes such as Illinois guard Dee Brown last season helped Lowery grow as a coach. "At first we had to convince some of the players that individual goals were not as important as the team's success," he says. "We asked them if they wanted to be all-conference, or win the conference."

SA: Did this surprise you?
CL: I had no idea it would be this crazy. I used to get on Coach Weber all the time about why he wouldn't call me right back when I had something important I needed to tell him. Now he just laughs, because he knows how wild it is to try and fit so many things into a work day.

SA: As you begin your first year as head coach at your alma mater, how do you feel last year at the University of Illinois will help you succeed?
CL: Last season really helped me learn to deal with pressure. The pressure to win there is incredible. We received tremendous support as we progressed throughout the year, but early in the season things were tough and we all dealt with adversity. Stress was high at times; Coach Weber's hair is whiter than it used to be!

SA: You also said dealing with the Illini athletes was a great learning experience for you. Why is that?
CL: At that level, all the players think they can play in the NBA, and realistically few have a chance. We had to turn those thoughts into team-oriented ideas, dealing with large egos along the way. They all wanted to be the star, but we had to convince them to put individual goals aside. We asked them if they wanted to be all-conference or win the conference. They eventually understood where we were coming from, bought into it, and won the school's first Big 10 basketball title in 50 years.

SA: Does becoming a head coach so early in your career surprise you?
CL: I had some goals when I started coaching and hoped to be a head coach by the time I was 35. The fact that it happened earlier than that is wonderful, and that it happened at SIU is an added bonus. Being with Bruce Weber as an assistant coach the last few years - and having the success that we had - was certainly key to me getting this opportunity.
Chris Lowery takes great pride in the role he played as a point guard at SIU, helping bring stability and pride back to Saluki Basketball. A playmaker for the Salukis from 1990-94, the Evansville, Ind., product helped lead the team to two straight NCAA Tournaments in 1993 and 1994 after consecutive NIT bids in 1991 and 1992.

A second-team Missouri Valley Conference selection in 1992, Lowery scored 1,223 points, dished out 391 assists (third in school history), and helped lead SIU to an 86-37 record (.699) during his playing career.

After stints as an assistant coach in the junior college and NCAA Division II ranks, Lowery returned to Division I coaching at Southeast Missouri State, before being hired at SIU in 2001 as an assistant. He helped the Salukis to a 52-15 (.776) record and two trips to the NCAA Tournament during that time.

Overall, Lowery’s Saluki teams have enjoyed a 138-52 record (.726). Now he will try to add to that figure, taking over a team that went 25-5 and rose to as high as 15th in the national rankings last season. With many key players returning, he knows expectations will be high in his first season – and that is just fine with him.

“Matt Painter did a tremendous job here,” Lowery says. “And that’s not to be overlooked, because some people doubted what he could do without Coach Weber’s leadership. We saw what he did, and I plan to do the same thing.”

Lowery was a hard-nosed leader for the Salukis from 1990-94, as the teams produced a stellar 86-37 record during his tenure.

SA: Keeping incoming recruits on board was no doubt your first challenge when you were hired.

CL: You’re right, and it started immediately. I actually left the press conference the day I was hired and drove straight to Centralia to talk with Matt Shaw and his parents. That started a process of meeting with all the recruits and convincing them to honor their commitments to Saluki Basketball. I’m delighted to tell you that they all are still coming here.

SA: You were an emotional player and a hands-on assistant coach. How will your demeanor change now that you are calling the shots?

CL: I don’t think it will change. I was a competitive player, brought that trait to the bench as an assistant, and see no reason it will change as head coach. In practice, it will be business as usual. Coach Weber gave me great freedom during practices, and during my drills, I was the head coach. During games, I’ll be the on calling the time-outs and trying to direct what is happening out there, but I won’t change the way I go about things. I guess, however, (he laughs) now I’ll be standing up a lot more.

SA: What aspect of your current situation excites you the most?

CL: Every player that is on the roster is someone I either had a hand in recruiting or developing. They all know me, and that is a real plus as I start my head-coaching career.

SA: That being said, the pressure to succeed with this group will be high. Does that concern you at all?

CL: That is the way it should be. The SIU program is at another level now, and we want to keep it there. There is a great deal of pride by the players and coaches to bring another championship to the University.

SA: You also faced pressure as a player under Rich Herrin, as you and your teammates lifted Southern’s program to heights it had not seen in some time. That era of SIU Basketball actually started the process of raising the level of expectations.

CL: At times there was probably more pressure on me than other guys on the floor, as my job was to be kind of the coach on the floor. Coach Herrin would tell us what he wanted us to do, and then once we hit the floor it was my job to make sure it was carried out. Coach had a great imagination and gave us the freedom to play the game with enthusiasm, and I embraced that. Up by 10 points or down by 10, I never really changed my demeanor.

SA: Have you talked with Coach Herrin since you were hired?

CL: I called him the first night after I met with Matt Shaw. He was in Florida when I called him and he was extremely happy for me. He said he was proud of me and excited – that meant a great deal. He also said he is looking forward to seeing SIU Basketball this season, and I would be thrilled to see him at the games.

SA: Do you think you have taken a little bit from each coach you have played or worked under?

CL: Everywhere I’ve been, I’ve learned something that has helped me. The last few years with Coach Weber have been exceptional; I still hear Coach Herrin barking in my ears with his enthusiasm, catch phrases and encouragement. It all adds up to the coach you eventually become, and it usually works out well when you’ve been around good people. All of this will help me during games.

SA: To win those games, you will also have to lean on your upperclassmen.

CL: You’re right. Just as it was important last year for Brad Korn, Bryan Turner and Sly Willis to win a title without Kent Williams and Jermaine Dearman, it will be important this year for Darren Brooks, Stetson Hairston, LaMar Owen and Josh Warren to take lead roles.
Erika Lowery and daughter, Lexis, get reacquainted with some of the Saluki basketball players. “She is really connected to this group,” the new head coach says. “Erika missed three Illinois home games last year to go watch the Salukis play.”

SA: What is your early assessment of the 2004-05 squad?
CL: This group is probably one of the most athletic teams to ever play at SIU. They have guys who compare to players like Ashraf Amaya, Marcus Timmons and Chris Carr. And they also have another year under their belts running the motion offense – that should help them avoid stagnant scoring stretches that they had at times last season. Like last year, however, they will always give themselves a chance to win because they guard so well.

SA: You often refer to the SIU team as your extended family. Tell us about your real family at home.
CL: I'm able to do this job because I have special support at home. I have been with my wife, Erika, for a long time (met her at his cousin's slumber party when she was in eighth grade), and she understands how crazy this kind of work can be. We have three children, (Lexis, C.J., and Kahari) and another one on the way.

SA: Your wife appears to know this team almost as well as you do.
CL: That's probably right (laughs). In fact, she missed three Illinois home games last year to go watch the Salukis play. I sure didn't tell my Illinois players that, but she did. Erika is really connected with this group. Players like Stetson Hairston, Darren Brooks and Jamal Tatum are already close to us, and she sincerely cares how they do.

SA: How big a role has she played in your journey through the coaching ranks?
CL: It's impossible for me to answer that completely and do her justice. So many times over the years I've had to leave on a whim, drop everything at home to deal with some emergency, or rearrange home plans to take care of basketball business. I know it's tough, but never once did she ever tell me not to keep on coaching – even when I was getting started and we were making very little money.

It's exciting now for us to see all the sacrifices pay off for our family.

SA: You look like you are in your element and have that appearance of "back home."
CL: That feeling hit me when I first walked in the press conference and looked out and saw 50 many faces I recognized from over the years. I'm not sure everyone realized how much this program still meant to me when I went to Illinois last season. When SIU was ranked and Illinois wasn't during part of the year, some figured that bothered me. Bothered me? I thought it was great! I was watching scores, reading stories and rooting for SIU all year.

I'll always be a Saluki – it's tremendous to be back.
Remembering James Neckers

Although a building at Southern Illinois University Carbondale bears his name, friends and colleagues say professor James Neckers' legacy is the continuing strength of a chemistry department he began shaping nearly 77 years ago. The legendary educator died May 8 at his home in Carbondale, just three weeks after celebrating his 102nd birthday.

"His legacy is the creation of a very strong, academically oriented, research-oriented department, which has continued to this day," says Associate Dean James Tyrrell, a chemistry professor at Southern since 1967. "The chemistry department has always been recognized as one of the strong departments in the University."

Neckers came to what was then Southern Illinois Normal University in 1927, hired by then-University President Henry Shryock the same day he received his doctoral degree in analytical chemistry from the University of Illinois at the age of 25. Two years later, he became department chair—a post he held for the next 36 years. Neckers retired in 1967.

Neckers helped transform a teachers college into a full-fledged university by emphasizing research, adds retired chemistry professor Russell Trimble, whom Neckers hired in 1954. Neckers chaired the department when the University entered its extensive growth period, and under his leadership the department's undergraduate program earned accreditation from the American Chemical Society.

"For a small chemistry department as it was at that time, it was a mark that we had a good program," Trimble says. "I think he probably considered that one of his major achievements."

Neckers was the last surviving member of SIU's "Four Horsemen," a near-legendary group of professors who made the University's chemistry department a successful pipeline for future doctoral candidates. The group consisted of the chemistry department's faculty members: Neckers, Robert Scott, Talbert Abbott and Kenneth Van Lente.

In 1940, Neckers, Abbott and Van Lente co-authored a freshman manual, "Experimental General Chemistry." The book, used by more than 200 universities and colleges, went through four editions over the next 30 years. Also during his tenure, the department grew from four to 24 faculty members, won its first American Chemical Society accreditation and added master's and doctoral programs in 1956 and 1961, respectively.

Two of Neckers' undergraduate students later served as president of the American Chemical Society. While department chair, more than 500 students graduated as chemistry majors, more than 200 went on for master's degrees and another 72 enrolled in doctoral programs.

Neckers' contributions also went beyond the chemistry department. He helped create the present university retirement system for faculty, helped with the formation of SIU's Faculty Senate, and established an endowment that funds scholarships for students and guest lectures.

Known for his dry wit, Neckers remained involved with the department even after retirement. Until recently, he would regularly attend weekly research seminars and continued to participate in department functions. As recently as this April, Neckers attended a departmental seminar and lecture and the dinner afterwards, which included a celebration of his birthday. Although physically frail, his mind remained as sharp as ever.

In 1970, the University dedicated the James W. Neckers Building, which houses Southern's physical sciences programs. In 1979, his book, "The Building of a Department: Chemistry at Southern Illinois University, 1927-1967," detailed the growth of the department and the University.

Memorial donations may be made to the James and Jean Neckers Lectureship Fund at SIU or to the First Presbyterian Church in Carbondale.
It's hard to see how SIU could have done more for anyone than it has for me. Three degrees are only part of the story. This great University let me walk with giants.

When we (wife Mary and I) arrived in Carbondale in January 1958, I was a near-penniless veteran who'd missed the GI Bill by six months, seeking a journalism degree and newspaper career. Mary worked in town to support us, and my first good job was a paid position on the Egyptian (not yet daily). Later I found work in the public relations office, then called Information Service, headed by the eminent Bill Lyons. I got a campus news beat and the pleasant task of editing a weekly column by the colorful folklorist and historian John W. Allen. Only in years to come would I recognize how good my journalism preparation was. The benefits of working with teachers like George Brown, Charlie Clayton, Jim Ford, Howard Long and Manion Rice were immeasurable. I worked two years as a reporter for the Granite City Press-Record after graduation, then Bill Lyons walked into the newspaper office one day and offered me a place on his staff and we were soon headed back to Carbondale.

Championing SIU was a dream job. I helped tell the world about SIU and its people. It was a heady experience to work with students and faculty members, high-level administrators – deans and vice presidents and chancellors, leaders like John Rendraem and Robert MacVicar – and feel that we shared a common goal.

An assignment relating to a Carbondale civic organization put me in touch with Oscar Koch, a retired general who'd been George S. Patton's intelligence chief in World War II. He and I got on well, and at the suggestion of old friend John Allen he invited me to collaborate on a book. The resulting work, G-2: Intelligence for Patton was published in 1970. Over the years it gradually became a standard reference for military historians. It was republished in paperback just six years ago.

In September 1966, I became editor of this magazine, then called Alumnus, in what was a momentous period for SIU. Enrollment surged. New buildings sprang up everywhere. Buckminster Fuller attracted worldwide attention. There were glorious happenings like the Walt Frazier-led Salukis winning the 1967 NIT (arguably more prestigious then than the NCAA title). Library holdings topped the million mark in 1966, and in 1969 the University began a five-year centennial celebration. Plans for medical and law schools blossomed.

I devoted much of the September 1968 magazine to the 20th anniversary of Delyte Morris' presidency. He was pleased and let me know. In all my years in higher education, I've yet to see another of Morris' stature.

There were dark days, too. Protests against the Vietnam War brought riot police and guardsmen, and in one of its darkest hours the University closed for a semester. And on a weekend in June 1969, an act of arson brought down Old continued on page 45
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Second Annual SIU Class Ring Presentation Ceremony

The SIU Alumni Association honored SIU Class Ring recipients during a presentation ceremony on April 2 in the SIU Student Center Auditorium. Students were honored during Honors Day weekend on campus.

Larry Dietz, SIU Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, presented class rings to 37 students and alumni. Vice Chancellor Dietz filled in for Southern Chancellor Walter Wendler, who fell ill prior to the ceremony. A reception followed in the International Lounge immediately after the ceremony, as family and friends of the class ring recipients were invited to attend.

SIU class ring recipients included four students from our off-campus military sites. They were Steve Henry and William Jefferson (Scott Air Force Base), Miles Leader (Great Lakes, Ill.)—who traveled six hours to attend the ceremony—and Stephanie Theaker (Fort Gordon, Ga.), who made her first trip to SIU’s main campus.

George Robinson Sr., a management student, and his son, George Robinson Jr., a marketing student, of Herrin received rings as a Christmas gift from the latter’s grandfather. Robinson Sr. and Robinson Jr. returned their rings on the night of the ceremony so they could participate in the festivities. Both Robinsons are graduating in August. The Association presented a ring to Richard Schumacher, a Student Alumni Council member, for his hard work in promoting the ring to fellow students since the inception of the program.

Only SIU alumni and students who have earned junior status by completing 56 credit hours at the University are eligible to order the rings. The SIU class ring serves as a common bond for present and future graduates, and its design will not change. For more information, visit the SIU Alumni Association Web site at www.siualumni.com for a direct link to the class ring material.

Alumni Gather To Watch Saluki Hoops

SIU alumni chapters and clubs in Springfield, Ill., Chicago, Tampa, and Denver, gathered for Saluki basketball watch parties in February. ESPN televised a game featuring the nationally ranked Salukis and Creighton Bluejays at the SIU Arena. The four alumni groups met in their respective cities, enjoyed refreshments and the company of fellow Salukis, and watched Southern record another basketball victory. The events averaged 40 attendees, enhancing SIU’s presence in four major markets.

Former Saluki Players Meet During MVC Basketball Tournament For Reunion

Former Saluki basketball players gathered for a special reunion on March 6, in conjunction with the MVC Basketball Tournament in St. Louis. The event was organized by Bob Siegworth, a former student trainer for the Saluki basketball team, with support from the SIU Alumni Association. Fifteen players who competed at SIU during the years of 1967 to 1976, were joined by their wives at the reunion. Some were reacquainted for the first time in 20 years.

A surprise visit by former Saluki Assistant Coach George Lubelt and his wife served as a highlight of the event. The basketball reunion could become a yearly event if former athletes continue to express interest.

Two Alumni Elected To SIU Alumni Association Board

Dorothy (Dede) Lingle Ittner ’61 and Terry Gannon ’68 were recently elected to the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors. Ittner, a Carbondale resident, and Gannon, from St. Pete Beach, Fla., will serve four-year terms.

Ittner, a life member of the SIU Alumni Association, is an instructor for the John A. Logan College Adult Education program in Carterville. She specializes in beginning level literacy instruction and learning style assessment and facilitation and began her teaching career as a third-grade teacher in Jacksonville from 1961 to 1963. For the next 29 years, she taught for school districts in Bloomington/Normal and Richland County, specializing in home and hospital bound instruction and gifted and creative thinking programs.

She is a fourth-generation family member to attend Southern. Her father, Leland “Doc” Lingle ’27, began attending SIU as a student in 1919 and coached the Saluki track team until his death in 1964. Her mother, Dorothy Furr Lingle ’28, came to Southern in 1913 with her father, William Furr, who headed the teacher education program. She became a General Studies Advisor in 1964.

Gannon, now retired, enjoyed a career highlighted by numerous leadership ventures, including a term as mayor of St. Pete Beach, Fla. During his term, his staff initiated efforts to
planning and engineering a project to direct reclaimed water to the city to reduce the use of potable water. These efforts allowed every household and business in the city to have the ability to use reclaimed water for irrigation.

In retirement, Gannon has devoted much effort to his alma mater. He and his wife, Carol, were the driving forces to organize and charter the Central Florida Salukis Alumni Chapter in 2002. Gannon, a life member of the SIU Alumni Association, serves as president of the chapter.

**Student Alumni Council Recognized**

Student Alumni Council (SAC), the student chapter of the SIU Alumni Association, received two awards at SIU's student leadership awards ceremony in April.

SAC received honorable mention for the Spirit of Diversity Award. The University presented the organization with a certificate. Executive Committee members also received lapel pins for the honor. Ricky Schumacher, president-elect and current financial officer, received the Steve Harris Outstanding Treasurer award. Schumacher was cited for his leadership in the Student Alumni Council in addition to his support of numerous SIU Alumni Association activities.

SAC coordinates various recognition programs to acknowledge student excellence. The organization honors the "25 Distinguished Seniors" for their academic achievements and contributions to campus life. The group also coordinates the "Super Student" scholarship program, which assists two outstanding students of junior status in financing their education. SAC provides supports to the Alumni Association in hosting numerous activities, including Homecoming, Alumni Member Appreciation events, and the SIU Class Ring Presentation Ceremony.

**Central Florida Salukis Enjoy Pair Of Events**

Sixty alumni and guests enjoyed a pre-game picnic prior to the Tampa Bay Devil Rays baseball game against the Chicago White Sox on April 17. Alumni of the Central Florida Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted this program.

Dave Andrzej, director of off-campus programs for the SIU Alumni Association, attended the event.

Twenty-nine SIU alumni and guests enjoyed the third annual Saluki Family Picnic hosted by the Central Florida Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association in May. Alumni and guests gathered at the beautiful Ft. DeSoto Park in St. Petersburg.

**Anthropologist Wins 8th Annual Outstanding Graduate Thesis Award**

An anthropologist whose work turned conventional thinking about burial practices in ancient Peru upside down has won the SIU Alumni Association's eighth annual outstanding graduate thesis award.

Haagen Klaus, who completed his master's degree last spring, received $500 from the SIU Alumni Association during its spring board meeting in April. Four years ago, he excavated a number of pre-Incan gravesites on Peru's northern coast.

The Sicán, a society of farmers, fishermen, potters and metalworkers whose culture reached its height between 900 and 1100 A.D., had buried their dead both in a ceramics and metal shop and at a nearby cemetery.

Now a doctoral student in anthropology at The Ohio State University and an associate investigator with the Museo Nacional Sicán, Klaus is continuing his work in Peru and this summer will help direct the excavation of gravesites from a 16th-century chapel.

**Rec Dawgs Together Again At National Convention**

When the National Intramural Recreational Sports Conference is held each year, the SIU Office of Intramural-Recreational Sports hosts an Alumni Breakfast at the event, which brings a large group of Salukis together. This year's event held April in Albuquerque, New Mexico, gave former SIU graduate assistants now in full-time positions at various universities a chance to get reacquainted with current SIU staff and current graduate assistants. Seated, from left (with their current university listed after each name): Amy Swingle (Sam Houston State), J. Michael Dunn (Ohio State), Scott Levin (Georgia State), Bob Anthony (Mesa State), Kevin Linker (Eastern Illinois), Eric Simmons (Tennessee-Martin), Sarah Hardin-Specht (Southeast Missouri), Kelly Lafer (Arizona State), and Charles Ferguson (SIU). Second row: Jeff Dvorak (Wisconsin), Darin Barr (Washington Athletic Club), Lori Ravellette (SIU), Shane Ravellette (SIU), Kurt Carmen (Ohio State), Rhonda Cox (Texas), Doug Tannen (Virginia), Lynn Thompson-Cundiff (SIU), Alice Starkweather (SIU), Elisa Burke (SIU), and Mike Warren (Bowling Green). Third row: Sean Curtis (Washington), Jodi Hawkins (Rhode Island), Tony Franklin (SIU), Steve Waden (Houston), Fred Gibson (Western Kentucky), Jason Lipe (Southeast Missouri), Ryan Coleman (Northwestern), Bill McBoin (SIU), Matt Specht (Southeast Missouri), Brian Lukes (SIU), Herman Williams (SIU), and Mark Williams (Western Kentucky).
Men's Golf Finishes 4th In Valley Championships

SIU men's golf finished fourth this spring in the MVC Championships, marking the best finish in league play under eight-year head coach Leroy Newton. It also snapped a streak of three consecutive years, where the Dawgs placed seventh out of the nine-team field.

The Salukis shot a 298-312-297-907 in the tournament. Wichita State, a unanimous pick to win this year's title, overcame a fourth-place, first-round finish to clinch its 11th MVC Championship. Carding a 306-299-291-896, the Shockers defeated host Illinois State (299-312-289-900), Drake (298-308-298-904), SIU, Southwest Missouri (319-310-298-927), Northern Iowa (319-309-307-935), Evansville (330-327-306-963), Bradley (324-327-316-967) and Creighton (328-340-318-986).


Saluki Women Miss MVC Golf Crown By One Shot

The host SIU women's golf team finished a close second in the MVC Championships, losing to visiting Illinois State by only one stroke. The Redbirds recorded a 311-317-309-937 to win the crown, with the Salukis right behind at 320-311-307-938.

Defending champion Bradley slipped to third (327-312-303-942), followed by Northern Iowa (325-304-317-946), Southwest Missouri (336-312-311-959), Wichita State (323-325-323-971), Creighton (343-341-310-1025), and Evansville (370-360-348-1078).

Freshman Amy Gerlach (75-76-77-234) earned co-medalist honors with Illinois State's Samantha Richdale, and was the first Saluki to earn an individual crown since Jamie Smith in 1998. Megan Tarrolly finished tied for fourth after shooting (82-76-75-233) over three rounds, while Amy Rankin notched a score of (79-78-77-234) to finish tied for seventh.

Saluki head coach Diane Daugherty earned Valley Coach of the Year honors. Just one other time in her tenure at SIU has she been honored in this manner, as she shared the award with former Redbird head coach Chris Clark in 1993.

Tennis Teams Fall In 1st Round Of MVC Action

The SIU men and women's tennis teams were each defeated in the opening rounds of the 2004 Missouri Valley Championships.

In Peoria, Ill., the Saluki men fell to Wichita State 4-0, getting off to a slow start and never recovering. They dropped the doubles point to the Shockers, as sophomore Bojan Ilievski and junior Lukasz Soswa lost their No. 1 doubles match (8-4) and senior Peter Bong and Alexandru Nomicos were defeated in No. 2 doubles (8-6). When the Salukis began singles play, injuries became a problem as three of the six singles matches finished without a decision. The Salukis ended the season with an 8-11 overall record and a 2-8 mark in MVC play.

The women's tennis team dropped a hard fought match to No. 4 seeded Drake University in action marred by thunderstorms in Wichita, Kan. When play was moved indoors, senior Alejandro Blanco was edged out in a three-set match at the No. 1 singles spot by Drake's Annalie de Bryun (2-6, 6-3, 6-2) while Blanco's sister Maria Blanco was defeated at the No. 2 spot. SIU picked up three wins at the No. 3-4 and 6 singles spots, forcing the doubles points to be the deciding factor of the match.

The Saluki senior duo of Tara Trapani and Alejandro Blanco once again gave the Salukis a win at the No. 2 doubles but unfortunately the Dawgs No. 1 doubles team, of seniors Jessica Knitter and sophomore Maria Blanco, was defeated 8-3, as were sophomores Zoya Honarmand and Zuzana Palovic. The Salukis finished with an 11-12 overall record and a 6-6 mark in MVC contests.

Men 6th, Women 3rd In MVC Track Championships

The SIU men's track and field squad, which was expected to finish in fifth this season, missed by just one place as the Salukis ended the four-day competition in sixth with 55 points. Wichita State took the team title with 150 points, followed Northern Iowa (133), Indiana State (120), host Illinois State (97) points and Southwest Missouri (56).

Senior Willie Davis qualified for the NCAA Regional Championships in the 400-meter dash on the final day of the MVC Meet. Davis took the race title with a time of 47.15, which is .40 seconds faster than his season-best. Another top finish was turned in by sophomore Ray Scotten, who ran on the 4x100-meter relay team and won the title in the pole vault for the second straight year with a jump of 17-04.50.

The Saluki women did what the pre-championship poll predicted as they finished third with 117 points. Wichita State again took the team title, earning 159 points, followed by Southwest Missouri (138), Indiana State (98), and Illinois State (80.5).

Junior Venisha Williams finished runner-up in the women's hammer throw with a toss of 165-09, while the 4x100-meter relay team, comprised of seniors Korto Dunbar, juniors Kelsey Toussaint and Yvonne Cohen, and freshman Sherleen Green, qualified for the NCAA Regional Championships with a season-best time of 45.76, which was good enough for second place in the race, as well as the SIU school record. In the 1500-meters, senior Noa Beitler once again took the MVC title – her third in the 1500 – with a time of 4:30.62.

SIU sophomore Ty-Nica Davis finished runner-up in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:09.80 – a career best and regional qualifying time. In the final event of the day, the women's 4x400-meter relay qualified for the NCAA regional with a time of 3:41.74.

At press time, seven women, four men and two women's team relay squads were set to compete in the 2004 NCAA Regional Championships. The event was scheduled to be held in Baton Rouge, La. on May 28-29. Results of that action can be found at www.siusalukis.com.
In Memoriam

Keith Wendland, Former Association Board Member

Former SIU Alumni Association board member Keith Wendland recently passed away at the age of 56. Wendland, who retired as the finance director for Schaumburg, Ill., was a 1971 graduate of the University. He served on the board of directors from 1989-98, and was also on the Athletics and Investment committees. He chaired the Investment Committee from 1990-93.

"Keith was a loyal graduate who loved this University and SIU athletics," says SIU Alumni Association Executive Director Ed Buenger. "He was always available to help his alma mater, and he served with great distinction on the board of directors for many years."

Wendland, who retired in 2003, is fondly remembered by Schaumburg Mayor Al Larson. "Keith was a great guy and a wonderful man," Larson recalls. "He loved to fish and was a baseball fan – he loved the Cubs."

Following his graduation at Southern, Wendland was assistant comptroller in Franklin Park from May 1971 to June 1973 before becoming city accountant and assistant finance director of Wood Dale. He later served as finance director of Hoffman Estates from 1974 until his move to Schaumburg in 1984.

Wendland served in a number of positions in the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association from the late 1970s onward, including a term as president in the mid-1980s. He also served on the Chicago Metro Finance Officers Association and was treasurer of the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency.

Ralph Dunn, Advocate For SIU

Ralph Dunn, a longtime advocate for Southern Illinois University, recently died at 90 years of age due to complications from pneumonia. The Du Quoin, Ill., native was a former state senator and representative from Illinois' 58th District who had been retired since 1995.

Dunn is fondly remembered at Southern for helping secure $7 million for SIU’s power plant generator. In appreciation of his efforts, the University named its business incubator the Dunn-Richmond Economic Development Center.

After years of running a family business, Dunn found his political calling in 1968 when he was elected to the Republican National Convention and the Constitutional Convention. After that, he was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives from 1973 to 1985, followed by a 10-year stint in the Illinois State Senate. During this 22-year career, the respected Republican believed in remaining close to his constituents and acting on their convictions.

Glenn Poshard, chairman of the SIU Board of Trustees and a Democrat, is a former state lawmaker who worked with Dunn in the Senate for five years. In fact, they often drove home together from Springfield. Poshard told the Chicago Tribune that Dunn will be remembered less for politics and more for the quality person that he was.

"Ralph will be remembered as being a gentleman," Poshard says. "He never used his power to bludgeon others, and he was willing to work across the aisle with members of both parties."

One of SIU’s last events acknowledging Dunn occurred last year, when the Public Policy Institute established an annual public service award in his honor. A dinner was held to help the endowment and honor Southern's longtime friend.

"Republicans and Democrats alike came to the dinner and joined in praising Ralph’s contributions to the University, the region and the entire state," recalls Public Policy Institute Director Mike Lawrence. "That kind of outpouring was fitting because he was a conscientious legislator who rose above partisanship to do what he thought was right."

"His effectiveness and his civility made him a model lawmaker; we need more Ralph Dunns in the legislative arenas of today."
A 'NASHVILLE STAR' FINALIST
WITH SOUTHERN ROOTS

FORMER SALUKI RETURNS HOME AND FAIRFIELD, ILL., SAYS: "IT'S MILLER TIME!"

BY ANDREA ZIMMERMANN

Small, yellow, star-shaped signs formed a yellow brick road that led devoted country music fans to the overflowing high school parking lot and streets full of abandoned cars in a small farming town in Southeastern Illinois. Following the golden road further, the occupants of the cars wound their way around the sidewalks in front of the town's high school.

Some wore cowboy hats, some carried homemade signs and some wore shirts that said, "It's Miller Time!" But these fans weren't standing outside in late April to gather around their favorite beverage, but rather to gather around their favorite up-and-coming country music star, Lance Miller.

Miller, a native of Fairfield and a 1992 SIU alumnus, was a top-four finalist in the USA Network reality TV show, "Nashville Star," which began airing in early March. He auditioned along with thousands of other aspiring artists, and through the weeks, judges and voters chose their favorites, with the winner receiving a recording contract from Sony Records.

With two weeks of the competition left, the remaining four contestants were sent back to their hometowns to give a free concert themed "Put your best foot forward" to benefit the American Red Cross. (Over the course of nine weeks, the field of 20 finalists was narrowed down by week until just one person was left standing. Miller was eventually ousted as the eighth of 11 finalists sent home).

The massive line outside the Fairfield Community High School held some of Miller's biggest fans, like art teacher Phylis Bernard of Waltonville, who traveled down to Nashville, Tenn., to see him perform every week. She says she only missed the show once to attend the high school variety show.

To show support for Miller, Bernard made signs and passed them out to fans and his family. She was first introduced to him through a friend who told her of his amazing voice.

"I ruined my reputation by going to Fred's Dance Barn and drinking diet soda just to hear him sing," Bernard says.

Although Miller is originally from Fairfield, he now lives in Hendersonville, Ky. After high school, he came to Southern and graduated with a bachelor's degree in communications. His college roommates now try to follow his tour circuit like they did in their college days when he would perform at Fred's Dance Barn and Mugsy McGuire's Bar and Grill.

Jeff Baker, now a teacher in North Wayne Community School District, says he and his roommate, Steve Sork, would go with him to
his performances so they could get in for free. While living in their Carbondale trailer in the early ‘90s, Baker says Miller liked to joke around, but was always true and honest. “Everything he said came straight from the heart,” Baker says. “He'd do anything for you. He did then, and he would now.”

In 1995, Miller moved to Nashville to pursue his music career. Since then, he has become a songwriter and popular demo singer. Since he was selected to be on the show, signs have overpopulated the small town of 5,500. Spray-painted sheets declaring Fairfield’s love for Miller hung from garage doors, and business marquees lent their support to encourage voting.

Brenda Hale from Fairfield says when she got off work, she hurried home so she could vote. One Saturday she got a scare when she couldn’t get through the phone lines to vote at three minutes to 10 p.m. “It’s all about hitting redial,” she says. “We jammed the phones up here.”

The standing-room-only crowd in the stepfather and half-brother taunted each other on their cell phones as the bidding went higher and higher. “$75? $100? Do I hear $110? I see your $110,” said the master of ceremonies. “115? Sold for $115!”

Billy Simpson, Miller’s half-brother, won the shirt, but the bidding didn’t stop there as Miller’s mother won another T-shirt for $130. When she won, her husband smiled, shook his head and handed over his wallet to his wife.

A guitar signed by some of the contestants was also up for auction. A local doctor outbid stiff competition over the guitar for more than $2,000. He donated the guitar back to the town of Fairfield to be on public display. The auction and ticket sales raised $15,000, which went to the local chapter of the American Red Cross. State Farm Insurance donated another $10,000.

Finally, the anticipated moment arrived as Miller walked onto the stage and the crowd erupted. As a way to calm the crowd, he grabbed the microphone and tilted his head as he looked out on the quieted audience.

“Let’s play some country,” he said.

The homemade signs-turned-fans once again fulfilled their purpose as slogans like, “Fairfield is Millerville, U.S.A.” and “George Jones is human and Jesus is divine but Lance is from Fairfield and we think he is fine” bobbed up and down as Miller sang covers and original songs he had written.

The SIU graduate says when he found out he would be able to put on a concert in his hometown, his fellow contestants, knowing about his loyal supporters, said they wished they were going to Fairfield, too.

“It’s a competition, but if it was based on this crowd, well, I think I'd have won,” he said.

Editor’s note: Andrea Zimmermann and photographer Amber Arnold are student employees at The Daily Egyptian. This story first appeared in the April 21 edition of SIU’s student newspaper.
As a youngster growing up in Dallas, Gwyn Bevel’s parents steered their children away from the television set. They were committed to education and urged Gwyn and her siblings to partake in endeavors that would enhance their development.

Bevel says she was sheltered from television by parents she describes as “extremely anti-television.” However, there was one program that the Bevel children were encouraged to watch on a daily basis — the evening news.

The daughter of a city official and businesswoman, Bevel, who graduated from Southern in May with a degree in radio-television news, says watching the news was important in her household.

“I saw the value my parents placed in staying abreast of community events and knowing how the city council voted last night. They valued this family hour of watching the local and national news,” Bevel says. “Once I witnessed how important the news was to my parents, it became equally important to me.”

It was so important to Bevel that once she decided to attend SIU, there was no doubt what her major would be.

“It was intriguing to watch these television reporters informing the viewers of the news, weather and sports. I thought their role was a valuable service to the public,” she says. “That is when I initially decided to pursue a career in broadcast journalism.”

And since making this early revelation, the perky and articulate SIU alumna hasn’t looked back. As a freshman, she auditioned for the “River Region Evening Edition,” a student-produced television newscast of WSIU Public Broadcasting and SIU’s College of Mass Communication and Media Arts with an outreach covering southern Illinois, southeast Missouri and western Indiana.

She served myriad positions at the station and quickly made a name for herself as a reporter/anchor. Bevel received Rookie of the Year honors in 2001 and received top anchor and reporter honors from the station in 2002 and 2003. She has also won statewide and national awards for her work as an anchor and reporter. Bevel has received accolades from the Illinois News Broadcasters Association, Society of Professional Journalists, National Broadcasting Society, and International Broadcast Educators Association. Last spring, the “River Region” newscast won top honors from the student chapter of the Illinois News Broadcast Association and was ranked third nationally.

“I am addicted to news, and that is important if you want to become a good reporter,” Bevel says. “I’m proud of the fact that we have brought awards back to SIU. I can’t say enough about the radio-television department here and the opportunities it has afforded me.”

Bevel is grateful for another opportunity she received during spring break in March. Through the Extern Program, an activity administered by the SIU Alumni Association, Bevel was one of 25 SIU students to receive the SIU Alumni Association’s prestigious Distinguished Senior Award.

Gwyn Bevel was one of 25 SIU students to receive the SIU Alumni Association’s prestigious Distinguished Senior Award.
Association and SIU’s colleges matching students with alumni and friends in their chosen fields, Bevel garnered additional hands-on experience in the broadcast news profession. (See full list of Extern participants and sponsors on page 43.)

Joined by fellow “River Region” news cohort Gena Terlizzi, Bevel spent spring break at WCIA Television, a CBS affiliate in the Champaign-Decatur area. She enhanced her knowledge of the trade, working with SIU alumna Jennifer Hendricks, an anchor and reporter. While she didn't receive any on-air assignments at the station, Bevel says the experience was worthwhile.

“It was an opportunity for us to see how a commercial station operates, in comparison to a public broadcast station like WSIU,” Bevel says. “Also, Jennifer really went out on a limb for us. We shadowed Jennifer, watched her tape a show, and served as her editors. We worked every shift and served in a different capacity every day. Extern allowed us to use skills we learned at SIU and take them into the real world. But that real world taught us a lot, too. It was an eye-opening experience that reaffirmed to me what I want to do with the rest of my career.”

Bevel's knowledge, in turn, became an asset to WCIA in short order. On one particular night, the flu bug had swept through the newsroom and neither associate producer, who are integral in editing video for the newscast, were able to work. Bevel and Terlizzi stepped in.

“The newsroom staff felt fortunate to have an extra set of hands in that situation. The joke of the day was that the SIU externs came to save the day,” Bevel says. “They said we were the heroes of the newsroom that day. But in our eyes, they were the heroes because they allowed us to become a part of their world for a week.”

Bevel has often found herself in a leadership capacity. During her sophomore year at Southern, she assumed the responsibility of peer advisor in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts. In this role she assisted new freshmen and transfer students in her major to adjust to college life at Southern. Peer Advisors develop relationships with new students, invite them to participate in student orientation, introduce them to faculty and staff, and encourage them to participate in student organizations and other opportunities for professional development.

“Sometimes the transition between high school or a community college to a larger university can be challenging. Our goal is to smooth that transition,” Bevel says. “I've taken students to Wal-Mart in the middle of the night to get supplies they need for class. Students often come here without a friend in the world and they just need a friendly and helpful face to assist them.”

A year later, Bevel was one of an elite group of seven students selected to serve as CMCMA Ambassadors. This selection allowed the outgoing Bevel to serve in a public relations and student recruitment capacity, conducting tours and working University open house events which promoted SIU to prospective students aspiring to major in radio-television, journalism or cinema and photography.

Bevel, who says being an ambassador presented her with an opportunity to demonstrate her “Southern Pride,” says the experience was self-gratifying. “It is amazing what a tour of the communications building can do for a college choice. It brings a large smile to a student's face,” she says. “Our sense of ‘Southern hospitality’ makes people feel welcome.”

Clare Mitchell, assistant dean of student affairs in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, says
The Honors Continue To Mount

Gwyn Bevel continues to garner awards for her work at the University. She was recently selected as SIU’s “Radio-TV Student of the Year,” as well as the “WSIU Broadcasting Services Student of the Year,” where she earned praise for producing the best on-camera performance and television package.

At press time, Bevel also found out that she and fellow Southern graduate Gena Terlizzi had been accepted into the Public Affairs Reporting program at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

The SIU products will be only two of 20 in the 2005 class.

Bevel’s talents have been an asset to the college.

“Gwyn is frequently the first to volunteer to assist with recruitment events, and I know we have students in this college who were urged to attend SIU because of her efforts,” Mitchell says. “Her leadership and organizational skills, as well as her professionalism and experience are excellent.

“Gwyn displays a strong work ethic and is an excellent illustration of the art and science of balancing academics with practical experience. Her contributions to her University are substantial, and I am sure she will become a loyal alumna now that she has graduated.”

Bevel, who became a mentor relied upon to train young reporters and anchors at WSIU Television, is already paying dividends as an alumna. Mitchell says Bevel is so talented at providing tours to students that she plans to ask her to become a trainer for the newly selected CMCMA Ambassadors for the 2004-05 school year. And last spring, another prestigious honor was bestowed upon this young talent.

Bevel was one of 25 students to receive a Distinguished Senior Award presented by the SIU Alumni Association and Student Alumni Council to undergraduates who enrich the University through their involvement in campus activities. The students were honored at a banquet co-hosted by SIUC Chancellor and Mrs. Walter Wendler and the SIU Alumni Association in April.

“I’m just the type of person who can meet people and get involved right away. That has paid off a number of times. The Distinguished Senior Award was a great honor because it solidified four years being well spent for me here at Southern. I certainly wouldn’t trade my experience at Southern for anything.”

Distinguished Seniors Recognized At Super Student Honors Banquet

Gwen Bevel was one of 25 elite Southern Illinois University students honored with the Distinguished Senior Award. Each student received a plaque, Saluki “puppy” statue, SIU alumni T-shirt, and a complimentary first-year membership in the SIU Alumni Association.

The Distinguished Senior Award is given each year to 25 outstanding students who have enriched the University through their involvement in campus activities. In order to qualify for the honor, students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and be a graduating senior who has contributed to the University and Carbondale community.

The following students received the Distinguished Senior Award. The list includes the student’s name, college, major, and hometown:

- Raheem Ali, College of Applied Sciences and Arts, Electronics, Country Club Hills, III.
- Egla Balta, College of Business and Administration, Finance and Management Information Systems, Tirana, Albania.
- Gwyn Bevel, College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Radio-Television, Centralia, III.
- Cristen Carper, College of Agricultural Sciences, Dietetics, Seymour, Ill.
- Sarah Edwardson, College of Applied Sciences and Arts, Interior Design, West Terre Haute, Ind.
- Sharon Harpaz, College of Liberal Arts, Psychology, Glenview, Ill.
- Christopher Hollis, College of Business and Administration, Music, Waverly, Ill.
- Jennifer Jones, College of Business and Administration, Management Information Systems, Chicago, Ill.
- Kenneth Keefe, College of Science, Computer Science and Math, Orland Park, Ill.
- Christie Kegg, College of Science, Biological Sciences and Pre-medicine, Columbus, Ill.
- Sarah Kirk, College of Applied Sciences and Arts, Interior Design, Du Quoin, Ill.
- Holly Krake, College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Photography, Carbondale, Ill.
- Jason Krelo, College of Applied Sciences and Arts, Information Systems Technologies, Elkville, Ill.
- John Li, College of Liberal Arts, Anthropology, Singapore, Thailand.
- Adam Litteken, College of Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Centralia, Ill.
- Joseph Mortimer, College of Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Systems Information, Chana, Ill.
- Jeffrey Nichols, College of Liberal Arts, Administration of Justice, Murphysboro, Ill.
- Greg Padesky, College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Photojournalism, Peoria, Ill.
- Jenneé Rommel, College of Science, Physiology, Quincy, Ill.
- Morgan Sherman, College of Agricultural Sciences, Plant and Soil Sciences, Pinckneyville, Ill.
- Tad Smith, College of Engineering, Computer and Electrical Engineering, Benton, Ill.
- Corey White, College of Education and Human Services, History Education and Cinema, Louisville, Ky.
- Victoria Whitlow, College of Liberal Arts, Music Theater, Springfield, Ill.
- Holly Willenborg, College of Education and Human Services, Communication Disorders, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
SOAR Program Helps With Transition To University Life

Students and their families are making a successful transition to life at SIU by attending SOAR (Student Orientation Advisement Registration), which is coordinated by the office of New Student Programs.

This program introduces new students to their academic advisor, who assists with course selection and registration, and explains the many campus programs and services, academic expectations, extracurricular activities, and transitional, safety, and wellness resources available to them.

Additionally, students complete the "Saluki Checklist" which includes items involving Bursar, Financial Aid, Information Technology, Parking, Immunizations, Student Health Insurance, Student ID, Textbooks, Housing, and much more.

Upon arrival at SOAR, families are welcomed as members into the Saluki Family Association and are introduced to all programs and benefits. Additionally, the SIU Alumni Association welcomes new students and informs them about benefits that can assist them during their years at Southern. By joining together in this collaboration, the SIU Alumni and the Saluki Family Association strengthen the relationship between families and the institution.

Presently there are over 2,100 incoming SIU students and 3,200 family members registered for SOAR. As the freshman student body at Southern continues to grow, so do the expectations to ensure that every new student at the University is comfortable with the decision to become a Saluki. SIU and the SOAR staff members are committed to helping students and their families adjust to university life.

Check out these Websites for more information regarding SOAR, New Student Programs, Saluki Family Association, and Week of Welcome 2004!

- soar.siu.edu
- newstudent.siu.edu
- salukifamily.siu.edu
- newstudent.siu.edu/wow.html

Students and families completing the "Saluki Checklist" at SOAR.
## JULY

- **10**  SIU Day at Busch Stadium. Pre-game gathering two hours prior to game time at south end of courtyard area near the Super Smokers stand. Game time set for 12:20 p.m. (subject to change.) For additional information, call (618) 453-2408. Event is sold out.
- **19**  SIU Day at Wrigley Field, Chicago Cubs host the St. Louis Cardinals. Pre-game gathering at the Cubby Bear Lounge. Game time set for 7:05 p.m. Event is sold out.
- **29**  15th Annual Chicagoland Golf Outing, Bloomingdale, Ill. Shotgun start at 9 a.m. For additional information, please call Liz Sexson at (630) 920-8032.
- **31**  Annual Detroit Alumnus Picnic, Detroit, Mich.

## AUGUST

- **13-22**  Illinois State Fair, Springfield, Ill. Visit the SIU tent to see exhibits at the University.
- **20**  Alumni Day at Colorado Rockies game, Denver, Colo. More information TBA.

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### continued from page 32

Main, I wrote in *Alumnus*: "She was a magnificent old queen, dominating a campus and symbolizing a University. Her loss is not the death of the institution, not even a lasting cripple. But it is a scar, deep and painful and permanent.”

For me, personally, the best was yet to come. I’d slogged toward a master’s degree, one course at a time, and Dan Piper, former LAS dean, suggested I enroll in the new interdisciplinary Ph.D. program. My dissertation topic was preordained: a history of the Illinois scientific surveys — Geological, Natural History and Water. The surveys were of vital concern to President Morris. An elite Ph.D. committee was quickly set, with Piper as chair. Other members were George Brown, Roger Beyler, David Kenney and Jack Isakoff, all notable campus figures. I completed my studies and research on schedule, wrote enough of the dissertation to get my degree, then took several months to update it for publication. The SIU Press brought out the finished work, *State Science in Illinois*, in 1980. (The Press also published my fifth book, *A Race at Bay*, in 1998.)

With graduate work done and waiting for a teaching position in the fall, I signed on with Paul Simon in early 1974 as primary campaign manager in his first run for Congress. We’d moved to a teaching job in Texas by the time of his November election, but were back in Illinois and had renewed contact before he moved up to the U.S. Senate. Except for Texas and a stint at Southeast Missouri State, my teaching years have been spent at the University of Illinois.

Our oldest son, Alan, is a 1988 SIU graduate who lives in Johnston City, Ill. David, our younger, chose Parkland College as the quickest route to his dream job as a sports editor. He and Kelley are parents of our only grandchild, 2-year-old Alex, and even though they live in South Carolina, Alex already knows what a Saluki is. I retired in 2000 to a life of reading, writing and parasailing on vacations to Myrtle Beach. And more recently, grandfathering. We’ve been to SIU somewhat regularly in recent years to visit Paul celebrating his life and mourning his passing.

We won’t get back so often now. The beautiful campus is still like home — the magnolia trees, Morris Library, the woods, the lake, and all the familiar landmarks. And although many of the giants have fallen, present today only in memory, that great, growing, living institution — the University — will always beckon. Maybe we should get little Alex on campus soon. Before we know it, he’ll be looking ahead to college. And like I said, he already knows what a Saluki is.

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The Hays' grandchild, Alex, is only two and lives in South Carolina, but he knows all about the Salukis.

Simon, visits always centering on goings-on at his dynamic Public Policy Institute. And then that unexpected trip last December to pay final respects. We joined with thousands of others in the Arena, commingling tears and laughter at Paul’s memorial service.
1950s

John Oberheu '53, M.S. '56 has written and published his memoirs in a book titled Pour Salt on Its Tail. The book devotes chapters to his years at SIU and contains 16 pages of photos. To receive a copy of the paperback, send $15 to Oberheu at 2988 St. Johns Boulevard, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250-8116. Now retired, Oberheu's career in wildlife management included 32 years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

1960s

Brenda Poinsett '63 is author of a book titled She Walked With Jesus that celebrates women in the church from biblical times to the present. Poinsett, author of 10 other books, serves as a ministry consultant for Woman's Missionary Union. She and her husband, Bob, live in Union, Mo.

James Rosser '62, M.A. '63, Ph.D. '69 received the Black History Month Celebration 2004 Humanitarian Award from the Torrance, Calif., Area Chamber of Commerce. Rosser, who lives in West Covina, Calif., has served as president of Cal State L.A. for 25 years, where he holds an academic appointment to the College of Business and Economics as professor of health-care management.

Alfred (Larry) Lorenz M.A. '65, Ph.D. '68, professor of journalism at Loyola University in New Orleans, has been named the A. Louis Read Distinguished Professor in Communications.

Marcia Allen '68 was named the 2003 James L. Osborne Insurance Educator of the Year, a national award given by the Insurance Education Foundation. Allen, a family and consumer science teacher at Murphysboro, Ill., High School, was chosen for the award due to her excellence in presenting creative insurance education to her students. As winner, Allen will serve on the foundation's national advisory council and will be a judge for next year's competition.

Carol Mocaby '68, M.S. '89 is owner-operator of the Recess Health Club in Stonefort, Ill. She has run the club since retiring from teaching in 1992. It features a pool, hot tub, sauna, exercise equipment and a tanning bed.

1970s

Jane Hodgkinson '71, M.S. '74, director of the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association since 1981, will serve as the 2004 chair of the Illinois Park and Recreation Association. Hodgkinson, a resident of Wheaton, Ill., was instrumental in establishing the Illinois Special Olympics and served on its board for six years.

Aquiles Iglesias '70, M.S. '72 was named dean of the Temple University Graduate School after serving as acting dean for 16 months. A professor of communication sciences, Iglesias has been at Temple for more than 20 years, serving 12 years as chair of the Communication Sciences Department in the College of Health Professions.

Katherine Koch '72 and John Russell '74 live in Aurora, Ill., where John is city editor of The Beacon News and Katherine is a substitute teacher in Aurora. The couple has three children. Jay '01 is working in Chicago for a CPA firm, and his twin brother, Ted, who graduated from Carleton College in 2001, is in graduate school at Georgetown University. Michael, an SIU radio and television senior, plans to graduate in December.

Michael Sutton '72, M.S. '74, a Carolina distinguished professor at the University of South Carolina, was named a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers because of his 10 years of active engineering practice and contributions to the profession. Sutton lives in Columbia, S.C.

John Martin '75 is completing his 20th year with the Tulsa, Okla., Police Department. He is a patrol officer in the uniform division, a field training officer, law enforcement driving training officer for the state, and a video instructor for the uniform divisions. He writes that he works with another SIU graduate, Jeff Olomon '82. Martin is also owner and president of Badge Boys Construction, a home building and repair business.

1980s

Paul McGraw '80 has been promoted to managing director of airspace management for the Air Transport Association of America. He joined the association in 1986 as director of the Chicago regional office, moving to its headquarters in Washington, D.C., in 1993.

Ann Darling Robinson '81 is practice manager for New Horizons Obstetrics and Gynecology in Carbondale, where she lives with her husband, Marty, and their daughter, Lindsay, and son, Brooks.

Remembering Good Times

A reunion of Southern Illinois University fraternity brothers took place recently in Sarasota, Fla. From left are Larry Strickert '58 of Bull Shoals, Ark., Jack Drone x59 of Punta Gorda, Fla., Mark Adelman '59, M.A. '65 of Bradenton, Fla., and Al Stockard x60 of Danbury, Wis., and North Port, Fla. The four were founding members of the Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity.
Alums Are Active In Honor Society

Three SIU alumni are active members of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest, largest all-discipline honor society. 

Roger Smalley DBA ‘96, assistant professor of marketing at McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill., signed as a charter member of the new chapter there. Jean Kirts Ph.D. ‘91, a professor of physical education at McKendree, was initiated into the chapter in the same ceremony.

Terry Mathias M.S. ‘75, Ph.D. ‘82, an instructor of rhetoric and composition, literature, technical writing, speech, and communications/media at Southeastern Illinois College, Harrisburg, Ill., and John A. Logan College, Carterville, Ill., is featured in the Phi Kappa Phi’s first DVD on chapter officer training. Mathias, who lives in Carbondale, is the society’s north central region vice president and previously held offices in the SIU chapter.

Marilyn ‘89, M.S. ‘92, is an independent banker for the Bradford National Bank of the Carolinas. The couple lives in Carbondale. Rebecca Flannagan Ph.D. ‘85 received the Award for Excellence in Teaching at Francis Marion University in Florence, S.C. Flannagan, assistant professor of English, has been a member of the faculty since 1995. She is co-director of the Swamp Fox Writing Project and is editor of Postscript, the publication of the Philological Association of the Carolinas.

Cindy Thierry ‘86 has joined public relations firm Fleishman-Hillard Inc., St. Louis, as a vice president. With more than 14 years experience managing marketing communications programs, she will be responsible for strengthening the technology and business-to-business corporate communications for the St. Louis office.

Randy Alderman ‘86 was featured as a “rising star” in the February 2004 issue of Independent Banker. Alderman has been marketing officer for the Bradford National Bank of Greenville, Ill., for the past 11 years. He is active with the Greenville Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Commission and has voluntarily run the city’s Web site for the past 10 years. He, his wife, three daughters and a son live in Greenville.

Dan Haughey M.A. ‘87 teaches in the communication and fine arts department of Black Hawk College in the Illinois Quad-Cities and is currently serving as president-elect of the Illinois Theatre Association. Haughey has taught theatre and speech education for 17 years and has experience as a professional, acting on stage and in television and films.

Robyn Laur Russell ‘88, M.S. ‘03 is lead business development specialist and assistant director of the Small Business Development Center at SIU, where she has worked since 2001. Russell, a life member of the SIU Alumni Association, lives in DuQuoin with her husband, Leo, and daughters Molly Clark and Maya Russell.

1990s

John Kelly ‘90 was the 2003 Builder of the Year for the Midwest Region of the Gilbane Building Co. Kelly was chosen for his work managing construction of the $44 million McCormick Tribune Campus Center for the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. A 10-year veteran of Gilbane, Kelly lives in Rolling Meadows, Ill.

Patrick Glisson ‘91, M.S. ‘93 is a health physicist for the Department of Environmental Health and Safety at the University of Louisville. He recently passed the test given by the National Registry of Radiation Protection Technologists.

Paul Niemann M.A. ‘91 established a publishing company and wrote his first book, Invention Mysteries—The Little-Known Stories Behind Well-Known Inventions. The book is available at InventionMysteries.com as well as in bookstores.

Karyn Powers ‘92 magna cum laude has been named a shareholder at Parsons Behle & Latimer in Salt Lake City, Utah. Powers is a member of the law firm’s real estate, banking and finance department. He lives in Sandy, Utah.

Lisa Marie Asselborn ‘93 is director of the Staples Child Care Center in Framingham, Mass. The center is run by Bright Horizons Family Solutions for the employees of Staples. Asselborn lives in Maynard, Mass.

Mark Griffin ‘94 is district sales manager for Garst Seeds in Slater, Iowa. Griffin, his wife, Shalane, and two children, Noah, 5, and Chloe, 6 months, live in Clinton, Ill.

Ronnie Rice ‘95 is CEO and president of R2 Enterprises in Duncan, S.C. His brochure advertises him as a motivational speaker and trainer. He offers speeches on diversity, African-American history, goal setting and facing adversity. Rice lives in Greenville.

Jason ‘98 and Kylla ‘97 (Olson) Atkisson are the parents of a son, Brayden Cole, who was born on Aug. 12, 2003.

Kelly Dawn Carr ‘98 is a licensed massage therapist for the Wellbridge Solace Spa and the Missouri Athletic Club in St. Louis. Her hands were featured in a photo on the cover of a recent issue of St. Louis Magazine, which featured top spas. Carr lives in St. Louis.

Sunil Sinha M.A. ‘98 is a senior medical officer at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services in the Department of Health and Human Services, Baltimore, Md. He has been working to develop performance monitors for hospitals and medical practices and policies within the recently passed health-care reform and prescription initiative.

Karla Jean Costello ‘99, M.A. ‘02 works for Inland Press Association in Des Plaines, Ill., as a business and human resource research director. She lives in Fox Lake, Ill.

2000s

Mac Shane Frank ‘02 was named “Correctional Officer of the Year,” one of four chosen by the Illinois Department of Corrections for leadership, initiative, professionalism and service. Frank works at the Pinckneyville Correctional Center and while at SIU earned the 2002 Robert C. Radte Leadership Award from the psychology department and was granted a life membership in Psi Chi, the psychology national honor society. Frank’s parents are Roy ‘70, M.S. ‘83 and Joan ‘91, M.S. ‘93. Roy is assistant professor in the SIU civil engineering department.
A Step Back In Time

Alumnus
Southern Illinois University/September, 1968

36 Years Ago...

In September of 1968, editor Robert Hays fashioned an issue of The Alumnus to mark the 20th anniversary of Delyte Morris’ reign as president of Southern Illinois University. Hays, who pens the “Southern Memories” feature in this edition of Southern Alumni, noted in the magazine (pictured left) that it would “be impossible to do justice to such an exciting 20 years in the history of a great University in this limited space,” but added he felt compelled to not let the occasion pass without at least trying. He called his tribute to the president, “Delyte W. Morris and his 20-Year Vision.”
Linda (Lyn) Corder recently moved back to the Midwest from New York to take a position as vice president for advancement at Ripon (Wis.) College. Formerly the dean of alumni affairs at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, the Illinois native is now happy to be closer to her home state and SIU.

"I lived in Carbondale longer than I have lived anywhere else in my life," Corder says. "Perhaps I am close enough now to get back more often."

Arriving at SIU midway through her undergraduate studies, Corder planned to stay only a year. That year turned into more than 18 years in Carbondale, where she earned three degrees in education, worked, and had her children. She recalls one of her offspring once wondering how kids in other places managed without having a university as their backyard.

Her SIU experiences included cofounding the Puka School, reorganizing and upgrading the University's child development laboratories for it to become a model early childhood center, teaching, and serving as assistant to the President. "My graduate assistantship in the President's office solidified my love of higher education and gave me the 'big picture' perspective that has informed all of my subsequent positions. SIU prepared me well," says Corder.

She later held administrative positions at the University of South Dakota Foundation and Bryant College in Rhode Island.

When she was nearly finished with her doctorate, Corder decided to "save up and spring for a life membership in the SIU Alumni Association." She enjoys receiving the Southern Alumni magazine, saying, "It provides news about the institution and the association gives me a wider network than just my former classmates."

However, Corder says she cherishes some of the close friendships forged in the upheavals and celebrations during the turbulent early 70s. "I also have fond memories of professors, especially those in my graduate courses who continue to stay in touch."

For her loyalty to Southern Illinois University and her contributions to the field of higher education, the SIU Alumni Association salutes Linda Corder.

"Becoming a life member of SIU's Alumni Association was one of the best decisions I've made. It has strengthened my ties to my alma mater and influenced me to give something back, both through annual gifts and when that membership runs out - through my will. Until then, my final diploma and the print of Pulliam Hall continue to hang on my office wall, in whatever institution is my current professional home."

Linda Corder '71, M.S. '74, Ph.D. '86
Vice President for Advancement
Ripon College
SIU Alumni Association Lifetime Member
The scenes of jubilation and pride were evident, as Southern Illinois University recognized 3,595 degree candidates during spring commencement ceremonies held on campus May 7-8. Of those, 3,147 students were candidates for undergraduate degrees. Others were candidates for master's and doctoral degrees. This issue of Southern Alumni is being sent to all of the new graduates to congratulate them on their achievements.