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## Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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# SOUTHERN

SIU Alumni Association

# ALUMNI

## A Saluki In Space

Joan Higginbotham  
Becomes Southern's  
First Astronaut



Inside: Southern Exposure, Hall of Fame, Class Notes, and more...



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# *IRA Charitable Rollover Gift Benefits Public Policy Institute*

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*J*ohn White's association with late U.S. Senator Paul Simon dates back to 1958 when the latter was a state legislator. In the midst of a campaign for county commissioner himself, White quickly became enamored with Simon and joined forces with him in support of various political candidates.

Most notably, White and Simon formed an alliance in coordinating efforts throughout Illinois to generate a statewide following of John F. Kennedy's run for President. White remained at Simon's side as his friend progressed in the state and national political ranks.

In the wake of Simon's death in 2003, White, who serves on the Board of Counselors for the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, continues to be inspired by the respected leader.

"I am a longtime colleague, supporter, and enthusiast of Paul Simon and what he tried to accomplish both in government and his private life," White says. "We want Paul's mission to be continued in an academic setting; in particular, generating greater awareness of global and domestic problems. SIU has taken on a more aggressive role regarding world issues, while others may be looking the other way."

And the Yale graduate continues his support of Simon's initiatives by contributing \$200,000 to the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute via the *IRA Charitable Rollover Act*, recently passed by Congress. The legislation, only in effect for 2006 and 2007, allows individuals at least 70.5 years old to donate up to \$100,000 within a calendar year directly from their traditional IRA or Roth IRA to a charity of their choice without claiming the withdrawal as income, making the gift non-taxable.

White says the IRA Rollover is a viable option.

"The IRA Rollover provided a convenient vehicle for me to make a gift directly to the Institute without a penalty," he says. "Although it doesn't qualify as a charitable tax deduction, this worked out well in my case because it enabled me to make a larger net contribution to the Institute."

A Connecticut native and World War II veteran, White served in the Navy four years. He co-founded Midland Manufacturing in 1951, a company that produced equipment for railroad cars. White and his partners sold the company in 1994 and he subsequently retired.

He has fulfilled a term as President of the Better Government Association in Chicago, which monitors legislation in Springfield, investigates issues, and exposes corruption. White, who initially became a BGA director in 1962, continues to serve in this role. He and his wife of nine years, Virginia, live in Glenview, Ill.



John and Virginia White, shown with Patty and Paul Simon, hosted Simon's 75th birthday celebration in 2003.

**For more information on making a gift to the Southern Illinois University Foundation via the IRA Charitable Rollover option, please contact the Foundation (618-453-4900 or [siuf@siu.edu](mailto:siuf@siu.edu)); or Yvonne Spencer, J.D., Director of Planned Giving (618-453-4907 or [yvonnem@siu.edu](mailto:yvonnem@siu.edu).) For more information on the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, please contact Matt Baughman (618-453-4001 or [baughman@siu.edu](mailto:baughman@siu.edu)) and visit [www.siu.edu/~ppi](http://www.siu.edu/~ppi).**

  
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### ON THE COVER

Joan Higginbotham is shown in her official flight gear prior to her first trip into space as an astronaut. The 1987 Southern product was part of the seven-member crew on NASA's recent STS-116 *Discovery* mission. (Photo courtesy of NASA).



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### A Saluki In Space

As part of the seven-member crew on NASA's recent STS-116 *Discovery* mission, Southern graduate Joan Higginbotham took part in a 13-day exercise to the International Space Station (ISS) to rewire the station's power system, retract solar panels, and help prepare the structure for future shuttle crews. In becoming the first Saluki in space, the 1987 SIU product did so with a calm and relaxed demeanor. "I wasn't nervous," she says. "I wanted to make sure that I did my job to the best of my ability."



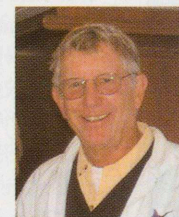
### World Food Prize Winner

When Edson Lobato was welcomed back to his alma mater last fall, he arrived as the first winner of the 2006 World Food Prize to hail from Southern Illinois University. The Brazilian native shared with Southern students and faculty the essence of his work to transform the Cerrado, a vast infertile region in his homeland, into highly productive cropland. Lobato, who earned a Master's degree at Southern in 1973, was one of the people honored for collective work that took place in different decades and in different fields over a period of 50 years.

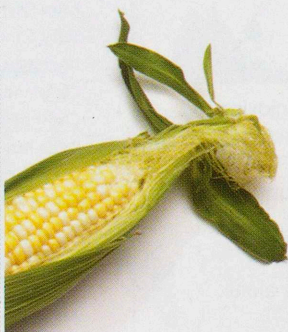
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### Leading The Way

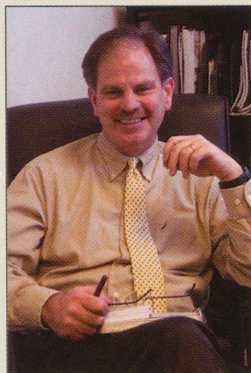
When Southern alumnus Dick Blaudow was growing up in the small farming community of Seymour, Ill., he says his parents taught him to respect elders, respect the property of other people, be kind, and serve others. "Those are traditional values; I enjoy and love traditions." Blaudow says these values paved the way to future success, as the 1970 SIU electrical engineering technology graduate is the founder, chairman, and CEO of Advanced Technology Services (ATS) Inc. Blaudow is now looking for young aspiring engineers with similar values in pursuit of their dream. He and his wife, Brigitte, have donated \$250,000 to SIU's College of Engineering to create an engineering leadership program.



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by Gene Green

Meet José García – retired NASA engineer, University of Florida graduate, and unabashed advocate for Southern Illinois University.

Over the past two decades, García knew just where to start when it came time to hire employees at the Kennedy Space Center. The road seemed to always lead him back to Carbondale.

As a technical assistant in NASA's Electrical and Telecommunications Division, García was charged with recruiting engineers to improve the workforce

base. He interviewed students far and wide, and soon noticed something different at SIU.

"We'd arrive on campus a day early, meet with students as a group, explain the job, and basically tell them what challenges they could expect at NASA if they were hired," he says. "In this setting, before we had individual interviews, I'd almost try and scare them a bit to see how they'd react. That seemed to work fine at *most* places."

Not at SIU.

García warned students that working at NASA could be challenging and stressful, and not to anticipate it being a 9-to-5 job. Suddenly several hands went up. "Have you ever worked on a farm?" one Southern student asked. "If you had, you would know that 9-to-5 really doesn't apply to some of us."

García smiled, made a mental note, and knew he was onto something.

"I felt that a solid engineering education would allow most talented students to handle the technical end of the job," he explains, "so I was also looking for people skills, a personality, and work ethic traits that are hard to find. I kept finding them in Carbondale."

García's first recruiting class in 1987 probably hooked him on Salukis. *Discovery* Astronaut Joan Higginbotham – featured on the cover of this issue – was hired that year, as was Shuttle Test Director Jeff Spaulding.

Since then many more Southern products have followed, as more than 20 Salukis are currently employed by NASA at the Kennedy Space Center alone.

Of the thousands he has interviewed over the years, García says Higginbotham – still a close friend to this day – remains the best student he ever encountered. "Joan handled *everything* I threw at her, chewed it up, and spit it right back at me. She did it with ease."

And while she might be a favorite, many other Southern grads still make the 36-year NASA veteran beam with delight.

"Hey, you need to understand something – I'm a University of Florida graduate," García says with a laugh. "I'm not real proud of this, but I've hired a *heck* of a lot more Salukis than Gators.

"There's just something different about SIU students, and their success at NASA proves I'm right."



José García is shown enjoying the reception Southern hosted for NASA employees and Florida alumni prior to the Shuttle launch.

## SIU Alumni Association

(618) 453-2408 Fax: (618) 453-2586  
www.siualumni.com

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## Alum Enjoyed Reading About Southern's Greek History

I was delighted to read the article on the SIU Greek movement in the most recent *Southern Alumni* publication. Although biased, I believe that fraternal organizations play a significant role in the development of students outside the classroom. They provide a social and leadership learning laboratory for those interested in being more involved during their undergraduate years.

Reading that these University recognized organizations have long contributed to the school and community gives me a sense

of pride for being a small part of the overall institution. Thank you for sharing the historical perspective on SIU fraternities and sororities with *all* alumni, both Greek and non-Greek.

*Ryan Flickinger '97  
Annual Member  
Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity  
Oak Park, Ill.*

## Thrilled To See Story On Greeks

I just wanted to send kudos your way for the great article on the history of Greek life at SIU! I enjoy reading each issue of the magazine. As an alumnae member of Alpha Gamma Delta, I was especially thrilled to see *Southern Alumni* include an article on our Greek system at the University.

Keep up the good work,

and please bring us more articles on our Greek chapters at SIU. Go Salukis!

*Amy Novara Murphy '85  
Life Member  
Murphysboro, Ill.*

## Southern Served This Alum Well

Your article on the SIU Greek System was informative and enlightening. Being part of that system was a developmental tool with which I remain grateful to have been involved. I hope all is well at Southern; it's nice to be an *old* graduate of 2001.

I am living in Boston now and working for Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc. SIU served me well.

*Ted Larkin '01  
Newark, Del.*

## Recent Grad Enjoyed December Magazine

I just wanted to say that I enjoyed reading about the Greek System at SIU in the latest addition of *Southern Alumni* magazine. Being an alumnus of Beta Theta Pi, it gives me great pride to see this kind of article, and I would enjoy seeing even more coverage that would promote the Greeks at the University. In my opinion, they are severely under-recognized for their great and hard work.

Thank you for writing such great articles!  
*Martin Massey '06  
Robinson, Ill.*

## A Mauck Moment

I had the opportunity to review the latest issue of *Southern Alumni* and noticed a letter from two alumni regarding their memories of Carl Mauck. I would like to share a Mauck moment with you as well.

While in school at Southern, I was friends with Carl and played on a softball team with him. On the day of the NFL Draft, he had to attend classes throughout the day, and was not going to be able to be contacted. I was nominated to man the telephone on his behalf, and we all know the end result! I answered the phone and was informed that Carl had been drafted by the Baltimore Colts.  
*Alan Lichter '73  
Las Vegas, Nev.*



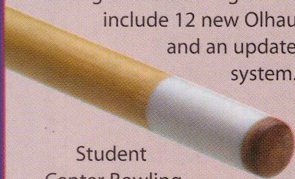
The legacy of the Greek System at Southern is deep in history. Here the ladies of Delta Sigma Epsilon are shown entertaining King Tut many years ago in their living room.



## Student Center Bowling And Billiards Offers Renovated Facility

SIU Alumni Association members can enjoy student pricing on all services offered at Student Center Bowling and Billiards. After a 3.5 month renovation, the facility will reopen the first week of April. The \$600,000 renovation includes electronic scoring, new lanes, glow-in-the-dark flooring and furniture. Each lane will be equipped with bumpers and IKAN Bowler Ramps will be available.

The IKAN Ramp is a device that attaches to any type of wheelchair and allows the wheelchair user to control the speed, direction and timing of the bowling ball's release. The billiards side of the facility will include 12 new Olhausen pool tables along with new lighting and an updated sound system.



Student Center Bowling and Billiards is a smoke and alcohol-free facility that also offers birthday party packages and complete facility rental. For more information please call 618-453-2803.



## Student Center Craft Shop Helps Alumni Show Pride

The Student Center Craft Shop is always looking for ways to help alumni show their Saluki Pride! Alumni Association members receive a 10 percent discount on all Saluki merchandise. Stop by the lower level of the Student Center or visit [www.siucstudentcenter.org](http://www.siucstudentcenter.org) to see the assortment of stained glass Dawg paws, concrete Dawgs, plaster Saluki puppies (also available as bobble heads), Dawg bowls, rocking Dawgs, and hobby hounds.

If you are feeling crafty or just want to learn a new skill, the Craft Shop also offers a variety of workshops including ceramics, wood working, sewing, origami, and private music lessons. Please call 618-453-3636 or visit the Web for more information and workshop registration.

**The Southern**  
ILLINOISAN

[www.sialumni.com](http://www.sialumni.com)

Contact us online at [www.sialumni.com](http://www.sialumni.com) or call 618-453-2408.





# Check Out Our Benefit Program

As a special thanks, the following businesses offer SIU Alumni Association members discounts on products and/or services. Show your card to receive your savings!

Have questions? Please call us at 618-453-2408 or e-mail at alumni@siu.edu.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Choice Hotels:** (at participating): Clarion Inn, Comfort Inn, Quality Inn, Friendship Inn, Econo Lodge, Rhodeway Inn, Sleep Inn (up to 20%)

**European Auto and Hotel** via destination Europe

**Sherwin-Williams Paints:** 20% on regular priced items, 5% on sale items, Call the Alumni Office for account number.

## NATIONWIDE

**Allied Van Lines/Federal Companies:** 63% off on interstate moves

**BeautifulDisplays.com:** 15% off list prices of trade show exhibit kits and graphics, call 800-697-4670

**Boyer's Coffee:** 10% off (call Alumni Association for account number)

**Car Rental:** Alamo, Avis, Budget, Hertz, and National

**CORD North American:** Up to 63% off on interstate moves

**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.

**Drury Hotels:** \$10 off double occupancy, 3rd and 4th persons stay free (call the SIU Alumni Association office for code)

**Heartland Gifts:** 10% off a single gift per order

**KickBike America:** 10% off all online purchases for annual members; 20% for life members; 5% off purchase at Phoenix Cycles in Carbondale

**Mayberry Consulting:** 10% on grant writing/evaluation service, call 618-233-7455

**Pro Golf of Newman, Georgia:** 10% on any purchase

**RE/MAX Realty - Dennis Sluga:** 20% off fees when buying or selling a house anywhere in the continental United States

**SIU Alumni Association Online Store:** 15% off merchandise (account number required)

**Ticketmaster:** opportunity for savings on event tickets online.

**Working Advantage:** Discounts on theme parks, sporting events, online shopping, ski tickets, gift certificates, and more. Please call the SIU Alumni Association office at 618-453-2408 for the promotional code.

## REGIONAL

**Holiday World & Splashin' Safari,** Santa Claus, Ind.

**Lake Rudolph Campground,** Santa Claus, Ind.

**Six Flags Amusement Park,** St. Louis Mo.

## SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

**A Petal Patch Florist:** Carbondale - 10% off

**Alongi's Italian Restaurant:** Carbondale/DuQuoin - Free dessert with purchase of entrée (excludes banquet room & other coupons)

**Applebee's:** Marion - Free soft drink with entrée

**Balance Pilates & Fitness Studio:** Carbondale - 10% off all services

**Barton House Bed & Breakfast:** Carbondale - advanced registration required for 10% discount. Call 618-457-7717

**Big Boys Q'n Restaurant:** Carbondale - 10%

**Bike Surgeon:** Carbondale - 10% off new parts and accessories

**Carlson Wagonlit Travel Agency:** Herrin/ Marion, 5% off all preferred cruises & vacations

**Coleman-Rhoades Furniture:** West Frankfort - 15% off accessories

**Common Grounds Coffee Shop:** Carbondale - 10% off

**Days Inn:** Carbondale - 10% off

**Du Quoin Red Hawk Country Club:** \$25 for 18 holes with cart

**Enterprise Rent-a-Car:** Carbondale - 10%

**Fazoli's:** Carbondale - Free soft drink with entrée

**Fish Net Pet Shop:** Carbondale - 10% off

**Furniture King:** Carbondale - 15% off accessories

**Garfield's Restaurant:** Carbondale - 20% off (not available on lunch specials)

**Gold's Gym:** Marion - \$109 enrollment fee waived

**Hampton Inn:** Carbondale - 10% off standard room rate

**Harbaugh's Restaurant:** Carbondale - Buy one entrée, get the second for half price (equal or lesser value)

**Houlihan's:** Carbondale - Free appetizer with purchase of 2 entrées (excludes sampler/combo)

**Huck's:** Carbondale - (S. 51 location only) - 3¢ discount per gallon of gas

**Italian Village:** Carbondale - 10% off your meal

**Marion Econolodge:** Marion - 15% off room rate

**Marion Ford Lincoln Mercury Hyundai:** Marion - 10% off auto parts and service (including Quicklane)

**Melange Coffee Shop:** Carbondale - 10%

**Merle Norman Cosmetics:** Carbondale - 10%

**Motel 6:** Carbondale - 20%

**Mugsy McGuire's Restaurant:** Carbondale - 10%

**Murdale True Value:** Carbondale - 20% off reg. paint, 5% sale paint

**Neon Internet, Inc.:** Carbondale - 1 full month free with first year contract.

**The Old Depot Restaurant:** Murphysboro - \$1 off dinner entrees, \$.50 off lunch entrees M-TH (not valid on specials)

**Papa Mike's:** Olney - 10% dine in only

**Ponderosa:** Carbondale - 10% off

**Quatro's Pizza:** Carbondale - free pitcher of soda with medium or large pizza

**Reppert's Office Supplies-Furniture-Machines:** Anna - 10% off regular priced items

**Saluki Bookstore:** Carbondale - 20% for life members, 15% off for annual members on SIU imprinted items

**Saluki Central:** Carbondale - 15% off SIU apparel

**710 Bookstore:** Carbondale - Illinois Ave. location only, 20% for life members, 15% for annual members discount on SIU Imprinted items

**Spinoni's Pizza & Pasta House:** Carbondale - \$2 off any food purchase of \$10 or more (not valid on specials or other offers)

**The Sports Performance Store:** Marion - 10% services, 10% equipment. Call 618-694-3455

**Super 8:** Carbondale - 15% off standard room rate

**Tres Hombres:** Carbondale - \$1 off dinner entrée; .50 off lunch entrée

**Universitees:** Carbondale - 20%

**Vogler Ford:** Carbondale - 10% off any car rental

**Walt's Pizza:** Marion - 10%

## OTHER

**Appraisal Matters:** Malibu, California - 10% off appraisal report

**Best Western River North Hotel:** Chicago, Lake Shore Drive - Sun- Thur. \$119 per night; Fri-Sat. \$129 per night

**Cold Stone Creamery:** Richmond Heights, Mo. (across from the Galleria Shopping Center) - 10% off

**DPR Realty, LLC:** Glendale, Ariz. - discounted real estate listing - call 866-496-8377 for list of services

**Keller Williams Realty:** Austin, Tex. - ask for Steve or Judy Scott

**Mehta Motors:** Elmhurst, Ill. - 10% off oil change and safety check

**Myers O'Donnell Banners and Signs:** Serious Saluki discounts for alumni events and SIU sports outings

## CAMPUS

**McLeod Theater:** Communications Building - 20% adult/senior citizen tickets

**Morris Library privileges** - visit sialumni.com for details

**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

**Touch of Nature:** 20% off lodging, 15% off programs

**University Bookstore:** Student Center - 20% off SIU apparel

**University Press Publications:** 20%

This list is subject to change.

Present your membership card to receive your discount.

## Thank You For Your Consideration!

As a member, you'll receive:

- The *Southern Alumni* magazine quarterly
- *Saluki Pride* newsletter twice yearly
- Access to member-only areas of Online Community
- 15% discount at the SIU Alumni Online Store
- Opportunity to attend events at member rates

## New SIU Alumni Association Life Members

Between 10/28/06 and 1/31/07

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Mr. Vladislav and Mrs. Kay M. Zivkovich



## Library Renovation Is On Schedule

**T**he Morris Library renovation project at Southern Illinois University Carbondale is on schedule, with workers poised to begin constructing the large addition planned for the building's north side.

David Carlson, dean of library affairs, says exterior brick and masonry work on the existing structure is nearly complete, and workers have completed about 80 percent of the metal exterior for the new tower-like structure and are awaiting the new windows for that area. The studs for new interior walls are nearly complete throughout the existing structure, and workers have removed most of the old elevator systems and are installing the new, larger ones. Also, workers have partially completed a new fire sprinkler system – previously non-existent – in the existing building.

Another major milestone involved closing up the roof over the top floor of the existing building. Ongoing renovations forced work crews to leave the roof open in multiple places for several months, which made the building vulnerable to rainstorms. With those holes now



David Crews of Murphysboro smooths the edges of a torch-cut pipe that will be a leg for a new cooling tower on the roof of Morris Library at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.



The project includes a complete refurbishment of the existing building and a 50,000-square-foot addition.

closed, the project moved ahead rapidly.

Construction crews began working on the \$48 million project late in 2005. The project includes a complete renovation of the existing structure and a 50,000-square-foot addition on the building's north side. The project is scheduled for completion by mid- to late 2008.

Throughout the project, the library has maintained a circulation desk on the first floor of Morris Library, as well as numerous workstations and direct access to periodicals and other materials. Workers relocated the majority of the library's collection to the McLafferty

Annex, however, where it will stay until the project's completion.

In 2007, onlookers will see great progress in the project, Carlson says.

"You're going to start to see a real shift from renovation to new construction," he explains. "The foundation is being poured, and the structural steel used to frame the new portion of the library is either on site or will be soon. A lot will be going on in the new space, and people will see it begin to rise from the mud over there."

The sixth and seventh floors will remain unfinished space at the project's completion, providing room for the library's collections to grow. As areas are completed during the coming year, Carlson said library staff will re-occupy them and open those to the public.

"The main challenge will remain living in a building with so much ongoing construction," Carlson says. "We keep telling ourselves and everyone else, it will be worth it in the end."



## Southern Student Wins USA Today Academic Award

**A** senior at Southern Illinois University Carbondale once again has earned recognition from *USA Today* as one of the top college students in the country. Fahren Robb, 22, of Pinckneyville, was among the top 80 students named to the newspaper's 2007 All-USA College Academic Team. She also was listed in last year's annual edition.

The competition for the coveted honor is intense and nomination and application process quite rigorous, making her feat this year even more impressive, says Laurie Bell, assistant director of the University Honors Program, which has worked with Robb for several years.

"Fahren is dedicated and a standout in all aspects of her student career, including her academic and volunteer achievements," Bell says. "We fully expect she will be successful as her career continues."

Robb says she set a goal of making the *USA Today* team while in high school. Making it twice is a thrill. "When I got the letter from them I opened it and the first word I read was 'congratulations'. Of course I started jumping and screaming."

Robb plans to graduate from Southern in May with majors in agricultural information and political science and minors in environmental studies, agribusiness economics and speech communication. She was one of a handful of Southern students who traveled to Louisiana during winter break to assist in hurricane recovery efforts. She has logged some 550 hours in the Saluki Volunteer Corps and officials named her the Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate in 2006 as the University's outstanding graduating senior.

She hopes to attend graduate school at Cornell University or Yale, where she wants to pursue joint degrees in law and agribusiness policy-related fields. Eventually, she'd like to work in Washington D.C., in agriculture policy, specifically in the area of renewable fuels.



Fahren Robb (right), poses with fellow Southern students Christa Mahnken and Curtis Fry after taking a well-deserved break from building fences on farms ravaged by Hurricane Rita. The SIU trio was among 30 students from University Alpha Zeta chapters around the country spending five days of winter break helping farmers and ranchers in Louisiana's Vermilion Parish.

## On The Side

### Tyrrell Named Interim College of Science Dean

**J**ames Tyrrell, a chemist who also has served in a variety of administrative positions during the last four decades, has been appointed interim dean of the College of Science. He will step in for Jack Parker, who recently retired from the University.



A native of Scotland, Tyrrell arrived at Southern in 1967 as an assistant professor and became a full professor of chemistry and biochemistry in 1980. He served at various times as assistant chairman, acting chairman and chairman of the chemistry and biochemistry department. He has served as associate dean for budget and personnel in the College of Science since 2002.

Tyrrell says he will not be a candidate for the permanent dean's position but will serve as interim until the University finds and hires a suitable candidate, hopefully by fall 2007.

"What first appealed to me about Southern was the sense that this was a University that was trying to move forward. It had goals and wanted to be a big player," he says. "I think that's still the situation. The University has given me a lot, and when you've been here as long as I, you have a commitment to it."

### Professor To Lead Law Library Association

**J**ames Duggan, a professor in the Southern Illinois University School of Law Library and associate director there, will lead the world's largest law library organization.



Duggan is the vice president/president-elect of the American Association of Law Libraries. His term as vice president begins in July at the organization's annual meeting in New Orleans. Duggan's term as organization president starts in July 2008.

"I'm excited as well as honored to be chosen by my peers to lead this organization that has been a part of my professional life for almost 20 years," Duggan says. He served as University Faculty Senate president in

2004-05 and has served as president of the Carbondale Public Library Board of Trustees and also as president of the Shawnee Library System Board of Trustees.

This is the second time the SIU School of Law is home to the American Association of Law Libraries' president. Frank Houdek, law library director and professor, served as organization president in 1996-97.



## Tiebout Earns National Dental Award

An assistant professor in Southern Illinois University Carbondale's dental technology program recently received national recognition from her professional peers.

In recognition of her career accomplishments, Leigh Tiebout was named the 2007 Educator of the Year by the National Association of Dental Laboratories. The SIU Alumni Association Life Member received the award January 28 during the first day of a three-day national conference in Las Vegas.

Associate professor and Dental Technology Program Director John Winings nominated Tiebout for the award. In addition, two program graduates sent recommendation letters, and she was strongly recommended by dental technology faculty and colleagues.

Winings says one of Tiebout's attributes is her "teaching effectiveness in orthodontics and complete dentures, which has been recognized by her students who get good jobs in southern Illinois and the state of Illinois in this health-related area."

Charla Lautar, associate professor and director of the School of Allied Health, says Tiebout also contributes to dental technology education at Southern in two other important areas.

The first is development of a pending patent during a recent sabbatical to aid dental technologists in their laboratory work. The second is the service that Tiebout provides with other faculty members and students for patients through the Community Dental Center and for children through Project Mouth Guard.

Tiebout earned all three of her degrees from Southern – an associate's degree in dental technology in 1980, a bachelor's degree in workforce educa-

tion in 1982, and a master's in education in 1986. She began working as an assistant orthodontic technician in 1968. She became a certified dental technician in 1979, and was certified in making complete dentures in 1989. Tiebout began her career at Southern in 1983 as a lecturer, becoming an assistant professor in 1987.

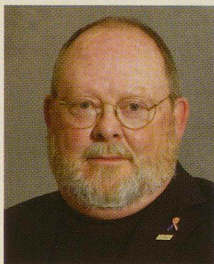
"It's an honor to be nominated and to have the support of past graduates," says Tiebout, who lives in Carbondale. "When you go to meetings they are now representing companies and are the ones to go to with questions about new techniques and materials. They now mentor our graduates as they grow in the profession."



Leigh Tiebout is shown contouring a wax denture. She received the 2007 Educator of the Year from the National Association of Dental Laboratories.

## Southern Names Rice Interim Provost

Southern Illinois University Carbondale Interim Chancellor John M. Dunn has tapped Don Rice, the University's associate provost for academic administration, to serve as interim provost.



"Professor Rice has widespread support in the University community and is a skilled administrator with excellent academic credentials," Dunn says. "We consulted many groups on campus, including the University Faculty Association, the Faculty Senate, and the Graduate Council, and we are pleased that he has agreed to serve in this role."

Rice will fill in for Dunn while he serves as Interim Chancellor and will continue in his present role in negotiations with regard to faculty contract negotiations. He has served as associate provost since July

2004. Before that he was associate dean for budget, personnel and research for the College of Liberal Arts. He came to the University in 1991 as Director for the Center for Archaeological Investigations.

"I'm pleased to be given this opportunity," Rice says. "Tom Calhoun, the Chancellor, and I have been in close contact and we share concern for enrollment and making sure we all have the resources to do what we need to do well. I view part of the Provost office's role as that of a service organization. We need to produce top-notch students by supporting our faculty as teaching scholars and mentors."



# A Saluki Flag Flying High In Iraq

by Tom Weber  
SIU Athletics Media Relations Director

**F**lying high at an American military outpost somewhere in Iraq is a Saluki flag. As we all made our final Christmas preparations, I hope everyone at Southern took a moment to reflect on those American men and women serving in the armed forces who weren't home for the holidays.

They are modern-day heroes. It's dangerous, sometimes lethal work spreading democracy to the Middle East. Some 3,000 or so of our citizens have died in Iraq alone, and many more have been wounded.

One such hero is Staff Sergeant Patrick Clark '01. He is the 1st Squad leader for 2nd Platoon of the 1744th Transportation Company of the Illinois Army National Guard. He's also a former Saluki who played football from 1997-99 and who later worked in my office as a student assistant. When he's not serving his country, Clark has a full-time job as assistant sports information director at Southeast Missouri State.

Right now, he's stationed at camp Anaconda, located within the volatile Sunni Triangle, about 70 miles north of Baghdad. They've nicknamed their home base "Mortarville" because the enemy likes to randomly lob mortars into the camp.

Clark commands 13 soldiers who provide security escorts for military and civilian personnel in and out of combat areas. In the photo above, he's standing in front of his Armored Security Vehicle (ASV) alongside fellow Saluki Dana Pinkston '04, a specialist in the division who played on Southern's women's basketball team from 2002-04.

I asked Clark what a typical day in Iraq was like. (Certain details he can't disclose for security reasons.)

"We are like firemen in that we are on call 24 hours a day," he says. "When we get a call for a mission, we have to be up and running on a moment's notice. We are constantly practicing and training for every possible scenario that may arise, and the biggest concerns are roadside bombs and ambushes.

"Every time my team goes outside the wire, it's both exciting and scary," he admits. "My team is the best, and they will watch my back like I will watch theirs."

It has been winter in Iraq, and it gets bitterly cold in the desert at night. Clark and his comrades live in three-room trailers



Patrick Clark (left) and Dana Pinkston proudly stand next to a Saluki flag that they display in Iraq. Clark and Pinkston are former student-athletes at the University. They each came home for a two week visit in February before returning to Iraq.

with two soldiers per room. "It's a lot like dorm living," he notes. "With it being so cold, a lot of us avoid going to the chow hall. We eat a lot of Ramen."

The base is located where Saddam Hussein's regime used to train the Iraqi Olympic team. There are softball fields, indoor and outdoor basketball courts, indoor and outdoor Olympic-sized pools and a full weight room.

There is also a 24-hour shopping center, which is the military's version of Wal-Mart. Other comforts of home include a movie theater that plays fairly recent movies, and fast-food establishments like Burger King, Pizza Hut, Popeye's and Subway. USO tours come through from time to time, including a performance by Carrie Underwood.

Clark says he has little contact with the average Iraqi, though he has interacted with Iraqi police and army soldiers. "The general opinion of Americans changes, but the people I have encountered have accepted that we are here."

The biggest obstacle to peace in the country is the animosity between the Iraqis themselves, according to Clark. "I wish the differences between the sects – Sunnis, Shiites and Kurds – would be settled. Only then will Iraq move on to a more peaceful direction."

Clark does not criticize the U.S. mission.

"We are doing our jobs and are proud to represent our country and the people who have served before us," he says.

Still, there's so much he misses about being home.

"I missed the Cardinals winning the World Series," he laments. "I would have had tickets for the games." He also missed his sister's wedding. She understood, though, since she served during Operation Iraqi Freedom I and 2 as a military police officer.

"I hate that I'm missing out on so many important events in my family and friends' lives," he admits.

Clark also misses attending SIU games. Saluki Athletics recently shipped a giant care package of athletic equipment and gear to Iraq for the soldiers to use. He says the teamwork involved in playing for the Salukis helped prepare him for the military.

"Dana Pinkston and I talk about it daily," he says. "We both use our athletic backgrounds and what we learned as members of a team to get us through and make our team here more successful."

When asked what Salukis can do to help, Clark says simply, "Keep us in your prayers. Also say a prayer for the innocent civilians who are caught up in the senseless violence." Will do, Patrick. ■





# A SALUKI IN SPACE


Southern grad Joan Higginbotham  
becomes the University's first astronaut.

BY GENE GREEN



From amid the smoke and steam, Space Shuttle Discovery leaps toward the sky past the lightning mast on Launch Pad 39B on mission STS-116. This was the first night launch since 2002.

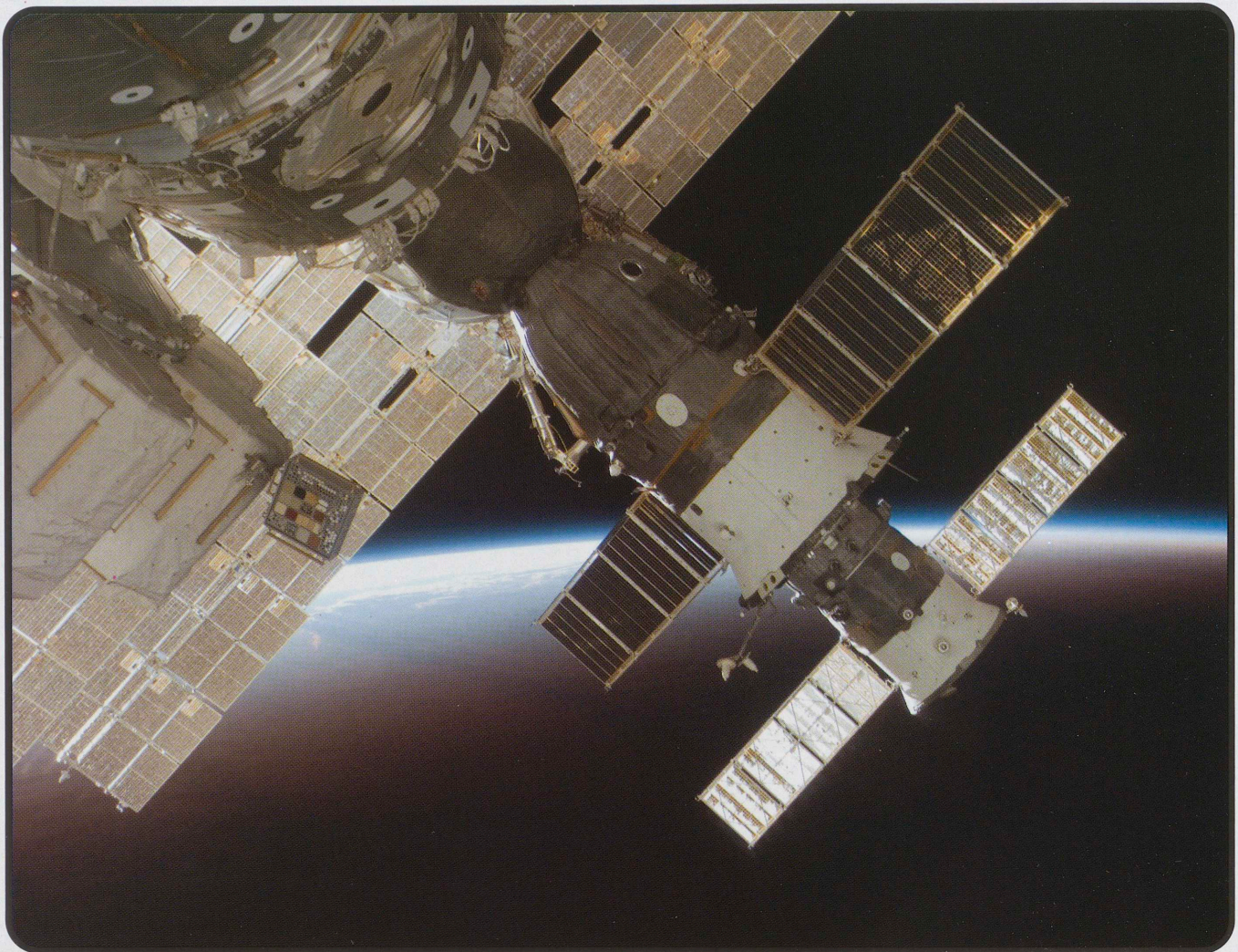
Photo by Reuters/  
Larry Rubenstein  
and Peter Jones

A dramatic photograph of the Space Shuttle Discovery launching at night. The shuttle is the central focus, ascending vertically with a massive plume of fire and white smoke trailing behind it. To the left, the launch pad service structure is visible, illuminated by bright lights. The background is dark, with a large, dark, billowing cloud of smoke or steam on the right side of the frame. The overall scene is one of intense power and light against the dark night sky.

**O**n Dec. 9, 2006, at 8:47:35 p.m., Joan Higginbotham defied the laws of gravity and physics. The 1987 Southern Illinois University Carbondale graduate reached for the stars and showed the world that *Dawgs can fly*.

As part of the seven-member crew on NASA's recent STS-116 *Discovery* mission, Higginbotham took part in a 13-day exercise to the International Space Station (ISS) to rewire the station's power system, retract solar panels, and help prepare the structure for future shuttle crews.





The docked Soyuz 13 (foreground) and Progress 22 re-supply vehicle are featured in this image photographed by a STS-116 crewmember from a window on the International Space Station while Space Shuttle Discovery was docked with the station.

The Chicago native, who had patiently waited for more than a decade for the opportunity, was calm and collected when it came time to enter the space craft.

“I was so **not** nervous,” she said during a post-flight satellite interview, “and actually took several short naps while we were waiting for the launch. Once we were ready to go, I felt great. I was really surprised how smooth everything was. You could feel the acceleration, but it was nothing that made you uneasy.

“When the boosters ignited, we all let out screams of joy. I soon looked out of the window and saw how beauti-

ful the earth looked below. That scene may well have been the most exciting thing I experienced during the entire mission, but you could give me all the time in the world and I probably couldn’t describe how incredible the journey was.”

For Higginbotham, the journey began years earlier – and thousands of miles from – the launch pad at Kennedy Space Center.

#### THE ROAD TO OUTER SPACE

As the youngest of four children, Higginbotham says she was “just a nor-

mal kid” and certainly didn’t dream about becoming something as exciting as an astronaut. “Once I was in school, my basic goal was to do well academically and find a way to earn an engineering degree,” she recalls. “There was no grand plan.”

Higginbotham graduated from Whitney Young High School in 1982. Solid grades and the desire to succeed led her to Southern where her mission was “not to be an astronaut, but to be the best electrical engineer I could be.”

The fact that she earned her degree and immediately went to work for NASA surprised the Southern product and



most of those around her. As Higginbotham explained during a NASA interview, her career plan did *not* include outer space.

“What I had envisioned for myself was getting my electrical engineering degree and going to work for IBM. It seemed like a natural fit at the time because I had interned with them while in college at SIU; they were a good company and thought I would be a good employee.

“However, IBM soon put a hiring freeze on engineers. They offered me a position as a sales associate and said I would move over to engineering once that freeze came off. In the interim someone from NASA had seen my resumé and contacted me to say I would be a good fit for two positions there.”

As fate would have it, she instead put the freeze on IBM. Two weeks after leav-

ing the Carbondale campus, Higginbotham would be standing in front of the space shuttle reporting for duty at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

### STARTING OUT FIRMLY ON THE GROUND

As Higginbotham’s NASA biography describes, she began her career in 1987 as a Payload Electrical Engineer in the Electrical and Telecommunications Systems Division at KSC. Within six months she became the lead for the Orbiter Experiments and later worked on the Shuttle payload bay reconfiguration for all Shuttle missions and conducted electrical compatibility tests for all payloads flown aboard the Shuttle.

Higginbotham was eventually promoted to lead orbiter project engineer Space Shuttle Columbia. In this position, she held the technical lead govern-

ment engineering position in the firing room where she supported and managed the integration of vehicle testing and troubleshooting. She actively participated in 53 space shuttle launches during her nine-year tenure at Kennedy Space Center.

While working at NASA, she returned to school, earned two master’s degrees from Florida Institute of Technology (’92 and ’96), and decided to change her path from supporting space shuttles to flying in them.

In 1995, “after some cajoling from my then boss,” she applied to become an astronaut. Although initially rejected, she was accepted a year later. The wait was worth it, and being chosen was an impressive accomplishment. From an original pool of 2,432 applicants, the Saluki was one of only 35 candidates selected.



Shuttle Launch Director Mike Leinbach (left) greets STS-116 Mission Specialist Joan Higginbotham, Mission Specialist Robert Curbeam and Commander Mark Polansky after their arrival at Kennedy Space Center.





The Space Shuttle *Discovery* crew was, front row (from left), astronauts William Oefelein, pilot; Joan Higginbotham, mission specialist; and Mark Polansky, commander. Back row Robert Curbeam, Nicholas Patrick, Sunita Williams, and the European Space Agency's Christer Fuglesang, all mission specialists.

### REACHING FOR THE STARS

Higginbotham began her training as an astronaut in 1996, reporting to the Johnson Space Center in Texas. She was assigned various technical duties, tested modules of the space station for operability, compatibility, and functionality, and worked with robotics and how that science would interface with the ISS.

Originally scheduled to fly in a September 2003 mission, the loss of the Columbia shuttle delayed her chance for space travel by more than three years.

All the hard work finally came to fruition in December 2006 when Higginbotham joined fellow astronauts Bill Oefelein, Nicholas Patrick, Mark Polansky, Sunita Williams, Christer

Fuglesang and Robert Curbeam for the *Discovery* mission. She became only the third African American female to fly in space, joining Dr. Mae Jemison and Stephanie Wilson in that select group. On the same crew with Curbeam, it also marked the first time two African Americans had ever flown on the same NASA mission.

Although Higginbotham says she was never nervous throughout the launch process, she knew her family and friends were on the edge of their seats.

Prior to launch, her mother, Inez, a retired Chicago school teacher, told WMAQ-TV in Chicago that her daughter's courage to fly did **not** come from her. "It's a challenge for me to ride Southwest Airlines, so I'll leave it at that,"

Inez said. "But whenever I talk with Joan, everything is fine. Of course, she wouldn't let me know anyway."

What her mother *did know* was that the world would soon be watching her daughter's every move. "My goodness – it's really beginning to settle in," she admitted. "This is **really** a big deal."

### A MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Originally set to launch on December 7, the crew of STS-116 had to wait two more days due to weather considerations. Once the craft launched on December 9, however, everything flawlessly fell into place.

The 13-day mission served as the 20th shuttle flight to the ISS, as the crew rewired the outpost's power system and



continued constructing the station by installing the P5 integrated truss segment. *Discovery's* spectacular liftoff marked the first nighttime launch in more than four years.

During the trip, Higginbotham's primary task was to operate the Space Station's Remote Manipulator System, using a robotic arm to move 5,800 pounds of supplies and equipment to the station from the orbiter's payload bay. She and Williams also operated the device to help position the spacewalkers.

As NASA reported, the craft eventually separated from the ISS on December 19 to begin two days of final homecoming preparations, including a focused inspection of the orbiter's heat shield, deployment of three small scientific satellites and a checkout of landing systems. When all was said and done, *Discovery* had delivered a new crew member and more than two tons of equipment and supplies to the station, and almost two tons of items no longer needed on the station returned to earth with STS-116.

During the mission's 12 days, 20 hours and 45 minutes, the crew had traveled 5.3 million miles. When Higginbotham and her fellow astronauts glided into Kennedy Space Center at 5:32 p.m. on December 22, the journey was complete.

### LOOKING BACK AT THE RIDE OF HER LIFE

Despite the technical challenges and danger involved, Higginbotham takes pride in staying calm throughout the mission.

"I had an advantage, because for years I was one of those people who helped get the space shuttle ready," she says. "I know how dedicated the NASA employees are and how they put their hearts and souls into the job. With that in mind, there was no fear that everything would work properly.

"My biggest fear was my own performance: I wanted to make sure that I did my job to the best of my ability, as it is a real team effort. We as astronauts always

## 'HI JOANIE - GO SALUKIS!'

When Joan Higginbotham became the first Saluki in space, several Southern graduates had front row seats at Kennedy Space Center. NASA employs more than 20 SIU graduates at the Florida location, including Shuttle Test Director Jeff Spaulding '87.

As one of two such directors there, the SIU Alumni Association Life Member is responsible for the planning and execution of the shuttle launch countdown activities and the coordination of the final portion of the count through launch.

That duty allowed Spaulding, who was featured in the March 2006 edition of *Southern Alumni*, the opportunity to do something special when it came time to check on the astronauts prior to launch.

"When the astronauts get strapped into the craft, we do a communications check with each person," Spaulding says. "Normally I might call a person by name and say something like 'welcome aboard' or 'glad to have you here,' but when I got to Joanie that first night (December 7 when the mission was eventually postponed) I called her by name and said, 'Go Salukis!' She then answered back the same way. It was pretty nice - I really hadn't planned on doing that."

The NASA audio feed streamed live across the nation, causing countless SIU grads to cheer at the mention of the school's mascot. Two nights later when the *Discovery* mission actually took place, Spaulding went through the same routine, changing his salutation to "Go SIU!" Higginbotham again returned the phrase the same way as her sound check.

"I'm pretty official about the way I

go about things," Spaulding says, "but I must admit I was pleased to do that with her. It wasn't planned or staged - just two SIU grads saying hello to one another."

The Rockford, Illinois, native, who has been in his current position since 2000, points to the STS-116 mission as one of the best he has seen.

"This was a *really* good crew, and the mission - although extremely difficult - was handled in an extraordinary manner. The fact that someone from my school was up there made it all just a little more special."

-Gene Green



Southern grad Jeff Spaulding directs the launch countdown at Kennedy Space Center as part of his duties as Shuttle Test Director.

get the glory and are put in the forefront, but we are just a small part of what makes this program work. Thousands of people have roles to play in making this come about."

Higginbotham, a former recipient of the SIU Distinguished Alumni Award who credits Southern with providing "the sound, basic engineering foundation that

I needed to progress in this field," fondly remembers various faculty and staff who assisted her in Carbondale. She was pleased to find out that her alma mater had hosted an alumni reception in Florida prior to the flight, and that students at the University were watching the launch as a group back on campus.

When speaking to such students,





Higginbotham is all smiles while being fitted with her shuttle gear. She says she was never nervous during the flight, and had total faith in her fellow NASA co-workers. "I know how dedicated they are," she says. "There was no fear that everything would work properly."

Higginbotham is often asked: "How can I become an astronaut?"

"I always tell them not to let anyone deter you," she explains. "There will be detractors who say things aren't possible, but if you have it in your heart and mind – and mix it with a strong will – anything can happen."

And as thoughts drift to possible future assignments at NASA, Higginbotham will take her own advice when pondering an ultimate dream: a mission to the moon or Mars.

"I hopefully will not be too old if that opportunity comes along," she says with a smile. "Just *thinking* about it is exciting." 🙏

*All photos courtesy of NASA.*

## THE HIGGINBOTHAM FILE



**NAME:** Joan E. Higginbotham, 42 years old

**OCCUPATION:** NASA Astronaut

**PERSONAL DATA:** Born in Chicago, Illinois. She enjoys body building (weightlifting), cycling, music, and motivational speaking.

**EDUCATION:** Graduated from Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, Chicago, in 1982; received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in 1987, a master's of management from Florida Institute of Technology in 1992, and a masters in space systems from Florida Institute of Technology in 1996.

**ORGANIZATIONS:** Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., The Gulf Coast Apollo Chapter of the Links Inc.

**AWARDS:** NASA Exceptional Service Medal; Keys to the Cities of Cocoa and Rockledge, Florida; Group Achievement Award for STS-26 Return to Flight; Kennedy Space Center Public Affairs Certificate of Appreciation for Service; Commendation of Merit for Service to the Department of Defense (DOD) Missions; Presidential Sports Award in bicycling and weight training; Outstanding Woman of the Year Award; Outstanding Performance, National Technical Association's 50 Distinguished Scientists and Engineers; Florida Institute of Technology's Distinguished Alumni; Southern Illinois University's Distinguished Alumni; *Essence Magazine's* Top 50 Women.

**NASA EXPERIENCE:** Began her career in 1987 at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC), Florida, as a payload electrical engineer in the Electrical and Telecommunications Systems Division. Within six months she became the lead for the Orbiter Experiments (OEX) on OV-102, the Space Shuttle Columbia. She actively participated in 53 space shuttle launches during her nine-year tenure at Kennedy Space Center.

Selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in April 1996, Joan Higginbotham reported to the Johnson Space Center in August 1996. Since that time, has logged more than 308 hours in space having completed her first mission with crew of STS-116 where her primary task was to operate the Space Station Remote Manipulator System (SSRMS).

**SPACE FLIGHT EXPERIENCE:** STS-116 *Discovery* (December 9-22, 2006). The seven-member crew on this 13-day mission continued construction of the ISS outpost by adding the P5 spacer truss segment during the first of four spacewalks. The next two spacewalks rewired the station's power system, preparing it to support the addition of European and Japanese science modules by future shuttle crews. The fourth spacewalk was added to allow the crew to coax and retract a stubborn solar panel to fold up accordion-style into its box.

– From [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)



# School Of Music Graduate Dazzles In Fox Theatre Production

Jane Brockman's star was shining bright as she prepared to sing the lead role in the Tony-award winning musical, *The Light in the Piazza*, at the famed Fox Theatre in St. Louis.

A graduate of Southern Illinois University Carbondale's School of Music, the New York-based Brockman returned to the Midwest for performances February 9-11.

"Having one of our graduates sing the lead role in *The Light in the Piazza* at the Fox Theatre in St. Louis was exciting," says Robert Weiss, director of the School of Music, part of the College of Liberal Arts.

Weiss and a group of Southern students attended the February 9 performance to "celebrate Brockman's success," he says. "It was especially inspiring for all of our music theater students who sometimes wonder if they will get a big break like this."

Winner of six 2005 Tony Awards, including Best Score, *The Light in the Piazza* wowed audiences on Broadway and the production is now touring nationally.

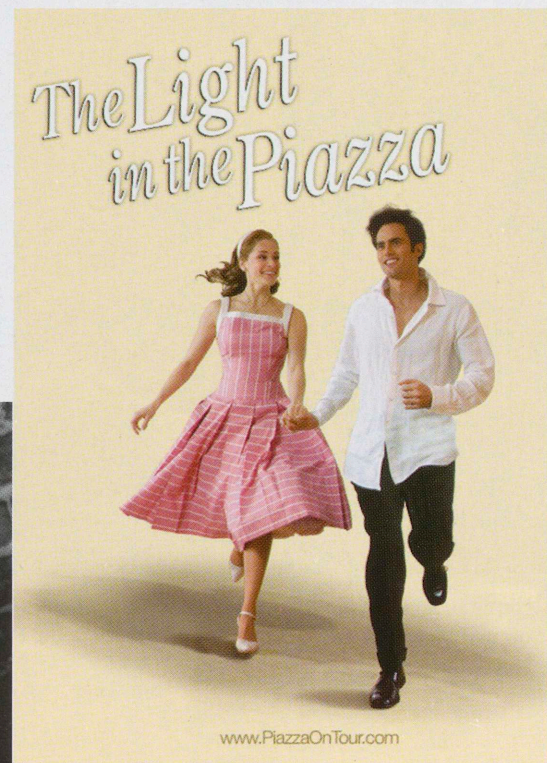
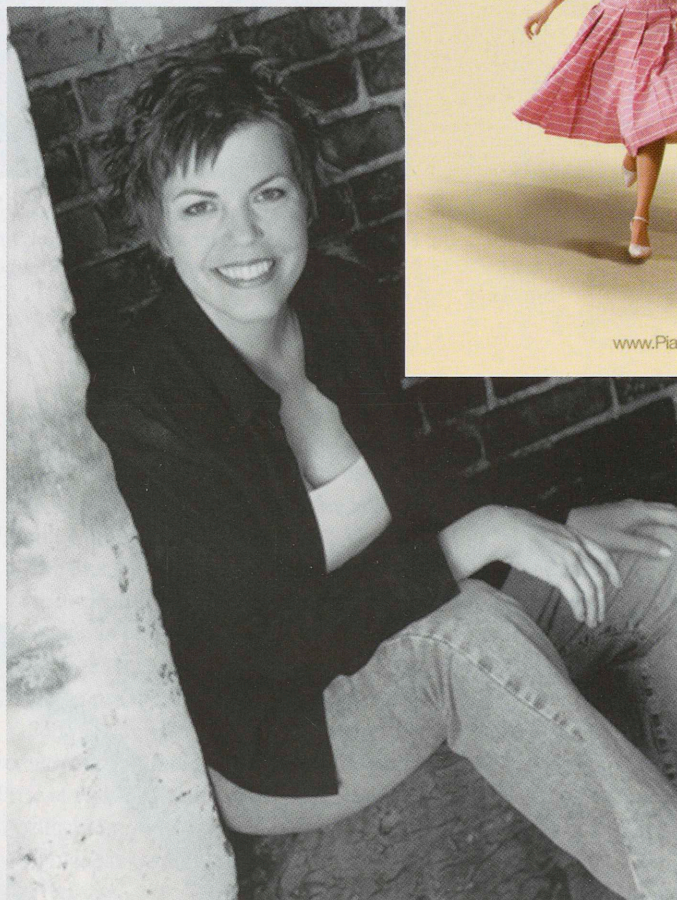
The hectic schedule is nothing new for Brockman. For six years she has performed in *A Christmas Carol* at Madison Square Garden, sharing the stage with the likes of F. Murray Abraham, Tim Curry and Roger Daltrey. She also starred in *Carousel* and *The Sound of Music*.

Brockman, who earned her master's in theatre at Southern in 1989, recently lent her talents to *The*

*Producers* movie directed by Susan Stroman. In addition, audiences may recognize her from her appearances on NBC's "Law & Order SVU," ABC's "All My Children" and in various television commercials.

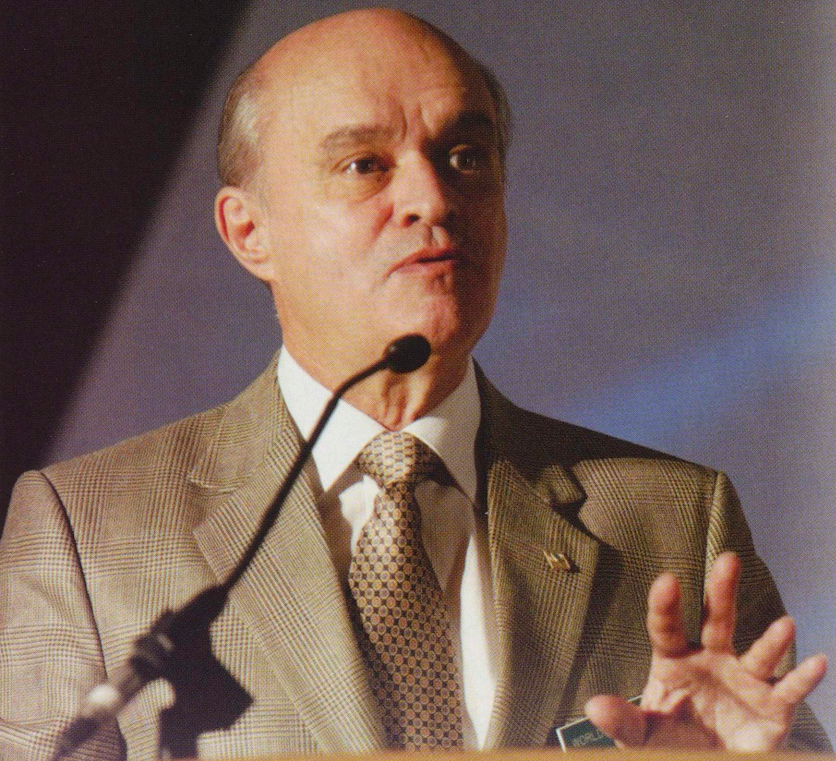
The SIU graduate is "constantly learning and trying to grow as a singer and an actor," she says. "You have to keep working at your skills as a performer so you are ready to audition and book your next job. One of the main things I learned from the

many wonderful teachers and friends I had at SIU is that the journey is never over – to always keep learning and growing throughout your life and career." ■



Jane Brockman, who earned her Master's at Southern in 1989, has appeared in numerous television programs and commercials. Having the opportunity to return to the stage at the Fox Theatre was a special treat. "You constantly have to grow as a singer and actor," she says. "I learned at SIU that the journey is never over."





# *Southern's World Food Prize Winner*

THE WORLD  
FOOD PRIZE

Brazilian native wins award termed  
“The Nobel Prize of Food and Agriculture.”

*By Marianne Lawrence*



World Food Prize winner Edson Lobato, far right, his wife, Ivone, and his SIU mentor, emeritus professor Ed Varsa, attended a lecture sponsored by the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute during a visit to campus last fall. The 1973 SIU graduate won the prize for his work to turn a vast infertile region of Brazil into highly productive cropland.

**E**dson Lobato was welcomed back to his alma mater in Carbondale last fall as the first winner of the 2006 World Food Prize to hail from Southern Illinois University.

The Brazilian native shared with Southern students and faculty the essence of his work to transform the Cerrado, a vast infertile region in his homeland, into highly productive cropland using nutrients along with no-till strategies and an innovative rotation of row crops followed by livestock grazing.

Lobato, who earned a master's degree at Southern in 1973, recently shared the \$250,000 prize – also known as the “Nobel Prize of Food and Agriculture” – with Alysson Paolinelli (former Brazilian Minister of Agriculture) and American Dr. A. Colin McClung. The men were honored for their collective work that





Brazilian Edson Lobato, center, receives a certificate from World Food Prize Chairman John Ruan III at ceremonies in Des Moines, Iowa. At his right is founder of the prize, Dr. Norman Borlaug. Former Brazilian Minister of Agriculture Alysso Paolinelli and Dr. A. Colin McClung, an American researcher, share the prize with Lobato.

took place in different decades and in different fields during a period of 50 years.

He was emotionally moved by the ceremony held in Des Moines, Iowa, calling it an unforgettable experience. "During the event I had to make all my effort not to cry," the SIU alumnus recalls, noting he and Minister Paolinelli represent the first Laureates from Brazil to receive the Prize.

Lobato calls McClung a pioneer who conducted the first studies of Cerrado soil in the late 1950s. He explains that Paolinelli provided the conditions to make a large part of his work possible. "He was the politician who made sure the money and resources were available for our project."

The World Food Prize was founded in 1986 by Dr. Norman Borlaug (see sidebar) to recognize life-saving achievements that increase the quality,

quantity or availability of food in the world. He has called the development of the Cerrado "one of the great achievements of agricultural science in the 20th century."

Lobato earned an undergraduate degree in agronomy engineering from the National School of Agronomy before beginning his research in the Cerrado under the sponsorship of the International Research Institute, the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture.

While doing his research, he became acquainted with Joseph Vavra, a professor visiting from Southern Illinois University. A professional friendship developed and Lobato accepted Vavra's invitation to study and work with him in Carbondale.

He and his wife, Ivone, arrived in Carbondale in 1971 and would soon

need to adjust to more than a new country and different language. The couple's first child was born just two months after they arrived in Carbondale and not long after that Lobato learned that his mentor had accepted another job and would be leaving SIU.

"Those were hard days," recalls Lobato. "It was a quarter system and the professors gave us a lot of material to study. I just had time to swallow it, not digest it," he laughs. With just a small amount of money to live on and a new baby to care for, he says he didn't do much but study. "But that was good because I was here to study and learn."

It was also helpful that Lobato was the only graduate student at that time that had done previous research, with nearly nine years of experience in the study of soil fertility.



## *A Mentor Remembers*

His new advisor and eventual mentor, Ed Varsa, remembers Lobato as a diligent, hard-working student who became the first of many students he would advise. Varsa played a key role in planning the three-day agenda of talks and meetings for Lobato to share his expertise with faculty and students last October and enjoyed being on hand to honor his former student.

"It's quite an honor for this university to have someone with Lobato's stature here, says Varsa, who is now retired.

When Lobato talks about receiving the prize it is obvious how much it means to him. "I was quite surprised to receive it," he declares. "I didn't expect it. The honor is not for one, two or three people, but an award for our country. I believe it is recognition for our country's effort," he smiles.

When Lobato picked up his SIU master's degree in 1973 and returned to Brazil, he was hired as a researcher at the newly established Brazilian Corporation of Agricultural Research (EMBRAPA) in charge of coordinating several programs, including outlining a plan for the Cerrado Agricultural Research Center.

EMBRAPA's challenge was to put the Cerrado, a region named from Portuguese words meaning "closed, inaccessible land," into food production. According to Lobato, facilities and budget for research had been improved to help achieve the government's goal of converting 3 million hectares (the equivalent of 2.2 acres) within a five-year period.

Today the Cerrado has well over 40 million hectares in cultivation – from only 200,000 hectares of arable land in 1955 – and food production has more than tripled.

Lobato's work followed McClung's as he led farmers and extension technicians in the region to implement practices pioneered at EMBRAPA. For a period of time he became a farmer himself.

"I wanted to know what it means to farm," he explains. "I was a weekend

farmer, growing corn and rice and raising some cattle; I no longer have that farm. But at the time it became part of my research and let me talk the farmer's language and understand their needs."


His research focused on soil fertility and agricultural production that over the years came to include new technology in microbiology and soil and crop management. He explains that the keys to the program's success were the combination of nutrients and the timing of their application.

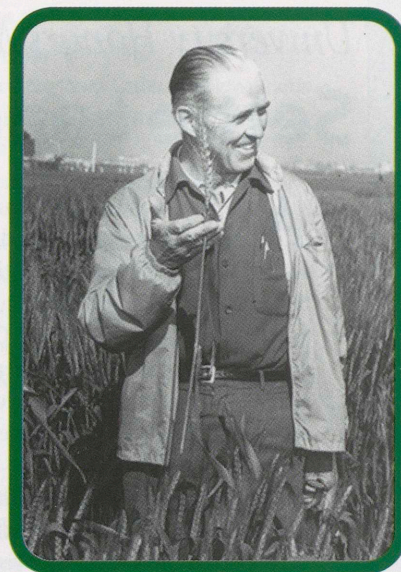
## *Seeing His Research Produce Results*

Lobato says that the most rewarding aspect of his life has been to see good farmland and know that part of his research results were there. "Knowing that I contributed to make things happen is more rewarding than writing a book or research paper," he says. In spite of those feelings, Lobato's publication, *Cerrado: Soil Correction and Fertilization* has become a standard reference for farmers, researchers and students worldwide.

He takes great pride in knowing his work contributed to turning his country around to become self-sufficient in raising food and a major exporter of food. "We transformed this poor land, which many people didn't believe would be proper for agriculture, into a highly productive cropland."

Now retired from EMPRADA, Lobato continues as a consultant for farmers in Brazil and is contemplating some involvement in other countries. The technology has been proposed for use in tropical Africa where soils and climate issues are similar to those in the Cerrado, and also in the plains of Columbia and Venezuela.

As the first Saluki to receive the World Food Prize, Lobato's place in Southern's history is secure and his recollections of days spent at his alma mater remain vivid. "I have good memories of the time I spent at the University and hope to return to Carbondale again." 



## *Facts About The Prize And Its Founder*

The World Food Prize was founded in 1986 by Dr. Norman Borlaug and celebrated its 20th anniversary with the 2006 ceremony that honored SIU alumnus Edson Lobato.

Borlaug, pictured above, is a 1970 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, who founded the World Food Prize to recognize life-saving achievements that increase the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world and to recognize contributions in any field involved in the world food supply.

In December the U.S. House of Representative voted to honor Borlaug with the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor, our nation's highest civilian honor.

Borlaug is believed to have saved more lives through his breakthrough work in agriculture, especially in Pakistan and India, than any other person ever. He is widely credited with ushering in the "Green Revolution," viewed as the greatest period of food production in history.

The annual World Food Prize Laureate Award Ceremony is held in the House Chamber of the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines, drawing more than 800 people from more than 65 countries.

Information taken from [www.worldfood-prize.com](http://www.worldfood-prize.com)



## University Honors Mt. Vernon Superintendent

# Settle Lands Top IASA Honor

A two-degree graduate of Southern Illinois University Carbondale was recently named Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA) superintendent of the year. Mt. Vernon City School District 80 Superintendent Kevin Settle M.S. '81, Ph.D. '93 was selected from more than 800 school superintendents in the state.

Settle was honored by his alma mater during the Saluki men's basketball game on December 20, when he received commemorative mementos from SIU President Glenn Poshard, SIUC Interim Chancellor John M. Dunn, Educational Administration and Higher Education Chair Brad Colwell and IASA Executive Director Brent Clark.

Being recognized by Southern was a special moment for Settle.

"My first thought was what a great honor to be noticed by SIU as a successful alumnus," he says. "Although I already had high respect for the University, President Poshard's administration and the Department of Educational Administration and Higher Education, I am now even more impressed that they would organize an event to honor Dr. Clark and me.

"The presentation was made even more special because my wife, Cheryl, son, Jared, daughter, Hillary, and more than 100 students and staff from my school district were there to share the event with me. What the University did for me that day is an excellent example of how SIU values its alumni."

Colwell, who has known Settle for more than 20 years, takes great pride in the award.

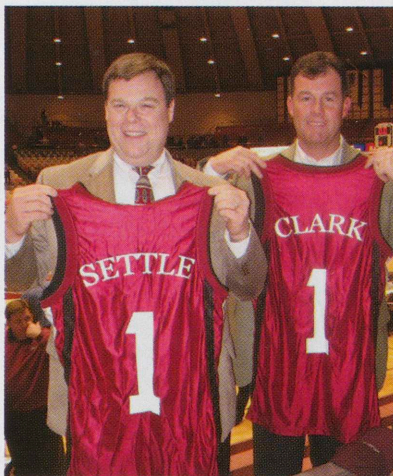
"I first knew Kevin as a high school math teacher and have watched his career with great interest as he has grown into the top school administrator in the state," the University's Educational Administration and Higher Education chair says. "He is a two-degree alum



From left, SIUC Chancellor John M. Dunn, EAHE Chair Brad Colwell, District 80 Superintendent Kevin Settle, IASA Executive Director Brent Clark, and SIU President Glenn Poshard are shown during ceremonies on the SIU Arena floor.

from our department, is held in the highest esteem by our faculty, and is a current member of our department's advisory council."

Settle's accomplishments have more than warranted this type of recognition.



Settle and Clark proudly hold up their Saluki jerseys which were given to them during the presentation honoring Settle for his IASA honor.

tion. During his five years as superintendent, the district's class sizes have gone down, test scores have gone up and money available for technology has increased.

As Illinois' top superintendent, he will take part this year in a national competition sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators and ARAMARK, an international company that, among other things, supplies public school districts with food and building services. A student from the winner's hometown high school will receive a \$10,000 college scholarship.

"One of the key reasons I have been a successful superintendent is the preparation provided by the University," he explains. "The classes were rigorous, and once I graduated, the department continued to support me as my career developed. Because of those reasons and several more, I return to campus at least twice a year to participate in continuing professional development. ■



## APRIL

- 1 Saluki Baseball at Evansville, Evansville, Ind., 1 p.m.
- 1 Saluki Softball at Creighton, Omaha, Neb., noon
- 3 Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri (GCS Ballpark), Sauget, Ill., 6:30 p.m.
- 3 Saluki Softball at SEMO (DH), Cape Girardeau, Mo., 3 p.m.
- 6 **Saluki Softball vs. Drake**, home, 6 p.m.
- 7 **Saluki Softball vs. Drake (DH)**, home, noon
- 7 **Saluki Baseball vs. Valparaiso**, home, 2 p.m.
- 8 **Saluki Baseball vs. Valparaiso**, home, 1 p.m.
- 10 **Member Appreciation Night at the Symphony**, *Broadway Pops*, Shryock Auditorium.
- 10 Saluki Baseball vs. SE Missouri State, Cape Girardeau, Mo., 3 p.m.
- 10 **Saluki Softball vs. Evansville**, home, 4 p.m.
- 11 Saluki Softball at Middle Tennessee State, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 4 p.m.
- 11-13 *Any Day Now*, Moe Lab Theater, Tues.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m., Sat. and Sun. at 2 p.m.



- 13 **SIU Official Class Ring Ceremony**, Student Center Auditorium, 6 p.m.
- 13 **Saluki Baseball vs. Wichita State**, home, 3 p.m.
- 14 **SIU Alumni Member Appreciation Baseball pregame tailgate. Saluki Baseball vs. Wichita State**, home, 2 p.m. 1977 CWS Salukis to be honored.
- 14 **Saluki Softball vs. Missouri State (DH)**, home, noon
- 15 **Saluki Baseball vs. Wichita State**, home, 1 p.m.
- 15 **Saluki Softball vs. Missouri State**, home, noon
- 18 **Saluki Baseball vs. SE Missouri State**, home, 3 p.m.
- 18 Saluki Softball at Tennessee-Martin (DH), Martin, Tenn., 2 p.m.
- 20 Saluki Baseball at Bradley, Peoria, Ill., 6 p.m.
- 21 Saluki Baseball at Bradley, Peoria, Ill., 6 p.m.
- 21 Saluki Softball at Northern Iowa (DH), Cedar Falls, Iowa, noon

- 22 *Wicked* in Los Angeles, Calif.
- 22 Saluki Baseball at Bradley, Peoria, Ill., 1 p.m.
- 22 Saluki Softball at Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa, noon
- 25 Saluki Baseball vs. Saint Louis (GCS Ballpark), Sauget, Ill., 7 p.m. Pregame gathering.
- 25-29 *Urinetown (the musical)*, McLeod Theater, Wed.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sat. and Sun. 2 p.m.
- 27 **Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State**, home, 3 p.m.
- 28 **Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State**, home, 2 p.m.
- 28 Saluki Softball at Illinois State (DH), Normal, Ill., noon
- 29 Saluki Softball at Illinois State, Normal, Ill., noon
- 29 **Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State**, home, 1 p.m.

## MAY

- 1 **Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois**, home, 3 p.m.
- 2 **Saluki Softball vs. Illinois (DH)**, home, 2 p.m.
- 4 Saluki Baseball at Creighton (Rosenblatt Stadium), Omaha, Neb., 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Saluki Baseball at Creighton (Rosenblatt Stadium), Omaha, Neb., 12:30 p.m.
- 5 **SIU Alumni Member Appreciation Softball Pregame Tailgate. Saluki Softball vs. Wichita State (DH)**, home, noon
- 6 Saluki Baseball at Creighton, Omaha, Neb., 1 p.m.
- 6 **Saluki Softball vs. Wichita State**, home, noon
- 10-12 Saluki Softball at MVC Tournament, Normal, Ill., TBA
- 11 **Saluki Baseball vs. Northern Iowa**, home, 2 p.m.
- 12 **Saluki Baseball vs. Northern Iowa**, home, 2 p.m.
- 13 **Saluki Baseball vs. Northern Iowa**, home, 1 p.m.
- 15 **Saluki Baseball vs. Eastern Illinois**, home, 3 p.m.
- 17 Saluki Baseball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., 6 p.m.
- 18 Saluki Baseball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., 6 p.m.
- 19 Saluki Baseball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., 1 p.m.
- 23-26 Saluki Baseball at MVC Championship, Springfield, Mo., TBA

## LOOKING AHEAD

- June 9 SIU Family Day at U.S. Cellular Field
- June 16 SIU Day With The Southern Illinois Miners
- July 12-15 Black Alumni Group Reunion
- July 21 SIU Day at Turner Field
- July 25 SIU Day at Busch Stadium
- July 27 Chicagoland Golf Scramble
- July 28 8th Annual Greater Michigan Alumni Picnic
- Aug. 10 Illinois State Fair begins
- Aug. 19 SIU Day at Wrigley Field
- Aug. 23 DuQuoin State Fair begins
- Sept. 8 SIU at Northern Illinois Tailgate
- Oct. 6 Homecoming
- Oct. 20 Family Weekend



## Luck O' The Irish

### *International Student Follows In Her Father's Footsteps*

by Sun Min

While growing up in Northern Ireland, Gina Breen heard her father, Tom, speak fondly of his time as a college student at Southern Illinois University. Tom Breen graduated with a bachelor of science degree in 1984, and his enthusiasm for his alma mater was so infectious that as long as she can remember, Gina dreamed of following in her father's footsteps.

That dream came true recently, when she received a bachelor's degree from Southern during the College of Liberal Arts commencement ceremonies on December 16. Her parents, Tom and Margaret, flew in for the festivities.

"It is nice to be graduating from the same school as my father because I am an only child and we have a special bond," Breen says. "I am the only opportunity for this tradition to continue."

Breen was able to attend the University thanks to an alumni legacy scholarship, which is part of a special fund available for children and siblings of alumni living abroad. The International Programs and Service office administers the program.

"I am proud of Gina's accomplishments over the past three years, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations upon the completion of her bachelor's program," says Carla Coppi, interim director of International Programs and Services. "I am delighted that she has decided to remain at Southern to continue her graduate studies in foreign languages."

Breen majored in French and Spanish and earned a spot on the Dean's List for five semesters. She began work on her master's degrees in both disciplines in January. "After that, I hope to work in foreign office/consular/embassy work or



Southern Illinoisan Photo

Gina and Tom Breen now share yet another thing in their lives – degrees from Southern. The Ireland natives are shown above enjoying a relaxing moment in the SIU Student Center before December graduation ceremonies.

with the European Union or in tourism," she says.

Like daughter, like father, Tom made his mark at Southern as well. He was a four-year letterman in track and cross country during college and won the 10K race in the Illinois Intercollegiate Track Championships in 1982.

An avid runner, Tom has competed in the World Cross Country Championships five times for Ireland. He spent his life in athletics, first as a competitor then as a

coach and administrator during his 20 years working for the Down District Council in Downpatrick, County Down, Northern Ireland.

Though she's a native of Downpatrick, Breen proudly calls southern Illinois home and says she will dearly miss it when she completes her master's. "I feel Southern is a nice environment in which to come, study, and grow. I like the location, and I have had great experiences here." ■



# The Transitional Years

**Y**ou may have noticed that your role as a family member has changed now that your student is at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. While in the past you were the primary decision-maker responsible for the success of your student, now is the time to let go a bit and trust the student to be responsible for his/her own academic and personal development.

Here are some things you can do to help your student transition into college life:

Be prepared and willing to give up some control. Now is the time for your student to develop a sense of independence and build confidence. Rather than being the sole decision-maker, support the student in making his/her own decisions.

Understand that the transition into college involves much more than academics. This is a stage when issues pertaining to personal and professional identity, social status, and many complex interpersonal relationships must be determined.

Set up a system of rewards for earning good grades. Our entire society is based on the principle of rewarding good performance, and the family is a great place to start. Don't be afraid to use the resources that will help you academically: Faculty or Teaching Assistants, Supplemental Instruction, Writing Centers, etc.

Show interest in your student's college life. Participate to the best of your

ability in family and student activities. For more information please contact the Saluki Family Association at (618) 453-1000 or visit the Website [www.saluki-family.siu.edu](http://www.saluki-family.siu.edu).

Encourage your student to schedule an appointment to complete career assessment tests during his or her sophomore year. Is the student in the right major? Does the student need further information to select a "best-fit" major? Talk to students about proper time management skills.

Keep in mind that graduating in four years is demanding. Employers look for more than just a completed degree; high grade point averages and work experience related to the major is crucial.

Ensure your student is eating healthy. Research has established that poor diet negatively affects learning and may adversely impact your student's grades.

If your student is struggling, encourage them to find appropriate campus resources. Follow up with your student to make sure he/she is getting the needed help. Below are a few helpful numbers:

SIUC Wellness Center-(618) 536-4441 or [www.siu.edu/~shc/](http://www.siu.edu/~shc/)

SIUC Career Services-(618) 618-453-2391 or [www.siu.edu/~ucs/](http://www.siu.edu/~ucs/)

SIUC Student Development-(618) 453-5714 or [www.siu.edu/~studdev/](http://www.siu.edu/~studdev/)

SIUC dining dietician-(618) 453-2649

or [www.housing.siu.edu/dining/dietitian.php](http://www.housing.siu.edu/dining/dietitian.php)

SIUC Supplemental Instruction-(618) 453-1369

The Saluki Family Association and New Student Programs encourage family members or students to contact the office at (618) 453-1000 or visit [www.salukifamily.siu.edu](http://www.salukifamily.siu.edu) for any questions or concerns they might have regarding their University experience.

*-Adapted from the University of Central Florida Student Success Center, Clemson Parents Planning Calendar 2005-2006, SIUC Supplemental Instruction & SIUC New Student Programs*

## Let Us Keep You Connected To Southern

Are you not a member of the SIUC Alumni Association and wondering why you received this issue of the *Southern Alumni* magazine?

The SIUC Alumni Association, in conjunction with the Saluki Family Association, sends this complimentary copy to you. Both Associations encourage alumni, students, friends, and families of Southern to stay connected to Southern via membership in the SIUC Alumni Association. In each edition of the magazine, the Family Association has a page to help students and their families see how to make the most of their college experience.

In addition, membership dues support SIUC Alumni Association programs such as the Super Student Scholarship, Extern Program, pregame tailgates, and more. Find out more about the benefits of membership by visiting us at [www.siu alumni.com/members.htm](http://www.siu alumni.com/members.htm) or call (618) 453-2408. We would love to have you as a member and send you *Southern Alumni* magazine and the *Saluki Pride* newsletter all year long.



The 2007 Student Orientation Advisement & Registration (SOAR) staff at Southern.



## Young Saluki Baseball Team Looks To Sneak Up On Opponents

**S**outhern Illinois University is picked sixth in the 2007 Missouri Valley Conference Preseason Baseball Poll, reflecting the youth of this season's Saluki squad. Evansville (4 first-place votes, 75 pts.) was tabbed the favorite, while Wichita State (5 first-place votes, 69 pts.), Missouri State (64 pts.), Creighton (50 pts.) and Northern Iowa (39 pts.) were also picked ahead of Southern. Bradley (31 pts.), Illinois State (25 pts.) and Indiana State (17 pts.) rounded out the poll.

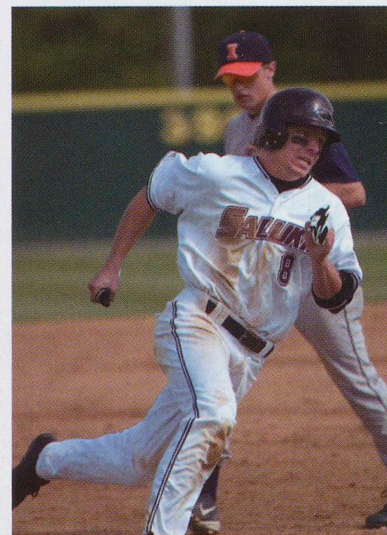
After losing 13 players from a team that went 33-25 and finished fifth in the MVC last year at 12-12, the Salukis enter this year's league play with 16 newcomers. The roster is dominated by the new underclassmen, as well as seven junior college transfers. Only nine upperclassmen return from a year ago.

"We know that we will have to count on some new faces in the lineup this year," says head coach *Dan Callahan*. "I think we will be an interesting team offensively and I'm hoping we can sneak up on some people and maybe become the surprise of the Valley."

Among the position players, senior outfielder *Kevin Koski* is the only Saluki named to this year's pre-season all-conference team. He is also on the 2007 Wallace Watch List, after hitting .300 with 56 runs scored, 11 doubles, two triples, one home run, 29 RBI and 13 stolen bases in 58 starts a year ago.

On the hill, senior right-hander *Jordan Powell* is the lone returning starter from a year ago, and he will aim to be the ace of the staff again this Valley season. A team captain, Powell went 6-6, ranked third in the league in innings pitched, and tied for second in starts.

Junior right-hander *Dusty Baker* and sophomore left-hander *Danny Wells* return out of the bullpen, giving

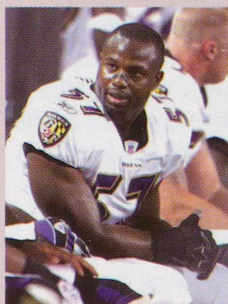


**Kevin Koski**

Southern its top two relievers back from a year ago.

SIU was scheduled to open MVC action on March 23-25, hosting Illinois State University. For the 2007 Saluki schedule, go to [www.siusalukis.com](http://www.siusalukis.com), or check the Calendar of Events in this issue.

### Scott Earns Spot In 2007 Pro Bowl



*Bart Scott '06*, standout line-backer for the Baltimore Ravens, played in the 2007 National Football League Pro Bowl in Hawaii

replacing teammate Ray Lewis (who injured his hand in a playoff loss to Indianapolis). Scott, who was a star defender for the Salukis from 1998-01, led the Ravens in tackles this year with 103. Since the 2002 draft, the Detroit native returned to the University during off-seasons to continue his education. He recently completed his degree in economics at SIU. To see Scott's Web site, go to [www.madbacker.net](http://www.madbacker.net).

### Saluki Women Win MVC Swimming Crown; Men Fourth In Sunbelt Championships

**T**he Southern women's swimming and diving team won 2007 Missouri Valley Championships, edging Missouri State 894-807.5. Illinois State finished third with 740.5, Northern Iowa fourth at 382, and Evansville was fifth at 314.

The Salukis collected three individual awards following the meet, as *Julie Ju* (swimmer of the year), *Cristina Curtuneanu* (diver of the year), and *Chunhua Zhao* (diving coach of the year) were honored. Curtuneanu not only finished in first place in 3-meter diving, she also broke the MVC Championship record with a score of 311.65.

The Saluki men did not do as well in their first-ever Sun Belt Conference Championship, finishing fourth overall with 598.5 points. Western Kentucky won its third title in as many years with 734 points, followed by Denver with 665 points and Missouri State with 627.

Highlighting the day for SIU was junior *Antonio Santoro* taking home Sun Belt Conference Swimmer of the Year honors. He won two individual titles while also swimming as part of the winning 800 Free Relay team.

His 200 butterfly time of 1:47.34 set a new conference while also meeting the NCAA provisional-qualifying mark. Southern's other conference title came in the 400 Free Relay when the team of *Vinicius Waked*, *Gareth McGee*, *Stephan Ackermann* and *Dennis Hedo* won the race with a time of 2:59.61.



## Saluki Softball Picked Second In Valley Poll

For the second year in a row, the Southern Illinois University softball team has been picked second in the Missouri Valley Conference preseason coaches' poll. Illinois State University, the defending league regular-season champion, was voted first by the league's coaches with 86 points and six of nine first-place votes. Southern came in as a close second with 83 points and the remaining three first-place votes.

Wichita State came in third in the preseason poll with 71 points and was followed by 2006 MVC Tournament champion Missouri State in fourth with 57 points. Creighton rounded out the top

five with 54 points. Filling out the rankings are Indiana State in sixth with 47 points, Bradley at seventh (33), Drake at eighth (30), Evansville at ninth (23) and Northern Iowa at 10th (11).

"I think Illinois State is deserving of this recognition because of who returns," says head coach *Kerri Blaylock*. "They have two, four-year starters on the mound, so that doesn't surprise me."

But she expects her squad to be battling for another title, and league coaches showed SIU respect with their votes for the 2007 Preseason All-Valley Softball. Five of the 13 players on the squad are Salukis, as senior pitcher *Cassidy Scoggins*, senior catcher *Amanda Clifton*, junior third baseman *Lauren Haas* and junior outfielders *Tiffanie Dismore* and *Krystal Stein* were noted.

The Salukis return 13 letter winners from last season's squad that posted a 35-13 record and advanced to the team's fourth NCAA Tournament in as many years. One of the biggest strengths of the 2007 senior class is pitching. Scoggins,

the reigning MVC Pitcher of the Year, and *Ashley Hamby* return for their fourth years in the Saluki bullpen.

Scoggins led the team in 2006 with a 26-12 mark, and a 1.09 ERA and 240 strikeouts in 225.1 innings pitched. Hamby stepped in to the No. 2 role and posted a 3.20 ERA in 78.2 innings pitched for an 8-1 record.

Rounding out the senior class is *Clifton*, a 2006 selection to the MVC All-Tournament Team. She finished last year third on the team in batting with a .315 average and also gave the squad leadership behind the plate.

Overall, experience should be what leads the Salukis in conference play this season. One of the hardest jobs for Blaylock will be making out a lineup card – seven of the eight positions have at least one person currently on the roster who logged experience there in 2006.

The Salukis were scheduled to open league play March 17-18 hosting Bradley University. For the 2007 Saluki schedule, go to [www.siusalukis.com](http://www.siusalukis.com), or check the Calendar of Events in this issue.

### Dawgs Win MVC Titles In Men And Women's Basketball

As this edition of *Southern Alumni* went to press, both the Saluki men and women's basketball teams had just captured Missouri Valley Conference regular season titles.

The Southern men were ranked 13th in the nation heading into the Valley Tournament with a 25-5 record (15-3 MVC). Head Coach *Chris Lowery's* squad claimed the regular-season trophy and was the top-seed in the tournament for the fifth time in six years.

The SIU women's basketball team captured its first-ever Missouri Valley Conference crown – and first of any kind since winning the Gateway Conference in 1989-90 – to climb to 18-9 overall and 14-2 in league play with two games left in the regular season. The quick turnaround for Head Coach *Dana Eikenberg's* squad was amazing, as the Salukis logged only a 10-18 record (6-12 MVC) last year.

Look for a full recap of the Basketball Salukis in tournament play, along with photos, in the April edition of *Saluki Pride* newsletter.

### Riley Named League's Top Field Athlete

## Men Third, Women Fifth In Valley Track

The Southern men's track and field team finished third and the women took fifth in the 2007 Missouri Valley Conference Indoor Championships hosted last month at the SIU Rec Center. Northern Iowa won its eighth-straight MVC Championship on the men's side and Wichita State's earned its second-straight women's indoor title.



Brittany Riley

SIU's men scored 62 points and the Saluki women tallied 55 points over the two-day event. Saluki throwers accounted for a combined 52 points of the overall scoring and garnered three individual titles.

*Brittany Riley*, who was named Most Outstanding Field Athlete for the second-straight year, won the weight throw with a MVC indoor championship record toss of 75-10.25 (23.12m) and placed third in the shot put.

Earlier this year Riley made history when she broke the world record in the weight throw at the Gladstein Invitational. Her throw of 80-07.50 (24.57m) surpassed previous world record holder *Erin Gilreath* (24.23m set on Feb. 18, 2005).

On the men's side, *Joe Mueller* won the weight throw and *Brenton Siemons* won the shot put. Mueller posted a 63-02.75 (19.27m) mark in the weight while Siemons registered a 56-01.75 (17.11m) mark in the shot and also finished second in the weight throw.



## This Dawg Was Surrounded By Grizzlies

by Kim Briggeman

Joe Kesler's office was recently decked out just as he wanted it – chock-full of Southern Illinois University Salukis posters, pictures and memorabilia.

"I call it the SIU Dawg Pound," says the president of Missoula's First National Bank of Montana. That was before some University of Montana gremlins infested his bank. They slapped a photo of Montana Head Football Coach Bobby Hauck on his computer screen and others of Grizzly players on his walls. They even rolled in a maroon desk chair with a huge Grizzly logo on the back.

The war was on for Kesler, who earned his MBA from Southern in 1991.

"Everyone gave him a hard time, and we kept on giving him a hard time," says Ashley Sparano, Kesler's retail banking coordinator. And mainly because their prez asked for it.

Kesler was having the time of his life in the week leading up to the Division I-AA quarterfinal game between his alma mater, SIU, and his newly adopted University of Montana Grizzlies. They clashed December 1 at Washington-Grizzly Stadium, and although the outcome (a 20-3 Montana win which ended SIU's season at 9-4) didn't go the way he wished, the final score did little to detract from a week of fun.

Kesler kicked off the week by writing a letter to the editor of *The Southern Illinoian* in Carbondale, home of the



Southern grad Joe Kesler is shown surrounded by Montana Grizzly supporters at his job as president of the First National Bank of Montana in Missoula.

Photo by Michael Gallacher

Salukis and, for 28 years, to Kesler before he moved west last year.

"When I see my beloved Dawgs are about to enter Hellgate Canyon in my new hometown of Missoula," Kesler wrote, "I feel compelled to do my duty to provide on-the-scene reconnaissance in hopes of getting more Saluki fans out here. In fact, I'll offer a bison burger to any fans flying out to root on the Dawgs."

Kesler's 600-word letter was picked up on the paper's Web site and ran on the sports page a few days before the game. In it, he warned that Griz mania is something like his fellow Illinoisans have never experienced.

"People I work with decorate their Christmas trees with nothing but Grizzly

ornaments. It's not uncommon for people to drive five or six hours to each and every game. In short, they are crazy out here about this football team."

Kesler also warned of the noise the Salukis would face at Montana stadium. "The only thing I can compare it to is the St. Louis Rams games, which are, of course, in a domed stadium.."

The letter was inspired by the Salukis' frenetic come-from-behind 36-30 win over Tennessee-Martin in the first round of the playoffs, while the second-ranked Grizzlies were polishing off McNeese State 31-6 in Missoula.

Kesler's son, Bryan, currently a senior at SIU, was at that game and provided his father with updates from the stands.



After the win, he figured he'd rally the Southern troops to get out to Montana for the game.

"Come and ski, shop as we have no sales tax, sightsee as the mountains are really cool," Kesler's letter noted. "But also come and root the Salukis on as I have told everyone they are going to kick the Grizzlies' rears and they will need some help."

The reaction – from his bank, from Missoula, from Illinois – was delightfully rabid.

He walked into a Missoula store that week wearing his Salukis shirt and bought a Diet Coke. "They tried to charge me \$30," he says with a smile. "I pulled up an SIU Web site and one guy wrote: 'Mr. Kesler tells an accurate story, but he'd better have bodyguards if the Salukis win on his way out of the stadium.' I thought that was kind of fun."

Kesler further stirred up things by making a wager on the game with his "archrival in Carbondale," fellow banker John Dosier.

Kesler took the Grizzlies in that one.

"Personally, I'm all for the Salukis but I have to compartmentalize my life a little bit," he says with a laugh. Had Southern won, Kesler would have shipped bison burgers to feed and Moose Drool beer to water Dosier's staff in Carbondale. The Grizzly victory meant selections from Blue Sky Winery and the 17th Street Barbecue in southern Illinois were sent to the Montana bank.

That deal caused the SIU Alumni Association Life Member to be termed by some as a "Grizuki" because he positioned himself to win either way.

"That was creative and accurate," he says with a grin, "because I *am* paying tuition at both UM and SIU." ■

– *Kim Briggeman is a reporter for the Montana Missoulian.*

## Football Lands Solid Recruiting Class

Each year, Saluki Head Football Coach *Jerry Kill* and his staff hit the recruiting trail with a relentless pursuit to bring in great players. The bar has been raised for the Dawgs, as they continue to upgrade a program that has made four-straight NCAA Division I Football Championship appearances, currently the nation's second-longest I-AA playoff streak.

With that in mind, it appears the efforts for 2007 were a big success.

"Our coaches work hard at bringing in great players who can help us get closer to winning a national championship, says Kill. "Academically and athletically, our recent group of recruits is probably one of our better classes."

With the loss of 2006 Payton Award finalist and first-team All-American *Arkee Whitlock*, there's no question the running back situation was addressed. The return of *John Randle* and addition of junior college transfers *Deji Abdul Karim* and *Larry Warner* are expected to help fill that void.

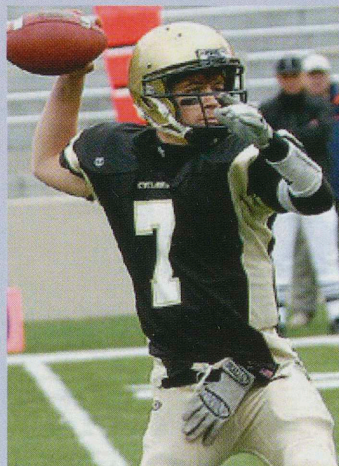
Abdul Karim joins the Salukis from Northeast Oklahoma A&M, where he rushed for 1,972 yards and 25 touchdowns in two seasons. Warner comes to SIU from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. He rushed for 1,237 yards and 12 touchdowns on 169 carries a year ago.

Another key pickup for the Saluki backfield is fullback *Chance Coda*. Coda rushed for 737 yards and 16 touchdowns on 135 carries at Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School last season. SIU graduated its fullback *J.T. Wise* after the 2006 campaign.

"We feel Deji, Larry and Chance can come in and contribute immediately," says Kill.

Finding a kicker, continuing to enhance the speed on defense and adding depth to the quarterback spot were also priorities. *Kyle Dougherty* is another high-profile kicker headed to SIU out of Florida. Dougherty was a three-year starter at Merritt Island High School, where he ranked second in the state. He fills the gap left by former Saluki record-setting and All-American kicker *Craig Coffin*. "Honestly, probably the biggest spot we had to fill was kicker and we did that with a great young man," says Kill. "Kyle is a big addition to our program."

Linemen *Travis Littles*, *Jason Seaman* and *Kendrick Young*, along with several



**Bobby Brenneisen**

defensive backs, including *Mike McElroy*, *Steven Morse*, *Rashad Graham* and *Korey Lindsey*, add to the speed on defense. Linebackers *Connor James* and *Stephen Franklin* are expected to make an impact, as well.

In-state quarterbacks *Bobby Brenneisen* and *Joe Allaria* add depth at quarterback following the graduation of *Jon Cairns*. A native of Springfield, Brenneisen went a perfect 28-0 as a starter and led Sacred Heart Griffin High School to back-to-back 5A State Football Championships. One of the top quarterbacks in Illinois, he led the state with a 68 percent completion rating. A first-team all-state pick, he ranks eighth all-time with 6,409 passing yards, including 3,284 in 2005 and 3,125 in 2006.

Allaria, who hails from Edwardsville, completed 87-of-140 passes for 1,237 yards and

11 touchdowns en route to first-team all-state honors. He also rushed for 902 yards and 17 TDs, as his 2,139 yards of total offense rank second all-time in school history.

*C.J. Robertson* should contribute at tight end following the graduation of *Braden Jones*. The Naperville native was a two-way starter at tight end and linebacker at Neuqua Valley High School. He ranked second on the team in points scored (42) and third in receiving (8 catches, 72 yards and 4 TDs) in 2006.

Southern signed 22 for the 2007 season. ■



# Southern Inducts Four Into Sports Hall Of Fame

**S**outhern recently announced the newest members into the Saluki Sports Hall of Fame. The four-person class features *John Harper* (football), *Rick "Buster" Keeton* (baseball), *Rick Rock* (track and field) and *Paula Smith* (golf).

Here is a look at the newest inductees:

- Harper played defensive line for the Salukis from 1979-82. He was named the Missouri Valley Conference Defensive Player of the Year in 1982 and was selected to play in the Blue-Gray all-star game that year. Harper still ranks among the school leaders in career tackles with 337 and in sacks with 11.

A First-Team All-MVC pick in both 1981 and 1982, Harper was drafted in the fourth round of the 1982 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons, playing 13 games for Atlanta in 1983.

The former Saluki stand-out now works in Memphis, Tennessee, with the Memphis Police Department and is also a minister at the New Life of Hope Church.

- Keeton pitched at Southern from 1976-78 and was a First-Team All-MVC performer during his last two seasons with the Salukis. He still ranks among the career leaders in wins with 25, and winning percentage at .806. A member of the Salukis 1977 College World Series team, Keeton was drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers and played part of two seasons with the big-league club (1980-81). He is still involved in baseball, working as a pitching instructor in Cincinnati, Ohio.

- Rock was one of the most accomplished long

jumpers in the country from 1976-79. He was the MVC champion in both the indoor and outdoor long jump in 1976 and competed on behalf of his native Canada in the summer Olympics that year. Rock earned All-America status in 1977 by finishing third at the NCAA national meet. His outdoor long jump mark of 26-feet, 8-inches still stands 28 years later. Rock resides in Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada, where he is an account executive for MCI of Canada.

- Smith starred on the Saluki women's golf teams from 1964-68. She won numerous individual titles, including the Tri-State (Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky) Invitational in 1967, the Lake of the Woods Open in 1968 and 1969, and the Southern

Illinois Women's Golf Association Championship in 1969.

SIU participated in the national championships each of her four seasons, and Smith was selected to give the senior farewell speech at the National Championship awards banquet. After graduation, she continued to compete, winning back-to-back Illinois Women's Amateur Championship titles in 1971 and 1972. She became the head women's golf coach at the University of Illinois in 1978 and twice guided the Illini to the NCAA Regionals (2002 and 2003) before retiring last spring.

She is also a member of the National Golf Coaches Association Hall of Fame (1997) and the Southern Illinois Golf Association Hall of Fame (1994). ■



Southern Athletics Director Mario Moccia (middle) poses with the newest inductees into the Saluki Hall of Fame. From left, Rick "Buster" Keeton, Rick Rock, Paula Smith, and John Harper.



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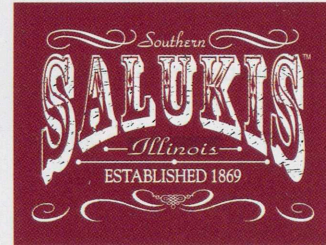
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# Alumna's Heroics To Be Depicted On Discovery Channel

by Sun Min

The heroic acts of one Southern graduate during a house fire in northern Illinois that saved several lives is now the subject of a Discovery Channel documentary.

Terra Engler '06 of Lombard will be featured sometime this year on a show called "True Heroes," which is currently in production on the popular channel. Authorities credit Engler for saving her mother, Gloria Hickey, stepfather, Don Hickey and brother, Troy Engler, during a recent fire sparked by faulty electrical wiring. The fire destroyed their home but Engler's parents decided to rebuild and the family has moved back.

Camera crews traveled to Engler's home to interview the family for the television segment. The experience brought back memories of the horrible fire.

Early on New Year's Day morning, Engler was sleeping on the couch in her family's home when she felt something "bright and hot," she says. Once she opened her eyes, she saw a fire in the hallway across from her younger brother's room.

"I stood in disbelief for about 30 seconds, and then I screamed and awoke my mother and stepfather," Engler recalls. The three ran outside and then Don Hickey went back in to grab Troy, who usually slept wearing headphones because he has special needs.



When Engler was an undergraduate at Southern, she served as a student ambassador at the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. Here she is shown with SIU Alumni Association Life Member Janice Jacobs '68 – currently the U.S. Ambassador to Senegal and Guinea-Bissau – during her 2005 return to Carbondale to present a lecture at the University.

Soon after, Don cried for help.

"He was yelling that he was dying so I pulled my sweater over my nose and mouth and shut my eyes," says Engler. "Using my hands and ears, I went into the house and found my stepfather in the kitchen. I began to pull him towards the door when he collapsed, later we found out he had a stroke from the fire and lost most of his sight. I dragged my stepfather out of the house then I broke the window to my brother's room and pulled him out."

When news of the incident reached authorities, several organizations honored Engler's efforts. She received a Good Neighbor Award from the Township of Lombard and a Heroism Award

from the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association.


"I don't consider myself a hero, and to hear people address me as such astonishes me," Engler says. "To me there was nothing else to do but save my family. It was bad enough watching my home burn down but to have my family in there while it was burning, I could not stand and watch that happen."

Engler was a standout at the University as well. A political science major, she served as a student ambassador for the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and participated in community activities as a member of the Sigma Sigma sorority.

Now employed at the North Dupage Special Education Cooperative as a teacher's aide working with special needs children who are elementary school age, Engler plans to continue her education by attending National Lewis University to work on a master's.







A walk around Campus Lake remains a wonderful memory for many Southern graduates, as sights and sounds encountered during a stroll almost always provides an enjoyable respite from the worries of the day.

Recently Jim Martin '69 took advantage of the area's first measurable snowfall to walk the lake with his camera ready to go. The SIU Alumni Association Life Member, now retired and living in Murphysboro after a 26-year career at Southern, found plenty of activity as a blanket of snow covered the walking trail.

We hope you enjoy Jim's images and perhaps even let the photos take you on a walk down memory lane. ■





## A Centenarian Extraordinaire

by Jim Muir

She rode on dirt roads in a covered wagon, worked in an airplane factory during World War II, taught grade school at the age of 17, lived through the terms of 18 presidents, and as she approaches her first birthday in her second century, she can still recite the Gettysburg Address from memory.

Meet Beulah Goodman Carney, a teacher, philosopher, avid fisherwoman, education enthusiast, full-time Southern Illinois University ambassador and centenarian extraordinaire.

Carney, who celebrated her 101st birthday recently, was on the SIU campus on January 14 to meet with President Glenn Poshard and Chancellor John Dunn and receive a certificate of appreciation.

The meeting took place after Poshard received an e-mail from Carney's daughters, Janet Carney-Schneider, of Nashville, Tennessee, and Judy Carney-Brachear, of Gainesville, Florida. Carney currently lives in a retirement home in Nashville, Tennessee, near her daughter. The Southern president realized as he was reading Carney's remarkable resume that hers was an extraordinary story.

"Beulah is without a doubt one of our greatest living alumni and she still has the ability to share how important this university was four generations ago. What is so impressive to me is that she can teach our younger generation so much, about the history of this university and how really great it has been in serving the needs of the kids of families like hers," Poshard says. "If you consider a generation every 25 years, then you're talking about a span of four generations. What an incredible history lesson."

The inquiry by Carney's daughters also noted she had never obtained a



Southern Illinoisan photo

Flanked by SIUC Chancellor John M. Dunn (left) and SIUC President Glenn Poshard, Beulah Goodman Carney is shown receiving a certificate of appreciation at a recent event on campus.

degree from SIU. While records are not available for the early 1920s when she attended, Poshard says there's the possibility of an honorary degree. He calls Carney "an ambassador for SIU" and plans to ask her back to the campus to speak to different student groups.

"Just think of all the folks she has come in contact with through the years and all the stories she has told," he says. "She loves this place, and I can't think of anybody who could tell the story better than she can. What a mind she has; she's 101 years old and still trying to learn."

### *Birth Of A Teacher*

Carney was born in Marion on Jan. 22, 1906, when Theodore Roosevelt was president. She grew up on a farm in Johnson County, three miles west of Goreville. During her first years of teaching, she rode a horse five miles to school. And her job as teacher didn't stop there; she was also school nurse, basketball and softball coach, and directed all school plays, sewing every costume by hand.

Also in those days teachers were not allowed to marry and she was expected to spend the night with each child to get



to know their families better.

If ever a person was destined to become a teacher, it was Carney. The path to a 40-plus-year teaching career began during her junior year of high school. When a teacher in a one-room country school near Goreville failed a teacher's exam, the local school board approached Carney and her parents about filling in for the remainder of the school year.

Of course, the school board had good reason to choose Carney. Though she was only 17, she already had taken several college courses at SIU, then a teacher's college, and had earned a teacher's certificate.

She started attending classes in 1920 at the age of 14, only because her father did not want her older sister, Mamie, to go to Carbondale alone. Beulah still recalls the day-long ride in a horse-drawn covered wagon from the Goreville farm to Carbondale.

"We had a wagon with a spring seat, and there was nothing but dirt roads from Goreville to Carbondale," Carney says.

She fondly remembered that the wagon contained hams, chicken, sugar, lard and all other essentials for her and Mamie to live at a Carbondale boarding house for the entire summer. The sisters repeated that same process for three summers.

It was during those summers that she fell in love with the campus. "I just loved it here," she recalls. "I just loved everything about it."

Dunn says in the era when Carney attended Southern it was not uncommon for someone to obtain a teaching certificate without a degree. He calls Carney "an extraordinary person."

"During her life, she has touched the lives of hundreds and hundreds of students, enriching their minds and equally important, touching their hearts," Dunn says. "I'm confident that the monetary

rewards have been small, but the satisfaction knowing that she has helped develop the lives of many students and helped them become valuable members of society is great."

Remarkably alert and with an uncanny memory, Carney can still tell story after story about her summers at SIU, a time she described as "magical."

She recalled that Henry William Shryock was the president of the college when she attended. He was a stern disciplinarian, and she remembers "some people called him a bully – and I heard him called other names I won't repeat."

Carney lived on University Avenue and walked to the campus every morning. She also recalled the Allyn Building, Old Main and the auditorium, now named after the stern Shryock.

Janet. John Carney died in 1960, and Carney never remarried. She retired from teaching in 1970 at the age of 64 but continued to substitute teach until she was 87.

Carney credits her love for teaching, education and the opportunity to attend college to her father.

"He never got to go high in school, and he was interested in education," says Beulah. "When I was in grade school and high school and I would come home at night, he would want to know if I had learned a new word that day and what it meant.

"He was interested in education and was determined that my sisters and I were going to go to college. He didn't think my brother needed an education because he could make a living on the farm like he did."

Although she's past the century mark, Carney says the desire to learn has not diminished. She offered as evidence that her favorite television show is "Jeopardy," because it challenges her mind.

Carney credits her longevity to a number of personal choices including hard work, close family

ties and being a teetotaler when it comes to tobacco and alcohol. "I also go to bed early and get plenty of rest," she says.

Because of scheduling conflicts, the certificate was presented to Carney on a recent Sunday morning in the SIU Student Center. While addressing those attending, Southern's Chancellor made note of the unusual time slot.

"Earlier this morning my wife commented to me that I would be missing church because of this ceremony," Dunn told those in attendance. "But, I assured her that I would be in the company of an angel."

– Jim Muir is a columnist for The Southern Illinoian

## "...there was nothing but dirt roads from Goreville to Carbondale."

### Teaching Area Students

After teaching students in first through eighth grades at a one-room school in Goreville, Carney taught for more than 40 years in the Herrin School District.

The only years she didn't teach were in the early 1940s during World War II, when she took her father's advice and went to work to help the war effort. She moved to Detroit, where she worked in a factory that made airplanes.

The trip to Detroit also proved to be a turning point in her life.

She met John Joseph Carney and the couple was married in 1943. At the age of 43, Carney gave birth to daughter, Judy, and at age 45, had a second daughter,





Photo by Gene Green

# LEADING THE WAY

**SIU Alumnus Dick Blaudow donates \$250,000 to establish Engineering Leadership Program.**

**BY GREG SCOTT**

**W**hile growing up in the small farming community of Seymour, Illinois, Dick Blaudow says traditional values were instilled in him. One of these values was the importance of hard work.

A self-described traditionalist, Blaudow says his father's expectations included his sons toiling on the family farm 12 hours a day.

"We all had chores. Work duties came first, and everything else was second," says Blaudow. "In our extra time, we could make money baling hay, scooping corn, or running tractors for other farmers. They paid us about \$1.50 an hour. That is the way we were raised in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

"My father and mother taught us to respect elders, respect the property of other people, be kind, and serve others. Those are traditional values; I enjoy and love traditions. It's a shame our country has given up so many traditions to discretionary thinking."

Blaudow says these values paved the way to future success. A 1970 SIU electrical engineering technology graduate, Blaudow is the founder, chairman, and CEO of Advanced Technology

Services (ATS) Inc. The Peoria-based company provides managed services for production equipment maintenance, industrial parts repair and IT infrastructure support for manufacturers.

ATS employs more than 1,700 people, has five branch offices, and has more than 150 customer-site locations in the United States and Mexico. In May, ATS was recognized as one of the world's top 100 outsourcing providers by the International Association of Outsourcing Professionals.

In the wake of this success, Blaudow pays tribute to his upbringing.

"My father ran various businesses, including gas stations and restaurants. His businesses were always customer-service related," Blaudow says. "My brother and I learned that it was all about serving others.

"Dad always said that people pay you what they think you're worth. I always took what my bosses gave me and came back and worked a little harder the next day. And that is exactly what our customers are thinking today. Your service translates into value."

Brigitte Blaudow, flanked by College of Engineering Dean William Osborne and her husband, Dick, was presented with an engraved ice bucket recently by the University. Although she is an Illinois State University graduate, she has joined her husband in supporting Southern. "This was the College's way of recognizing and saying thank you to Brigitte for her contribution to the Blaudow Scholarship," Osborne says. "We had recognized Dick several times but never Brigitte – she has been just as supportive."

In his words, Blaudow "barely made it through his first years of college." He held student jobs and outside jobs throughout his time at Southern. Upon leaving the University, Blaudow was hired by Caterpillar, a leading manufacturer in Peoria, where he toiled in the maintenance department.

"I told the gentleman who hired me that I wasn't the smartest kid on the block but I'll outwork everyone here," Blaudow says. "He had me for eight hours daily, and I had the other 16 hours to make up for my shortcomings. I ended up spending 12 to 14 hours a day to keep up with the other guys. I have always been willing to work harder than the next guy."

After 17 years at Caterpillar, Blaudow established ATS in 1985, which in his words was "the beginning of a new day."

"These values were instilled in me from my parents, to professors at SIU, and personnel at Caterpillar that believed in me," he says. "I had the confidence in myself and people around me to take a chance and pursue this dream.

"We had ups and downs at the beginning. There were times my wife and I didn't get paid because we needed money to pay salaries; owners get paid last. But we had a dream and moved forward."

And now Blaudow is looking for young aspiring engineers with similar values in pursuit of their dream. Blaudow and his wife, Brigitte, donated \$250,000 to SIU's College of Engineering to create an engineering leadership program.

The program targets community college graduates in the state of Illinois who plan on attending Southern. Recipients receive a two-year scholarship which pays for tuition and fees. In addition, the program includes a paid summer internship opportunity at ATS allowing recipients to attain hands-on manufacturing and leadership experience.

SIU's engineering college is currently recruiting students for the program, which commences this fall semester. Students must submit an application and will compete in an interview process.

"Leadership is hard to find these days. We hire about 50 people a month and have a need for great people who can lead others," Blaudow says. "Our single largest challenge as our business continues growing is finding good people who can lead.

"This is a great way to help the college. It allows ATS to get engaged with young people. Our students can experience real-world work situations and receive leadership training. My intentions would be to hire every one of these students if they meet expectations."

Community college students are a primary focus because they have a higher success rate according to William Osborne, dean of the College of Engineering.

"We're going to invest 14 to 15 thousand dollars in each of these students, so the College aspires to maximize the program's chances for success," Osborne says. "Community college transfers have a higher probability of successfully completing the program than would freshmen; also, in two years we can evaluate the success of this program. On the other hand, if freshmen participated,

we couldn't begin the evaluation process for another four to five years when the first recipient graduates."

Osborne says the program seeks individuals who have similar work ethic and leadership skills to Blaudow. In addition, he says the alum's generosity will lead to a recruiting advantage for Southern.

"This program represents an opportunity for our College to raise its image and brand, particularly with community colleges," Osborne says. "We're hoping this program attracts other major corporations in the state. Eventually, 10 to 15 corporations could be involved. It could have a legacy much larger than any one person. Dick's view is very visionary in this respect."

While participation in the program doesn't guarantee full-time employment, the opportunity is likely to arise at ATS or another Illinois-based manufacturer if the student prospers. Osborne says this is one of the means by which the success of the program will be measured.

"We'll see if our students go to work for industry in Illinois and become successful faster than the average graduate does. Also, will leadership program participants ascend to first-level management positions before the average graduate?" Osborne says.

"Also, we hope this helps us with enrollment. If we recruit a junior college student who is a leader on his/her campus, they will bring the people they influence with them to Southern. This leadership program could ultimately be a significant edge for our graduates and the University."

Bruce DeRuntz, an associate professor who is charged with developing and marketing the program to Illinois community colleges, in addition to mentoring the students in the program, agrees that Southern will derive substantial benefit. He notes that



NASA Systems Engineer and SIU Alumni Association Life Member Shirish Patel (left) chats with SIU Alumni Association Executive Director Ed Buerger and Dick Blaudow at an event hosted on Blaudow's yacht before the recent *Discovery* launch.



## BLAUDOW'S LEADERSHIP BENEFITS SIU AND ATS

Jeff Owens, president of Advanced Technology Services Inc. (ATS) in Peoria, has worked closely with Dick Blaudow for 18 years. Therefore, when he approaches the company's founder with an issue or problem, he can predict Blaudow's response.

"Dick's reply every time is 'Let me know how that works out,'" Owens says. "He is an empowering leader who wants to develop you as a person. He listens to what you're saying, but allows you to solve problems on your own, which fosters professional growth. And that is the type of person we're looking for at ATS."

ATS had 33 employees when it was established in 1985. Today, the company employs more than 1,700 and continues to grow. As the company strives to prosper in the future, Owens says hiring solid professionals with leadership skills is essential. This is the impetus for the Engineering Leadership

Program (see accompany story) ATS is establishing in partnership with Southern.

In addition, the values that Blaudow stresses will not be compromised. ATS staff members must be conscientious and hard-working in their approach to business.

"Dick doesn't demand many things, but his priorities of extending quality customer service and taking care of consumer needs is non-negotiable – this is required of all employees," Owens says. "Our culture is comprised of dedicated people who are fair and honest."

"Twenty-five percent of our staff is former military members. They fit the mold of clean-cut, professional individuals who walk with a spring in their step. You could also liken our company to the Boy Scouts. We're very similar in our approach."

William Osborne, dean of the College of Engineering, also notices similarities in all ATS personnel. While Osborne says Blaudow doesn't put a strong emphasis on grade point average for aspiring ATS employees, he wants young professionals to possess certain attributes.



ATS President Jeff Owens says company founder Dick Blaudow is an empowering leader.

"Dick understands that GPA is just one dimension of a person. It doesn't tell you what is in the person's heart," he explains. "He is looking for people who have potential to be leaders for tomorrow. For example, when you meet military personnel, or a former high school quarterback, they often have these skills."

Some observers may refer to Blaudow's approach as old school. But according to Osborne, those beliefs aren't going out of style anytime soon. "It's worked for him; he's built his company around it," Osborne says. "When you meet his staff, they all fit into the ATS culture of customer service and dedication to quality."

SIU has also benefited from Blaudow's drive and leadership. He served on the SIU Foundation Board of Directors from 1994 to 2001, which included a stint on the board's executive committee. He chaired an advisory board designed to equip a 75,000-square foot addition to the College in the 1990s. The College received \$1,540,000 in gifts and pledges.

In the wake of lending support to establish an engineering leadership program, Blaudow has also sent a letter to engineering alumni – primarily company CEOs, presidents and vice presidents – encouraging them to support the college. He plans to follow up with these individuals by phone. Also, Blaudow's ATS marketing staff has produced a video featuring the leadership program. University officials use the video to recruit eligible students for the program.

Owens says Blaudow's Saluki Pride is no secret to ATS employees.

"Everyone at ATS knows where Dick went to school because he is proud and it's evident during his conversations with us," he says. "He is supportive of Southern. Our company has recruited there and I know Dick always takes an interest in SIU graduates."

And now Blaudow, honored by the SIU Alumni Association as a Distinguished Alumni Award recipient in 1998, hopes to assist his University in prospering at an even higher level.

"The engineering leadership program will provide SIU students with an opportunity to be a part of our team and perform in real jobs. This isn't a backup role or shadowing experience," he says. "Our motto at ATS is to do a little work, make a little money, and have a little fun. We're trying to do all of these things. It will be fun to watch this unfold."

he has created a tag line for the scholarship: "Giving you a career, not just an education."

"Dick's vision to sponsor several tuition and fees scholarships, coupled with the offer for fast-track careers has rewritten the standard for alumni generosity and loyalty," DeRuntz says. "This isn't charity. He is receiving the best and brightest students who will become the next generation of leaders at his company. Imagine what he may have just started if other SIU alums or other universities adopt his same vision."

And imagine if other colleges at Southern follow suit. Michael Murray, chief development officer for the College of Engineering, says this is another exciting possibility.

"Once the engineering leadership program is successful, we're hoping to help other colleges on campus to design a similar program," Murray says. "The impact of Dick's generosity could reach far beyond the College of Engineering."

This potential excites Blaudow.

"Brigitte and I wanted to be alive to see our money impact people and our business in a positive way," he says. "We've had the opportunity to be involved with SIU over the years. This is an opportune time for Brigitte and I to give something back to the University."

Blaudow says his ideal recipient will approach their responsibilities with a positive attitude, have a willingness to work hard, demonstrate commitment, good character and a sense of service.

"I look for people who are willing to work toward a dream. You do the work first and somewhere down the line you'll get paid," he says. "If the first and last thing they think about is their own interests, they have already lost me."

Clearly, one thing Blaudow hasn't lost are values instilled in him on that farm in Seymour 50 years ago.

*For more information about the College of Engineering Leadership Program, contact Michael Murray at (618) 453-4321.*



# Memphis Mayor Boxes Smokin' Joe Frazier For Charity

**W**hen community leaders decided to organize a fund-raising event that involved former World Heavyweight Champion Joe Frazier, Memphis Mayor Willie Herenton supported the idea. That was before the SIU alumnus discovered that *he* would be opposing Frazier in the champ's "comeback."

A three-round boxing match pitting Herenton against Frazier was held November 30 to benefit Shelby County Drug Court, an alternative program to the traditional court process. Non-violent drug offenders receive intense treatment and counseling through the program, as opposed to serving jail time. And when Drug Court's board of directors needed to generate additional funding, it decided to dust off the mayor's boxing skills.

"Drug Court isn't fully funded through the government. Therefore, it created a board of directors that is comprised of outstanding citizens in the city of Memphis," Herenton says. "They came up with this fund-raiser that involved someone *boxing* Joe Frazier. Believe it or not, they came to me."

Frazier's boxing credentials have been well-documented. Affectionately known as Smokin' Joe for his punishing blows, the Hall of Famer held the heavyweight title from 1968 to 1973. His career is highlighted by three legendary fights with boxing icon Muhammad Ali. An Olympic gold medal winner, the 62-year-old Frazier compiled a 32-4-1 record with 27 knockouts before retiring in 1976. He currently runs a boxing gym in Philadelphia.

The boxing ring isn't anything new to the mayor either. The Memphis native was an AAU boxing champion as a teenager long before making history by becoming the city's first African American mayor. He won several amateur boxing titles as a teenager.

Herenton, who idolized boxing greats Joe Louis and Sugar Ray Robinson, was offered college boxing scholarships to Idaho State, Washington State, and Wisconsin. At 17, he gave serious thought to pursuing a professional boxing career in Chicago. Herenton, however, who earned a doctorate from Southern in 1971, decided that pursuing a career in education was a better course of action for him. He subsequently served as superintendent of schools in Memphis before commencing his political career.

"I think I could have been a champion," Herenton says. "But I decided to pursue a career in education."

Herenton, who trained at the Memphis City Police Department, had some advantages heading into the bout with Frazier. At 62, he is four years younger than The Champ. Additionally, the 6-foot, 6-inch lean mayor had a reach advantage over his 5-foot, 11-inch opponent.

But Herenton is quick to add, "It was Joe Frazier who fought Muhammad Ali—*not me*. That is why I trained. I knew what I was getting myself into."

However, a visit with Marvin Frazier, the son of the former champ, the night before the fight altered the mayor's approach.

"Marvin said his father was in no condition to fight. He asked me not to hurt or embarrass him,"

Herenton says. "There weren't any vicious punches thrown. We touched each other lightly; it was choreography basically."

Fans were seated at tables surrounding a boxing ring during the black-tie extravaganza in the Peabody Hotel of downtown Memphis. Guests enjoyed filet mignon with port wine sauce during a pre-fight dinner. The Frazier-Herenton match-up was the featured attraction on a night that included two preliminary bouts.

"It was a gala event. There were corporate and civic leaders in attendance," Herenton says. "ESPN, *Sports Illustrated*, and *Ebony* magazine covered the affair. I had no idea it would receive this much attention."

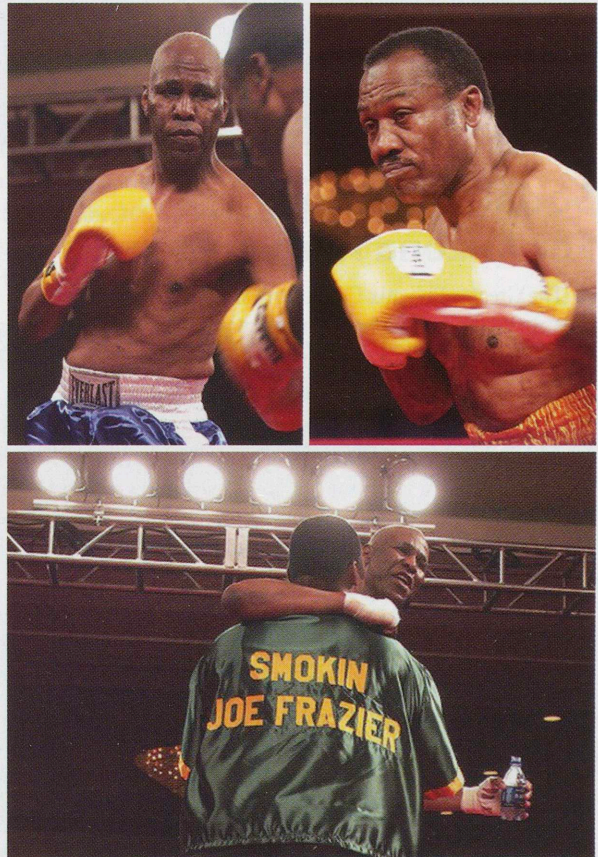
Frazier and Herenton received a rousing ovation from spectators afterwards. More than \$100,000 was raised for Drug Court, which exceeded its original

goal. Prior to the fight, Frazier told *USA TODAY* that he wasn't sure he had the powerful left hook he was known for during his career. However, Herenton's feelings for The Champ remain in tact.

"I have nothing but the utmost admiration and respect for Frazier. He was a devastating puncher who remains one of the best boxers to ever enter the ring," Herenton says.

Herenton, who plans on writing a book following his political career, will seek an unprecedented fifth consecutive term as mayor of Memphis in October. Although the political passion is still present, the SIU alumnus admits with a smile that he has no plans to don his boxing gloves again anytime soon.

"I'm too old," he laughs. "But God has certainly blessed me." ■



Top left, Memphis Mayor Willie Herenton shows his form in the ring, while boxing legend Joe Frazier, right, throws a punch. After the exhibition, the Saluki and the former champ embraced in the ring.



## Jackson County Chapter Awards Banquet Honors Simon

The Jackson County Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association recently hosted their annual awards banquet at the Dunn Richmond Economic Development Center. A total of 130 alumni and friends attended, and Mary Ellen Curd Simon was honored as the 2006 recipient of the "Service to Southern Award" for her contributions and her endless community involvement and selfless giving.

In 1959, Simon started her career at Southern as a teacher in the English department, retiring in 1973. In 1997, she received Carbondale's "Citizen of the Year" award for her outstanding contributions to the city, and has long been active with the Carbondale School District, developing intergenerational volunteer programs for students and teachers. The SIU Alumni Association Life Member was named an "Illinois Woman of Achievement" in 2001 and continues to be active in the community as a member of the SIU Annuitants Board, SIU Foundation Board, the Woman's Club of Carbondale, and other organizations.

Five recipients of the Jackson County Scholarship Awards were also named, as Andrew Giritharan, Jessica Grammer, Natalie Rambeau, Amanda Reiff, and Nicolas Steffan were honored. Jessica Camden, the recipient of the Jackson County Family YMCA Scholarship, was also recognized.



Jackson County Chapter President Kitty Mabus presents the "Service To Southern" award to Mary Ellen Curd Simon.

## Social Gathering For Arizona Alumni

The Greater Phoenix Club of the SIU Alumni Association hosted a "Saluki Social" at the Greasewood Flat, known as the original stagecoach stop in Scottsdale, Arizona. More than 50 alumni and friends gathered to mingle, as club representative Dave Barger '91'93 was instrumental in coordinating the event. More than 2,800 Southern alumni reside in the greater Phoenix area, and several former Salukis are shown below enjoying the Saluki Social gathering in Scottsdale. To meet fellow SIU alumni and participate in future activities, please contact Barger at [go\\_salukis@cox.net](mailto:go_salukis@cox.net).



## Dillard Joins SIU Alumni Association Staff



Kathy Dillard

Kathy Dillard recently joined the SIU Alumni Association as director of Alumni Public Relations. She replaces Greg Scott, who took a new position in Institutional Advancement as director of Development Communication.

Dillard, a 1990 graduate of Southern, comes to the Association after serving as Coordinator of Marketing and Public Information at the SIU Student Center. She says she is

looking forward to her new position. "The Alumni Association staff has always been terrific to work with, and I am looking forward to being a member of such an exceptional team."

SIU Alumni Association Executive Director Ed Buerger says Dillard will bring a wealth of knowledge about marketing and public relations to this position. "It's going to be exciting to have her on board," he says. "She will be an excellent addition to our outstanding staff."

Dillard lives in Carbondale with her husband, Brad, and two daughters, Morgan and Kristen. She and her husband are life members of the SIU Alumni Association.



## Old Spice Classic In Orlando, Florida

The Central Florida Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted two pregame gatherings during the inaugural Old Spice Classic Basketball Tournament. There were 60



From left, Nancy, Stephanie, and Rich Kirshner relax before action in the Old Spice Classic.

alumni and friends in attendance at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex. The attendees watched a close overtime loss to Arkansas, but witnessed SIU victories against Minnesota and Virginia Tech. The efforts of the alumni

volunteers from the Central Florida chapter were led by Terry and Carol Gannon and Jim and Martha Greenwood.

## Pre-Shuttle Launch Reception

In honor of Joan Higginbotham being the first Saluki in space, a reception was held on December 6 for alumni and friends working in NASA and central Florida alumni. The event was co-hosted by the SIU Alumni Association and the College of Engineering.

College of Engineering Dean Bill Osborne and SIU Alumni Association President Sheri Hunter welcomed the 40 guests in

attendance. A short presentation from NASA employee and Southern alumna Angie Brewer, detailed information about the shuttle flight and crew. Representing the University were Development Officer for College of Engineering Mike Murray, Director of Planned Giving Yvonne Spencer, SIU Alumni Association Executive Director Ed Buerger, and directors Gene Green and Argus Tong.

## Union County Bus Trip To Bowling Green

The Union County Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association organized a bus trip for 39 alumni and friends to Bowling Green, Kentucky, to watch Southern take on Western Kentucky in a non-conference men's basketball match-up. The group was rewarded with a 75-70 Saluki win over the Hilltoppers. SIU Alumni Association Board Member and Union County Chapter President George Welborn organized the event.

## Saluki Fever Across The Nation

With the men's basketball success in recent years, many games have been televised on national television. Because of this, more and more alumni chapters have been able to host watch parties, including Salukis who gathered for game action in Chester, Chicago, and Springfield, Illinois; and groups in Atlanta, Detroit, Phoenix, St. Louis, and St. Petersburg.

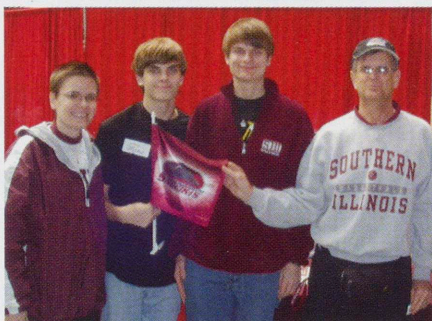
## Men's Basketball Gathering In California

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 37 alumni and friends at the Soda Activity Center for a pregame reception prior to the SIU-St. Mary's College game in Moraga, California on December 23. The short program included a welcome by interim Chancellor John Dunn (middle row, far right) and Athletics Director Mario Moccia. The Salukis pulled off a victory, beating the Gaels 66-61 at the McKeon Pavilion. Representing the Alumni Association were Past President and President of the Los Angeles Chapter Mimi Wallace and Director for Off-Campus Programs Argus Tong. Chapter president Ed Edelman invites all San Francisco Bay area graduates to stay connected and participate in future activities.





## Alumni Receptions In Normal and Peoria



From left, Karen, Mike, Tim, and Nick Harkovich enjoy the pregame activity at Illinois State.

A total of 87 alumni and friends gathered at the Horton Field House for a pregame reception prior to Southern's basketball game against Illinois State.

Representing the Association

was board member Howard Spiegel and Director for Off-Campus Programs Argus Tong. The efforts of alumni volunteers Chuck Bernardes, Vince Madonia, Ron Rice, and Dave Saldino played a key role in the event, and Saluki fans went home happy as Southern defeated the Redbirds 68-49.

Forty-seven Salukis attended the pregame reception at the Pere Marquette Hotel in Peoria prior to men's basketball game against the Bradley Braves. The program included a welcome by Executive Director Ed Buerger and Athletics Director Mario Moccia.

## St. Louis Area Chapter Activities

More than 80 alumni and friends attended the second Annual Trivia Night hosted by the St. Louis Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association. The event was organized by the executive committee of the chapter and assisted by alumni volunteers. The event raised scholarship dollars to benefit high school seniors in the St. Louis and metro east area planning to attend Southern Illinois University.

Some upcoming St. Louis activities include SIU Day at the Zoo on April 21, Salukis vs. Billikens baseball gathering on April 25, SIU Day at Busch Stadium on July 25, and Under the Stars at the MUNY (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*) on August 4. Please check the Web site [www.siualumni.com](http://www.siualumni.com) for more information about these events.

## Greater Michigan Chapter Enjoys Dinner And Dawgs

The Greater Michigan Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted their annual dinner party at the Dave & Busters Restaurant. A total of 40 alumni who attended also were able to watch the Salukis play the Creighton Bluejays as part of ESPN's rivalry week.

In attendance from the University were Automotive Technology Chairman Jack Greer, Associate Professor Mike Behrmann, CASA Constituent Development Officer Michael Ellis, and SIU Alumni Association Director Argus Tong.

The chapter will host their annual picnic at the Kensington Metro Park on July 28. For more information, please call the SIU Alumni Association office at 618-453-2408 or check [www.siualumni.com](http://www.siualumni.com).

## Presidential Scholarship Golf Scramble Set May 18

The 2007 Presidential Scholarship Golf Scramble, hosted by SIU President Glenn Poshard, will be held on Friday, May 18. The event will be played at Hickory Ridge Public Golf Center, 2727 W. Glenn Road, Carbondale.

Lunch will be available at 11 a.m., with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. An entry fee of \$125 will be charged, with all proceeds used for scholarships to attract Illinois' best and brightest students to Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Sponsorships are available. For additional information, please contact Bryan Vagner at (618) 453-4913 or e-mail him at [bvagner@siu.edu](mailto:bvagner@siu.edu).



## Board of Directors Ballot

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

Only the votes of dues-paying members are valid in this election. Ballots must reach the alumni association offices no later than noon on **April 13, 2007.**

### Director for Re-Election (four year term)

- | A                        | B                        |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Steve Falat '87, Murphysboro, Ill.                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sheri Hunter '76, M.S.'88, Marion, Ill.             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Richard Reynolds '56, M.A.'57, University City, Mo. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sandra Smith '72, Chicago, Ill.                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Howard Spiegel '75, Buffalo Grove, Ill.             |

All candidates are life members of the SIU Alumni Association.

### Please return your ballot to:

SIU Alumni Association • Attn: Board of Directors Election • Colyer Hall • Southern Illinois University • Carbondale, IL 62901-6809

Name of person(s) voting:



## Union County Chapter Fund Raiser June 23

The Union County Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association will be hosting a fund raiser at the Great Boars of Fire Lodge in Anna on Saturday, June 23. All proceeds benefit the Union County High School Scholarship Fund, which awards deserving high schools seniors from Union County who will be attending Southern. The 2006-07 scholarship recipients were Timothy Hinkle, Sarah Pitcher, and Lucas Roney.

## Chicagoland Golf Outing

The 18th Annual Chicagoland Fund-raiser will be held at the Chevy Chase Country Club in Wheeling, Illinois on Friday, July

27. There will be a shotgun start at 9 a.m., with dinner following the event. All proceeds benefit Saluki Athletics.

This event has raised more than \$274,000 since 1989, and sponsorships are still available. For additional information, please contact George Robinson at (618) 453-5408 or at [grob@siu.edu](mailto:grob@siu.edu).

## The Color Purple In Chicago

The SIU Alumni Association will be hosting a reception and the 2 p.m. matinee Broadway performance of *The Color Purple* July 1 at the Cadillac Palace Theatre. Details are now being finalized. Due to the popularity of the performance and a limited block of tickets, sales are open to only Association members until April 23. After that day, tickets will be open to all alumni and friends, subject to availability. Deadline for all reservations is May 7.

## SIU Family Day At U.S. Cellular Field

The 6th Annual SIU Family Day at U.S. Cellular Field will be held Saturday, June 9, when the Chicago White Sox host the Houston Astros. The game begins at 2:55 p.m. (subject to change), with a pregame tailgate set to begin at 1 p.m.

This event has grown over the years, as more than 400 attended the 2006 tailgate and game. Come and join the fun with fellow Salukis. Tickets are limited, so order early. For more information or to register for the event, please contact Bryan Vagner at (618) 435-4913, or e-mail him at [bvagner@siu.edu](mailto:bvagner@siu.edu).



Enjoying the 2006 event were, from left, Mike Davids, Forrest Fairall, Mike Kochniarczyk, Paul Conti, Seymour Bryson, and Tom Koutsos.

## SIU Days At Wrigley Field And Busch Stadium

The date for the 30th annual SIU Day at Wrigley has been scheduled for Sunday, August 19, as the World Champion St. Louis Cardinals take on the Chicago Cubs. The game time has yet to be determined due to television considerations. A pregame gathering at the Cubby Bear will take place two hours prior to the game.

The 23rd annual SIU Day at Busch will be held on Wednesday, July 25, as the Cardinals host the Cubs in a 7:10 p.m. start. There will be a pregame event, although details are not yet available.

No ticket orders are being accepted yet for either event. Please check [www.siualumni.com](http://www.siualumni.com) for details about ticket availability and cost. Due to the popularity of these two events, tickets are open only to SIU Alumni Association members.

## SIU Day With The Southern Illinois Miners

The Williamson County Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association will be hosting an SIU Day on June 16 with the Southern Illinois Miners. This is the inaugural season for the Frontier League squad. For more information, please call the SIU Alumni Association office at (618) 453-2408 or watch [www.siualumni.com](http://www.siualumni.com) for more details.

## SIU Day At Turner Field

The Greater Atlanta Club of the SIU Alumni Association will host its 2nd annual SIU Day at Turner Field on July 21. The game will feature a Braves-Cardinals match-up. For more information, please call the SIU Alumni Association office at (618) 453-2408 or check [www.siualumni.com](http://www.siualumni.com).



## Hall-Of-Famer Verdie Cox

One of Southern's legendary athletes passed away recently, when Verdie Cox '42 died in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, after an eight-month battle with cancer. Cox, 87, starred in athletics at Southern from 1938 to 1942, becoming the first University athlete to letter in three different sports (basketball, football and tennis) in his first three years.

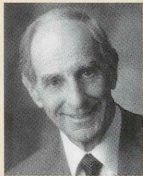


Cox, who played quarterback on the SIU football team and started every game during his four years, would add two more letters his senior year for a total of 11 – a record which would stand at Southern until 1958.

Following his playing days, he served in the Coast Guard during WWII and then began a 32-year career at Michigan Tech University as a teacher and coach, retiring in 1981. He is a member of both the SIU and MTU halls of fame.

## Community Leader Robert Ferrari

Bob Ferrari '51, M.S. '52, a prominent area businessman who twice owned Herrin's WJPF radio station and served as a primary force behind creating HerrinFesta Italiana, died recently at age 77.



Ferrari was co-owner of Herrin landmark The Lombard Café, the driving force behind the HerrinFesta Italiana and the Coal Miner Memorial, and also the owner of a number of properties and businesses throughout Herrin. An avid runner, he was one of the founding members of the River to River Running Association.

## Alumni Deaths Spring 2007

**WHITLOCK**, Marniece, '29  
12/04/06, Mt. Vernon, Ill.

**ZIMMER**, Edgar O., ex '29  
11/18/06, Waterloo, Ill.

**COFFMAN**, Ann Pelley, '30  
11/11/06, Anna, Ill.

**COCKRUM**, Emmett E., '31; '35  
11/11/06, Marion, Ill.

**BRANCH**, Kathleen S., '32  
01/06/07, Salem, Ill.

**BRIESACHER**, Leta R., '32; '48  
01/10/07, Belleville, Ill.

**WALKINGTON**, Marjorie L., '32  
12/11/06, Kinnmundy, Ill.

**RODD**, Lenora B., '34; '39  
12/15/06, Marion, Ill.

**GHEHT**, Lucille (Christman), ex '36  
01/08/07, Columbia, Ill.

**KARRAKER**, I. Oliver, '36  
11/23/06, Princeton, N.J.

**LASSETER**, Angie G., '36  
01/15/07, Marion, Ill.

**GOODMAN**, Coy, ex '38  
12/06/06, Rome, N.Y.

**LENT**, Loyd W., ex '39  
11/27/06, Ocala, Fla.

**HARDCASTLE**, Velma E., ex '40  
01/21/07, Oakley, Ill.

**PANKEY**, Mary O., ex '40  
01/02/07, Carbondale, Ill.

**RODD**, Theodore E., '40  
12/17/06, DeKalb, Ill.

**GAROFALO**, Emelyn M., '41  
11/20/06, Copiague, N.Y.

**GARRISON**, Mary Margaret, '41; M.S.Ed. '56,  
12/23/06, Johnston City, Ill.

**JACK**, Florence H., ex '41  
11/20/06, Nashville, Ill.

**TOWNS**, Arthur L., '41  
12/12/06, Wilmington, Ill.

**CHURCH**, Cecil E., ex '42  
01/24/07, Harrisburg, Ill.

**KELLER**, Dennis I., ex '43  
01/05/07, Grand Tower, Ill.

**SENTENEY**, George W., '43  
11/05/06, DeKalb, Ill.

**STORK**, Nathan L., ex '43  
12/06/06, San Mateo, Calif.

**DEASON**, Everett L., '46; M.S.Ed. '78  
11/21/06, Okawville, Ill.

**BOATMAN**, Loren F., '47  
12/09/06, Decatur, Ill.

**DUNCAN**, Velma C., ex '47  
12/16/06, Golconda, Ill.

**PULLEY**, George J., '48  
01/06/07, Belleville, Ill.

**BICKEL**, Lester A., '49; M.S.Ed. '50  
01/06/07, Collinsville, Ill.

**BOZARTH**, Thelma J., '50  
11/28/06, Tuscola, Ill.

**COLBORN**, Robert W., '50; M.S. '60  
01/20/07, Winnebago, Ill.

**DeWULF**, DeLores (Williams), '50  
04/27/06, Collinsville, Ill.

**McCOLLUM**, Leslie, '50; M.S.Ed. '56  
11/18/06, Herrin, Ill.

**PIRTLE**, Harry C., '50  
12/24/06, Jacksonville, Ill.

**WHIDDON**, Bonnie (Schultetus), ex '50  
01/01/07, Johnston City, Ill.

**BURKETT**, Kenneth H., '51  
01/01/07, Benton, Ill.

**CLARK**, Virginia N., '51  
01/25/07, St. Louis, Mo.

**DOERNER**, Carl D., ex '51  
11/12/06, Norris City, Ill.

**CARR**, Robert L., '52; M.S.Ed. '55  
11/19/06, Ann Arbor, Mich.

**SHANN**, Burton L., ex '52  
10/29/06, Olney, Ill.

**TRAVELSTEAD**, John W., ex '51  
01/30/07, Carbondale, Ill.

**ALLARD**, Victor S., ex '53  
12/19/06, Vergennes, Ill.

**SILVERS**, Curtis R., ex '53  
01/15/07, Philadelphia, Penn.

**ABERCROMBIE-WILLIS**, Mary Ann, '54;  
M.S.Ed. '56  
01/25/07, Lake of Egypt, Ill.

**KEAN**, Ila (Reed), '55  
01/23/07, Huntsville, Ala.

**KOENIG**, Edward E., '57  
11/05/06, Murphysboro, Ill.

**COKER**, Lowell E., '58; M.S.Ed. '59; Ph.D. '64,  
01/15/07, Keokuk, Iowa

**COMPTON**, Robert G., ex '59  
08/13/06, St. Augustine, Fla.

**YANCEY**, Ronald D., '59  
12/02/06, Lecanto, Fla.

**HARTLINE**, John W., '61  
11/21/06, Herrin, Ill.

**SCHROEDER**, Anne W., ex '61  
11/24/06, Makanda, Ill.

**CARGAL**, Dorla B., '62  
11/05/06, Johnston City, Ill.

**DEATON**, Wesley D., '62; M.S.Ed. '68  
01/17/07, Marion, Ill.

**STEPHENSON**, Catherine (Smith), '63; M.S. '70,  
11/20/06, Maryland Heights, Mo.

**EDWARDS**, Larry B., '64  
11/23/06, Thompsonville, Ill.

**RYBERG**, Ralph, M.S.Ed. '65  
11/24/06, Milwaukee, Wisc.

**DeANGELIS**, Richard, '66; M.S. '77  
01/18/07, Carbondale, Ill.

**GROSVENOR**, James Parker, '66  
11/05/06, Tallahassee, Fla.

**LAMPLEY**, Mary P., '66  
01/07/07, Arvada, Colo.

**FARNER**, Carol H., '67; M.S.Ed. '75  
12/09/06, Marion, Ill.

**PAPPAS**, James M., M.S. '67  
12/27/06, St. Cloud, Fla.

**PETERSON**, Janet L., '68  
01/23/07, Whitefish, Mont.

**RENSHAW**, Thelma A., '68  
12/30/06, Thebes, Ill.

**TOLKA**, Larry L., '68  
12/28/06, Odin, Ill.

**DAILY**, Juanita L., '69; M.S. '72  
12/31/06, McLeansboro, Ill.

**FINLEY**, Paul E., '69  
12/17/06, Davenport, Iowa

**HANCHETT**, Richard F., '69  
11/21/06, Westminster, Md.

**REED**, Dana Keith, '69  
01/02/07, Washington, N.J.

**ABBOTT**, James Michael, '70  
11/02/06, Lincoln, Ill.

**PAVY**, Robert D., '70  
01/06/07, Highlands Ranch, Colo.

**BASS Jr.**, Paul L., '71  
10/15/06, Robinson, Ill.

**ARTHUR**, Gary D., '72; M.S. '75  
12/26/06, Coralville, Iowa

**BARNETT**, Barbara J., '72  
11/19/06, Fox River Grove, Ill.

**CRABINE**, John S., ex '72  
11/11/06, Springfield, Ill.

**DAVIS**, Paul W., ex '72  
10/31/06, Herrin, Ill.

**HUNSLEY**, Jay P., '72  
11/20/06, Virden, Ill.

**LEWIS**, Wesley J., '72  
01/21/07, Springfield, Ill.

**BIGGERSTAFF**, William L., '73  
11/11/06, McLeansboro, Ill.

**PAULTER**, Pamela S., '73  
11/29/06, Steeleville, Ill.

**WINTER**, James A., '73  
12/06/06, Waterville, Ohio

**BROWN**, Michael H., '74  
11/09/06, Alexandria, Minn.

**DEAHL Jr.**, William E., Ph.D. '74  
12/10/06, Lincoln, Neb.

**SAUL**, James O., '75  
10/22/06, Centralia, Ill.

**GOWINS**, Michael K., '76  
12/13/06, Marion, Ill.

**KOPRUCKI**, Mark E., '76  
11/18/06, Columbus, Ohio

**HASKINS**, Debri (Janello), '76  
11/26/06, Gulf Breeze, Fla.

**LORRAWAY**, Kenneth J., '78  
01/04/07, Australia

**WADDELL Jr.**, Ellis L., '80  
12/14/06, Bonneau, S.C.

**MacKENZIE**, Ferrol J., '81  
03/24/06, Ballantine, Mont.

**MURPHY**, William M., Ph.D. '81  
11/05/06, St. Louis, Mo.

**NANCE**, Thomas C., J.D. '81  
09/20/06, Nashville, Tenn.

**PARSHALL**, Howard C., '81  
11/06/06, Bremerton, Wash.

**ALLEN**, Philo R., '82  
01/09/07, Belfair, Wash.

**PEHL Jr.**, Thomas L., '83  
10/26/06, Vallejo, Calif.

**HAMILTON**, Dale Roy, '85  
11/09/06, Sesser, Ill.

**FEVER**, Janet M., Ph.D. '87  
11/29/06, Columbia, Ill.

**BOYD**, Darci D., '88  
04/29/06, Stillwater, Okla.

**HAYWARD**, Candice P., '88  
12/02/06, Anna, Ill.

**LEHMAN**, Leslie V., '90  
01/03/07, Monticello, Ill.

**LAWRENCE**, Cindy L., '92  
12/20/06, Marion, Ill.

**COREY**, Donna M., '93  
09/14/06, Whittington, Ill.

**IZER**, Sharon L., '94  
12/31/06, Port Ludlow, Wash.

**LEE**, Kenneth B., '99  
12/23/06, Bremerton, Wash.

**STRICKLIN**, Timothy L., '99  
11/23/06, Webster Groves, Mo.

**MADDOX**, Kevin P., '00  
01/17/07, Enterprise, Ala.

**ASHBY**, Charles E., '01; M.S.W. '03  
10/31/06, Marion, Ill.

**PAGE**, Loni S., '05  
11/28/06, Harrisburg, Ill.

**YORAMA**, Jessica Barida, '05; graduate stu-  
dent,  
11/09/06, Carbondale, Ill.

**BROWN**, Tommie S., student  
12/04/06, Cave-in-Rock, Ill.

**HAMMER**, Jon Michael, student  
01/21/07, Murphysboro, Ill.

## Faculty & Staff

**BENDER**, Eleanor G., M.S. '62  
Emerita Faculty, Rehab Department  
01/09/07, Carbondale, Ill.

**BURGETT**, Jo Ann  
Emerita Civil Service, Secretary  
Department of Psychology  
11/27/06, Murphysboro, Ill.

**CLOSSON**, Michael D.  
Emeritus Civil Service, Building Services  
12/04/06, Murphysboro, Ill.

**CLARK**, Charlotte R.  
Emerita Civil Service, Catalog Reference  
Librarian, Morris Library  
12/30/06, Carbondale, Ill.

**HAYS**, Robert Dean  
Emeritus Civil Service, Contract Painter  
12/23/06, West Frankfort, Ill.

**JOHNSON**, Evert A.  
Emeritus, Art Director and Curator University  
Museum  
11/11/06, Carbondale, Ill.

**KAPLAN**, Harold M.  
Emeritus, Chair, Physiology Department  
11/28/06, Oklahoma City, Okla.

**POLSTON**, Rita June, '80; M.S. '89  
Emerita, Lecturer, Department of Math  
01/21/07, Grantsburg, Ill.

**ROUSE**, Lynne (Turner)  
Emerita Civil Service, Reception Manager  
School of Medicine  
11/18/06, Springfield, Ill.

**TABOR**, Harry J., '55  
Emeritus, Broadcast Engineer, WSIU TV  
01/19/07, North Fort Myers, Fla.

**WALLACE-HOUSE**, Mary Elaine  
Emerita, Professor of Voice  
01/12/07, Rockwall, Texas

**WAYNE**, Carolyn Sue, '70  
Emerita Civil Service, Library Technical  
Assistant III,  
12/06/06, Carbondale, Ill.

**WIDDOWS**, Joe  
Emeritus Civil Service, Director,  
Buildings and Grounds Maintenance  
11/28/06, Carbondale, Ill.



Alumni listed in maroon are SIU Alumni Association members.

## 1960s

**Jeff Harris '67** of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, has been elected president of the state's 1,500 member Florida



Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

## 1970s

**Dr. J. Robert Morray, M.D. '74** has accepted an appointment as Professor of Medicine at All Saints University in Dominica (Caribbean).

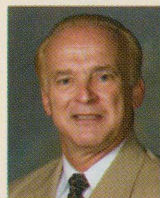
**Brad Targhetta '74, '75**, is the majority stockholder of Targhetta & Wooldridge

Funeral Homes Inc., with funeral homes in the Illinois communities of Brighton, Medora and Shipman. The company is a recipient of the 2006 National Funeral



Directors Association (NFDA) Pursuit of Excellence Award which honors funeral homes for their outstanding service to families, commitment to the community and dedication to upholding the highest ethical and professional standards. The funeral home was also awarded the "Best of the Best" award from NFDA.

**Steve '73** and **Sherry '76 Bielinski**, and **Mike Young '94** (next column, top to bottom) were among the 67 new Southern Baptist missionaries appointed October 31 at the Show Me Center in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, were three



Mission Board's trustee meeting held in St. Louis.

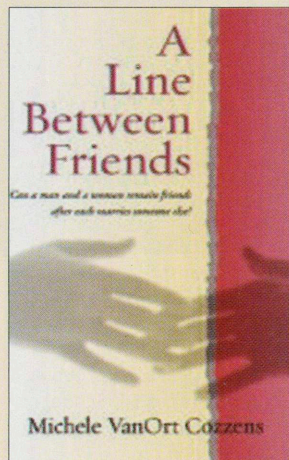
**Melvin Terrell Ph.D. '78**, Northeastern Illinois University vice president for student affairs, was honored twice recently. He received the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Region IV-East Award for "Outstanding Performance as a Senior Student Affairs Officer" and was recipient of the 2006 Monarch Award established by the Xi Nu Omega Chapter of Kappa Alpha Sorority. The Monarch salutes outstanding African American men in the Chicago area for contributions to their professions and communities.

**Bonnie Hughes '79** has been named to the Financial Planning Association national board of directors. She began serving a three-year term on January 1. Hughes is president of A&H Financial Planning and Education Inc. in Kennesaw, Georgia. She has a long-standing interest in elder care and a strong dedication to pro bono financial planning services. In addition to her new position with FPA, Hughes holds a leadership position with the South

Region board of the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors.

## 1980s

**Michele VanOrt Cozzens '82** is winner of the McKenna Publish Group's fiction contest with her first novel, *A Line Between Friends*. The novel, based on a couple who were classmates at SIUC, is available in paperback from amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. Cozzens has also authored a memoir, *I'm Living Your Dream Life: The Story of a Northwoods Resort Owner*, and a collection of essays called *The Things I Wish I'd Said*.



Cozzens and her husband, Mike, own Sandy Point Resort and Disc Golf Ranch in Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin. The couple has two daughters.

**James Derk '83** has authored *Hungarian Rhapsody: An Adoption Story*, which tells about the adoption of six of his eight children from an orphanage in eastern Europe. He works for General Electric, and his wife, Kimberly, is pursuing a master's degree from SIUC. The family lives in Newburgh, Indiana.

**Donald Torry '83, M.A. '85, Ph.D '89** has been awarded a five-year federal grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to study



## Sigma Kappa Sorority Reunion

Fourteen Southern Illinois University Carbondale alumnae gathered in Springfield, Illinois, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their chapter of the Sigma Kappa Sorority. In the front row, from left, are Beverly Field Hall '58, Sandra Unger Malone '58, Peggy Taylor Vayette '57, Jane Lawder '58, who portrayed Mary Lincoln as part of the weekend festivities, Sally Clark Carr '58, Marsha Van Cleve-Sosnowska '60, and Marie Turnipseed Childers '60. Standing are Barbara Absher Eidson '59, Edith Hamilton Mueth '58, Charlotte Hoffman Drew '57, Carol Keeney Winter '57, Rachel Barbour Pavlic '57, Jeanne Barbour Drone '57, and Pat Cook Hunsaker '57.



## Mary Carroll Joins Development Staff In Chicago Region

A professional with extensive experience in government and not-for-profit organizations has been hired to increase fund-raising efforts for Southern Illinois University Carbondale in the Chicago region.



**Mary Carroll '85**, a Chicago native, assumed the role of associate director of Institutional Advancement/Chicago region on January 16.

"I am grateful for the first-class education Southern provided me. It is a true honor to serve my alma mater in this capacity," the SIU Alumni Association member says. "SIU no longer receives the same level of financial support from the federal and state government as it did in the past. Therefore, raising private funding from our alumni, friends, and corporations is essential to offering young people a top-quality education at this institution.

"I look forward to reaching out and working with our many alumni and friends in the Chicago area to enhance support of SIU." She returns to her alma mater after serving as a Regional Outreach Representative at the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

preeclampsia, a leading obstetric complication that refers to low levels of oxygen or nutrients being delivered to babies in the womb. The SIU School of Medicine researcher joined the faculty in 2000.

## 1990s

**Willie Hey, Ph.D. '91** has written a book titled *The Hawks Last Flight: Our Quest for a Championship*. The book is a true story that chronicles the last basketball team that made the state playoffs from Marthaville High School in Marthaville, Louisiana, from which Hey graduated in 1978. Hey, who was raised in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, was a four-year letterman, three-time all-district, three time all-Natchitoches Parish, and one-time all-state basketball player at Marthaville High School. Hey's book can be purchased online

at [www.airleaf.com](http://www.airleaf.com) and at selected book stores.

**Jennifer Rodgers '96** has been appointed director of



Family and Support Services at SPARC Inc., a not-for-profit organization that serves

children and adults with developmental disabilities in central Illinois. She previously worked as a contracted service coordinator for Dane County Human Services in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Matt Booker JD '99** was recently named a partner in the Springfield office of Heyl,



Royster, Voelker & Allen. He joined the firm in its Springfield office following

graduation from law school, and concentrates his practice in the defense of medical malpractice claims for doctors, clinics, dentists and long-term care facilities. Prior to law school, Booker worked as an emergency room nurse at Pekin Hospital.

**D. Shane Koch '99** has been named editor of the *Journal of Teaching in the Addictions*, the official journal of the International Coalition for Addiction Studies Education. He is also co-editor of the *Relocation Counselor and Education Journal*. Koch is currently an associate professor in

the Rehabilitation Institute at Southern and is nationally recognized in the area of preparing counselors to serve persons with coexisting disabilities. "We intend for the *Journal of Teaching in the Addictions* to become the pre-eminent journal for exploration of the diverse issues of interest to addictions educators," he says. Koch, his wife, **Ronda '94, M.S. '99**, and their three children reside in De Soto, Illinois.

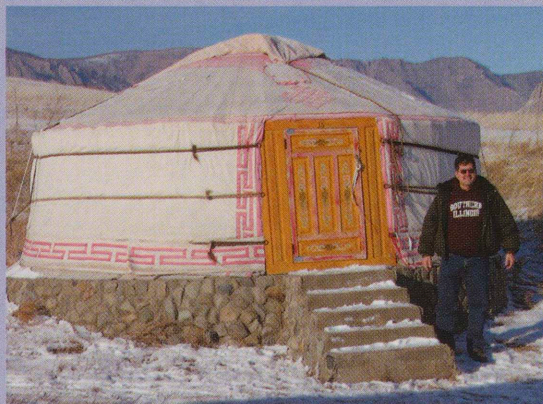
**Sokrates Frantzis '99** sends his greetings to fellow alumni and says he is relocating to Los Angeles from Portland to advance his acting

## Dawgs In Mongolia

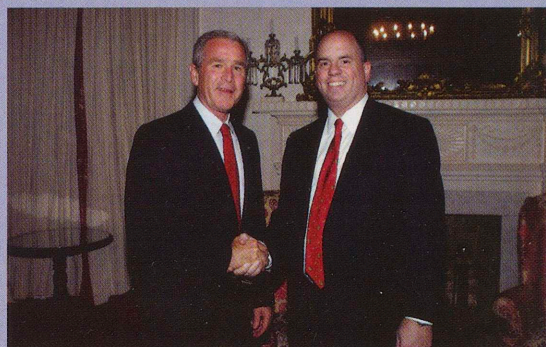
**Michael Iacomini '80, M.S. '85**, a senior wildlife inspector for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Georgia, and fellow Southern graduate **Rebecca Elliott '94, M.S. '96**, a special agent for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in South Carolina, recently provided training to various Mongolian governmental officials on various wildlife trade and law enforcement issues. The alumni became the first FWS Law Enforcement Officers to visit Mongolia.

The training was to teach Mongolian customs and inspection agents skills considered "international best practice" in wildlife protection and enforcement that will allow them to reduce habitat encroachment, poaching, illegal wildlife trade within Mongolia, illegal exports of Mongolia's wildlife across its borders, and more effectively meet Mongolia's obligations in preventing illegal wildlife trade.

"Both Rebecca and I feel our experiences and education at SIU has been a major factor in our success with the Fish and Wildlife Service," says Iacomini, shown below in front of a traditional Mongolian "ger" during a visit to a Mongolian National Park.







## Southern Grad Meets The President

After dealing with two of the busiest and highest-impact hurricane seasons in the history of the federal government, **Berl Jones '86** had the opportunity to meet President George W. Bush after months of emergency operations briefings. He continues his 20-plus year emergency management career working for the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Headquarters as the Deputy Chief, Recovery Division, Individual Assistance Branch.

When not at FEMA, Jones enjoys his volunteer time as a firefighter. He and his family attended their 20th year SIU Homecoming this past October, finding and taking full advantage of Pag's Pizza, Booby's and Mary Lou's. The alumnus says, however, that the search continues for the Great American Tap and T.J's.

career. "I'd love to hear from alumni in LA, even if they're not in show business," he says. "I'm generally good about maintaining my alumni connections, and last summer helped organize and host SIU alumni here in Portland, Oregon." Frantzis can be reached at [sfrantzis@comcast.net](mailto:sfrantzis@comcast.net).

## 2000s

**Belinda Anderson '00** and fellow Saluki **Jason Scrogam** were wed recently in Davenport, Iowa. The two met in April 2000 while attending SIU. Although they left Carbondale in December 2000, the couple remains active in alumni events by attending SIU Days at Wrigley Field and U.S. Cellular Field and return to

campus every year. Belinda is the program coordinator for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and handles all program development, fundraising and public relations for the MDA of the Quad Cities. Jason is a chemist for Nestle



Purina PetCare Company, testing raw materials and writing training procedures for the plant. Following a honeymoon in Sint Maarten, Netherland, Antilles, the couple resides in Davenport, Iowa.

**Lesley Cooper '02** recently was named director of Development and Communications at SPARC Inc., a not-for-profit organization



that serves children and adults with developmental disabilities in central Illinois. She previously served as the events coordinator at United Cerebral Palsy Land in Lincoln.

**David Carney '03** is owner and landscape designer for VIP Landscape and Petals Floral shop in Tell City Ind. Carney, who formerly played basketball



under Bruce Weber at SIU, bought the business in 2003. The firm was recently honored with a business award by Schweizer Fest Inc. and Perry County Chamber of Commerce.

**April Yasunaga '03, SIU School of Medicine**, a resident in the internal medicine program at Wake Forest University



Baptist Center, is the 2006 recipient of Amanda's Award from the Domestic Violence Community Council. The award is given to a healthcare provider who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to screening patients for domestic violence and providing them with information about local resources.

**Rubina Ahmed MBA '05** recently earned the IPRS (International Postgraduate Research Scholarship) to work on her doctorate. This award is the Australian government's highest ranked scholarship for research degree. She started the program in February.

## Alumni Respond To Recent E-mail Blast

When Joan Higginbotham '87 was recently launched into space, the SIU Alumni Association sent out an informative e-mail blast describing the event to thousands of alumni across the country. We received many responses, including several from proud Salukis who wanted to report others with connections to NASA.

In addition to Higginbotham and Shuttle Director **Jeff Spaulding '87**, Salukis such as Norm Tokarz '87 (chief for International Space Station and Spacecraft Processing at Kennedy Space Center, Angela Brewer '83 (flow director for the Space Shuttle Atlantis), and **Shirish Patel '91** continue to make their marks in Florida.

Many other SIU products are also active with NASA, as this small sampling of e-mail responses illustrates:

- Charles Koren '82 of Rolling Meadows, Ill., contacted us to report that fellow graduate Dave Rechkemmer '84 worked on the space station portion of Higginbotham's recent *Discovery* mission.
- This from **Mike Milburn '65** of Papillion, Neb.:

*"It should be noted that another SIU Alum, Don Beckmeyer '86, is the Director of the Shuttle's Main Engine Program. Don, my brother-in-law, graduated from the College of Engineering and is part of an impressive team of Salukis keeping the USA number one in space!"*

- Steve Roney '74 of Cape Canaveral, Fla., was proud to write and say:

*"You have another Saluki who is involved in Aerospace. I work for United Space Alliance at Kennedy Space Center and have been involved in aerospace for 25 years. I graduated from SIU in 1974 and received my Masters from Webster University (same branch as Eileen Collins, the first female commander) in 1998 in management and technology. I am a Senior Safety Engineer and work retrieval and disassembly. Go Salukis!"*

Thanks to all who took the time to respond to our e-mail communication. The launch of *Discovery* STS-116 appeared to be a proud moment for Salukis everywhere.



# A Step Back In Time



Published by the Western View Co., Rock Island, Ill.

## **NORMAL UNIVERSITY, Carbondale, Illinois.**

WELCH & JUNGINFELD, Architects, St. Louis, Mo.

WICKWIRE & BOYLE, Contractors, Cairo, Ill.

### **Photograph of Southern's First Building Sees Light of Day**

A recent auction purchase has shed new light on the first building at Southern Illinois University. Judy Travelstead '68, a Friends of Morris Library board member, acquired the rare photograph at a Union County auction. She and her husband, Will M.S. '69, Ph.D. '74, are Life Members of the SIU Alumni Association and have been collectors of southern Illinois Americana for the past 35 years. The image first appeared in the winter issue of Morris Library's newsletter, *Cornerstone*, and it is believed that was the first publication of this rare photograph – 132 years after it was taken. The construction material in the foreground of the image suggests it was taken just after the building's completion in 1874. Library Affairs Dean David Carlson says, "It's a wonderful image that harkens back to this University's earliest days, and I'm glad that Judy Travelstead has allowed us to share it with the community." The photograph's caption indicates that the architects were Welch & Junginfield of St. Louis, Missouri, and the contractors were Wickwire & Boyle of Cairo, Illinois. The building's cost was listed as \$215,000. The building was destroyed by fire in November 1883 and was eventually replaced on the same site by Old Main, completed in February 1887, which in June 1969 was also consumed by fire.



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# Life Membership Was The Perfect Gift

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*A*claimed nature photographer Tom Ulrich returned to Southern recently to present an exhibit of his images taken during 2006. Sharing his wildlife photos – this time featuring the Falkland Islands, Glacier National Park, Costa Rica, Brazil and sites around North America – is something the 1971 graduate has done in Carbondale over the years.

Ulrich's return in February, however, was a bit different. He rolled into town as a life member of the SIU Alumni Association, thanks to a Christmas gift from College of Science Assistant Dean Linda Martin '75, M.S. '97.

"Most people have someone special in their family or circle of friends for whom buying a gift is a challenge," says Martin. "Anyone who knows Tom knows that he is *not* a material guy. Knowing how he values his association with SIU and his time spent here, I wondered if he would appreciate a life membership to the SIU Alumni Association.

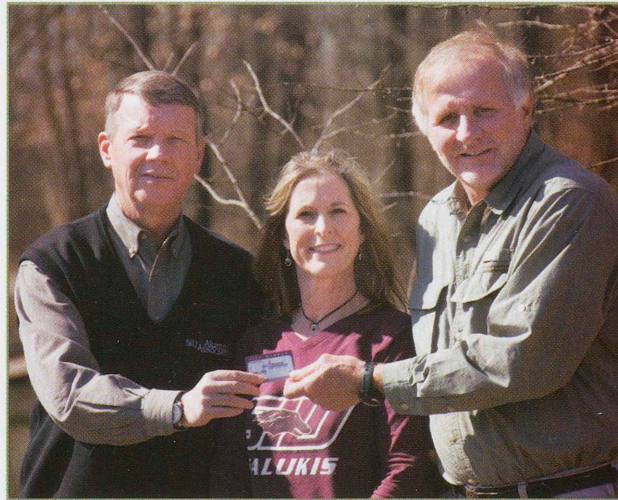
"I called Ed Buerger and asked if it would be possible to arrange a surprise gift for Tom. My thanks to Ed, Michelle Suarez, and Angela Spicer at the alumni office for overseeing my secret until the big day. Today, Tom and I are *both* proud life members of the SIU Alumni Association!"

For Ulrich, who was a varsity swimmer at Southern, a connection to his University continues to burn bright. Although he travels the world photographing wildlife for calendars, books and national magazines, the road seems to always lead back to a place where he has cherished memories – some which are with him at all times.

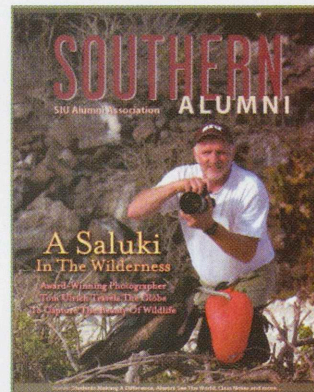
"The best basketball game I ever saw at SIU was in 1967," he says with a grin. "Southern beat Kentucky Wesleyan 52-51 and Walt Frazier had 18 points. What a thrill to see Frazier out there in uniform. To this day I *still* have that ticket stub in my wallet."

**Tom Ulrich '71**  
**Life Member**  
**West Glacier, Montana**

"Thanks to my dear friend Linda Martin, I am now a life member of the SIU Alumni Association. I encourage other Salukis to consider membership in the SIU Alumni Association as a gift idea. Whether it's an annual or life membership, it is a gift you will always cherish."



From left, Ed Buerger and Linda Martin present an SIU Alumni Association life membership card to Tom Ulrich.




Ulrich was featured in the June 2003 issue of *Southern Alumni*.



## Dawg In A Bag

On Jan. 8, Rod Blagojevich was sworn in for his second term as governor of Illinois. At the official inauguration ceremony, a special "goody bag" was provided for many in attendance. A wide assortment of items was included, but the Saluki Dawg Fan – made popular in recent years at the state fairs – stood out above everything else, as this photo published in the *State Journal-Register* shows.



  
**SIU Alumni Association**  
<http://www.sialumni.com>

  
**Southern Illinois University Carbondale**