

3-1-2009

## Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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# SOUTHERN ALUMNI

SJU Alumni Association

*On The  
Road Again*

**Associated Press Video  
Journalist Mark Carlson  
Is Enjoying His  
Front Row Seat To History**

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

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# *Initiative To Boost Scholarships For Minorities And Women*

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*F*ive alumni and longtime supporters of Southern Illinois University Carbondale are chairing a University initiative to increase financial assistance for minority students and other underrepresented populations.

SIU's goal is to raise \$1 million through Project Hope and Opportunity, an initiative designed to enhance the Dr. James E. Walker Presidential Scholarship Fund, created in honor of SIU Carbondale's late president. Financial need and academic achievement are the award criteria for the scholarships.

Chairing the initiative are Seymour Bryson, retired associate chancellor for diversity at Southern; Dr. Wrophas Meeks, radiologist; Harold Bardo, director of the Medical-Dental Education Preparatory Program in the School of Medicine at SIU; William Norwood, former Board of Trustees member and retired captain and pilot for United Airlines; and Roland Burris, U.S. senator.

"Project Hope and Opportunity has been created to provide equal opportunities and financial assistance to minority students and other traditionally underrepresented populations, including women," Bryson says. "It's a focused, strategic campaign that will use a variety of methods to seek endowments and donations from individuals and corporations. This is the first time we've ever undertaken a project like this. We're all pretty excited to be able to return some of the help we received when we were students."

Rickey N. McCurry, vice chancellor for institutional advancement and chief executive officer of the SIU Foundation, says, "We're fortunate to have five people chairing this initiative who care a great deal for their alma mater and value its influence in their lives. Obviously, they have all attained professional success and aspire to present current students with the same opportunity."

In fall 2008, minority students comprised nearly 25 percent of the undergraduate University enrollment and about 22.6 percent of the total student enrollment. Southern also ranks among the top 100 institutions in the country in awarding degrees to African Americans, Hispanics, and Asian American students, respectively.

SIU President Glenn Poshard says: "I'm extremely grateful for the willingness of these gentlemen to head up such an important campaign. Bright students from low-income families need additional scholarships and this program will help many of them graduate from Southern."



Katrina Stackhouse is a recipient of the Dr. James E. Walker Presidential Fellowship. She is a graduate student in the professional media and media management program at SIU.

*For more information on making a gift to Project Hope and Opportunity, please contact the SIU Foundation at 618-453-4900 or via e-mail at: [siuf@siu.edu](mailto:siuf@siu.edu). You may also contact Associate Director for Institutional Advancement Tanna Morgan, at 618-453-4933 or via e-mail at [tannam@siu.edu](mailto:tannam@siu.edu).*

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## ON THE COVER

Mark Carlson steps off President Barack Obama's whistle-stop inauguration train during a short break in Wilmington, Del. Based out of *Associated Press'* Chicago office, Carlson covered President Obama's long road to the White House from the beginning.

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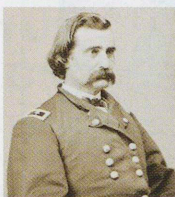
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## FEATURES

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### Living A Dream

As one of only seven video journalists employed by *Associated Press*, Mark Carlson is constantly on call to cover breaking news stories around the world. As his own mobile news agency of one, he accomplishes this in part by literally taking his office on the road with him, and knows the frenetic pace is not for everyone. "I'm living a dream however," he admits. "It's an adrenalin rush just going to work each day."



### Logan Museum Celebrates Birthday

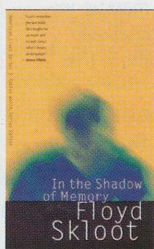
In January, the Gen. John A. Logan Museum in Murphysboro celebrated its 20th year of existence with a weekend full of festivities and recognition. And it all began inside Southern graduate Mike Jones' sixth-grade classroom decades ago, when he decided it was time for his students to "do something" with Logan's connection to the region's history.

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### The Greatest Saluki Ever?

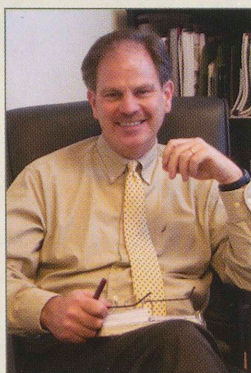
Anytime the "greatest anything" is mentioned, opinions differ. Pose that question to 10 people and there's a good chance you'll get several different answers. Regardless of various intangibles, personal accomplishments weigh heavily when trying to determine the greatest athlete to ever lace up a pair of sneakers. When that subject comes up at SIU, Marion Rushing is normally at the top of the list as the greatest athlete in the Saluki history.



### Shadow Memories

As one of the most celebrated writers to come out of Southern, Floyd Skloot's success story is anything but normal. It has now been more than two decades ago when he was sitting on an airplane minding his own business when he was clobbered over the head with a baseball bat of a virus that turned his brain into that of an old man's. What the attack could not do was quell the creativity of this award-winning memoirist, novelist, and poet.

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by Gene Green

It is probably an understatement to say that Mark Carlson is living a dream. As one of only seven video journalists employed by *Associated Press*, the 2000 SIU Radio-Television graduate has crisscrossed the globe to cover sports, natural disasters, entertainment news, and the recent U.S. presidential election.

"I do kind of pinch myself sometimes when I'm heading to the airport to fly out and cover another story," Carlson admits. "No two days are the same and I kind of have a front row seat to history — pretty amazing when I allow myself to sit back and really think about it."

Carlson, who rode on the whistle-stop inauguration train with President Barack Obama in January, is the subject of this issue's cover story. I think you'll take great pride in this young Saluki's remarkable career trek, and if you enjoy the ride, we invite you to go to [sialumni.com](http://sialumni.com) to watch some of his AP video accounts on the news of the day.



Carlson takes the opportunity to stand behind the podium of the President Elect. "The Secret Service gave the thumbs up," he says with a laugh, "so it was a great photo opportunity."

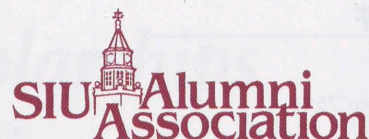
Recently I had the pleasure of attending the 2009 Saluki Hall of Fame inductions, as six deserving athletes were enshrined by Southern (see story page 26). One of the inductees, Clint Smothers, was elected in part because of his athletic versatility. The Marion native, who now coaches in Gurnee, Ill., earned nine varsity letters while competing in baseball, football, and track at SIU.

No male athlete has done that since, and few lettered in more than two sports for many years prior to Smothers doing the trick in the early 1990s.

As amazing as that feat is, however, it quickly brought to my mind the man generally regarded as the greatest Saluki athlete ever: Marion Rushing. The Pinckneyville resident earned an incredible 13 letters at SIU in the 1950s, an accomplishment that will no doubt **ever** be approached.

I'm pleased to share with you a recent story on Rushing, featuring a remarkable story of his athletic accomplishments and his long and valiant battle with Parkinson's disease.

There are some truly amazing Saluki stories in this issue of your magazine. I sincerely hope you enjoy them all.



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## Looks Forward To Each Issue

I recently received my December edition of our SIU alumni magazine. Please accept this note as long overdue recognition of an exceptional job well done!! In my opinion (which I must add is shared by countless others), your *Southern Alumni* publication is simply the best.

Each time I look forward with great anticipation and enthusiasm to each and every issue. I often receive calls, e-mails, and comments from my many SIU friends all over the country singing praises of your publication.

Well done!

*Bill McMinn '77, M.S. '78  
Life Member  
Carbondale, Ill.*

## A 'Small World' Saluki Moment In The Desert

When I was in Saudi Arabia many years ago, something remarkable happened that still amazes me. During Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990, I was an instructor and administrator for Air Defense Forces Institute in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. One day my wife and I boarded a bus for a tour of the region. As we were sight-seeing, I looked out my window and spotted an actual Saluki dog racing across the desert!

I yelled out loudly that it was *incredible*, as I graduated

from SIU and was a Saluki, too. Suddenly someone sitting near us mentioned that he also was a Saluki. That was really something, until a man from the rear of the bus yelled, "Hey, I'm a Saluki, too!" Conversations followed from that point on, and there ended up being **six** Southern graduates on that bus in the middle of the Saudi Arabian desert.

Although we left that area in 1992 and I now reside in Port Orchard, Wash., I still vividly recall spotting that Saluki in the desert while surrounded by fellow SIU grads. That was an amazing "small world" moment for sure.

*Richard White '87  
Port Orchard, Wash.*

## Story Helps Bunyans Catch Up With Others

Jill and I were delighted with not only the layout, but the content of Bonnie Marx's recent story about us as a family in the December issue of *Southern Alumni* magazine ("Achieve Program Helped One Of SIU's Best Athletes"). My children are still receiving positive reviews from their teachers and friends at school.

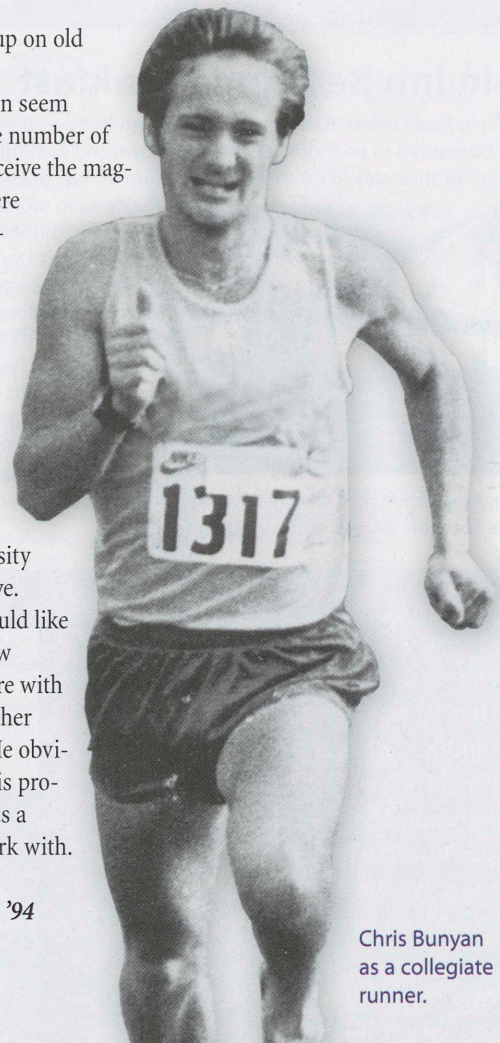
My wife and I were surprised to receive a phone call from one of my old Project Achieve tutors from approximately 20 years ago that we had lost contact with. Because of the article, we are

now catching up on old times.

Our children seem shocked by the number of people who receive the magazine. They were even more surprised when I explained to them that the December issue was mailed to all parts of the world where Southern Illinois University alumni now live.

We also would like to mention how pleased we were with SIU photographer Rusty Bailey. He obviously knows his profession and was a pleasure to work with.

*Chris Bunyan '94  
Cobden, Ill.*



Chris Bunyan as a collegiate runner.

## Dear Readers...

**Y**our SIU Alumni Association is always eager to hear your opinions of *Southern Alumni*. As with all alumni magazines, we can only improve if we are being responsive to you, our readers. Therefore, we encourage you to take some time after you've read this issue of *Southern Alumni* to let us know what you're thinking. **Please mail your letters to:**

*Southern Alumni*  
Colyer Hall  
Mailcode 6809  
Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, Ill. 62901

You can e-mail your letters to [alumni@siu.edu](mailto:alumni@siu.edu). Letters are sometimes edited for length and style.

We also invite you to send items and photographs of interest for the class notes section as well as submissions for *Southern Memories*. You can mail this information or send it by e-mail to the above addresses.

We are looking forward to hearing from you! Thank you for your continued support of the SIU Alumni Association.

# More Value For You

## Train Inn Bed And Breakfast

When Paul Lewers '82 opened the Train Inn Bed and Breakfast, he wanted to provide guests with a warm and inviting environment for their stay in southern Illinois. From home-cooked hearty

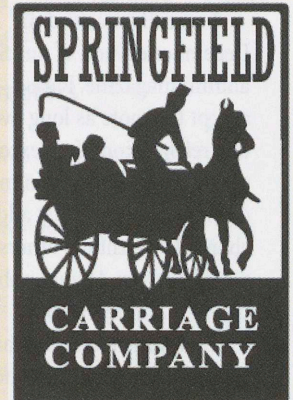


breakfasts to rooms featuring antique furniture, artistic lighting, Art Deco heat registers, and tongue and groove pine ceiling and walls, the circa 1905 bungalow is sure to feel like home. It is located within Carbondale city limits and is a stone's throw from the SIU Student Recreation

Center. Association members receive 10 percent off advanced registration. For more details, visit [www.train-inn.com](http://www.train-inn.com).

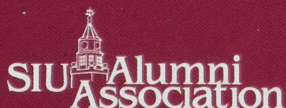
## The Chuckwagon In Springfield

The Chuckwagon, located inside the Springfield Carriage Company at 724 E. Edwards St., in Springfield, Ill., offers Association members 10 percent off all menu items. Whether you're craving a bacon, egg, and cheese muffin, or "The Big Stinky" (a combination of salami, limburger cheese, sweet onion, and spicy mustard on rye bread), you're sure to come back for more. Proprietor Budd Hudgins '81 has his own favorite – the quarter-pound Saluki Dawg. For more information, visit [www.springfieldcarriagecompany.com](http://www.springfieldcarriagecompany.com).

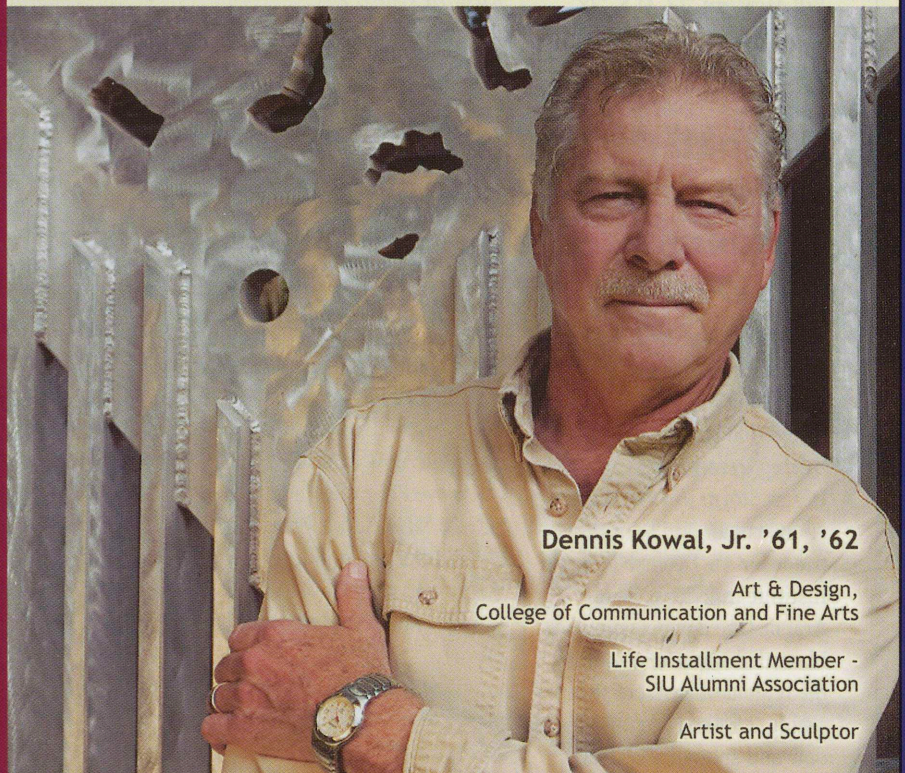


As one of the first graduates of Southern's sculpting program in 1961, my unique degree opened many doors along the path to accomplishing my dream. From a war memorial in Massachusetts to a sculpture park in Chicago, my life's dream can be seen across the country.

As a member of the SIU Alumni Association, my membership dues go toward helping fellow Salukis accomplish their dreams through student scholarships. The Association awards over 15 scholarships to deserving young Salukis every year. Be a member like me, and support Southern's students through membership in the SIU Alumni Association.



"Thanks to members like me, Saluki dreams can come true!"



Dennis Kowal, Jr. '61, '62

Art & Design,  
College of Communication and Fine Arts

Life Installment Member -  
SIU Alumni Association

Artist and Sculptor

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

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Have questions? Please call us at 618-453-2408 or e-mail us [alumni@siu.edu](mailto:alumni@siu.edu).

## INTERNATIONAL

**Choice Hotels:** (at participating) Clarion Inn, Comfort Inn, Quality Inn, Friendship Inn, Econo Lodge, Rodeway Inn, Sleep Inn (up to 20%)  
**European Auto and Hotel** via destination Europe  
**Sherwin - Williams Paints:** 20% off regular priced items, 5% off sale items. Call the Alumni Office for account number.  
**SIU Alumni Association Online Store:** 15% off merchandise (account number required)

## 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  
**Cruise One:** 10-60% savings on leading cruise lines. Also waive \$14.95 service fee.  
**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. Please call the SIU Alumni Association office at 618-453-2408 for promotional code.  
**Heartland Gifts:** 10% off a single gift order  
**KickBike America:** 10% off all online purchases for annual members; 20% for life members; 5% off purchase at Phoenix Cycles in Carbondale  
**Maberry Consulting:** 10% off grant writing/evaluation service, call 618-233-7455  
**Pro Golf of Newnan, 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  
**Ticketmaster:** Opportunity for savings on select event tickets on-line.  
**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.

## SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

**A Petal Patch Florist:** Carbondale - 10% off  
**Alongi's Italian Restaurant:** DuQuoin - Free dessert with purchase of entrée (excludes banquet room & other coupons)  
**Angelo & Jan's Inn:** Murphysboro - 10% off regular rate  
**Balance Pilates & Fitness Studio:** Carbondale - 10% off all services  
**Barton House Bed & Breakfast:** Carbondale - advance registration required for 10% discount. Call 618-457-7717  
**Bella Terra Winery:** Creal Springs - 10% off menu items  
**Bike Surgeon:** Carbondale - 10% off new parts and accessories  
**Carlson Wagonlit Travel Agency:** Herrin/ Marion, 5% off all preferred cruises & vacations  
**Coleman-Rhoads Furniture:** West Frankfort - 15% off accessories  
**Common Grounds Coffee Shop:** Carbondale - 10% off  
**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  
**Gambit Golf Club:** Vienna - 10% off room.  
**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 - 10% off  
**Houlihan's:** Carbondale - Free appetizer with purchase of two entrées (excludes sampler/combo)  
**Huck's:** Carbondale - (S. 51 location only) - 3¢ discount per gallon of gas  
**Italian Village:** Carbondale - 10% off your meal  
**Lush Aveda Salon & Spa:** Carbondale - 10% off services  
**Mane Attraction Hair Studio:** Carbondale - 15% off services for annual members (\$15 or more), 20% off services for life members (\$15 or more)  
**Marion Econolodge:** Marion - 15% off room rate  
**Marion Ford Lincoln Mercury Hyundai:** Marion - 10% off auto parts and service (including Quicklane)

**Mary's Restaurant:** Herrin - 10% off lunch or dinner entree. Also 10% off regular room rates at Mary's Bed & Breakfast.  
**Merle Norman Cosmetics:** Carbondale - 10% off  
**Motel 6:** Carbondale - 20% off  
**Murdale True Value:** Carbondale - 20% off reg. paint, 5% off sale paint  
**Niemann Flooring, Inc.:** Carbondale - 10% off regular priced items  
**Owl Creek Vineyard:** Cobden - 10% off gift and food purchases  
**Papa Mike's:** Olney - 10% dine in only  
**Purcell Tire & Rubber:** Granite City, Mt. Vernon, and Springfield, Ill. - \$5 off oil change, 5% off any 4 tires, 10% repairs over \$100  
**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% off for life members, 15% off for annual members on SIU imprinted items  
**710 Bookstore:** Carbondale - Illinois Ave. location only, 20% off for life members, 15% off for annual members discount on SIU Imprinted items  
**Shawnee Winery:** Vienna - 10% off merchandise  
**Spinoni's Pizza & Pasta House:** Carbondale - \$2 off any food purchase of \$10 or more (not valid on specials or with other offers)  
**The Sports Performance Store:** Marion - 10% off services, 10% off equipment. Call 618-694-3455  
**Super 8:** Carbondale - 15% off standard room rate  
**Talent Education School:** Carbondale - 20% off Wiggles-N-Tunes Pre-K music class  
**Train Inn:** Carbondale - 10% off advanced registration  
**Tres Hombres:** Carbondale - \$1 off dinner entrée; \$5.00 off lunch entrée  
**Uncorked Tours:** Carbondale - 10% off tickets  
**Universitees:** Carbondale - 20% off  
**Visions Hair Studio:** Carbondale - 20% off products, \$10 off color services, 5% off haircuts (select stylists only)  
**Vogler Ford:** Carbondale - 10% off any car rental  
**Walt's Pizza:** Marion - 10% off

## OTHER

**Appraisal Matters:** Malibu, Calif. - 10% off appraisal report  
**Buffalo Wild Wings:** Bollingbrook, Elmhurst, Plainfield & Romeoville, Illinois - 15% off food  
**The Chuckwagon Restaurant at the Springfield Carriage Company:** Springfield, Ill. - 10% off menu items  
**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  
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**Mehta Motors:** Elmhurst, Ill. - 10% off oil change and safety check  
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## CAMPUS

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**Old Main Restaurant:** Student Center - 10% off  
**SIU Career Services:** Free access to eRecruiting (job search system) and complimentary resume critiques  
**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% off

This list is subject to change.

Present your membership card to receive your discount.

## Consider membership as a gift!

Members receive:

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

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Ms. Tracy A. Mize  
Ms. Carol A. Mocabay  
Mr. Thomas L. Moulton & Mrs. Penelope A. Moulton  
Sharon L. Resch, Ph.D  
Mr. Lester W. Schneider & Mrs. Carol I. Schneider  
Dr. Edith C. Spees  
Mrs. Sandra L. Taylor & Mr. Lee W. Taylor  
Ms. Susan B. Wallace  
Mr. Larry D. Weatherford & Mrs. Brenda K. Weatherford



## Officials Expect SIU To Benefit From Iraq Trip

by Pete Rosenbery

University officials are encouraged about the prospects of attracting Iraqi students to Southern Illinois University Carbondale through a higher education initiative under way in Iraq.

Larry Dietz, SIU's vice chancellor for student affairs, and John Jackson, a visiting professor at the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, recently returned from ceremonies in Baghdad launching the Iraq Education Initiative.

Dietz says Iraq's initial goal is to send 500 Iraqi students abroad this fall to universities as a pilot project. The Iraqi government will use oil revenues to pay for the full scholarships, according to published reports. He and Jackson said they believe that students will be enrolled at Southern this fall as a result of the initiative.

Zuhair A. G. Humadi, who earned a doctorate from SIU in political science in 1978, is a senior adviser to Iraqi Vice President Adel Abdul Mahdi and executive director of the Iraq Education Initiative. "We're excited about the potential and proud that we have an alum who is the person that this initiative probably would not exist without," Dietz notes.

Both Jackson and Dietz note the University's legacy when it comes to international students. While in Baghdad, they met with Humadi and Saad Jabr at Jabr's home.

In 1947, Jabr traveled to Carbondale to enroll as a freshman. While other international scholars were studying at SIU prior to his arrival, he was the first international student to graduate with a bachelor's degree. Jabr became a prominent businessman in southern Illinois and is now living in Baghdad.

The University's more than 60-year legacy in international education will play a strong role in attracting students, but Dietz also sees other potential.



Zuhair A. G. Humadi, left, visits with John Jackson, Saad Jabr, and Larry Dietz.

"This also gives us an opportunity to meet some needs of a country at a point in time where they have asked us to help," he says. "From a philosophical point of view, I think it's important that we step in and strengthen bonds between not only institutions between here and Iraq, but hopefully this will go a long way in relationships between the Iraqi government and the U.S. government."

The Iraqi students that Dietz and Jackson met appear eager to study in the United States.

"Iraqis have been so blocked from the outside world ... and the lifeblood of higher education and research is the ability to interact with peers and exchange ideas around the world," Jackson says. "They haven't had that for a long time. This is a totally new era for them, and they are eager to take advantage of it."

Jackson recalls a determined young woman interested in pursuing a master's degree in engineering who repeatedly practiced her English by talking with them. The woman asked Dietz to please "do whatever you can to help me achieve this goal."

"It's important to me," Dietz recalls the woman telling him. "I will come back and make a contribution. I would like for my mother to be able to see that."

Dietz says the security was "unbelievable there." Surrounded by people with M-16s and AK-47s, Dietz notes the numerous checkpoints he and Jackson traveled through. "Upon reflection, while this was an important trip and we were playing our role as institutional and University representatives, and this initiative is going to be great, we would not have been able to be in the country not long ago. To me ... a terrific amount of credit to all the soldiers, some of whom gave their lives, who have made it safe enough for us to be there and tell a different story about education and how we help rebuild."

Prior to arriving in Baghdad, Dietz was in Malaysia and Thailand to stimulate additional interest in attracting international students to Southern. In most instances, international students pay their own way to attend classes, Dietz says.

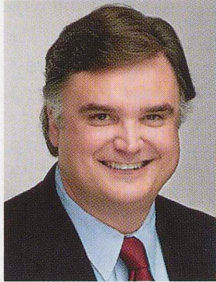
Dietz and Jackson talk of the visit with Humadi and Jabr as not unlike a gathering of Saluki alums anywhere in the United States.

"He was beaming talking about his experience here," Dietz says of Jabr. "It was just like four guys sitting around reminiscing, talking about old times. The only difference is we were in Baghdad inside a fortress in a green zone." ■

## Yepsen To Lead Public Policy Institute

Veteran journalist David Yepsen covered every Iowa presidential caucus campaign since 1976, including Paul Simon's 1988 bid for the Democratic nomination.

In his book about that campaign, *Winners and Losers*, Simon wrote, "Every four years, the chief political reporter for the *Des Moines Register* becomes the most important reporter in the nation. It is a position that could cause vanity and abuse. To his credit, David Yepsen handled this position with sensitivity and balance. And he worked hard."



David Yepsen

Yepsen now is poised to lead the institute founded by the late U.S. senator from Illinois.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale officials recently introduced

Yepsen as the new director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. He replaces Mike Lawrence, who retired last November. Lawrence became director in October 2004 following Simon's death in December 2003.

Chancellor Samuel Goldman expects Yepsen's extensive knowledge of public policy and experience in higher education will serve him well in his new role. "He brings a firm commitment to public service, to contributing to the education of our students, and to upholding the vision that Paul Simon had when he founded this institute," Goldman says.



Yepsen listens to former PPI Director Mike Lawrence at a reception announcing the new appointment.

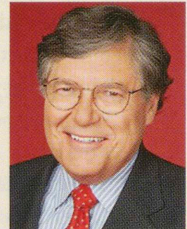
A nationally recognized political analyst, Yepsen began his career with the *Des Moines Register* as the police and county government reporter in 1974. His tenure at the paper included six years as Iowa statehouse reporter, 11 years as chief political reporter and six years as political editor. He has been writing his political column, which appears three times a week, since 2000.

Yepsen has also been a commentator on Iowa politics and presidential caucus campaigns on NBC's *Meet the Press*, CBS' *Face the Nation*, ABC's *This Week*, National Public Radio, CNN, MSNBC, and Fox News. He cohosted the 2007 Iowa Presidential Debate on ABC-TV

## On The Side

### Bittermann Receives Legion Of Honor

France has bestowed the Legion of Honor on 13 foreign nationals, including SIU Alumni Association life member Jim Bittermann. The 1970 Southern journalism graduate is a CNN senior international correspondent and one of the longest serving international journalists in France. He is also a founder and co-president of the European American Press Association.



Bittermann, a recipient of the SIU Distinguished Alumni Award, learned of the honor this winter as he was preparing to cover the visit of Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni with French President Nicolas Sarkozy.

"This came as a complete surprise, without warning," recalls Bittermann, who is also a professor of broadcast journalism at The American University of Paris. He has been reporting on France for U.S. television networks since 1980 and has been a CNN correspondent for 12 years.

### SIU Student One Of 12 In Nation To Win Award

Southern graduate student Amanda Drawwe is the recipient of a select honor in the world of recreational sports. She recently found out that she is one of just 12 graduate student winners nationwide of the William Wasson Student Leadership and Academic Award for 2009 from the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association.



The award recognizes outstanding undergraduate and graduate students employed by or participating in college or university recreational sports organizations. Drawwe is one of just two graduate students winning the Wasson award from Region III, which includes Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, and Ohio. There are six regions within NIRSA.

The Springfield, Ill., native is a six-year employee of Recreational Sports and Services (RSS) at SIU. She's held a number of positions within the department and currently is the facilities graduate assistant.

"I love working in campus recreation," Drawwe says. She manages all facility student staff members at the Rec, (about 90 student employees in all), and she and those staff members interact with about 700,000 visitors at the center annually.

with George Stephanopoulos.

Asked why he sought the institute position, Yepsen says, "Paul Simon's legacy prompted me to apply. I am really interested in spending the rest of my life in public service, teaching and working with students and working in the public policy arena."

Two issues he hopes to explore are the needs of higher education, particularly students, and ethics in government. "If you think of Paul, those are two things he was known for." ■

# Alumna's Obama Mosaic Featured In *Time* Magazine

Her photography professor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale told her just before she graduated that he expected one day to see her work in a gallery.

Well, how about a feature in *Time* magazine?

Anne (Wickersham) Savage, a 1994 SIU alumna, created a mosaic image of Barack Obama, made from individual images of faces photographed while she shot panoramic views of Obama's rallies during the presidential campaign.

She thought posting the image on the photo-sharing Web site Flickr and marketing a poster version might be just the thing to supplement her Ann Arbor,

Mich.-based photography business. To her astonishment, *Time* magazine contacted her about using the image for an upcoming issue of the magazine.

"I thought it might be the Person of the Year issue, but I didn't find out for certain until right before it came out," she says. "This is like a fairy tale to me."

Besides using her image to illustrate its Person of the Year story, *Time* featured Savage in a two-page article. In addition, her image was part of a display in a Washington, D.C., gallery for the inauguration, and poster versions went to all those who attended the Michigan Ball during the inauguration.

"It's been pretty amazing," she



Anne (Wickersham) Savage

admits. "I've been selling between 10 and 25 posters a day, and besides that, I've heard from family members, old friends I haven't seen in years, photography students, individuals who want to talk about the image."

To learn more about Savage's panoramic photography, visit [www.revolutionaryviews.com/home.html](http://www.revolutionaryviews.com/home.html).



"Dare to Hope: Faces From 2008 Obama Rallies" © Anne Savage revolutionaryviews.com

*"Out of many, we are one."*

- Barack Obama, November 4, 2008

## Alumni Calendar Of Events

### April

- 4/1 Saluki Baseball vs. Murray State, Paducah, Ky., 6:30 p.m.  
 4/1 *One Nighter* - TBA, Moe Theater, 7:30 p.m.  
 4/3 Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State, Carbondale, Ill., 3 p.m.  
 4/4 Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State, Carbondale, Ill., 2 p.m.  
 Saluki Softball vs. Wichita State (DH), Carbondale, Ill., Noon  
 4/5 Saluki Baseball vs. Missouri State, Carbondale, Ill., 1 p.m.  
 Saluki Softball vs. Wichita State, Carbondale, Ill., Noon  
 4/7 Saluki Baseball vs. SE Missouri, Carbondale, Ill., 3 p.m.  
 4/8 Saluki Softball at Missouri, Columbia, Mo., 3 p.m.  
 4/10 Saluki Baseball vs. Jacksonville State (*Fish Fry following - Carbondale Civic Center*), Carbondale, Ill., 1 p.m.  
 4/10 Saluki Softball vs. Missouri State (DH), Carbondale, Ill., 3 p.m.  
 4/11 Saluki Baseball vs. Jacksonville State (DH), Carbondale, Ill. Noon  
 4/13 Saluki Softball vs. Missouri State, Carbondale, Ill., Noon  
 4/14 Saluki Baseball at SE Missouri, Cape Girardeau, Mo., 3 p.m.  
 4/14 Saluki Softball at Tennessee-Martin, Martin, Tenn., 4 p.m.  
 4/15 Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois, Marion, Ill., 6 p.m.,  
 4/16-19 *The Secret Garden*, McLeod Theater, Thurs.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m.  
 4/17 Saluki Baseball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., 6 p.m.  
 4/18 Saluki Baseball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., 1 p.m.  
 4/18 Saluki Softball at Creighton (DH), Omaha, Neb., Noon  
 4/19 Saluki Baseball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., 1 p.m.  
 4/19 Saluki Softball at Creighton, Omaha, Neb., Noon  
 4/19 SIU Alumni Day at Wrigley Field, Chicago, Ill., TBA  
 4/20 *An Evening with Garrison Keillor*, Shryock Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.  
 4/23 Saluki Softball vs. Evansville, Carbondale, Ill., 4 p.m.  
 4/24 Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois State, Carbondale, Ill., 3 p.m.  
 4/24 *An Evening with Lily Tomlin*, Shryock Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.  
 4/25 Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois State, Carbondale, Ill., 2 p.m.

- 4/25 Saluki Softball vs. Bradley, Carbondale, Ill., Noon  
 4/26 Saluki Baseball vs. Illinois State, Carbondale, Ill., 1 p.m.  
 4/26 Saluki Softball vs. Bradley, Carbondale, Ill., Noon  
 4/28 Saluki Baseball at Illinois, Champaign, Ill., 6 p.m.  
 4/28 Saluki Softball at Saint Louis, St. Louis, Mo., 5 p.m.  
 4/29 Saluki Baseball vs. Eastern Illinois, Mattoon, Ill., 6:30 p.m.  
 4/29 *Performing Cultures Spotlight Hour*, Kleinau Theatre, 8 p.m.

### May

- 5/1 Saluki Baseball at Bradley, Peoria, Ill., 6 p.m.  
 5/2 Saluki Baseball at Bradley, Peoria, Ill., 6 p.m.  
 5/2 Saluki Softball at Indiana State (DH), Terre Haute, Ind., Noon  
 5/3 Saluki Baseball at Bradley, Peoria, Ill., 1 p.m.  
 5/3 Saluki Softball at Indiana State, Terre Haute, Ind., Noon  
 5/7-9 Commencement Weekend, Carbondale, Ill.  
 5/7-9 Saluki Softball MVC Tournament, Peoria, Ill., TBA  
 5/8 Saluki Baseball vs. Wichita State, Carbondale, Ill., 3 p.m.  
 5/9 Saluki Baseball vs. Wichita State, Carbondale, Ill., 2 p.m.  
 5/10 Saluki Baseball vs. Wichita State, Carbondale, Ill., 1 p.m.  
 5/12 Saluki Baseball vs. Saint Louis, St. Louis, Mo., 7 p.m.  
 5/14 Saluki Baseball at Evansville, Evansville, Ind., 6 p.m.  
 5/15 Saluki Baseball at Evansville, Evansville, Ind., 6 p.m.  
 5/16 Saluki Baseball at Evansville, Evansville, Ind., 1 p.m.  
 5/20-23 Saluki Baseball MVC Tournament, Wichita, Kan., TBA

### Save The Date - Reunions

**2009 Black Alumni Group Reunion, July 10-12**  
 (Details in next edition of *Saluki Pride*)

**Saluki Cheerleader Reunion, Oct. 9.** Contact Nancy Lipe Esling at spirit@siu.edu for more details.



## 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 member in your household, he or she should vote using the box marked "B."

Only the votes of dues-paying alumni who are members are valid in this election. Ballots must reach the Alumni Association offices no later than noon on **April 10, 2009**. For full bios and pictures of the candidates, go to [sialumni.com](http://sialumni.com).

#### Director For Election (four year term)

A  B **Lowell Keel, '66, Tullahoma, Tenn.** - Keel, Col. USAF Ret., who helped make history in the field of aviation when the X43-A aircraft set world speed records in 2004, has been a Member at Large on the Alumni Association Board. This is the first time he is up for election, as he earlier was appointed to fill the position created by the resignation of J.C. Garavalia. The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics selected Keel to receive their Hap Arnold Award for Excellence in Aeronautical Program Management for 2007 based on his X-43 work. He and his wife, Mary '64, attended the awards banquet in 2007 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The Keels are life members of the SIU Alumni Association.

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

A  B **Larry Fischer '68, Quincy, Ill.** - Fischer is an award-winning teacher and vice president for instruction at John Wood Community College in Quincy. An active community member, he currently serves as a board member for the Chaddock School, a home for troubled youth, the Farm Credit Services Bank, and on the Illinois Council for Food and Agricultural Research. Fischer and his wife, Tamara '68, met while students at Southern and are annual members of the SIU Alumni Association. One of their three sons, Trent, is also an SIU alumnus

A  B **Jim Hayes '62, Harrisburg, Ill.** - Hayes is a graduate of Southern Illinois University's College of Education and Human Services and a former Saluki football player. He is the owner and president of Jim Hayes, Inc., a Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Chrysler and Dodge dealership in Harrisburg. Jim is former president of the Saline County Alumni Chapter and is a life member of the SIU Alumni Association.

A  B **Randy Ragan '67, M.B.A. '68, Springfield, Ill.** - Ragan, a certified public accountant and partner with McGladrey & Pullen LLP, serves as president for the SIU Alumni Association's National Board. He is an active member of his community, serving from 1970-1996 on the Rochester Community Unit School Board of Education, including 10 years as president. He currently serves as treasurer of the Springfield Municipal Opera Association, chairs the Rochester Schools VISION committee and is a coach for community youth sports. Randy and his wife, Donna, are life members of the Association.

A  B **Howard Schlechte '58, Strasburg, Ill.** - Schlechte, a retired branch manager of IBM, is a vice president on the SIU Alumni Association board. He graduated from Southern with a degree in electronics technology and began work for IBM that same year. He held several management positions with the company, retiring in 1991. He served in the U.S. Air Force more than 28 years, attaining the rank of colonel. A life member of the Association, Howard received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the College of Applied Sciences & Arts and serves on the college's alumni constituency board. He and his wife, Ina, are life members of the SIU Alumni Association.

#### Please return this ballot or photocopy to:

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

#### Name of person(s) voting / address / city / state:

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## Ittner Helps Create Special Collection Of Oral Histories

by Linda Rush

Capturing memories of Carbondale's past, in the voices of those who were there, has become a labor of love for Dede Lingle Ittner '61.

Ittner, the daughter of the late "Doc" Lingle, the legendary Southern Illinois University athletic director, grew up in Carbondale. When she and husband Bill '61 returned to the city in retirement, she became an active member of many groups, including the SIU Alumni Association, University School alumni, and the Carbondale Preservation Commission.

In the latter role, she noticed that not only were many of the city's historic buildings disappearing, so were the residents' tales. Armed with a simple tape recorder, Ittner has been taping memories of the community's oldest residents. The oral histories are undiluted mixes of facts and feelings, all captured in the voices and speech patterns of those who lived them.

"I'm an analog person in a digital world," the SIU Alumni Association national board member confesses with a laugh.

Equipment aside, it's the story that matters, and Ittner has studied with an expert, Anne Valk of SIU Edwardsville, mastering both the protocols of preparing oral histories and the nuances of interviewing to draw details into the stories. So far, she has recorded more than 30 interviews, many of which have been transcribed.

A separate sheet describes the date and place of each interview and other facts about the process. Each interview will be transcribed into a written docu-

ment. And some of the people she has interviewed also have shared photos and other historical materials relating to their memories.

And, under the direction of Pam Hackbart-Dean, director of special collections at SIU's Morris Library, all the analog tapes are being converted into CD format as well. A copy of each of the oral histories and accompanying materials will become part of Morris Library's Special Collections, where it will be accessible to researchers from doctoral candidates to junior high students.

The Special Collections section, Ittner says, "is the perfect haven for these oral histories. I do believe this is the place they should be."

The Morris Library staff not only is copying the interviews onto CDs, it also plans to post materials on a Web site for easier access. Fourteen of the completed interviews have been received by Special Collections. Ittner also has copies of the

materials at her home and says she is happy to work with writers who are researching the city's past. Copies of the materials also will be placed in the Carbondale Civic Center.

Ittner is focusing on people born between 1912 and 1940. She has one interview recorded by the Rev. Charles E. F. Howe, who was born in 1911 and was pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Carbondale for many years. That one was special, she admits, because Howe "married Bill and me."

The SIU Alumni Association life member's newest project is collecting memories of the Varsity Theater either on tape or via e-mail. Those with memories of the old theater, which is being restored as the Varsity Center for the Arts, should e-mail them to [varsityhistory@neondsl.com](mailto:varsityhistory@neondsl.com).

– This story originally appeared in *The Southern Illinoian*.



Ittner poses among boxes of records at a temporary storage facility for Morris Library on McLafferty Road.

Photo by Steve Jahnke/The Southern

# Southern Continues To Assist State Grape Industry

by K.C. Jaehnig

The Illinois Grape and Wine Resources Council may be history, but Southern Illinois University Carbondale hasn't closed the book on grape research.

Work ongoing at University vineyards includes variety evaluations, ground cover management research, and studies of viruses and nematodes that prey upon the crop. Outreach efforts include demonstrations of training systems and canopy management practices to help boost grower revenues.

"We have developed significant new areas of inquiry to define and solve problems that we see developing throughout the state while carrying on with and evolving some of the older projects," says Bradley Taylor, the College of Agricultural Science's fruit specialist.

These days, variety evaluations play a key role in Taylor's research as he looks for those that can stand up to harsh Midwestern winters while producing high-quality fruit year after year.

"This is critical for an industry where it takes five to seven years to get appreciable revenue, especially when you're investing \$10,000 per acre — not including the cost of the land," Taylor notes.

Taylor is assessing the vigor, adaptability, yields, and fruit quality of 35 different varieties, including French hybrid and European grapes. It's a balancing act. The French hybrid grapes show good winter hardiness, but the quality is not always quite what he'd like to see. The European varieties do well on quality indicators but suffer more from sub-freezing temperatures (those from 5° to 8° below zero), though that might present less of a problem for growers in Southern Illinois, where winters tend toward mildness.



Carrie Zucco is shown collecting Cabernet Franc grapes at a local vineyard.

Taylor also is looking at ground covers that could suppress perennial and annual weeds beneath the vines, thus cutting money spent on herbicides and time spent mowing. But ground covers could possibly do even more in terms of keeping the vines themselves in check.

Surprisingly, vines that grow too well spell trouble for the grapes. By shading the fruit zone, they boost the chances that fungi and other diseases will thrive. And without enough sunlight, the grapes don't produce the pigments and aromatic compounds that flavor the fruit. It's also harder to manage the acidity levels of shaded grapes during the winemaking process, which not only can dull the flavors but actually can impart an unpleasant taste to the finished wine.

"In Illinois, which is noted for ground that can yield 150 to 250 bushels of corn per acre, it's easy to get shoots that grow 6 to 8 feet in a single season rather than the 3 to 4 feet that's ideal," Taylor says.

Perhaps most critical for long-term production is the work Taylor is doing to minimize damage to grapevines from viruses and nematodes (small, root-sucking pests afflicting a variety of crops, most notably soybeans in this region).

Taylor has also continued work done by Imed Dami, the council's former viticulturist based at SIU, particularly as it related to research and service activities.

"Within the last year we've had more than 530 hours of contact with grape growers through presentations across the state," Taylor reports. Presentations and demonstrations covered such diverse topics as pruning methods, coping with freeze damage, and production marketing.

"It's important that folks know our involvement in assisting the grape industry never diminished, despite the changes in personnel and funding structure [that occurred when the council closed its doors in 2004]," Taylor says. "It just changed form." ■



When Carlson takes off on assignment, as many as six bags go with him. He says getting all the gear through some of the country's busiest airports is just part of his daily challenge.

## On The Road Again

As a video journalist for *Associated Press*, Mark Carlson is constantly on the go – and living a dream.

by Gene Green

Late last August, the scene at Chicago's O'Hare Airport was fairly typical, as more than 200,000 daily travelers were traversing their way through the nation's second-largest airport in a robot-like trance. In such a chaotic setting, few bother to raise an eyebrow to things happening around them.

That is until a person rambles by carrying enough equipment to staff a small newsroom.

"Oh, I **definitely** get a few strange stares," laughs *Associated Press* Video Journalist Mark Carlson '00. "It has to be interesting to watch me get through an airport terminal. Heck, I'm kind of amazed myself."

Carlson, one of only seven video journalists employed by AP, is based out of Chicago and constantly on call to cover breaking news stories around the world. As his own mobile news agency of one, he accomplishes this in part by literally taking his office on the road with him.

On this day, Carlson was flying to Pensacola, Fla., en route to provide coverage of Hurricane Gustav. He arrived at O'Hare with a camera bag (video camera, cables, and microphones), backpack (laptop, batteries, and notepads), tripod, three protective cases to transport a light kit, Internet satellite, satellite phone, and video camera, and one case for external cables, lights, tape deck, rain gear, and battery chargers. He also had a suitcase holding enough dress and casual clothes for five days.

This was standard operating procedure for the energetic first-generation Saluki, who carries on his camera equipment and laptop, and checks the other five bags. On this trip, however, there was a little more to take on the adventure.

"I have four, five-gallon gas cans with me because they are hard to find when a hurricane is approaching," he explains. "I need to have a place to store gasoline if the power goes off and the gas pumps are shut down."

A couple of hours later Carlson's American Airlines flight touches down in Florida. He gathers his "office" and prepares for the *real* work to begin. Gustav is powering across the Gulf and he will be AP's eyes and ears for online storm coverage.

### *From Southern To An Inauguration*

When Carlson was growing up Mahomet, Ill., ESPN was beginning to change the landscape of how sports would be covered on television. The Mahomet-Seymour High School product was hooked, and although he had no training or experience in the field, he wanted to find his niche in broadcast journalism.

"Even though we lived only eight miles from Champaign, I never wanted to go to the University of Illinois," Carlson recalls. "It did not have the broadcast program I was looking for – my choice quickly came down to Southern Illinois University and Indiana University."

Carlson had a "great visit" at Southern and was impressed with what he sensed would be a hands-on opportunity not afforded broadcast students at many other institutions. The financial difference of in-state tuition sealed the deal, and he soon began his

college education at SIU in 1996. Like everything else he would do for the next decade, the new college student hit the ground running in Carbondale.

"I got involved immediately," he says. "As a freshman I volunteered for an overnight position at WSIU's River Region TV covering sports at Southern. A year later I added duties as a photographer and later a reporter at WSIL-TV3, and held both jobs until I graduated."

"I was a full-time (honor) student, working 35 hours per week at WSIU and another 20 hours per week at WSIL. Looking back, I probably didn't have a day off for about three years – and I loved every minute of it."

When graduation arrived, Carlson felt he had been well prepared for the real world.

"I remember thinking that the things we were taught at Mass Communications and Media Arts and in the River Region newsroom would allow me to compete for just about any job," he recalls. "At SIU you weren't just a reporter – you had to learn how to operate a camera, edit the video, write the stories, and produce a newscast."

"Once out of school, I knew I probably needed to give more thought on whether I wanted to be a reporter or a photographer. I've always been a button-pusher at heart and couldn't care



As Hurricane Gustav roars around him, Carlson holds his ground and begins video coverage of the prolific storm. It would be one of three such natural disasters he would be witness to in a matter of weeks.





Although blue jeans worked just fine when he was lugging all of his equipment into the 2009 Super Bowl, Carlson made a quick change into a shirt and tie before taping his sideline segment.

less about seeing my face on television, so I decided to pursue the photographer route.”

### *The Real World Begins*

After graduation, Carlson kept his job at WSIL for a few months until something else came along. In November 2000, he left the area to take a position as a photojournalist for WBIR-TV in Knoxville, Tenn. He stayed there for

almost five years, leaving in June 2005 to take a similar assignment at WITI-TV in Milwaukee, Wis.

“That put me a lot closer to home,” he recalls, “but I ended up doing almost exactly what I had left in Knoxville. I really felt I needed a new challenge. Six months later I *certainly* got it!”

Thanks in part to a newsletter of Illinois News Broadcasters Association (INBA) job postings that one his for-

mer SIU professors sent him, Carlson noted an intriguing opening. *The Associated Press* was launching something new called the AP Online Video Network. He did some research on the Internet, noticing the agency was looking for someone who could be jack-of-all trades in pursuit of gathering domestic video and reporting on breaking news stories.

“Almost on a whim I sent AP an electronic resume,” Carlson says. “They called me to come to their Chicago office for an interview and must have liked my personality and ability – it all came together quickly. I was hired in December 2005, and AP Online went live a month later. I’ve been with them from the beginning.”

Suddenly Carlson had a front row seat to history. In the three-plus years with AP, he has covered topics like the Beijing Olympics, Super Bowl, World Series, Kentucky Derby, Final Four, Detroit Auto Shows, California wildfires, tropical storms, tornados, hurricanes, Space Shuttle launches, President Gerald Ford’s funeral, and the 2008 presidential election campaign. No matter what his day looks like when he wakes up each morning, he knows he is a phone call away from being anywhere on the globe.

“Not everyone would enjoy the pace of what I do,” he admits. “The phone rings and I’m on the run. It’s the sort of experience that you get back what you put into it. I’m one of those people who just doesn’t want to miss out on anything, so I never turn down an assignment.”

“I keep a suitcase filled with a week’s worth of clothes packed in my car **at all times**. I’m not doing a good job if I have to take the time to go home and pack for a trip, if that time could have been spent getting to the airport.”

Carlson recalls sleeping one night in his own bed when he received word that President Gerald Ford had died. AP wanted him to immediately go to Grand Rapids, Mich., to provide cover-

age of the funeral. "I hung up the phone, walked out the door, got in my car, and starting driving," he says. "That's what I do."

### *No Rest For The Weary*

One of the more memorable experiences Carlson has enjoyed was covering the Beijing Olympics. The event served as his first international assignment, and he was stationed there for 28 days.

"The Olympics were an amazing spectacle," he says. "I don't know if any other host city will be able to match what China did, as the government put on an impressive display of facilities and people organization. I've never seen so many people involved in one event."

Relaxing thoughts of seeing the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, and many other historical sights didn't last long. Home just five days after spending nearly a month in China, the phone rang again. Hurricane Gustav was starting to seriously threaten Louisiana and other states, and Carlson was sent to cover the storm. Before Gustav even passed, two more storms were on the way. He raced to the Carolinas to cover

Tropical Storm Hanna, and was then on his way to Texas to provide video of Hurricane Ike.

"Eventually I made it Galveston to sit and wait for Ike," he explains. "I spent 11 days in Galveston before, during, and after the hurricane. The most memorable moment of my life was standing inside the eye of that hurricane, as the eye passed right over me.

"It was unbelievable. For an hour there was no wind or rain, just dead calm before the back side of the hurricane came through and ripped through the island with 110 m.p.h. winds. I've never imagined anything with the kind of strength. After the storm passed, I survived on MREs and handout food – just like everyone else who lived in Galveston."

If the first two years with *AP* had been a nonstop drill, 2008 would actually pick up the pace. Last year alone, Carlson traveled through 28 states and China on 75 flights, including trips with John McCain and President Barack Obama during the primary season. He also followed Hillary Clinton, Joe Biden, Chris Dodd, John Edwards, Bill Richardson, Dennis Kucinich, Ron Paul,

Mitt Romney, Mike Huckabee, Duncan Hunter, Sam Brownback, and Fred Thompson through the election cycle. (In case you are wondering, he keeps all of his frequent flyer miles and hotel points. "I'm fortunate that those perks go to people, not companies," he says with a smile.)

And it was also Carlson's good fortune that Obama happens to be from his home office's state. That luck of the draw placed him on the ride of his life.

### *From Start To Finish*

Since Carlson was based in Chicago, anytime *AP* wanted video of the candidate, it was his story. "Had Hillary Clinton won the primary, someone working for us in New York would have been the point person. It was a great break for my career that Obama is from Illinois. I started covering the presidential campaign in February 2007 when Obama announced his candidacy in Springfield. From that point the campaign consumed my everyday work until the inauguration."

Covering the campaign – from the early days through inauguration day –

## *People At Southern Made The Difference*

**M**ark Carlson is quick to point out that his SIU experience has allowed him to be where he is today. Some of the key people he encountered at Southern who made a difference still mean a great deal to him. Here are some of his memories of four such individuals:

**Jean Kelley**, adviser. "Jean really helped me do the impossible at times, balancing my academics with my professional pursuits. I was a full-time student and more than a full-time worker, so it was a challenge to get my schedule in order each semester. She helped me pull it off."

**Ken Keller**, faculty member in MCMA. "Ken was a senior faculty member who had worked in this business and provided me with great news advice and judgment that I still take with me each and every day."

**Joe Foote**, then dean of MCMA. "Joe was always supportive and made sure that we had hands-on opportunities that were so crucial. If you wanted to do something, and convinced him that you were willing to put in the effort, he made it happen."

**Tom Hexamer**, MCMA tech operator. "I learned from the beginning that Tom was the most important person I need-

ed to know, since he controlled who got to use the equipment. He was the gatekeeper back then, and still is today. Tom is one of those rare people in life that will teach you valuable lessons if you take the time to listen. He gave me wonderful advice on how to deal with people and how to care for equipment. Once I passed his litmus test, he let me use anything I needed while I was at SIU.

Because of him, I try and do some of the same things that he did for me. I try and take a second to see who can use some help, and hope that my assistance helps them get a lit-

tle better at what they are trying to do."

Carlson remains indebted to all at Southern who gave him a chance to grow in the broadcasting field.

"The opportunity was presented, and then it was up to me to make something of it," he says. "If I hadn't received hands-on training as a student, it would have been difficult to go out and find a job. I was an honor student, but straight A's wouldn't have mattered if I didn't know the nuts and bolts I learned at Southern. In this business you better be competent in using the materials involved in your trade."

has made Carlson a better journalist.

"In a setting like that, you are working in a scrum with hundreds of other journalists," he explains. "You have to figure it out, learn to work by yourself, and get tough. If you don't, you will quickly get chewed up and spit out.

"It was the most amazing experience of my entire life because it was so long and so competitive. There was never a moment where you felt like you knew what the final outcome was going to be, so the constant chase provided an adrenaline rush for almost two years."

The chase came to an end on Jan. 20th, 2009, when Obama was sworn into

office as the 44th President of the United States. Carlson had the privilege of covering those final moments of the long campaign by riding with the president-elect on the Obama Express Whistle Stop Train ride from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C. The trip retraced the path Abraham Lincoln took in 1861.

As he rode on the train, Carlson contemplated the history at his fingertips.

"To be on the train that day was amazing," he recalls. "I pulled out my phone and called my Grandmother Carlson to tell her where I was at that moment. She broke down in tears as I was talking to her. When you see how proud your family is, it makes you realize

what a lucky person you are."

And Carlson is equally proud of the hands-on training that placed him in this position.

"I have nothing but great things to say about SIU," he says. "The University did so much for me, and now I try and return the favor whenever I can. Southern gave me all the help I ever needed to succeed in the world. I really don't know what else people there could have done for me."

Well, perhaps there is a little something fellow Salukis can do for him now. If you see Carlson in an airport, take a moment to walk over, introduce yourself – and grab some luggage! It's an act of alumni kindness he is sure to appreciate.



During a stop in Delaware on Barack Obama's whistle-stop train tour, Carlson takes a quick break from shooting video. The new president and his wife, Michelle, appear in the background at a rally in Wilmington. Carlson continued on the train to Washington, D.C., to cover the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States.

## ALUMNI DEATHS

Spring 2009

**FAIR-COX**, Daisy L., '26  
10/16/08, Alton, Ill.

**GALE**, Lillian M., '27, M.S.Ed. '60  
11/25/08, Murphysboro, Ill.

**PUCKETT**, Walter L., '37, M.S.Ed. '54  
01/20/09, Mill Shoals, Ill.

**WITTENBORN**, Sara E. Alwood, '37  
12/27/08, Pottersville, N.J.

**BAKEHOUSE**, Hazel G. Hedden, ex '38  
11/12/08, Brookport, Ill.

**COCKRUM**, Dr. James E., '39  
01/17/09, Anaheim, Calif.

**BUCHANAN**, Gerald Allen, '40  
10/12/09, Taylorville, Ill.

**CASPER**, Etoile T. Winston, ex '41  
12/02/08, Anna, Ill.

**HARRISON**, Rev. Russell F., '42  
08/04/08, Indianapolis, Ind.

**PATTERSON**, Evelyn M., '42, M.S.Ed. '49  
12/29/08, Marion, Ill.

**RICHARDSON**, Raymond A., '42, M.S.Ed. '65  
01/03/09, Centralia, Ill.

**RYLANDER**, Ph.D., Curtis R., '42  
12/02/08, Liberty Hill, Texas

**DUNGAN**, Nadine W., '45, M.S.Ed. '54  
06/27/08, Alton, Ill.

**HELMERS**, Agnes M., ex '46  
12/01/08, Steeleville, Ill.

**BERLEMANN**, Jeanne L. Knowles, '47  
09/07/08, Edwardsville, Ill.

**LOGSDON**, Ph.D., Bette J., '48  
10/19/08, Holland, Ohio

**PLAIN**, Mary E., ex '48  
01/03/09, Ventura, Calif.

**CLELAND**, Ph.D., Charles C., '50, M.S.Ed. '51  
12/06/08, Austin, Texas

**PALMER**, Raymond A., '51  
12/31/08, Prescott, Ariz.

**SIMMONS JR.**, Robert F., '51  
11/04/08, Marion, Ill.

**TILLER**, Dr. George E., ex '52  
12/16/08, Georgetown, S.C.

**FRIEDLINE**, Charles D., ex '53  
01/10/09, Anna, Ill.

**QUINN**, Marilyn M., M.S.Ed. '53  
11/22/08, Woodridge, Ill.

**BRAYFIELD**, Betty J., ex '55  
11/04/08, DeKalb, Ill.

**CONGIARDO**, Joel F., '56  
11/21/08, Murphysboro, Ill.

**GILLEN**, Herbert E., '56  
11/16/08, Columbus, Ohio

**HARTWELL**, William E., '56  
12/13/08, Marion, Ill.

**DALLAS**, Paul E., '57  
12/05/08, Marion, Ill.

**MICK**, Lois J., '57  
11/24/08, Benton, Ill.

**MIHALICH**, Nicholas J. "Nick," '57  
11/05/08, Johnston City, Ill.

**SIDEBOTHAM SR.**, William Robert "Bob," '57  
12/25/08, Lexington, Ky.

**BEERS**, LeElla R. Smith, '58  
11/04/08, Belleville, Ill.

**ENGBRIGHT**, Curtis Lee, '58, M.S.Ed. '59, Ph.D. '65  
12/26/08, Bowling Green, Ky.

**ZILMER**, Glen E., '58  
11/15/08, Bloomington, Ill.

**CLEARY**, Robert D., ex '59  
12/24/08, Vandalia, Ill.

**COLEMAN**, Theodore J. "Ted," '59  
12/23/08, Raleigh, N.C.

**HORTON**, Sally S., '59  
11/16/08, Harrisburg, Ill.

**STEINMANN**, Connie A., '59  
11/15/08, Evansville, Ind.

**ANDERSON**, Barbara J., '60  
11/19/08, Sonoma, Calif.

**CURTIS**, Jerry R., '60  
09/25/08, Clear Lake, Minn.

**DOBBS**, Charles R. "Dick," '60  
12/16/08, Marion, Ill.

**KESSELL**, Edward S., M.A. '60  
06/04/08, St. Louis, Mo.

**KING**, Valera J. Schultz, '60  
12/18/08, Tinley Park, Ill.

**CASHION**, Clifton Wayne, M.S.Ed. '61  
10/25/08, Alpharetta, Mo.

**BLUME**, Brenda J., '61  
01/05/09, Troy, Ill.

**BROWN**, Richard G. "Dick," M.S. '61  
11/25/08, McLeansboro, Ill.

**HARDIN**, Forrest R., M.A. '61  
01/05/09, Shelbyville, Ill.

**MEYER**, Dr. Arthur C., M.S. '61  
01/24/09, Clayton, Mo.

**SMITH**, Elisabeth H. "Babe," '61, M.S.Ed. '64  
01/09/09, Marion, Ill.

**STANLEY**, Dale R., ex '61  
01/20/09, Fairfield, Ill.

**WILLIAMS**, Freda F., '61

12/25/08, Woodlawn, Ill.

**WOLLBRINCK**, William R., ex '61  
10/20/08, Edwardsville, Ill.

**YANDELL**, Jay L., '61  
01/15/09, Herrin, Ill.

**HOLMES**, Charles E. "Chink," '62  
12/26/08, Caseyville, Ill.

**HUTCHISON**, Jean A., '62  
12/11/08, Godfrey, Ill.

**OLSON**, Alfred, '62  
10/22/08, Appleton, Wis.

**ROBINSON**, Franklin E., '62, M.A. '65, Ph.D. '70  
11/30/08, Murray, Ky.

**MCCLURE**, M. David, '63, M.S. '64  
12/14/08, South Elgin, Ill.

**MCKEE**, James E., '63  
01/06/09, Waukesha, Wis.

**TRAVERSO**, Betty Lou Burlison, '63, M.S.Ed. '64  
11/04/08, Marion, Ill.

**COFFMAN**, Dean L., '64, M.S. '66  
12/17/08, Daytona Beach Shores, Fla.

**MURPHY**, Roger S., '64  
12/30/08, Holiday Shores, Ill.

**REID**, Martha L., '64  
01/03/09, Canton, Ill.

**GONT**, William, '65, M.S.Ed. '67  
11/10/08, Downers Grove, Ill.

**GARARD**, Leroy H., '66  
11/18/08, Roscoe, Ill.

**MCCOWEN**, Hamilton J., '66  
12/15/08, Creal Springs, Ill.

**PENNINGTON**, JoAnn, '66  
12/29/08, Springfield, Ill.

**THORNE**, Daniel, '66  
01/22/09, Chester, Ill.

**BANAS**, Phyllis L. Rehg, '67, M.S.Ed. '70  
10/28/08, Joliet, Ill.

**STROTHMANN**, Freda E., '67  
01/17/09, Seymour, Ind.

**PHILLIPS III**, William J., '68  
01/13/09, Bloomington, Ill.

**LOHMAN**, Claudia G., '69  
12/14/08, Sherman, Ill.

**SCHULTE**, John W., '70, M.S. '72  
07/23/08, Oblong, Ill.

**FASSO**, Gene T. "Geno," '71  
08/25/08, Concord, Ohio

**PATTON JR.**, Leonard G. "Spunky," '71  
11/09/08, West Frankfort, Ill.

**SPITZNER**, Leo H., '71  
01/19/08, Flora, Ill.

**BOUCHARD**, William P. "Bill," '72  
11/13/08, Scottsdale, Ariz.

**MEYER**, Valerie E., M.S. '72, Ph.D. '81  
11/06/08, Edwardsville, Ill.

**PRESLEY**, Donald R., ex '72  
01/25/09, Carbondale, Ill.

**TICHY**, Allan T., '72  
12/12/08, Germantown, Tenn.

**HOLLAND**, Carol A., '73, M.S.Ed. '82  
01/06/09, Edwardsville, Ill.

**MIESNER**, Nelson R., '73  
12/28/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**MORGAN**, Betty M., Ph.D. '73  
10/20/08, Lubbock, Texas

**ZEMATIS**, Frank J., '73  
11/09/08, Chicago, Ill.

**WEAVER II**, William E. "Bill," '74, M.S. '81  
12/10/08, Nashville, Tenn.

**ROBERTS**, Geraldine, M.S.Ed. '76  
11/14/08, Vaiden, Miss.

**WINDISH**, Larry E., M.S. '76  
12/10/08, Dahinda, Ill.

**AGRAWAL**, Sidh K., M.S. '77  
11/14/08, Fremont, Calif.

**SUMMERS**, Layman A., '77, M.P.Ad. '80, J.D. '85  
12/28/08, West Frankfort, Ill.

**WEYMOUTH**, Alan R., '77  
01/15/09, Springfield, Ill.

**BECKER**, Randall J., '78, '79  
10/27/08, Little Rock, Ark.

**FELDMAN**, M.D., Paul K., '78  
11/01/08, Clarendon Hills, Ill.

**FENDER**, Susan E., '78, M.S. '80  
11/03/08, Las Cruces, N.M.

**HENRY**, Jonathan M. "Mitch," '78  
12/03/08, Oneonta, N.Y.

**SHELDON**, Thomas R., '78  
12/16/08, Mt. Vernon, Ill.

**BROWNING**, Jerry W., '79  
11/08/08, Lompoc, Calif.

**OSBORN**, David E., '79  
11/29/08, Silvis, Ill.

**SIMS**, Ann L., '79  
12/23/08, Henderson, Nev.

**SMITH**, Michael W., '80  
12/27/08, Alton, Ill.

**ANDERSON**, Thomas L., '81  
04/23/08, Ocala, Fla.

**FRANCK**, James A., '81  
12/12/08, Rock Island, Ill.

**MOORE**, Jane A., '82  
11/07/08, Energy, Ill.

**CARNES**, Rosemary, '85

## Robert Poos, AP Vietnam War Reporter

**R**obert Poos, a 1955 SIU journalism graduate who covered the Vietnam War as a reporter for the Associated Press and later served as managing editor of *Soldier of Fortune* magazine, died recently at 78 years old.

A Marine during the Korean War, Poos joined the AP in 1957. In 1965 he was assigned to the Saigon bureau, where he quickly became noted for aggressive and daring combat reporting. Poos, who worked at the *Southern Illinoisian* following his college days, became managing editor of *Soldier of Fortune* in the 1980s.

## JoAnne Thorpe, Women's Athletics Coach/Administrator

**D**r. JoAnne Thorpe, the former chair of the department of physical education at Southern Illinois University, recently died in Tampa, Fla., at the age of 77. Thorpe chaired the faculty senate, was vice president of the Division of Women's Sports at Southern, served as an SIU head coach from 1958-74, and was a 1983 SIU Hall of Fame inductee.

After retiring, she was an active faculty emerita and divided her time between Tampa and Carbondale.



01/07/09, Mt. Vernon, Ill.

**ARTECHE**, Raul, '88  
01/09/09, Deming, N.M.

**COOKSEY**, Jessica L., '93  
01/19/09, Thompsonville, Ill.

**OXFORD**, Ronald E., ex '93  
12/25/08, Du Quoin, Ill.

**BRAUN**, Margaret D., Ph.D. '94  
10/28/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**SUMMERS**, Donna J., ex '95  
11/08/08, Washington, Ill.

**COOPRIDER**, Julie S. Stevenson, '98  
10/31/08, Zanesville, Ohio

**MCCOMMONS**, Stephen R., M.S.Ed. '01  
12/07/08, Benton, Ill.

**FITZGERALD**, Brandon "B.J.," '06  
11/08/08, Washington, Ill.

**KEMNITZ**, Blake J., '07  
01/13/09, St. Charles, Ill.

**KARP**, MSGT Arnold H., '08  
12/06/08, Stuarts Draft, Vir.

**SEIBERT**, Jacqueline A. Herbert, '08  
11/05/08, Jacksonville, Fla.

## Faculty & Staff

**AUT**, Larry O., '70, M.S. '73  
Emeritus Coordinator  
School of Medicine  
11/18/08, Springfield, Ill.

**BISCHOF**, Elizabeth B., M.A. '52  
Assistant Instructor, English  
01/05/09, DeKalb, Ill.

**BRYANT**, Dorothy V. "Vi"  
Emerita Civil Service  
Account Technician II, School of Medicine  
12/01/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**BURNS**, Billie  
Emerita, School of Medicine  
01/15/09, Springfield, Ill.

**CALLAGHAN**, Mary C.  
Emerita Associate Professor  
School of Technical Careers  
11/15/08, San Andreas, Calif.

**DAVIS JR.**, Harry E.  
Visiting Assistant Professor  
School of Technical Careers  
12/24/08, Salem, Vir.

**ELLIS JR.**, Dr. Robert J.  
Emerita Associate Professor  
Economics  
12/07/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**ETHERTON**, Ova M.  
Emerita Civil Service  
Administrative Clerk, General Accounting  
12/09/08, Murphysboro, Ill.

**FALASTER**, Lisa, '94  
Business Manager II, University Press  
11/21/08, Murphysboro, Ill.

**FERRELL**, Carl B., '48, '49  
Assistant Instructor, Physiology  
11/15/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**GETZIE**, Mary Ann  
Emerita Civil Service, Admin. Stenographic  
Secretary  
Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs & Research  
01/02/09, Dowell, Ill.

**GRAVES**, Eugene H., '54  
Coordinator, Community Services  
11/23/08, Springfield, Ill.

**HORWITZ**, Helene M., Ph.D. '78  
Academic Advisor, School of Medicine  
10/24/08, St. Louis Park, Minn.

**HOUSEWRIGHT**, Vernon G.  
Visiting Assistant Professor  
Center for Study of Crime, Delinquency & Corrections  
11/14/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**KING**, Fred E.  
Emerita Civil Service  
Kitchen Laborer, University Housing  
12/17/08, Cobden, Ill.

**LAWWILL JR.**, Lindsey C., '66  
Emerita Civil Service  
Management Systems Manager, Information  
Technology  
12/04/08, Herrin, Ill.

**LUTZ**, Rollin  
School Children Attendant, Outdoor Laboratory  
10/20/08, Sarasota, Fla.

**MCDANIEL**, Clairibel W.  
Lecturer, Art  
12/17/08, Rockford, Ill.

**MELTZER**, Donald, ex '77  
Emerita Professor, Psychology  
11/26/08, Carbondale, Ill.

**MIRIANI**, Theresa B., '42  
Emerita, Associate Professor  
School of Technical Careers  
12/20/08, Carterville, Ill.

**REDDEN**, Dr. James E.  
Emeritus Professor, Linguistics  
01/02/09, Carbondale, Ill.

**RUSSELL**, Ph.D., Ivan L., '49, M.S.Ed. '50  
Associate Professor, Clinical Center  
08/22/08, Herrin, Ill.

**SEEBER**, Rhonda G., '74, M.S.Ed. '95  
Emerita Civil Service  
Assistant to the Associate Provost, School of  
Medicine  
01/05/09, Murphysboro, Ill.

**SIMS**, Robert L., '98, M.S. '01  
Assistant Director, Minority Engineering Programs  
01/18/09, Carbondale, Ill.

**TAYLOR**, Dr. Charles C.  
Emerita Associate Professor, Music  
12/5/08, Murphysboro, Ill.

**WOOD**, Dr. Eugene S., ex '44  
Emerita Visiting Professor  
International Agriculture  
01/21/09, Carbondale, Ill.

## Reconnecting With Their Roots

by Greg Scott

Greg and Patricia Sutton have enjoyed their share of success as computer technology consultants in Chicago. However, they have coveted an opportunity to broaden their outreach in their native southern Illinois, and now it appears that wish is coming to fruition.

The Southern Illinois University Carbondale graduates are founders of TEC Services Consulting Inc., in Naperville, a technology consulting company that specializes in designing, building, and supporting Web-based applications for corporations and government agencies. The company also strives to enhance job opportunities for youths and unemployed adults, an asset that the Suttons are bringing to southern Illinois.

Greg, a Norris City native, and Patricia, originally from Du Quoin, are coordinating efforts with the City of

Centralia, SIU, and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to develop a social enterprise. Greg says any profits will support the social enterprise's initiative to increase employment opportunities for southern Illinois residents.

"Our southern Illinois roots have kept us interested in engaging with the education and workforce development programs in the region," he notes. "TEC Services will provide training to help people improve their skill sets and become more marketable in the job industry. The state of Illinois spends more than a billion dollars a year outsourcing technological services. There either hasn't been a solution in the state or cheaper solutions are discovered elsewhere.

"The social enterprise is seeking to provide training to individuals with a goal of bringing that business back to

the state of Illinois."

Patricia says, "We are excited about the opportunity to build a sustainable model that brings good-paying job opportunities to residents in southern Illinois and provides the means to keep good people in the region."

Greg says those who are trained can eventually become employed in the social enterprise and use their new skills. The social enterprise will engage in business with organizations, educational institutions and other entities that have a need for affordable, yet quality technological services, such as a help desk call center or Web application development center serving the entire southern Illinois region, or other technologies in support of business needs.

"Many organizations and small businesses don't take advantage of technology because there aren't professionals available to procure, install, or support them in that aspect," he says. "The enterprise will enable us to train people and deploy them on projects in southern Illinois that require their expertise. And by working with entities such as SIU's entrepreneurship center, we can help some of these people start their own small businesses."

Emily Carter, director of entrepreneurship and business development at SIU, says social enterprises are an asset to the southern Illinois region.

"With our resources in the Centralia and Carbondale Entrepreneurship Centers, the University looks forward to assisting aspiring entrepreneurs with endeavors that could benefit the region in both a monetary and a nonmonetary way," Carter says. "Social entrepreneurship and the creation of social enterprises is a growing trend across the United States. This 'double bottom-line' busi-



Greg and Patricia Sutton say their roots to the region have kept them interested in helping others in southern Illinois succeed.

ness model provides an innovative approach to combining a dual mission of profitability and social consciousness.”

TEC Services, established in 2002, has made its impact in Chicago. The company designs and implements education and workforce development programs that are delivered to schools and the adult population. It strives to enhance job opportunities for youths and dislocated workers.

“The public housing sector is a focal point for us. Public housing residents can become more confident in using technology and improve their employment possibilities,” Greg says. “We also work with senior citizens to help them become more comfortable with technology. This enables them to communicate with family and friends in this manner and take advantage of government and other support services that are Web-based.”

Patricia adds, “As more people in Illinois become better able to use technology, their job prospects increase and they are better able to interact with the world as more information and services are Web-enabled. Additionally, with a more technology-savvy population, businesses and public agencies can better leverage technology to serve their target audiences.”

The Suttons met during their undergraduate years at Southern. Greg is a 1984 administrative sciences and finance graduate, and Patricia attained a computer science degree in 1985. Greg continued his studies at the University of Chicago, where he eventually received a master’s degree in business. Patricia joined him in Chicago upon her graduation, and the two married in her native Du Quoin in 1986.

The couple’s respective skill sets and knowledge acquired at Southern were pertinent in their efforts to establish Terasys, their first technology company in 1990. Greg says a desktop computer technology boom in the mid-1980s fos-

tered the company’s growth.

“There were lots of small computers in the business world, but there wasn’t much expertise available in regards to support, networking, and writing good business applications,” he says. “We saw an opportunity to apply Patricia’s skill set in the design of software and my skills in understanding how the business could take advantage of technology. Our intent was to help businesses deploy technology effectively.”

Terasys, sold by the Suttons in 2002 as they began establishing TEC Services, was initiated in the couple’s home.

“Seven of us worked out of our second bedroom. It was pretty cramped until we got our first office space,” he says. “It was fun. There was a lot of discussion over who was making the coffee back in those days.”

The Suttons are now happy to lend their expertise and skills to the southern Illinois region, an area they are still proud to call home.

“We visit family as often as possible and own land there as well,” Sutton says. “If we ever decide to retire, I wouldn’t be surprised if we settled right back in beautiful southern Illinois.” ■

## Southern Grad Hopes Museum Event Will Help Those In Need

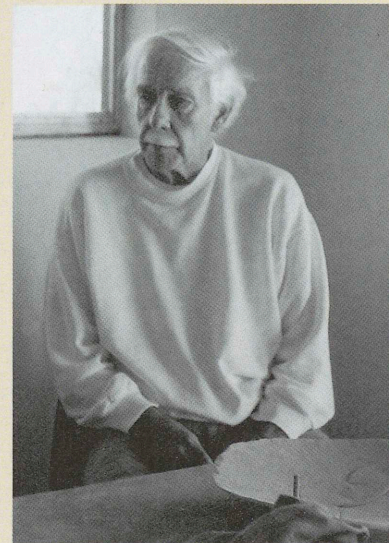
It has been 46 years since Theodore Harvey ’61, M.S. ’63 left Southern Illinois University. Since then he became a recognized ceramicist and teacher, including more than 30 years at Kent State University. The SIU Alumni Association life member will have several of his ceramics on display at the SIU Museum from March 24-May 9, in an exhibition featuring ceramic platters and charcoal drawings based on fish.

Although he has accomplished much since his SIU days, Harvey still clearly recalls a random act of kindness that helped him earn his degree. He says he was down on his luck at one point of his collegiate career and had no idea where his next meal would come from.

Mary Beimfohr, who worked at the time in SIU Student Financial Aid, recognized his plight and gave the starving Harvey some money. “Not a promissory note or financial contract,” he stresses, “but actual money when I was in serious need of food and rent. It was her direct willingness to help that kept me in school – for that I am still grateful.”

That episode has always stayed with Harvey, who is looking for a way to repay such kindness. The Grafton, Ill., resident wants any profits that might come from the sale of his platters during the exhibition to go toward an account to help needy SIU students in the future. The SIU Alumni Association will help administer the funds.

Alumni and friends are invited to a reception for Harvey on Saturday, April 4, from 4-7 p.m. at the South One Gallery in the museum. ■



Theodore Harvey in his studio.



Photos by Thomas Barker, Southern Illinoisan

# LOGAN MUSEUM CELEBRATES 20TH YEAR

FORMER TEACHER USES LOCAL HISTORY CURRICULUM  
AS FOUNDATION FOR FACILITY

BY BONNIE MARX

At left, poised by an ornately framed photo of Gen. John A. Logan, Mike Jones, director of the Gen. John A. Logan Museum in Murphysboro, leads a tour group through Logan's life and times.

Every year when Mike Jones '67, a teacher for 33 years, imparted history to his sixth-graders at Murphysboro Middle School, he took pains to include a local history section among the world and ancient history curricula required of that grade level.

During the 1984-1985 school year, as Jones was casting about for an idea for the local history segment, he says he briefly considered something about Wild Bill Hickok, the legendary lawman and professional gambler. Hickok, who was born in Troy Grove, Ill. (La Salle County), moved to Kansas at the age of 18.

Then Jones remembered a t-shirt a friend had brought him from Atlanta, Ga., emblazoned with the name of Gen. John A. Logan. So the Murphysboro native, knowing only a bit about Logan's connection to the town, decided it was time for his students to "do something with Logan."

The rest, as they say, is history.



Portraying Gen. John A. Logan, Ray Hancock '62, M.S. '68, Ph.D. '83 (president emeritus of John A. Logan Community College, a 2004 Distinguished Alumnus, and life member of the SIU Alumni Association) pauses in front of a display at the Gen. John A. Logan Museum.

## 20 YEARS IN MURPHYSBORO

In January, the Gen. John A. Logan Museum in Murphysboro celebrated its 20th year of existence with a weekend full of festivities and recognition. And it all began inside Mike Jones' sixth-grade classroom decades ago.

"It was important to get that connection to something," Jones says, adding that 11- and 12-year-olds, even though they are at an age where they are "still interested," often find studying about 5,000 years ago to be a big snooze.

It's not difficult to find the name Logan emblazoned on entities in southern Illinois; Murphysboro first honored its native son in 1914 and the Logan statue was dedicated in 1930. In the early 1980s Murphysboro established an annual Logan Days that celebrate the American soldier and political leader who founded Memorial Day to honor the soldiers of the Civil War.

But Jones challenged his students to venture beyond Illinois borders to help determine Logan's influence on the nation. The students began writing letters to officials in places bearing the name Logan — cities, counties, landmarks, and the like.

The students came up with an impressive list that ranged from Chicago to San Diego, from Massachusetts to Kansas, Washington, D.C., Michigan, and North Carolina. And they discovered, Jones says, that Logan "was most definitely a part of the national story."

Jones, the historian who spent his younger years focusing on Roman, Greek, and medieval history, quickly took up the torch to awaken not only students but the entire region to the history living among us.

Before his retirement he would involve his students in writing a book



Jones points out a display case filled with ammunition from the Civil War era. The cannonball at the top of the case was discovered unexploded in a Virginia cornfield in the 1970s and had to be disarmed.

and making a 30-minute documentary about Murphysboro's African American Civil War Veterans and in working alongside professional archaeologists in discovering the foundation of the home in which Logan was born. This was in addition to being docents and presenters for school groups visiting the museum during Logan Days.

### BACK IN THE BEGINNING

One of the most important factors in creating the museum, Jones says, has been the support of the Murphysboro Park

District, which in 1988 enacted a museum tax after Jones made a presentation on his far-ranging plans to commemorate Logan. The town had struggled for ways to develop the Logan connection as a tourism attraction without much success.

Today, the park district still provides partial financing, although the museum continues to grow and strengthen. The festivities in January involved the museum's first fundraising campaign, marking more than \$176,000 raised (toward a goal of \$250,000).

Jones and the scores of others who

**"A TEACHER AFFECTS ETERNITY;  
HE CAN NEVER TELL WHERE HIS INFLUENCE STOPS."**

— HENRY BROOKS ADAMS



volunteer for the cause emphasize that the idea is not to make money, but merely to allow decent upkeep.

"Museums are expensive," he says, pointing out that the museum needs "a lot of little things." An expansion of the physical space of the museum in 2007 added 1,600 square feet onto the rear of the Christopher C. Bullar House at 1613 Edith St., where the museum is located.

The museum is overflowing with Logan artifacts, ranging from his childhood, to his early political career, to his time as a Civil War general, to serving in the U.S. House of Representatives and as a U.S. Senator, to founding Memorial Day. He was also a vice-presidential candidate in 1884, in an election widely recognized as one of the dirtiest of all time.

### STILL EDUCATING KIDS

Jones, who volunteers up to 50 hours a week of his time for the cause, believes the central idea of the entire Logan project is still education. Every year the museum sponsors a Logan Days in May. The event is a living history fair for fourth, fifth and sixth grade students. During the three-day affair, each day focuses on a different nineteenth-century time period, providing students with a chance to visit with individuals from the Illinois frontier, the Civil War era, and the turn of the twentieth-century.

Jones admits that he and other founders of the Logan museum were "so naive," in the beginning about their ability to create a Logan presence in the town. "But we wanted to propagate a

curiosity about history," he says.

The idea now, he says, is to guide the museum, indeed the entire block where the museum is located, into a heritage and culture area with paid staff.

Jones, whose knowledge of all things Logan is encyclopedic, wouldn't mind being a part of that. History isn't some dry, dusty experience to be endured, he says: "It's very alive to me, very real."

The Joneses are a family of Salukis. Wife, Sharon '70 taught at Trico School for many years. Daughters Robin Jones '96, M.P.A. '99, (a consultant for HSI in St. Louis) and Holly Fletcher '01 (a quality control manager at Aisin Manufacturing in Marion) have kept that Southern spirit alive for another generation.



American history came to life at the Gen. John A. Logan Museum in Murphysboro as President Abe Lincoln and Gen. John A. Logan discussed the Civil War with a Union soldier. Lincoln was portrayed by George Buss of Freeport, who has spent more than 15 years playing the part.

# Top Hitter Kelly Leads 2009 Baseball Salukis

With a quality group of returnees and a nice blend of newcomers, the Southern Illinois University baseball team is primed for its 2009 season.

"I think we have the personnel to make a run at a conference title," says head coach Dan Callahan. "We've proven the last seven years that we are one of the top three teams in our league."

If there's any concern, it's depth, as the Salukis return only four position starters and one starting pitcher from a team that went 34-23 overall and 12-12 in the MVC last season. SIU welcomes 14 new players to this year's team, nine of whom are transfers.

"We should be solid on offense and defense but are somewhat

untested on the hill," says Callahan. "I do think we have one of the top recruiting classes in the league, so hopefully some of those players will come in and contribute this season."

Seniors *Mark Kelly* (C) and *Scott Elmendorf* (INF), junior *Aaron Roberts* (OF) and sophomore *Chris Murphy* (OF) lead the returning position players from last year's team. Kelly, a two-time first-team all-conference pick, has led the Dawgs in hitting and runs batted in each of the last two years. Elmendorf hit .303 with 40 runs and 26 RBI in 55 starts last season. Roberts (51) and Murphy (61) were also among SIU's hits leaders in 2008,

finishing fifth and third, respectively.

Pitching wise, senior right-hander *Adam Curynski* is the lone returning starter. He

looks to move to the front of the rotation after going 5-1 with a 2.37 ERA in his Saluki debut a year ago. Curynski also picked up three saves, struck out 33, and allowed just 13 earned runs in 49.1 innings over 19 appearances and five starts. Senior right-hander *Andrew Dunn* and junior right-hander *Nathan Forer* are other possible weekend starters. Those three will help fill a sizeable gap left by RHP *Cody Adams* and LHP *Shawn Joy*. Adams was a second-round draft pick of the Milwaukee Brewers, while Joy signed as a free agent with the New York Yankees.

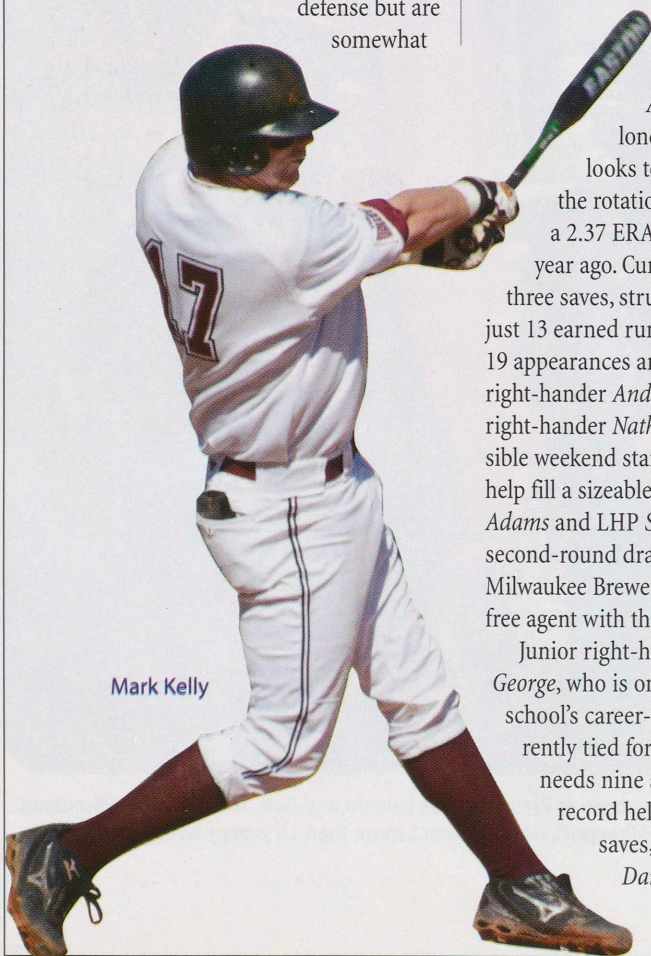
Junior right-handed closer *Bryant George*, who is on pace to become the school's career-leader in saves, is currently tied for second with 11. He needs nine saves to break the record held by *Al Levine* (19 saves, 1990-91). Senior LHP *Daniel Wells*, senior RHP

*David Kington*, redshirt-sophomore RHP *Daniel Etienne*, junior LHP *Jimmy Cornell*, and senior RHP *Brad Lawrence* should also give the Salukis some quality innings out of the pen.

In addition, SIU added 14 newcomers to its 2009 roster, 10 of whom are transfers. Freshman INF *Chris Serritella*, junior INF *Tony Lepore*, junior INF *Michael Stalter*, freshman INF/RHP *Jordan Sivertsen*, and junior INF *Wade Dutton* are among those expected to make an immediate impact.

Following a 20-game nonconference schedule to begin the season, the Dawgs are set to open up the 2009 MVC season on March 20-22 hosting Northern Iowa. The Salukis were picked to finish fourth in the conference this season in a preseason coaches poll. For the full SIU schedule, go to [www.siusalukis.com](http://www.siusalukis.com).

SIU has won 30 or more games in six of its last seven seasons and finished among the top four in the MVC five of the last six years. Callahan's squad is one of only three conference teams to make the MVC Tournament seven years in a row.



Mark Kelly

## Look For Sports Roundups In Saluki Pride

As this edition of *Southern Alumni* went to press, the men and women's basketball teams were preparing for Missouri Valley Conference Tournament action. Look for a recap of SIU Basketball in the spring issue of *Saluki Pride*, along with photos from the Association's hospitality suite at the Valley men's tournament.

Also in action were the men and women's swimming and diving teams. Those results will also be featured in our next newsletter. For full results of any Saluki athletic team, go to [www.siusalukis.com](http://www.siusalukis.com).

## Several Top Players Return For Softball Salukis

**W**ith all three hurlers returning and four of the top six hitters back, the 2009 Southern Illinois University softball team mirrors the talented squads that have made Saluki softball a yearly tradition of excellence.

Head coach *Kerri Blaylock* feels the components are present to reach the program's yearly goals, despite being picked to finish third in the Missouri Valley Conference in a preseason poll of league coaches.

"Our goal every year is to win a conference championship, and where our program has been, we want to push for that every season," Blaylock explains. "I'm excited with the potential this team has, because they have the ingredients to win a league title and get to the NCAAs."

At the forefront is a trio of talented pitchers who all made great strides last

season. Sophomores *Nikki Waters* and *Danielle Glosson*, along with senior lefty reliever *Katie McNamara*, will look to build on a progressive 2008. Waters led the crew with 13 wins, Glosson fanned 131 batters, and McNamara provided tremendous support in a league-best 18 relief appearances last year.

On offense, the Salukis bring back two of the top outfielders in junior *Katie Wilson* and senior *Katie Schmidt*. Wilson ranked third on the team with a .290 average, and Schmidt clubbed 11 extra base hits for a .500 slugging percentage. In addition, sophomore *Chelsea Held* returns after a formidable .281 average and five stolen bases in her freshman season. Wilson, Schmidt, and Held combined for 28 of SIU's 48 stolen bases a year ago.

Freshman *Mallory Duran*, a speedy and talented newcomer, will also play a key role in the outfield. Duran was named the Gatorade Colorado Softball Player of the Year twice in high school. Juniors *Jenene Ebstein* and *Allie Hanson* will also be outfield contributors.

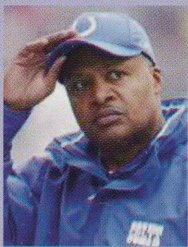
The infield returns two of the Salukis' top hitters and defenders in senior third baseman *Katie Wagner* and junior second baseman *Alicia Garza*. Wagner led the team with nine home runs last year while Garza provided a team-best 27 runs and a stellar .983 fielding percentage. SIU will also infuse freshman *Haley Gorman* into the shortstop role and place fifth-year senior *Chelsea Petty* at first.



**Katie Wagner returns for her senior season after leading the Salukis in homers last year.**

### Former Saluki Assistant Named Coach Of NFL's Colts

**W**hen former Saluki assistant football coach Jim Caldwell was recently named head coach of the Indianapolis Colts, one of the first



people he publicly thanked was his head coach at Southern. Caldwell assisted Rey Dempsey at SIU from 1978-80, and says he learned much in his early days of coaching from the Saluki Hall of Famer.

Caldwell replaces the retiring Tony Dungy after serving the Colts as an assistant coach for the past eight years. Dempsey is thrilled that his old friend is getting this opportunity to be a head coach at the highest level of his profession.

"I am so happy and excited for Jim because he's a great coach and a great man," Dempsey says. "When I interviewed for the SIU position, I put him on the board to go over Xs and Os. He's probably the sharpest man I ever heard answering those type of questions. He is humble, a tireless worker, and a tremendous family man."

The main catching duty will fall in the hands of senior *Jayne Wamsley*, who returns after starting 52 games last season. Hanson, as well as sophomore *Cristina Trapani* and freshman *Brianna Nordstrom*, will also have the potential to see time at catcher.

"Offensively we have a great mix of power and speed this year," says Blaylock. "I'm really excited about the athletes we have on this team."

In nonconference action, the Salukis will face 10 opponents who reached the NCAA tournament last year, four that advanced to the NCAA Super Regional, and a pair of teams that made it to the Women's College World Series. The squad was scheduled to open the MVC season on March 11 at Evansville. For a complete SIU softball schedule, go to [www.siusalukis.com](http://www.siusalukis.com).

## Six Inductees Enter Saluki Hall Of Fame

The Southern Illinois University Department of Athletics inducted its 2009 Hall of Fame Class in January. The six-person class featured two baseball players (*Jerry Hairston* and *Dale Kisten*), two track athletes (*Ron Harrer* and *Mike Kee*), a volleyball player (*Lori Simpson*), and a multisport athlete (*Clint Smothers*).

Here is a closer look at the newest inductees:

- **Hairston** (1996-97), who is currently a member of the Cincinnati Reds, has played 11 seasons in the major leagues, including stints with the Baltimore Orioles, Chicago Cubs, and Texas Rangers. In two seasons with SIU, Hairston hit .360, which ranks seventh all-time in career batting average. He was named the Missouri Valley Conference Freshman of the Year in 1996 and led the team in batting average (.380) in 1997.

When he made the big leagues in 1998, Hairston became the first, third-generation African American to play a major professional sport in the United States. His grandfather, Sam, played for the Chicago White Sox (1951), his uncle, John, saw action in three games with the Cubs (1969), and his father, Jerry, played for the White Sox and Pirates (1973-1989).

- **Kisten** (1986-88), 20 years after his career ended, still ranks as one of the best pitchers in school history. He is tied for third in career wins (25), first in career complete games (24), and first in career games started (44). The right-handed pitcher also ranks fourth in career innings pitched (281.1).

Kisten was named First-Team All-MVC in 1986 and 1987 before recording a school-record 10 complete games in 1998. He played several years of professional baseball, reaching as high as AAA with the St. Louis Cardinals.

- **Harrer** (1985-88) was a three-time All-American for the Saluki track team, capturing a sixth place in the outdoor discus in 1987, a sixth in the indoor weight in 1988, and a fourth place in the outdoor discus in 1988. He was also a three-time MVC Champion, winning the discus, hammer, and javelin in 1987. Harrer was named the Missouri Valley Conference's "Outstanding Athlete" in 1987.

- **Kee** (1976-78) was also a three-time All American placing in the outdoor 100M three straight years. He won an amazing nine MVC titles in events, including the outdoor 100M (1976-78), the outdoor 200M (1976-78), the indoor 55M (1976, '78) and the indoor 300M (1978). He still ranks among the school's career leaders in several categories.

- **Simpson** (1987-91) was an outside hitter for the volleyball team and won the Gateway Conference Player of

the Year award in 1991. She was a First Team All-Gateway pick that year, as well. Simpson led the team in digs in 1991 and aces in 1990 and 1991. She was fourth in digs in a single season (476) and held the record from 1991 until 2003. She still ranks sixth in career kills (449) and 10th in career digs (935).

- **Smothers** (1990-94) was a rare multisport athlete who excelled in football, baseball, and track. No male athlete since has lettered in more than two sports at the University since he accomplished the feat. Smothers was an Second-Team All-Gateway safety in 1992 who led the team with 100 tackles in 1993, was a three-year starter in baseball while leading the 1993 team in hitting with a .315 average, and in track he lettered by placing sixth in the pole vault at the MVC indoor meet in 1991.




From left, Lori Simpson, Jerry Hairston, Ron Harrer, Mike Kee, Dale Kisten, and Clint Smothers make up the 2009 Saluki Hall of Fame induction class.

# Get the **Look.**

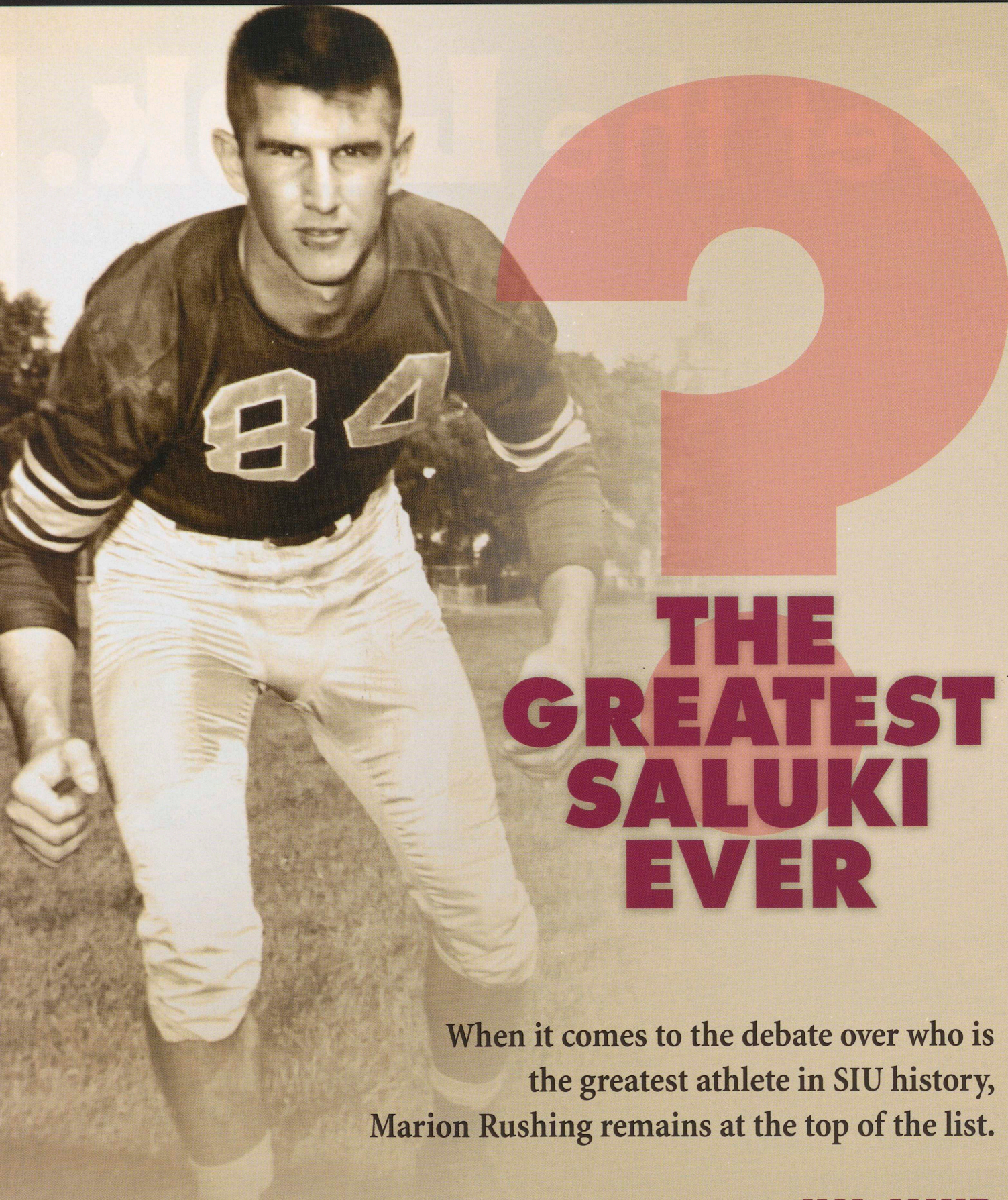
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# THE GREATEST SALUKI EVER

When it comes to the debate over who is the greatest athlete in SIU history, Marion Rushing remains at the top of the list.

**BY JIM MUIR**

Marion Rushing, shown during his playing days at Southern, earned 13 varsity letters at SIU – more than any other male athlete in school history. Most agree that Rushing’s prowess, which led to a career in professional football, ranks him as the best Saluki athlete to ever compete at the University.

**J**oe Yusko and Gordon Lambert grew up playing sports in the late 1940s in southern Illinois, a time when coal mine tipples dotted the landscape and the Baby Boom era was just beginning.

Yusko, from West Frankfort, and Lambert, from Marion, wouldn’t meet until they became football teammates at Southern Illinois University in the mid-1950s. But both athletes learned a valuable lesson while honing their athletic talents in their respective community.

“Once a teammate, always a teammate,” Yusko says. “And you always pick a teammate up when he’s down,” Lambert adds.

When they think of traits of a good teammate, they are quick to describe former Saluki Marion Rushing, who in *their* assessment (and many others for that matter), is the greatest Saluki ever.

Anytime the “greatest anything” is mentioned, there are differing opinions. Pose that question to 10 people and there’s a good chance you’ll get several different answers. Certainly the era involved, size of the school, and the overall success of the team the individual played on have to be factored in when making a choice. Regardless of all those intangibles, individual personal accomplishments weigh heavily when trying to determine the greatest athlete to ever lace up a pair of sneakers.

## A MAN OF LETTERS

For decades, there has been a single standard used in athletics that has determined success. That standard is a “letter,” the letter representing the respective school that signifies the athlete being a significant member of a team.

Letters are unique because they’re not won and not awarded; instead they’re earned. And if the greatest athletes are being considered and the letters earned are the measuring stick, then Marion Rushing, with 13 letters during his four years at SIU, is in a class all by himself.

Yusko and Lambert, both outstanding high school and college athletes in their own right, recently provided a solid argument to back up their claim regarding Rushing’s athletic prowess. But it wasn’t so much the argument presented as it was the reasoning behind the decision to tell their former teammate’s story.

Rushing has battled Parkinson’s disease for more than 20 years — a debilitating illness that has robbed him of his ability to walk or talk.

“Rush is so unassuming and humble that he proba-

bly wouldn’t have talked about his success if he could,” says Yusko. “But he was a great teammate, and we wanted to tell his story for him.”

And a great story it is.

When discussing all-time great athletes in Illinois the name of Thomas Dwight “Dike” Eddleman is often mentioned.

Eddleman grew up and starred at Centralia High School and later at the University of Illinois, where he was a three-sport standout. He earned 11 letters in football, basketball, and track during his collegiate days with Illinois. Eddleman has had books written about him, a street named after him, and is still revered in the Champaign-Urbana area.

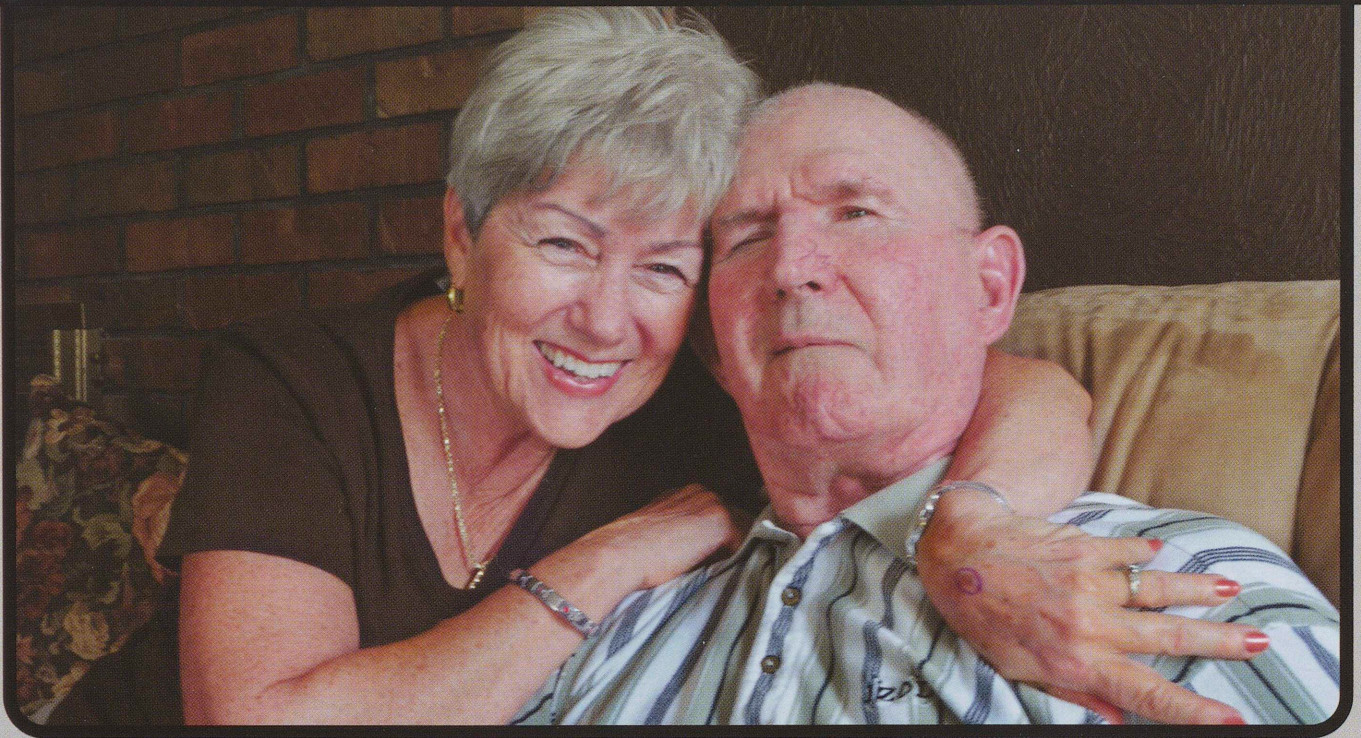
Yusko believes that *everything* Eddleman is to Fighting Illini fans Marion Rushing is and should be to Saluki fans.

“He was that good and in the same category with Eddleman,” says Yusko, when talking about Rushing’s career at Southern. “In fact, Eddleman earned 11 letters and Rushing earned 13.”

Rushing earned letters in football in 1954, 1955, 1956, and 1957 and in basketball in 1955, 1956, and 1957. He also lettered in track in 1955, 1956, 1957, and 1958 and in wrestling in 1958 and 1959. Following college, Rushing made his professional debut in the NFL in 1959 with the Chicago Cardinals. He played in the NFL for seven years, playing for the St. Louis Cardinals, Atlanta Falcons, and Chicago Cardinals during the course of a seven-year NFL career. Rushing also played in the AFL for one year for the Houston Oilers.



Gordon Lambert '58 (left) and Joe Yusko '64 share a laugh as they go through old yearbooks and reminisce about their time playing football with Marion Rushing.



Bonnie and Marion Rushing are shown at their rural Pinckneyville home. The two met in Carbondale and have now been married 44 years.

### OFF THE CHARTS

Yusko graduated from West Frankfort High School in 1952 and went to the University of Illinois on a football scholarship. He was injured during his first year and returned home, later transferring to SIU where he played football for four years. It was at SIU in 1954 that Yusko and Rushing became teammates.

"He was off the charts athletically," notes Yusko. "He could do anything ... when you think about the fact that he was good enough to play professional football, he started several basketball games, and he set records in track and as a wrestler.

"Rush was a quiet guy who didn't say that much. If you met him without knowing just how great of an athlete he was, you'd have never known. He wasn't the kind of guy that would toot his own horn. He was just a farm boy who happened to be a great athlete."

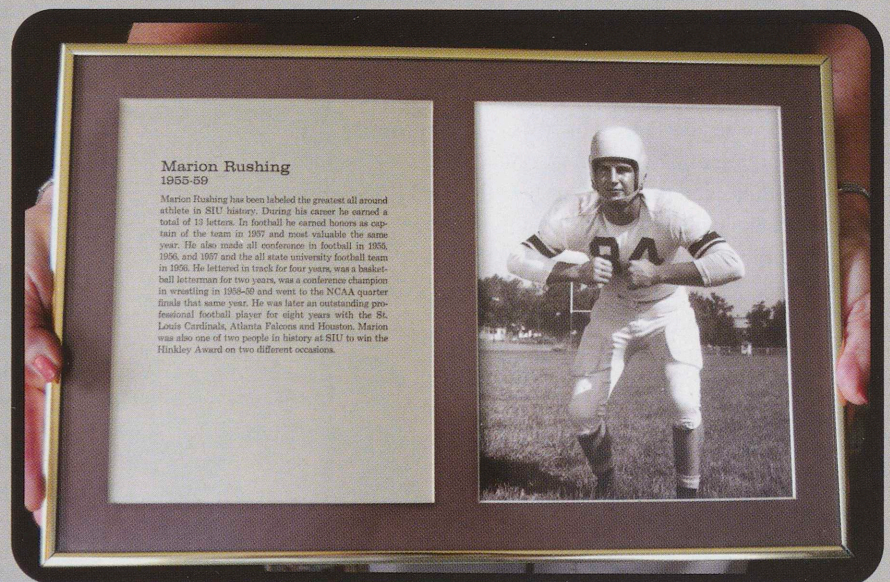
Lambert, a retired Marion attorney, played basketball and baseball at SIU and was also a teammate of Rushing. He echoes Yusko's sentiments about Rushing's quiet demeanor but adds that the Pinckneyville native had a toughness about him that he had never seen in any other athlete.

"I remember during football season one year that Rush got his hand stepped on and it swelled up to twice its normal size; it was obviously broken," recalls Lambert. "He would carry it under his other arm so nobody could see how bad it was. We kept on telling him that he needed to go to see the trainer, but he said, 'I'm not going to do it, because if I do they'll tell me it's broken and they

won't let me play.' He never did go to the trainer and played the next game."

When Lambert and other athletes would head downtown for the nightlife and perhaps a few beers, Rushing never was part of the group.

"He was dedicated, religious, and just a kind farm kid," Lambert says. "While his athletic ability stands out, he was as good a person as he was an athlete."



Rushing was inducted in the charter SIU Hall of Fame class in 1978. Above, his wife holds his plaque.

## HIS GREATEST TEAMMATE

When mentioning Rushing's teammates, the one that has clearly been at his side longer than anybody is wife Bonnie. The couple has been married 44 years and has three children, Pam (Hall) of Herrin, and Chad and Troy, who both live in Pinckneyville.

Bonnie now oversees her husband's daily care. She says he was first diagnosed with Parkinson's disease more than 25 years ago, and that his health has declined steadily during the past few years. Rushing can walk with assistance, but can barely speak above a whisper.

"He won't initiate any conversation. I think it's just too difficult for him," Bonnie says. "But he understands when somebody talks to him."

Bonnie (Dodillet) grew up in Centralia, and as a senior in high school, once visited her sister, Sue, a sophomore at SIU. The sisters attended a Saturday afternoon Saluki game and Bonnie took note of a picture in the program of the team captain, a strapping young man named Marion Rushing.

"I took one look at his picture and I thought, 'Oh man.' I thought he was the cutest guy I had ever seen," Bonnie recalls. "I cut the picture out of the program and I carried it in my wallet for three years before I ever met him."

The circumstances surrounding the way Bonnie and Marion eventually met had a "meant-to-be" air about it.

"While driving from Centralia to Carbondale with my friend, Bill Bush, one time he told me he wanted to stop in Pinckneyville and talk to a buddy," Bonnie recalls. "I asked who his buddy was and he said 'Marion Rushing.' Well, needless to say I didn't object to him stopping."

Bonnie says she and Marion soon began dating, but she waited several months to tell him about the picture she had carried all those years. "He didn't believe me until I pulled the shredded picture out of my wallet and showed him," she says.

Following his career in professional football, Rushing began a career as a

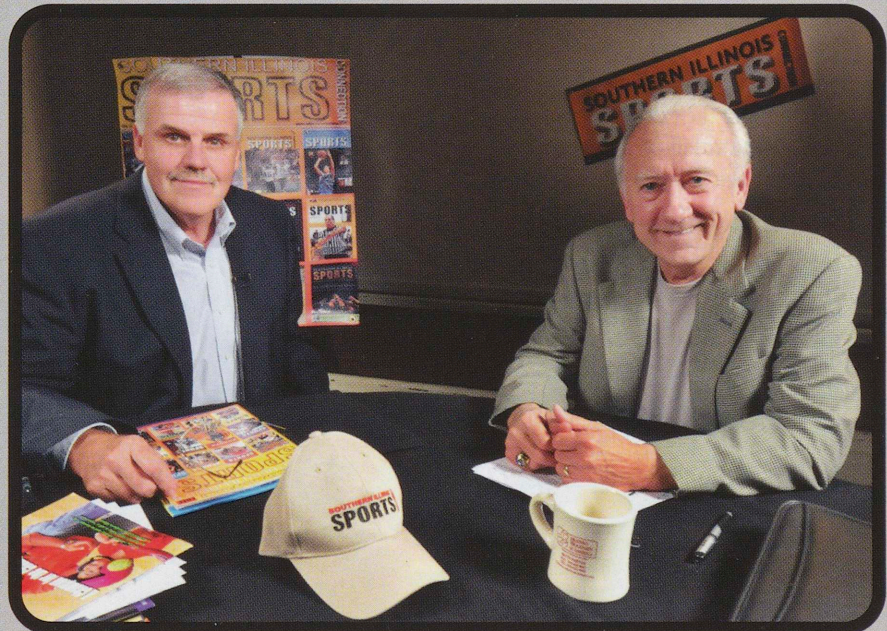
## THE RUSHING FILE

- Rushing was a football standout, a solid basketball player on Merrill "Duster" Thomas' outstanding teams and a consistent winner in track as a high-jumper and shot-putter.
- At SIU, where he enrolled in the fall of 1954 and graduated in the spring of 1959, Rushing earned four letters in football, four in track, three in basketball, and two in wrestling. The total of 13 varsity awards is a coveted accomplishment that he alone owns.
- He was the first Saluki athlete to win SIU's "most outstanding athlete of the year" award twice. Since Rushing gained the honor in 1956 and 1958, gymnast Rusty Mitchell duplicated the feat in 1963 and 1964 and basketball/track standout Chuck Benson in 1968 and 1969.
- Statistics in Rushing's era were not as refined as they became in later years and as a result there are no defensive records in football throughout his career. It is noted in Saluki history that he played at three different positions, end, center, and guard, offensively while he was a defensive power as an end. And, yes, players performed on both offense and defense in those years.
- As a senior in football in 1957, Rushing was team captain, received SIU's most valuable player award, and was a first-team all-conference choice after having been named to the second team the two previous seasons.
- At 6-2, and 190 pounds, Rushing competed at the heavyweight class in wrestling and has the distinction of being a member of the only two undefeated (in duals) teams in school history. The Salukis earned the honor in both 1958 and 1959 with Marion claiming the conference heavyweight title in the latter year.
- Perhaps the finest of all SIU honors Rushing owns, however, is that he was included in the charter class of the Saluki Hall of Fame when it was formed in 1978.

farmer and also worked for more than 20 years as a coal miner. "He liked hard work, and he loved heavy equipment," says Bonnie. "For leisure he loved to fish. I still get him on our four-wheeler and drive him around our property. We bought 360 acres in 1964, it's just strip pits and hills and there are nice trails. He really enjoys that."

Bonnie notes that Marion has accepted his illness with the same attitude he had when he was excelling at four different sports at SIU.

"It has been a tough road, very tough," she admits. "But I have never heard him complain — not a single word. There's no 'poor, poor me.' He just takes things as they come and does the best he can." 🏈



This feature originally appeared in *Southern Illinois Sports Connection*. From left, author Jim Muir and photographer Ceasar Maragni '66 are shown in their office.

Photo by Richard Kuenneke/Oakview Road Media.



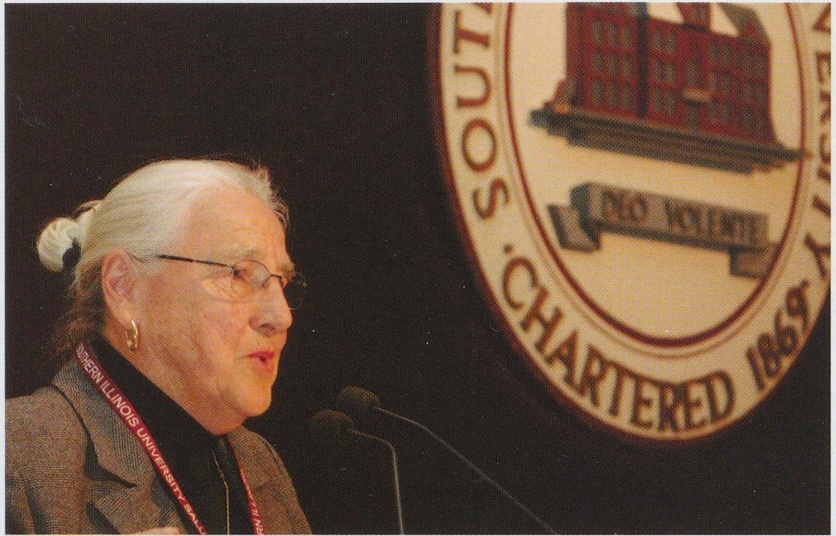
## Celebration Of Women's Athletics Event Reunites Salukis

For more than five decades, Southern Illinois University has enjoyed a rich history of participation by women athletes, and recently the University honored its proud heritage by providing letter awards to female athletes who competed at SIU prior to 1980.

On Jan. 17-18, almost 100 former student-athletes and coaches returned to campus for various events to honor their contributions to the program. The gatherings included a reception and brunch prior to the SIU women's game Saturday afternoon, and a post-game reception on the concourse sponsored by the SIU Alumni Association.

"I think it was long overdue," says retired SIU Women's Athletic Director Charlotte West. "Most Division I schools have honored their early female athletes and I'm thrilled that we now have done the same. Chancellor Sam Goldman and SIU Athletics Director Mario Moccia were warm and gracious hosts at the brunch, and the ex-athletes felt special.

"That was followed by one of the nicest events of the weekend when the

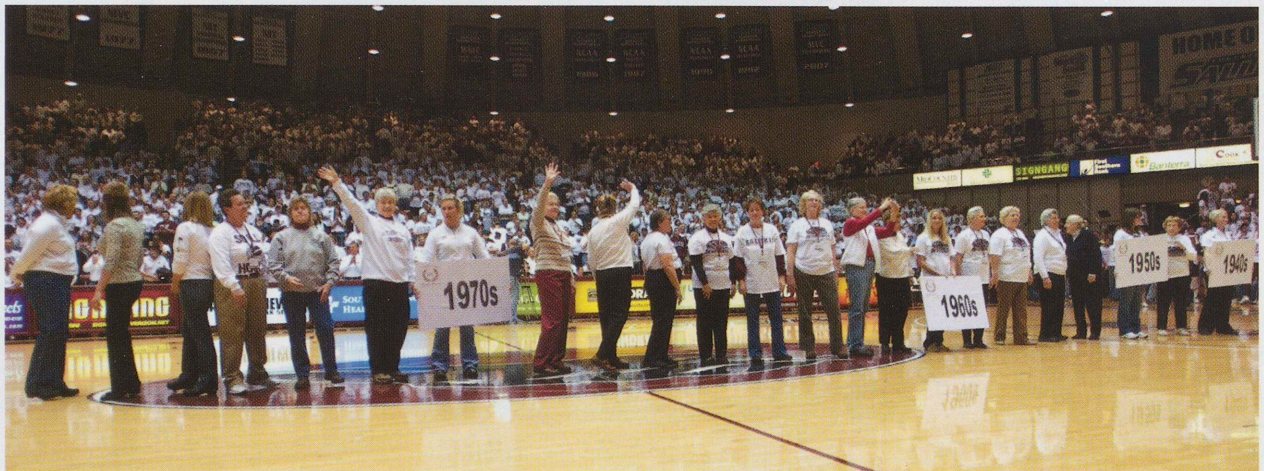


Retired SIU Associate A.D. Charlotte West addresses the group at a brunch in the SIU Ballrooms.

SIU Alumni Association sponsored a reception after the game. In that setting, we were able to visit one-on-one. I had the opportunity to reconnect with many athletes I had not seen in years."

West said the former Salukis who returned were enthralled with the entire

reunion. "These women played for the love of sport, as few if any extrinsic benefits were available in their era," she says. "Their sincere expressions of appreciation – which I heard throughout the weekend – were truly heart-warming."



Some of the returnees are introduced to fans at an SIU basketball game. Almost 100 former student-athletes and coaches returned for the weekend's festivities.



Sheree Fahlberg '77 (left) and Maureen (Allmendinger) Earl '79 are all smiles as they greet old friends and teammates. For many in attendance, the reception provided a special time for smiles, hugs, and renewed fellowship.

The project came together through the work of many people, including a

committee of such notables as West, Julee Illner, Kay Brechtelsbauer, Judy

Auld, Claudia Blackman, and Sarah Haas. The committee identified individuals who represented SIU in competition against other schools prior to and including 1980. These names were gathered from athletics department records, *Daily Egyptian* archives, *Obelisks* from the time period, and *Echo* newsletters from the old Department of Physical Education.

"The Celebrating Women's Athletics project was originally the brainchild of former SIU Director of Athletics Paul Kowalczyk," says Associate Athletics Director Kathy Jones. "Then Mario Moccia bought into the idea and agreed to help fund it. We also are indebted to Chancellor Goldman and SIU Alumni Association Executive Director Michelle Suarez for their assistance in hosting the events."

Suarez says the event proved to be a perfect match for the Association. "Many of these former athletes and coaches had not been back to Southern in many years," she says. "Hosting part of the weekend's festivities was a great way to meet these ladies and help us stay connected with them in the years ahead." ■



SIU Athletics Director Mario Moccia (left) and SIUC Chancellor Sam Goldman present Zella (Boner) Spani with her varsity letter and plaque. The 91 year-old West Frankfort, Ill., resident was the oldest person to return for the event.

Despite physical challenges, Skloot continues to be a prolific writer.



Photo by Beverly Hallberg

# SHADOW MEMORIES

FLOYD SKLOOT'S POETIC JOURNEY

BY DAVE WIECZOREK

It has now been more than two decades ago that Floyd Skloot, M.A. '71, was sitting on an airplane minding his own business when he was clobbered with a baseball bat of a virus that turned his brain into that of an old man's.

"I was geezered," Skloot now explains.

The virus, believed to have traveled through the plane's air circulation system, short-circuited Skloot's brain, causing both physical and neurological disabilities that still hinder him today. What the attack could not do was quell the creativity of this award-winning memoirist, novelist, and, above all, poet. This despite the reality that Skloot's brain often has, well, a mind of its own.

He writes a note and then places the pen in a mug of tea rather than in its holder. He struggles to figure out how a pillow fits into a pillowcase. Trying to talk and eat at the same time, he bites his tongue, requiring stitches to close the gash. When the phone rings as he's making lunch, he puts the receiver down on the countertop and talks into a paring knife.

Skloot tells his daughter that it has been *wealthy* rather than *lovely* to speak with her on the phone. He sometimes slips into staggered speech patterns that make him feel as though he were "speaking with a limp."

Yet this same man, with the same damaged brain, sits down with tightly focused attention and painstakingly writes poetry as beautiful and as emotionally charged as an electrical storm:

*I may never know what virus this is, what brilliant cell rewrites the entire score, my body has followed for life, throwing its symphony into chaos.* ("Music Appreciation")

*Where our hillside plummets, a fringe of feathery wild grasses webbed with frost bends as though lost in prayer.* ("Daybreak")

*In my brother's blind and dying eyes I was forever young.* ("Dialysis")

*What is a whitecap but a stroke of wind on a wave, the Lord's own breath in a flash of foam?* ("James McNeill Whistler at St. Ives")

## A LONG, COMPLICATED JOURNEY

It has been a long, complicated, frustrating, and rewarding journey from Brooklyn to Carbondale to Portland, Ore. Along the way, a lost Floyd Skloot found himself, lost himself again, and now finally seems more comfortable than ever with the man he is.

It's all right there in 15 books of poetry, memoirs, and fiction, including most recently *The Wink of the Zenith: The Shaping of a Writer's Life*, *Selected Poems: 1970-2005* and *The Snow's Music*. His body of work represents an autobiography of uncommon honesty, poignancy, and lyricism.

"In a sense, it's the writing that helped me pull myself together, to begin to understand

what was happening to me, by facing the new limitations I had and working with them," Skloot says during a phone interview from Portland, where he lives with his wife, Beverly Hallberg, an artist and retired social worker.

To comprehend the magnitude of Skloot's accomplishments one must go back to Dec. 7, 1988, a personal day of infamy when a virus caused irreversible brain damage and "left me in neurological tatters. I couldn't write and struggled to understand the simplest sentences I read," he recounts in *The Wink of the Zenith* (University of Nebraska Press, 2008). "My memory systems were wrecked, leaving me unable to store new information or reliably find and assemble old information. I had difficulty learning things and was easily lost.

"My word-finding and concentration powers were compromised, abstract reasoning and the capacity to form structures were damaged, IQ diminished nearly 20 percent. I walked with a cane for the next 15 years."

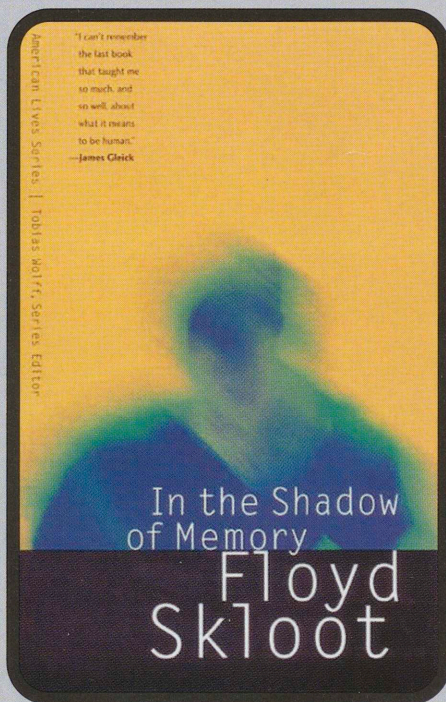
At the time of the viral ambush, Skloot had already been publishing poetry for 20 years, short stories for 15 years, and had completed the manuscripts of two novels and most of a third, all published in the 1990s. He wouldn't start writing essays until after he had suffered brain damage. When he began to recover and learn how to work around his disabilities, he jotted down random thoughts, images, and phrases in a notebook or on sticky notes and index cards "before they vanished from short-term memory."

Can pure lines of poetry somehow be written by the same man who sometimes forgets where he's going and loses his way to his writing room? Who sprays wasp-killer in his face, puts eye drops in his nose, and sprays cleaning mist onto his face instead of on the shower walls and tries to cut the desk instead of the newspaper with scissors? Who warms a mug of coffee by placing it in the breadbox, shutting the door, and turning its knob?

Yes, it is the same brain-damaged man who is capable of comical and sometimes dangerous confusions and flights of luminous literary clarity within minutes of each other. Proof is in the reading and his body of work's accolades.

Skloot has been a finalist for the Paterson Poetry Prize and has won three Pushcart Prizes, the PEN Center USA Literary Award, and two Pacific Northwest Booksellers Books Awards. His writing has been included in numerous anthologies, including *The Best American Essays*, *The Best American Science Writing*, *The Best American Spiritual Writing*, *The Best Food Writing*, and *The Art of the Essay*. He has also written for *The New York Times Magazine*, *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *Poetry*, and *American Scholar*.

The 61-year-old SIU graduate describes his brain as being "scalded pudding, with





Skloot with his wife, Beverly Hallberg.

fluky dark spots here and there through its dense layers and small scoops missing. Sometimes I see it as an eviscerated old TV console, wires all disconnected and misconnected, tubes blown, dust in the crevices.”

As a result, “I face a kind of ongoing mental vertigo. I lose my way. I spend a lot of time staring into space, probably with my jaw drooping, as my concentration fragments and my focus dissolves. Thought itself has become a gray area, a matter of blurred edges and lost distinctions, with little that is sharp about it.”

His sensory receptors — hearing, smell, touch, speech — remain intact. But messages sometimes get garbled, blocked or missed, he says. “There is, it sometimes seems, a lot of static when I try to think, and this is the gray area where nothing is clear any longer.”

But then, he has drifted in and out of shades of gray much of his life.

### FROM BROOKLYN TO CARBONDALE AND BEYOND

Skloot was born in 1947 in Brooklyn, where he spent the first 10 years of his boyhood before the family moved to Long Beach, Long Island. His father was the owner of a kosher poultry market. Harry Skloot suffered crippling injuries in an automobile accident and later drowned in a pool at age 53. Floyd was 14.

His mother was a dreamer whose dreams crashed and burned.

“She was a flamboyantly disappointed, tyrannical, violent woman,” Skloot wrote of Lillian Skloot in *A World of Light* (University of Nebraska Press, 2005). “Would-be aristocrat, thwarted

star of stage and screen, silenced chanteuse, potential rival of Mary Cassatt, my mother married a butcher and believed herself under sentence in their tiny Brooklyn apartment. Her illusions of noble privilege and patrician style were desecrated; nothing was as it should have been.”

It’s not a stretch to say she took out her disappointment and delusions on her son. Once when Skloot was recovering from a bout of mononucleosis, his mother took his temperature. Dismayed by the results, she slapped him across the face. He came to expect such behavior after his father’s death.

“Those first years with my newly widowed mother were wild and explosive,” he wrote. “So volatile and violent by nature, she now seemed transported beyond all restraint by the shock of my father’s death and fear of the future. Her explosive rage, erratic and ferocious, could turn on me in a flash. With nothing and no one to constrain her, she would hit, kick, bite, all accompanied by growls and shrieks that sounded prehistoric. There was madness to her behavior; I thought of her as an armed missile.”

Not surprisingly, Skloot put as much distance as possible between he and his mother and New York. First stop, Franklin & Marshall, a small liberal arts college in Lancaster, Pa. His fertile imagination flourished at Franklin & Marshall, where he discovered a passion for reading, acting, and poetry.

After graduating in 1969, he decided poetry and a master’s degree were his future. One day he stood in front of the poetry section at the Franklin & Marshall bookstore flipping through anthologies.

“Mentor shopping,” he recalls. “I’m such an idiot. It was a stupid way to make a decision, but it turned out well.”

He settled on the renowned Irish poet Thomas Kinsella, then a writer in residence at SIU who now divides his time between homes in Philadelphia and Ireland. During his SIU days, Kinsella lived in Carterville, where a select group of grad students would

## “PEOPLE WHOSE GIFT WILL NOT BREAK LIVE BY IT ALL THEIR LIVES.”

– KAY RYAN, U.S. POET LAUREATE, “FULL MEASURE”

gather with Kinsella and guest writers, including his countryman, Seamus Heaney, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature in 1995.

Robert Randolph, M.A. English '68, Ph.D. '76, was a participant in those gatherings. He remembers that everyone had to sing a song, recite a poem, or tell a story to prime the creative pump for the evening.

“I remember Floyd, who had a beautiful voice, singing *Shenandoah*,” recalls Randolph, an award-winning poet and professor emeritus from the English department at Texas State University, now teaching at Waynesburg University in Waynesburg, Pa. “I looked around at everyone and saw their admiration. Floyd’s voice filled that moment, its presence unexpected in its distinction and beauty.

“Floyd’s voice distinguished itself then, and his poetic ‘voice’ continues to distinguish itself. He is among the best poets we have.”

Poetry was at the center of Skloot’s life in Carbondale.

“I wasn’t much of a bars person, unfortunately,” he says, laughing. “I think I was always pretty dull. I arrived in the fall of '69 and left in the summer of '72. I was there at the time when campus riots took place. SIU was closed down because of protests and rioting over the Vietnam War. There were cops on the streets and tear gas in our classrooms.”

As might be expected of a fledgling poet, he found peace and solitude during walks through Campus Woods. He also had a wife, a baby daughter, Rebecca, who would become a writer, grad work to complete, two classes to teach, and those weekly Kinsella gatherings to attend.

“I was trying really hard to develop myself as a poet,” Skloot says. “There wasn’t much time for anything else. I was very focused during my time there.”

He did take time out to participate in

the occasional baseball game, the sport being a passion since he was a boy cheering for the Brooklyn Dodgers. He was a 5-4, 148-pound infielder for the SIU English Department that beat the Athletic Department in the spring of 1970.

“That was one of my grandest days at SIU,” he says.

### LEAVING SIU FOR THE REAL WORLD

After deciding against the pursuit of a doctorate and the academic life, Skloot took a state job in Springfield in 1972, beginning a 17-year career in the field of public finance and fiscal policy in Illinois, Washington, and Oregon. An Oregonian since 1984, he moved from Portland to remote Amity when he married his second wife, Beverly Hallberg, in 1993.

They lived on 20 hilly acres of woods for 13 years. When the rural life became too difficult to manage due to Skloot’s disability, and Beverly’s elderly parents

began to need her closer, they returned to Portland in 2006. (Skloot’s own mother died in Portland at age 96 that same year.)

Not much, it turns out, has changed in their daily lives.

“We live the same way here as we did in the woods,” Skloot says. “We still don’t go to dinner or to the theater or movies or readings very often. I’m in the house 24/7 pretty much, except for a few errands during the week.”

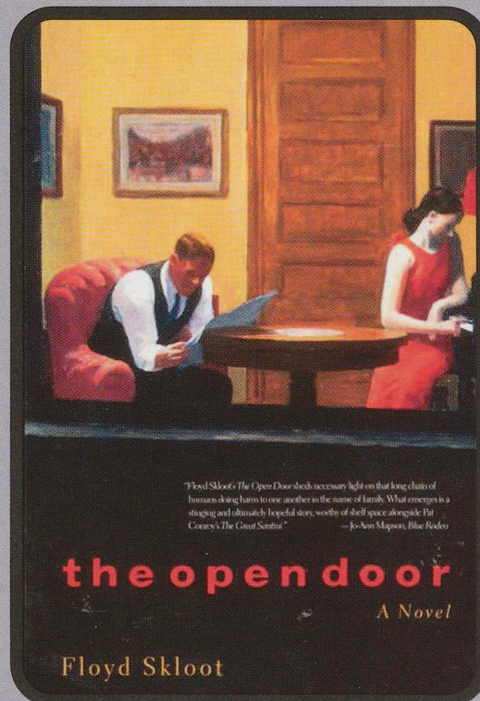
They don’t have much of choice since Skloot doesn’t do well with multiple stimuli – noises, lights, lots of voices talking at once. He can’t screen out things that are normal background static for other people. When he is writing, the briefest interruption – a cat crossing his vision, the song of a bird, a coughing spell – can “leave me at the station for the rest of the day.” His balance also remains suspect. “If I tried to catch a pop ball today and spread my arms out like a second baseman will, I’d fall over on my back,” he says.

But they’re not complaining. Except for occasional travel or scheduled readings, the life of homebodies suits the Skloots’ creative tendencies just fine. Beverly has her painting, Floyd his writing, and they find inspiration in each other’s artistry.

“Floyd’s essays are expertly crafted, and his poetry is an exquisite form of art that I found transcendent from the first time I heard him read it,” Beverly says. “Sometimes it’s just acutely funny or touching, but more commonly it transports me to another level of being and moves me deeply, like seeing a great painting of Pissarro or Monet.”

### CONNECTING WITH THE MAN HE BECAME

In his most recent memoir, *The Wink of the Zenith*, Skloot brings the status of his disability up to date: “The worst,



## The Wink of the Zenith

The Shaping of a Writer's Life **Floyd Skloot**



most disabling damage remains the failure of my memory systems, both long and short term. My most intimate story, my sense of who I was, had been shattered in the aftermath of that attack. I felt severed from myself, abandoned in alien territory.

"Memory, that familiar voice of the past in my head, went silent after I got sick. No, not silent exactly, but its sound became whispery gibberish, a mixture of occasionally recognizable words or phrases scattered among the nonsense and static. For the last two decades, I've been learning to find and retain the voice."

He has done so through his writing, both poetry and autobiographical essays, the latter morphing into four volumes of memoir. Creating the memoir "enabled me to put shards of memory back together, create some sort of window into my past, so I could see who I was and connect him with the person I had become."

The virus causes his memory to disappear or fragment. "I have learned to work with what remains," he writes, "to seize upon whatever memories do surface, to ask questions and use research or music to help locate and connect

other memories." (When this interview concludes and Skloot hangs up the phone, he's unlikely to remember any of the questions that were asked.)

Creating poetry is more an act of discovery than of revelation, he says, "since I seldom know where my poems are going."

Especially poignant are those he has written about real-life figures, many of whom suffered from a disability or personal challenge and from whom Skloot learns more about himself and his disability: George Gershwin, Walt Whitman, Pee Wee Reese, Van Gogh, Delius, Nabokov, Brahms.

"Many of my poems about artists, athletes, composers, painters, and writers feel to me like my most autobiographical," Skloot says. "The use of these figures and their lives allows me to discover important truths about myself, about my feelings and experiences."

"When I began to be able to write again after the virus attack, I wrote a lot about my illness. I was doing that for a couple of years when I realized this could be a danger. Anybody who is sick for a long time is susceptible to what I call symptomania. You just turn so far inward into your illness that's all you can think about, all you can talk about. It's a very dangerous aspect of long-term illness. It skews your horizon."

Skloot realized he needed another way to explore what was happening to him.

When he began to read again, he was first drawn to biographies of artists, writers, and composers whose lives had been crimped by illness. Beverly, a painter of abstracted and impressionist landscapes, would often listen to music while working.

"I was reading about these people so I would have a vocabulary to talk about art and music with Beverly, and it became a rich vein for exploring their experiences and having sympathy for someone other than myself, seeing the links. As I would lose myself in writing about an aspect of their experience, what would happen is I'd find a very deep and

important thing about myself."

In the poem "Reese in Evening Shadow," featuring baseball greats Pee Wee Reese and Jackie Robinson, Skloot writes:

*... I stand and his arm  
settles on my shoulder, a gesture  
he used to silence the harrowing  
of Jackie Robinson. He helps me  
find balance while the world spins  
as it always does when I rise  
and the whisper of wind is his voice  
saying it will be all right, pain is nothing,  
stability is overrated, drugs play havoc  
with your game, lost sleep only means  
waking dreams, and illness is but a high  
pop fly that pulls us into shadow.*

No one knows better than Skloot the challenges a "totally disabled" writer encounters in composing the words that can move readers to tears or joy: weeks, months, even a year to write a single poem, 13 years to complete what is likely his last novel, *Patient 002*, which borrows from his illness experience.

And still he keeps going. He has as many as 10 essays in various stages of composition. He has completed several poems for his next collection, which will be ready to publish, perhaps, in five years.

Based on his neurological research and what he has learned about himself through his writing, Skloot knows to avoid the snare of delusion, that no magic elixir can cure his brain damage. The virus' surprise attack in 1988 changed him forever. He will never be the man he was.

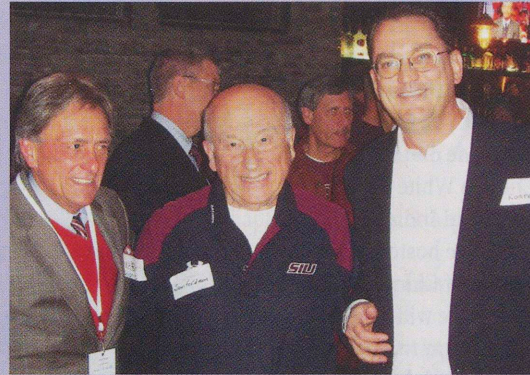
He's OK with that.

"So many people have had life-changing illness experiences, accident experiences, losses. So many people grew up with the kind of childhood I grew up with. I don't feel my experiences were unique," he says. "But by writing about it I'm giving voice to these experiences."

"My hope is that readers will sense that they're being spoken for, and spoken to, that their own experiences are being illuminated as I illuminate my own." 🏠

## Men's Basketball Coaches vs. Cancer Pregame Reception

The SIU Alumni Association and the newly established New York Club hosted 129 alumni and friends at a pregame reception in New York before the Salukis took on the Duke Blue Devils. The inaugural event for the New York Club hosted SIU fans that traveled to the Big Apple for the semifinals of the Coaches vs. Cancer Basketball Tournament at Madison Square Garden. Ninety-eight fans traveled from Illinois, Missouri, Maryland, Kentucky, and Rhode Island to attend the reception, where Michelle Suarez introduced Chancellor Sam Goldman and Director of Athletics Mario Moccia. She also welcomed alumna Dominika Smereczynski '00 who had recruited alumni volunteers to assist at the event. Representing the University were Board of Trustees Chair Roger Tedrick, Dean of Mass Communications and Media Arts Gary Kolb, Associate Director for Institutional Advancement Ron Graves, and Faculty Athletic Representative Harold Bardo. Representing the Association were board members Steve Falat and Jim Hayes, director Argus Tong, and alumni club leader Ryan Roseberry (Washington D.C./Baltimore). Volunteers Dayra Bernal-Lederer, Judith Cox, Victor Dilorio, Beverly Helton, Denise Melroy, and Adrian Yong were instrumental in assisting at the event.

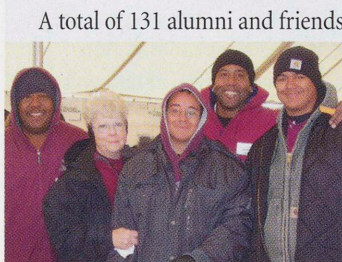


From left, Victor Dilorio, SIUC Chancellor Sam Goldman, and Dan Korte enjoy the pregame reception in New York prior to Southern's first game in the Coaches vs. Cancer Tournament.

## South Florida Alumni Club Meeting

Twenty-five alumni and friends gathered at Dave and Buster's in Hollywood, Fla., recently for an initial meeting hosted by the new South Florida Club of the SIU Alumni Association. The discussion of the formation of the club, as well as the appointment of committees, took place at the meeting. The club leaders are Norm Seavers '73, '79 and Todd Kalas '00. For information about the South Florida Club, please visit [www.siualumni.com/sflsalukis](http://www.siualumni.com/sflsalukis).

## Alumni Enjoy Illinois State Football Tailgate



From left, Russ and Ruth Miner tailgate with family members before the SIU-Illinois State game.

A total of 131 alumni and friends attended the football tailgate. Attendees enjoyed a meal at the tailgate area catered by Great Boars of Fire from Anna. Executive Director Michelle Suarez and Director of Athletics Mario Moccia welcomed the crowd. The game was a treat for the attendees as the Salukis beat Illinois

State 17-10 in overtime to win a share of the conference title and clinch their sixth straight postseason berth. Volunteers for the event were Chuck Bernades, Brad and Janelle Burke, Shannon Coleman, Dave Gochenaur, Mike Holley (with sons Grant and Ben), Ron Rice, John Stuckmeyer, Guy Tawzer, and Heather Teater.

## Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Social

Eight alumni and friends gathered at the first social at GameDay Café hosted by the Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Club of the SIU Alumni Association. The club is led by alumnus Mark Holhubner '88. For information about the Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Club, please visit [www.siualumni.com/cincysalukis](http://www.siualumni.com/cincysalukis).

## Saluki Afternoon At The Fox Theatre

Sixteen alumni and friends gathered at the Fabulous Fox Theatre for lunch prior to the performance of The Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes. The lunch was hosted by the St. Louis Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association, with chapter vice president Leslie Tepen '03 instrumental in coordinating the event. Also in attendance was Aimee Webb '05, secretary of the St. Louis Chapter. For information about the St. Louis Chapter, please visit [www.siualumni.com/stlsalukis](http://www.siualumni.com/stlsalukis).



## Sox Host Indians On 8th Annual SIU Saluki Family Day

Alumni, students, faculty, and friends are invited to gather at U.S. Cellular Field on June 6 to watch the Chicago White Sox host the Cleveland Indians. The festivities are hosted by a committee of Chicagoland alumni. There will be a tailgate prior to the game currently scheduled for a 3:10 p.m. start. For more on ticket prices, parking directions, and our tailgate menu, please visit [www.siualumni.com/events](http://www.siualumni.com/events) for all the up to date information.



## Presidential Scholarship Golf Scramble Set For May 15

The 2009 Presidential Scholarship Golf Scramble, hosted by Southern Illinois University President Glenn Poshard, will be held on Friday, May 15. The event will be held at Hickory Ridge Public Golf Center, 2727 W. Glenn Road, in Carbondale. Lunch will be available at 11 a.m., with a shotgun start at noon.

An entry fee of \$150 will be charged, with all proceeds being used for scholarships to attract Illinois' best and brightest students to Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Sponsorships are available. For additional information, please contact Barb Bogard via e-mail at [barb.bogard@siu.edu](mailto:barb.bogard@siu.edu) or at 618-453-4914.

## Nominations Sought For SIU Distinguished Alumni Award

The SIU Alumni Association at Southern Illinois University Carbondale is accepting nominations for the SIU Distinguished Alumni Award. Presented annually, the award honors alumni for recognition they have brought to SIUC through their outstanding career accomplishments and/or civic involvement. Notable achievements include accomplishments in professional organizations and winning prestigious awards or competitions. Consideration is also given to alumni who have demonstrated an exemplary history of service to SIU, which has benefited the university and enhanced educational opportunities for current students. Nomination forms for the 2009 Distinguished Alumni are due in the SIU Alumni Association office by March 27.

Please mail nominations to: Director of Alumni Public Relations, SIU Alumni Association, 1235 Douglas Drive, Mailcode 4407, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 62901. For more information, contact Kathy Dillard at the Alumni Association, at 618/453-2408, or by e-mail at [kathyd@siu.edu](mailto:kathyd@siu.edu).

## Central Florida Area Picnic Planned For April 9

The Central Florida Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association will be hosting a Saluki picnic at the Fort De Soto State Park on April 9. Charcoal will be provided. Please bring your own meat, beverages, and a dish to share. For more information, please visit [www.siualumni.com/cfsalukis](http://www.siualumni.com/cfsalukis).

## Taylor New Director Of Member Services

Laura Taylor '05, M.A. '07 is the new SIU Alumni Association Director of Member Services. She assumed responsibilities in her new role on Jan. 12 after serving in an interim capacity for several months. The Anna, Ill., native will oversee membership campaigns, member customer service, and daily membership operations.



Taylor, who also has served as a graduate assistant for the organization, says she is excited about the new challenges. "I am honored to be working for the Association," she says. "It's exciting to work for my alma mater and alumni from around the world."

The new Member Services Director takes over a position formerly held by SIU Alumni Association Executive Director Michelle Suarez. "Laura's experience in working with public relations, event coordination, and a southern Illinois membership organization will serve the Association well," says Suarez.

Taylor, who serves as an alumna advisor of the Alpha Gamma Delta women's fraternity, is a member of the SIU Alumni Association. She is also a triple legacy of Southern, as her mother, father, and grandmother all attended SIU.

## Saluki Christmas In San Antonio

The Austin-San Antonio Club of the Association hosted 27 alumni and friends at the Casa Rio on the San Antonio River Walk. Club representative Donna Lecocq '97 was instrumental



This group of Texas Salukis enjoyed getting together in San Antonio around the Christmas season.

in coordinating the event. For information about the Austin-San Antonio Club, please visit [www.sialumni.com/txsalukis](http://www.sialumni.com/txsalukis) or <http://texassalukis.blogspot.com>

## Member Appreciation Basketball Games

Members of the SIU Alumni Association showed their Saluki spirit at recent Saluki basketball games. On Jan. 10, members and their guests attended a chili dinner in the SIUC Student Center before the Saluki men won 70-63 against the Evansville Aces. The Student Alumni Council and the Jackson County Alumni Chapter joined the Association in hosting this event. Members enjoyed discounted game tickets. Members also cheered on the SIU women on January 31 as they played against the Missouri State Bears. Members received complimentary admission, drinks, and hotdogs.

## Calling All Alumni!

Alumni clubs and chapters bring together the efforts of alumni to establish an SIU presence in their areas, to encourage participation with the University, and to facilitate involvement and camaraderie among Salukis.

There has been interest from alumni to form alumni clubs and chapters in Dallas-Fort Worth area, Minnesota, Greater Nashville area (Tennessee), Greater Virginia Beach area (Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Suffolk, and Portsmouth), Peoria Tri-Counties (Peoria, Tazewell, and Woodford) and Cook County (Chicagoland).

Local volunteers efforts are crucial to the success of alumni clubs and chapters. To become involved or help organize or participate in future activities, please contact:

Dallas-Fort Worth – Club Representative Catherine Ursprung '93, '94 at [catie6of6@aol.com](mailto:catie6of6@aol.com)

Minnesota – Club Representative Scott Schmitt '92 at [scott@schmittypolis.com](mailto:scott@schmittypolis.com)

Nashville – Director of Chapter Development Argus Tong at [argust@alumni.siu.edu](mailto:argust@alumni.siu.edu)

Virginia Beach Area – Club Representative Lisa Burns '05 at [stlouis\\_409@yahoo.com](mailto:stlouis_409@yahoo.com)

Peoria Tri-County - Director of Chapter Development Argus Tong at [argust@alumni.siu.edu](mailto:argust@alumni.siu.edu)

Cook County – Chapter Representatives “Doc” Kane '96 and Jim Buczynski '98 at [doc@roscommon.com](mailto:doc@roscommon.com).

## Alumni Association Textbook Scholarships

A Punt, Pass and Kick contest at halftime of each home 2008 Saluki football game resulted in four SIU students receiving textbook scholarships. Contestants successfully scoring a field goal

won a textbook scholarship for the spring semester. This year's winners were Brandon Hall, a senior from



Brandon Hall



Ryan Neal

Columbia, Ill., studying electrical engineering; Ryan Neal, a degree holding senior from Marion, Ill.,



Craig Rose



Kashayla Stanford

studying pre-medicine; Craig Rose, a senior from Columbia, Ill., studying social work; and Kashayla Stanford, a sophomore from Rockford, Ill., studying mortuary science and funeral service. Textbook scholarships were sponsored by Pepsi MidAmerica, River Radio, Venegoni Distributing, Regions Bank, Tres Hombres Mexican Restaurant, Herrin Security Bank and the SIU Alumni Association. All competitors received a t-shirt.



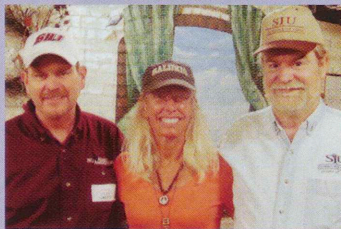
From left, Earl Collins, Gail Collins, Ed Edelman, and Robin Dennehy cheer on the Dawgs.



Tim and Jen Wolfe get ready to watch the Salukis defeat Northern Illinois.



The McPhail family is decked out in Saluki maroon prior to Southern's game in Indianapolis.



Communications Director Gene Green in Peoria with Rhythm Kitchen owner Shelly Lenzini and her husband Phil '72, J.D. '76.

Morgan, Andrea Mills, and Robert Scott. For information about the Indianapolis Chapter, please visit [sualumni.com/indysalukis](http://sualumni.com/indysalukis).

The SIU Alumni Association hosted 25 alumni and friends at the Rhythm Kitchen Music Café in Peoria prior to the SIU – Bradley game.

## Pregame Gatherings In Reno, DeKalb, Indianapolis, And Peoria

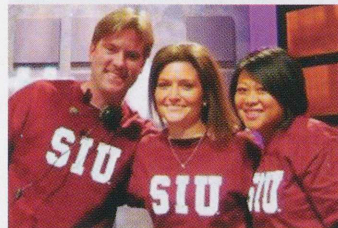
The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 65 alumni and friends at the Joe Crowley Student Union prior to the SIU-Nevada game. Volunteers at the event were Robin Dennehy, Ed Edelman, and Kelly and Mona Stevens. For information about the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, please visit [sualumni.com/sfsalukis](http://sualumni.com/sfsalukis).

The Rockford Club of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 72 alumni and friends at the Barsema Alumni Center before the SIU-Northern Illinois game. Volunteers at the event were Guy Tawzer, Jackie Timmons, and Keith Timmons. For information regarding the Greater Rockford Club, please visit [sualumni.com/rockford](http://sualumni.com/rockford).

The recently revitalized Indianapolis Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 55 alumni and friends at the RAM Restaurant prior to the SIU-St. Mary's game as part of the John Wooden Tradition Classic. Volunteers at the event were Jamie Andrews, Matt Arnold, Jim

## SIU Represented At Chicago Public TV Pledge Drive

In collaboration with Barking Dawg Productions, the SIU Alumni Association and the Chicagoland Chapter recruited alumni volunteers to assist with the pledge drive at the WTTW11, Chicago's public television station. More than 35



Patrick Hartney, Megan Monroe, and Vivika Vergara helped give the pledge drive an SIU look.

alumni and friends wearing SIU t-shirts answered phones and took pledges. The event was initiated through the efforts of alumnus and WTTW staff member Larry Glazer '67 and Terry Clark, chair of the marketing department and adviser for Barking Dawg

Productions. Club leaders Doc Kane '96 and Jim Buczynski '98 were on hand, as these two alums are currently spearheading alumni efforts in Chicago.

## Ticket Information For Wrigley & Busch Events

Dates have been announced for ordering tickets to the 2009 "SIU at Wrigley Field" (April 19) and "SIU at Busch Stadium" (May 21) events.

Both games feature the St. Louis Cardinals against the Chicago Cubs. Wrigley Field tickets may be purchased beginning Tuesday, March 10, at 7 a.m. online, and 8 a.m. by phone. Busch Stadium tickets may be purchased beginning Tuesday, March 31 at 7 a.m. online, and 8 a.m. by phone. Please call the SIU Alumni Association office at 618-453-2408 with any questions.

## Saluki Watch Parties Across The Nation

A number of men's basketball games were televised on the ESPN network this season, enabling many alumni clubs and chapters to host watch parties. Watch parties were hosted in Austin (Austin-San Antonio Club), Cincinnati (Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Club), Chester (Randolph County Chapter), Springfield (Prairie Capital Chapter), St. Louis (St. Louis Chapter), Tampa (Central Florida Chapter), Washington D.C. (Washington D.C./Baltimore Club). For the first time, the SIU Alumni Association, together with the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of Illinois State University, hosted a joint watch party in Dallas. There were 12 alumni and friends in attendance from SIU. From this effort, the formation of a Dallas/Fort Worth Alumni Club is in the works.

Alumni listed in maroon are SIU Alumni Association members.

## 1950s

**Danny Cox '56**, a professional keynote speaker and workshop leader for 31 years, was presented a "Legend of the

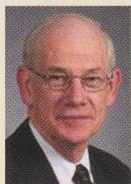


Speaking Profession" award at the Veteran Speakers Retreat in Hagerstown,

Md. Cox, whose presentations are built around his personal track record of high performance, leadership, and record-breaking sales motivation, is a member of the prestigious Speakers Roundtable, a group of 20 of America's foremost professional speakers, and is also a Speaker Hall of Fame inductee by the National Speakers Association. A native of Marion, Ill., Cox now lives in Tustin, Calif.

## 1960s

**J. Phillip Bennett '67, M.S. '70, Ph.D. Ed. '75** has been selected as dean of The Teachers College at Emporia (Kansas) State University. Bennett had been associate dean of the college since 2001.

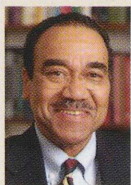


He was on sabbatical leave last fall, working at the National Council for Accreditation

of Teacher Education headquarters in Washington, D.C.

**Ed Roulhac '69, M.S. Ed. '70, Ph.D. '74** has been appointed to a three-year term as a commissioner and member of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, effective Jan. 1. Established in 1919, the commission, dedicated to educational excellence and improve-

ment through peer evaluation and accreditation, accredits institutions of higher education in Delaware, the District of



Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin

Islands, and other locations abroad. Roulhac served as a founding faculty member of the SIU School of Medicine in the Department of Health Care Planning and later as an associate dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health (now the Bloomberg School of Public Health). Currently he serves as vice provost at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md. He and his wife, **Patricia Johnson Roulhac M.S. Ed. '71**, live in Pikesville, Md.

## 1970s

**Dr. Bill Hays '70**, who has practiced medicine in Herrin, Ill., for 28 years, has been named Family Physician of the Year by the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians (IAFP). Hays' accomplishments include serving two terms as president of the medical staff at Herrin Hospital, delegate to the IAFP, and serving on committees for the Illinois State Medical Society and Southern Illinois Medical Association. He is also a faculty preceptor at the University of Illinois Rockford Rural Medical Education Program. **Dr. Jeffrey Parks '76, M.D. '80**, Hays' practice partner of 25 years, says Hays was the first to work toward getting 24-hour, in-department emergency physicians, the first in the area to computerize his office, the "pioneer advocate for in-house CT scans," and the first to advocate for a full-time physical therapy department.

**Carole Rees Murray '70** is the newest member of the Colorado House of

## Pi Kappa Sigma Group Still Enjoys Camaraderie

After more than 50 years of sisterhood, members of the 1950s-era Pi Kappa Sigma sorority still feel the bonds formed during their college years.

This photo features those who met last October at a restaurant in Columbia, Ill.: Kneeling is **Alice (Lowry) Crippen '57**, Ballwin, Mo. From left are **Hulda (Menke) Black Ex '58**, Staunton, Ill.; **Betty R. King '57**, Murphysboro, Ill.; **Jo (Niehoff) Carle '58**, St. Louis; **Shirley (Bellm) Smith Ex '56**, Wright City, Mo.; **Jerry (Tripp) Greene; Juanita (Peradotto) Rule '55, M.S. Ed. '60**, Girard, Ill.; and **Jan (Prather) Holloway '59, M.S. Ed. '60**. Not pictured: **JoAnn (Jennings) Sullivan**. Also in attendance were **Ken Black '56**, Staunton, Ill.; **Jim Crippen '57**, Ballwin, Mo.; **Don Smith '56**, Wright City, Mo.; and Max Sullivan, Murphysboro, Ill.

In a bit of serendipity, the 1955 yearbook on file at the Association originally belonged to Pi Kappa Sigma member Deloris Ann Winesburgh, who was leaving to go to nursing school. Inside are messages from some of the women pictured in the photo, as well as "Mother Adkins," the house mother, and Mrs. Corzine, the cook.

Hulda Menke wrote: "I'll really miss having to scream my lungs out trying to wake you up in the morning and your screaming at me when I woke you up at night."

The sorority is planning to meet again in mid-April 2009. Any members needing information should contact Hulda Black, 618-635-2779; Betty King, 618-684-3843; Shirley Smith, 636-745-8388; or Alice Crippen, 636-277-4284.



Representatives. The Du Quoin native, who was elected as a

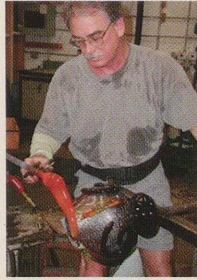


Republican in the Nov. 4 election, previously served as the Douglas County clerk and recorder and most recently served as the legislative liaison for the Douglas County School District.

She also has been executive director of the Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce. Murray and her husband, Lisle Gates, principal of Castle View High School, live in Castle Rock, Colo.

**Tom Philabaum '70**, a glass artist in Tucson, Ariz., installed a major piece of art at the Tucson International Airport in conjunction with its 60th anniversary. The installation, titled

Another Way to Fly, consists of 30 glass carpets floating high up in the airport's Center Point.



A wall of east-facing windows provides natural light, and the colorful

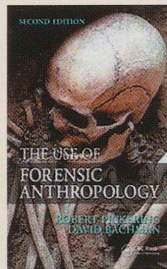
carpets sparkle from any direction. Although Philabaum is well known for his blown glass, this project was a major departure in technique, involving fusing and slumping flat glass.

**Don Locke '71**, head graphic artist for *The Tonight Show* on NBC-TV, has published his second book, *The Summer the Wind Whispered My Name*, released last August by NavPress. The book is a prequel to his first novel, *The Reluctant Journey of David Connors*. In the new book, 8-year-old Davy Connors leads an idyllic life in his small



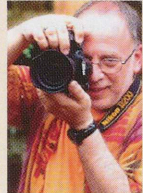
Midwestern neighborhood in 1959. But when a black family moves in to the all-white community, an undercurrent of racism is exposed. Locke has worked for NBC's *Tonight Show* for 27 years, while freelancing as a writer in the entertainment industry. Locke and his wife, Susan, live in Southern California. Find more information on the author at his Web site, donlocke.com.

**Robert Pickering '72, M.A. '73**, the Collier-Read Deputy Director for Collections and Education at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyo., has two new publications available.

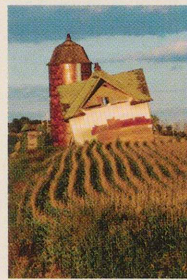


Pickering served as editor for "Borderlands and the Southwest," an issue of the *Journal of the West* (47:3) and is co-author of *The Use of Forensic Anthropology, Second Edition*, published by Taylor & Francis Group of Boca Raton, Fla.

**Ernie Schweit '72** is the photographer for a photo book, *Wisconsin Barns*, due out in May, published by Farcountry Press in Helena, Mont.



Schweit has spent more than 30 years in various editorial capacities at the *Daily Herald* newspaper in Arlington



Heights, Ill. Currently Schweit edits the business section and works on the company's

Spanish language publication, *Reflejos*. Schweit and his wife, artist Maureen Ivy Fisher, live in Wheeling, Ill. Find a collection of their work at the Web site [mfisherstudios.com](http://mfisherstudios.com).

**Bob Ledbetter '73**, Carbondale police chief, retired last January as the department's longest-serving officer



with 31 years on the force. The Marion native was a drummer and rock musician during his teenage and college years. After graduating, he took a job as a DJ and news director at a local radio station. He spent one year as the lone cop in Spillertown, Ill., before moving to Carbondale. Moving into Ledbetter's slot as interim chief is **Jeff Grubbs '91, M.P.A. '00**, who is deputy police chief and has been with the depart-

ment since 1991. He and his wife, **Elizabeth '95, M.S. '96**, live in Carbondale.

Although it's still unofficial, it appears that **Roger Menees '73**, a gospel singer and farmer from Anna, Ill., has set a world record for the lowest note ever sung. On Jan. 16 in the SIU Student Center, Menees hit a mark of 3 hertz in a single second on his ninth attempt. The achievement is subject to approval from Guinness World Records, but it was recorded by a sound technician and witnessed by two local music professors (**Nathan Arnett M.M. '02**, who teaches at John A. Logan College, and David Dillard, assistant professor of music at SIU), among others.

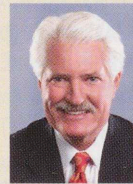
**Susan Edgren '74, M.S. '78, Ph.D. '91**, interim director of the SIU Division of Continuing Education, was selected for the Dale Huffington Leadership Award, presented by the American Association for Collegiate Independent Study, a professional association for those in the field of distance education.

**John Schmitt '76** has been chosen as national dealer sales manager for Toyota Material Handling U.S.A. Inc. He has been a Toyota associate for 16 years and formerly served as



national account sales manager. Schmitt and his wife, Susan, live in Orange, Calif.

**Roger Clayton J.D. '78**, a senior partner with the law firm of Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, has been elected president of the Illinois Association of Healthcare Attorneys, which comprises more than



500 health care attorneys in the state. Clayton is the chair of Heyl Royster's statewide health care practice group and has

## Documenting His Daily Strolls

When **Al Parr '73** retired from his job as a storekeeper at SIU in 2006, he began taking daily walks around Campus Lake, always with his Canon camera in hand.

As he contemplated the abundance of picture-perfect scenes, it occurred to him that documenting his daily strolls could have been an assignment in his photography classes when he was a student. Parr studied under the legendary C. William "Doc" Horrell, who was a key figure in the establishment of both the Department of Cinema and Photography and the Photographic Service at SIU. No doubt Parr would have aced the assignment.



The stunningly beautiful photos he takes every day of the area's flora and fauna now adorn prints, calendars, and note

cards. He also makes himself available to groups in the region who want to see his slide shows. See what's available at [www.dialparr.com](http://www.dialparr.com).

## All In The Family

By day, **Phil Bankester '80, M.S. Ed. '99** is an associate director at SIU University Communications. The rest of the time he heads The Bankester Family, a gospel bluegrass band that has enjoyed great success since they began performing in 2004. The group consists of Bankester and his wife, Dorene; their four daughters, Melissa, Lindsey, Emily, and Alysha; and Melissa's husband, Kyle Triplett. The group's debut CD, *In the Beginning*, can be found on their Web site, [www.BankesterFamily.com](http://www.BankesterFamily.com), as well as information on their newest CD, *Somewhere In Between*.



The Bankester Family, a gospel bluegrass band, recently debuted their first CD, *In The Beginning*.

defended more than 700 medical malpractice cases. Recently he co-authored a chapter on trials in the *Medical Malpractice Handbook* published by the Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education and also co-authored a chapter for *Law of Medical Practice in Illinois*, published by West Publishing.

**Peter Alexander '79**, dean of the SIU School of Law, was presented with the Distinguished Service to Law & Society Award by the Illinois Bar Foundation, the charitable affiliate of the Illinois State Bar Association. The award is given to those who have made a significant contribution to law and society, including involvement with the Illinois Bar Association. After serving as student government president in 1979, Alexander returned to campus 24 years later to head the law school.

**Brad Choate '79, M.S. Ed. '84** is the new vice chancellor for university advancement at the University of Arkansas at

Fayetteville. He will oversee development, alumni, constituent relations, special events, and university relations programs. He previously served as vice president of university advancement at the University of South Carolina, where he was in charge of fundraising and advancement units for the university's eight campuses. He and his wife, Julie, are the parents of three children.

## 1980s

**Jeanine Wagner '80, M.M. '81**, professor of voice at the SIU School of Music, is the new director of the school after serving as interim director since 2007. Noted as a soloist with a voice of "great beauty, expressive power, and artistic quality," Wagner's awards include the Artist Presentation Society Award in 1994 and the Mu Phi International Competition in 1992. She was an international finalist in the Luciano Pavarotti Competition

as well as a regional winner in the Metropolitan Opera Auditions. She teaches applied voice classes for undergraduate and graduate students.

**Larry Normansell '81**, professor of psychology at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, has been installed as the Harry and Mary Evelyn Laurent Distinguished Professor of Psychology at the college. The inaugural recipient of this appointment,



Normansell joined the faculty in 1986 and is currently coordinator of its social science division and chair of the department of psychology.

**Thomas Pape '81** has joined Conservation Services Group in Westborough, Mass., as a regional director. He will oversee the development and implementation of energy efficiency services and programs in the Midwest region. Conservation

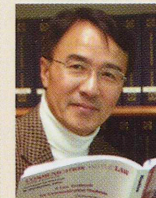


Services Group is a national energy services firm that provides energy saving strategies, program design, management services, and alternative energy technologies to consumers and businesses. Pape began his career in conservation and resource management with the Peace Corps. He lives in Waterloo, Ill.

**Walt Hehner '82, J.D. '85** has been named chief deputy state's attorney for Cook County, Ill. A felony trial veteran, Hehner has prosecuted several criminal cases, including the murder of two Chicago police officers. Hehner, who joined the state's attorney's office in 1989, was appointed by the newly elected state's

attorney, Anita Alvarez. He lives in Orland Park.

As a student in Seoul, South Korea, in the 1970s, **Kyu Yo Houm M.A. '82, Ph.D. '85** joined thousands of others in



protesting the human rights violations of President Park Chung-Hee. As punishment for expressing his political views, Youm was drafted virtually overnight into the Korean Army.

When he arrived at SIU in 1980, Youm knew little about American law, let alone media law, yet still enrolled in a communication law class taught by Professor Harry Stonecipher. Although he had been an excellent student in Korea, the language barrier proved formidable. Stonecipher urged him to drop the class, research constitutional law on his own, then re-enroll.

Youm took Stonecipher's advice and when he returned to the class the next summer, he finished at the top of his class. In 1982, he earned a master's degree in journalism, then went on to get a Ph.D. in journalism in 1985.

Today, Youm is the inaugural holder of the Jonathan Marshall First Amendment Chair at the School of Journalism and Communication at the University of Oregon in Eugene.

**Heather Gantzer '85**, a physician at Park Nicollet Primary Care in Saint Louis Park, Minn., received the



Minnesota Laureate Award from the Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Physicians.

Gantzer and her husband, Charlie, have three daughters, Emma, Edwina, and Beatrice.

Her parents are Mary Russell and **Charles Muchmore Ph.D. '73** of Carbondale. Muchmore is a professor emeritus in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Energy Processes.

**Jay Needham '86**, assistant professor of radio-television, and Gary Kolb, dean of the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, traveled to Antarctica in December and will collaborate to produce art installations and museum exhibitions drawn from Kolb's landscape photography and Needham's "acoustic ecology" sound recordings. They also plan to apply for grants to do further work on the desolate continent. The two traveled for two days to reach the city of Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, on the Argentinean island of Tierra del Fuego, which was the port from which they sailed. It was a 670-mile trip, traversing some of the roughest waters in the world for three days, to reach their destination.

After graduating from SIU with a degree in paralegal studies, **Barry Smoot '86** found himself going down an investigative path as an employee for the government. Now 20-plus years later, he has used that experience to make a difference in matters relating to the identification and prevention of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of vulnerable populations (elderly, disabled, and children).

Throughout the years, friends and acquaintances began to approach him to check on elderly family members they worried about who lived on their own, had a private nurse, or resided in a nursing home. From this pursuit, "word of mouth" marketing soon produced more and more clients, many who were SIU alumni who had heard about the services he offered. The Marion resident welcomes any contact from fellow Southern

grads who might benefit from his services. Smoot may be reached at 618-922-1106 or [vykng@verizon.net](mailto:vykng@verizon.net).

**Tracey Reel Glenn '88** is making history in Williamson County as the first female chair of the Williamson County



Board, two years after being elected the first female commissioner to the three-person board. Commissioners deal with budget, highway department, animal control, union negotiations, and economic development issues. Tracey lives in Herrin with her husband, Bill. They are the parents of four: Lauren, 25; Matthew, 22, a senior in architecture at SIU; Taylor, 17; and Michaela, 14.

**Derek (Adams) Shetterly '88** and his wife, Chris, own and operate Woolly Buzzer Productions, a full-service voice-over and audio production company in Medford, Ore. Shetterly, a Carbondale native, worked in radio for 23 years before quitting his day job to devote all his time to his company. The eight-year-old company represents more than 165 experienced voice-over artists, with clients across the United States, Canada, and South America. Derek, son of Ken (emeritus professor of marketing) and Kathryn Adams of Carbondale, says the name of the company reflects the couple's love of fly fishing. See more at [www.woollybuzzerproductions.com](http://www.woollybuzzerproductions.com) and [www.dereksvoice.com](http://www.dereksvoice.com).

## 1990s

**Jill Gobert '90, M.B.A. '98** is the new director of corporate and foundation relations for the SIU Foundation. She will



coordinate fund raising activities, manage an assignment of donor prospects, engage in personal cultivation, and solicit funds for the University. Gobert served as a fund raiser at SIU for 10 years, most recently as director of development for the College of Liberal Arts. For the past year she has been executive director of the John A. Logan College Foundation. She and her husband, **Dan Gobert '83, J.D. '89**, live in Carbondale.

**Debbie Hopkins '90, M.S. Ed. '96** is the representative for a new Edward Jones investments business in Marion. Hopkins spent the previous eight years as an assistant to an Edward Jones representative in Marion. She has extensive experience in the banking industry, particularly with trusts and real estate lending. Hopkins and her husband, Norman, live in Marion with their son, Tyler.

**Lt. Col. Mark Whitlock '90** is the command inspector general of the Coalition Task Force Phoenix 8 in Kabul, Afghanistan. A graduate of SIU Army ROTC, Whitlock has served in the Illinois Army National Guard for 23 years. Whitlock is an Illinois Army



National Guard historian and director of the Illinois State Military Museum at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Ill. He is the son of John "Jack" and Sue Whitlock of Carbondale. Jack Whitlock is emeritus director of the SIU University Museum.

The inauguration of the nation's first African-American president held special meaning for **Erik Griffin '91**, a special education teacher at Carrier Mills-Stonefort Elementary

School. Griffin, a former Saluki basketball player, is the first male African-American to teach in the Carrier Mills school district – at a school that wouldn't take his own father as a student some six decades ago. His father attended a segregated school instead. "It wasn't all that long ago that African-Americans couldn't vote, and now an African-American is president. My father did not live to see either one come to pass, but I know how proud he would have been with everything that has transpired," Griffin says.

**Keith Kendrick A.A.S. '91, '93, M.S. Ed. '95, Ph.D. '01** is an automotive instructor and chairman of Applied Technologies at John A. Logan College. Automotive faculty include **Lee Rawson A.A.S. '74, '76** and **Joseph Roach '02, M.S. Ed. '07**.

Logan introduced its new automotive technology space in January, an addition that is part of an overall \$20 million expansion. The auto technology additions include a new classroom that seats 36 and a garage with eight bays and four lifts (which the program had not had before).

**Terry Rich '94**, a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army, joined other members of the 257th Army Band to perform at one of the inaugural balls honoring President Barack Obama. Rich, a drummer, began music lessons in fourth grade at Lewis School in Carbondale. He has been involved with two other military bands, the Army Band at Fort Jackson, S.C., and the United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps. He has been with his current band for four years. He lives in Laurel, Md.

**Sandra Whittington '94, J.D. '97**, a major in the U.S. Air Force and a defense counsel in the Office of Military Commissions, represents one of the prisoners at Guantanamo Bay charged with committing acts of terrorism. In the wake of an

order from President Barack Obama suspending all military tribunals at Guantanamo for 120 days, Whittington said changes need to be made. Whittington says only 22 of the 246 detainees have been formally charged and the suspension will not help the process move forward. Whittington's client was picked up in an Asian country in 2002 and was awarded criminal counsel in the spring of 2008.

**Esther Cepeda '96** is the chief marketing and communications officer for the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. She is also a Huffington Post/Chicago blogger whose work can be found at [huffingtonpost.com/esther-j-cepeda/](http://huffingtonpost.com/esther-j-cepeda/) and her self-syndicated [600words.com](http://600words.com). A musician, singer, dancer, and artist, Cepeda became Chicago's first Latino metro columnist in 2006.

**Bruce DeRuntz M.S. '96, Ph.D. '05**, associate professor of technology in the SIU College of Engineering, has been elected a fellow of the American Society for Quality. The society recognizes fellows for their professional distinction and leadership in the areas of technology, theory, education, and quality control efforts. DeRuntz was honored for his "significant contributions to the quality assurance profession through quality management positions, consulting, developing and teaching quality methods courses and for extensive publications and presentations on the principles of Six Sigma.

**Matt Baughman M.B.A. '97**, assistant director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at SIUC, is serving as interim director of the institute following the retirement of Mike Lawrence, who had served as director since



October 2004. Baughman has been with the institute for

more than 10 years, beginning in 1998 as development director. A native of Herrin, Baughman grew up in Springfield. He and his wife, **Angie '96, M.B.A. '97**, who is pastor of the Faith Evangelical United Methodist Church, live in Vergennes with their son, Alex.

**Miriam Kritzer Van Zant M.S. '97** is launching a campaign to build a botanical garden in southern Illinois aimed at preserving the region's biodiversity and creating an economic engine for the area. Van Zant says the southern counties of Illinois represent the



widest variety of floral life in the central United States. She is working with Shawnee Resource Conservation and Development Area Inc. on financial issues and earning not-for-profit status, but is hoping to enlist others to sponsor fund raisers or make contributions. For more information, contact Van Zant at [ccbgsi@gmail.com](mailto:ccbgsi@gmail.com) or Brenda Little at Shawnee Conservation Resource and Development Agency, [brenda.little@rcdnet.net](mailto:brenda.little@rcdnet.net), or 618-993-5396, ext. 6.

**Phillip Seng M.A. '99**, visiting assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and Randall Auxier, SIU professor of philosophy, are co-editors of a new book, *The Wizard of Oz and Philosophy*. As the latest offering from Open Court Publishing Co.'s Popular Culture and Philosophy series, the book examines the 1939 movie and the book by L. Frank Baum on

which the movie was based.

## 2000s

**Rob Keehn '01** is the new director of planning and community development for Lake City, Minn. Keehn spent about four and a half years in Carbondale as city planning manager. During that time he was involved in adding 941 dwellings to the city's stock.

**Ryan Carter J.D. '02** has joined Iowa's largest law firm, Nyemaster, Goode, West, Hansell & O'Brien P.C., as one of five attorneys based at a new office in eastern Iowa, the firm's third location. The firm plans to build the office into a full-service practice in the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City corridor, but it will initially emphasize intellectual property. Carter lives in Cedar Rapids.

**Navy Lt. j.g. Ryan Chamberlain '04** received the coveted "Wings of Gold" after finishing flight training and being named a naval aviator at Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas. Chamberlain followed a training curriculum that included basic studies in engineering and navigation, training flights in simulators, aircraft familiarizations, basic and advanced instrument training, extended navigation flights, and landings and takeoffs aboard an aircraft carrier.

**Zamounde Allie '05** is a program analyst for Aircrew Training and Operations, Joint Training Branch, Headquarters Air Mobility Command, at Scott AFB, Illinois. Allie says he manages the joint training program and that the knowledge he obtained at SIU "is valuable to my career today."



**Jeff Chamberlain M.D. '05**, a family practice physician, and his wife, Christine, an elementary school teacher, are the founders of Honey, Don't

Cough, an organization that educates parents about the dangers of children's cold and cough medications, as well as offering buckwheat honey as a safe and effective alternative. As parents of young children, the Chamberlains were concerned about the safety of conventional cold and cough medications. See more of the information and the product at [www.honeydon'tcough.com](http://www.honeydon'tcough.com). The Chamberlains live in Grand Rapids, Mich., with their children, Violet and Philip.

**Peggy Pierce '06**, who is currently pursuing a master's in business administration in aviation at Embry-Riddle University in Daytona Beach, Fla., will join the staff of Embry-Riddle Athletics as head cheerleading



coach. While at SIU, Pierce served as captain of the cheerleading squad for two years. She is the seventh cheerleading coach in the history of the Embry-Riddle program.

**Kristin Gregory Ward M.P.A. '06** is the new executive director of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce. A Carbondale native, Gregory Ward holds a master's degree in public administration and previously worked as information officer for the city of Paducah, Ky.

**Michael '07 and Allison '07 Hasler**, who live in Goreville, Ill., have formed a business called American Shoreline, aimed at creating an economically feasible solution to shoreline erosion at the 24 subdivisions around the Lake of Egypt's 93 miles of shoreline.

Since the lake was built in 1963, private land owners and the local power cooperative have struggled with the problem, which often involved heavy construction equipment and methods that were cumbersome, intrusive, and expensive.



# SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

*Then*



*...and now*



An SIU student in the Fall of 1975 might have witnessed something very unusual in the skies over campus. Looking up at just the right moment, they might have seen Mike Murphy buzzing around campus in his homemade "Flying Machine." Nowadays students are more likely to see one of the Aviation Departments Cessna 172's, piloted by Jeff Jaynes, as it cruises over Southern's beautiful campus.



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# Back In The Cardinal Nest

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As the Arizona Cardinals marched to an improbable appearance in the 2009 Super Bowl, one of the franchise's all-time greats was enjoying the team's resurgence. Saluki Hall of Famer Jim Hart '67, who served as the University's director of athletics from 1988-2000, was excited for this year's Big Red team.

A reconnection of sorts began to emerge for Hart and other former Cardinals in 2007, when new owner Michael Bidwill hosted an alumni weekend for the St. Louis gridiron alums.

"It was great going back and seeing everyone, and I begin to sense more of a connection between guys from our era and the current Cardinals," says Hart, who served as alumni captain. "Bidwill held the event again in 2008, and it happened to be the division-clinching game against the St. Louis Rams – that was pretty special."

But something *else* pretty special was soon to occur for Hart, who is now retired with his wife, Mary, and living in Naples, Fla. Mike Ditka invited him to Tampa on Super Bowl Weekend to assist with "Gridiron

Greats," a nonprofit corporation established to provide financial assistance and social services to retired players who are in need.

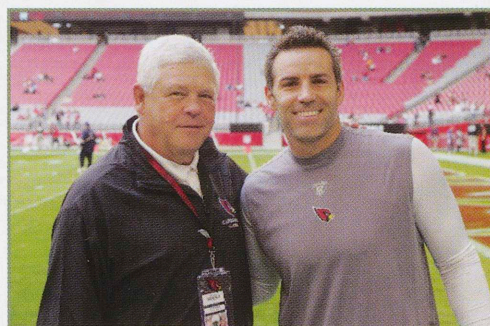
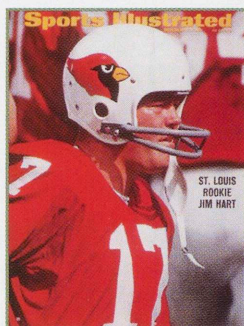
"I was not planning to go to the Super Bowl," says Hart. "My plan was to drive back to Naples after the

event and be happy as a clam watching it in my living room." That was before he checked his e-mail – and it was a good thing he did. Waiting was an invitation from Bidwill for the Harts to sit in the owner's box for the Cardinals-Steelers showdown.

As Hart watched the game that evening in Raymond James Stadium, many things raced through his mind. The team's current owner, Michael Bidwill, had been the ball boy during many of those Big Red years. Now with some outreach and public relations attributes his father, Bill, never was known for, the son had re-engaged the St. Louis brethren with the Arizona franchise.


"It has been nice to feel a part of their legacy," says the 1974 NFC player of the year, who threw for 209 touchdown passes and 34,665 yards in a standout 19-year NFL career. "I know we all appreciate being embraced by Michael and made to feel like Cardinals once again."

*Jim Hart has been a life member of the SIU Alumni Association for more than 30 years. "I joined long before I returned to the University as athletics director," he recalls. "The Association has always been how I stay connected to SIU, and Southern Alumni magazine is a great way to stay informed about what is going on at my alma mater. I would encourage alumni and friends to consider purchasing a life membership of their own or as a gift."*



Former Saluki great Jim Hart, who graced the cover of *Sports Illustrated* as a Cardinal on Jan. 27, 1967, greets current Big Red quarterback Kurt Warner after the team clinched the divisional title.


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