Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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The New Dawg House
Long-Awaited Saluki Stadium Is Open For Business
When Lynette and Robert Wolff moved from Texas to southern Illinois in 1972, their plan was to stay in the area for two years. Robert had been hired as a professor in the College of Agricultural Sciences, and Lynette was completing requirements for her undergraduate degree.

But the Wolffs and their children — Dana and Michael — fell in love with the area. Some 40 years later, the couple feels blessed to have settled into a region that has made their family happy. Lynette, a retired program manager in the College of Education and Human Services, completed requirements for her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees at the University.

No one enjoyed scenic southern Illinois more than Michael. A 1996 agriculture graduate who also completed graduate work in the College of Science, he loved the outdoors, nature, and wildlife. He had great passion for his work with the Missouri Department of Conservation, particularly concentrating on waterfowl and waterfowl habitat.

Six years ago, Michael died of a rare cancer at age 30. During the last week of his life, he asked his family to remember him through a wetland. The family obliged by establishing the Michael Wolff Memorial Wetland in the Cache River area near Belknap in southern Illinois (http://mwmwf.org).

He is also remembered through an SIU Carbondale scholarship that the Wolffs established through the SIU Foundation. The recipient alternates between an agriculture and science major each year, and must demonstrate an interest in enhancement of wildlife, preservation of the environment and/or conversation of lands for wildlife.

Through a beneficiary designation of a 401k account, the family has established an endowment with the Foundation, investing funds to support the scholarship in Michael's honor for perpetuity, rather than using all of the cash for immediate needs. Lynette says it's an appropriate way to honor him.

"Michael used to tell his father that he loved his job so much, that he shouldn't be paid for it. If his life had to be so short, I'm glad he did what he loved. I have made this point to many young people — do what you love to do.

"We're striving to honor other young people who share Michael's interest — his love of nature and taking care of the environment," she says. "The students we have presented the scholarship to have the same feelings about nature and the environment. It makes us feel good."

Lynette is also proud of multiple family members, including her daughter, Dana, who works on campus as an academic advisor; daughter-in-law Jennifer, and son-in-law Robert, who all earned degrees from Southern. And she is pleased to help others do the same.

"Higher education is required to keep our nation vibrant and strong," she says. "We must support young people, as costs have increased substantially, making it even more difficult for lower-income families. Many of us received a great opportunity to attend Southern — now it's time to give back."

For more information on establishing an endowment through a 401k or any other retirement account, please contact Director of Planned Giving Yvonne Spencer, at 618.453.4907, or via e-mail at: yvonnem@siu.edu.

Southern Illinois University Foundation
“Investing In Saluki Futures”
www.siuf.org
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FEATURES

A New Dawg House
The state-of-the-art Saluki Stadium is now open for business, and will host Southern's alumni this football season for the 2010 Homecoming Celebration. A look at the facility and a recap of how this long-awaited project came to fruition is featured inside.

Her Call Of Duty
While serving in the Air Force during Desert Storm, Beth Sherman's low rank kept her from being deployed to Iraq. Some two decades later, she wasn't about to pass up an opportunity to aid her country's current mission. Now in a public affairs role with the Department of Defense, she answered the agency's call to civilians to serve alongside military service men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Tracing His Father's Path
When Mike Lechwar's father was serving his country in World War II, it was a part of his life that he decided to keep to himself. "He never really talked about his time in the service, and it wasn't until years later that he finally opened up to my son about where he had been and what he had done in the war," Mike recalls. Years later, Mike and his son would embark on an epic journey to try and retrace his father's wartime path.

ON THE COVER
Head Coach Dale Lennon is flanked by senior leaders Chris Dieker (left) and Korey Lindsey at the new Saluki Stadium. Photo by Rusty Bailey '90.

Alumni listed in maroon throughout the magazine stories are members of the SIU Alumni Association.

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At various times during the 73-year history of McAndrew Stadium, plans surfaced to upgrade the facility or build a new structure to house the SIU football program. Often as quickly as strategy would be put in place, momentum behind the plan would vanish into thin air.

SIU Hall of Famer Carl Mauck ’69 is not from Missouri, but he does possess a fair share of “show me” mentality. When Saluki Stadium opened this season, something that occurred more than 45 years ago was still clearly in the former football star’s mind.

“When I was recruited to Southern in 1965, I was told that before I was done playing that we would be in a new stadium,” he recalls. “I’m sure that was just one of many times throughout history that plans for a new stadium ended up being nothing but the dream that didn’t come true.”

Mauck, who logged 13 years in the National Football League as a player and another 20 as a coach, is a loyal alum with a real love affair for his alma mater. He returned to Carbondale in 2006 as a volunteer coach for Jerry Kill, and helped the Salukis build what has recently become a gridiron dynasty.

When the Saluki Way project and plans for this new stadium first began to gain momentum, Mauck remained skeptical. As he shared with me in an interview four years ago, he wrote SIU President Glenn Poshard a note detailing how important he thought it was to make sure this time it actually happened. (He also reminded him of days decades earlier in Doc Spackman’s class when Poshard had the responsibility of taping Mauck’s ankles!)

“I’ve heard all of this stuff before,” he pointed out to me in 2006. “Gene, I’m not going to believe it until I walk into the joint.” Now retired and living in Texas, the 63-year-old McLeansboro, Ill., native recently did just that, coming to town and touring Saluki Stadium. He came away impressed.

“It’s really a tremendous facility, and to Southern’s credit they did it right,” the SIU Alumni Association life member says. “Not only is it great for the University and the program, but it is something the entire region can be extremely proud of. I’ll be there Homecoming Weekend, and I know it will be a special moment for me.”

And now that Saluki Stadium is a reality, perhaps a decades-old recruiting promise can be put to rest.

“They told me I would see a new stadium at Southern by the time I was a senior,” Mauck says with a laugh. “And I guess that’s true – I just didn’t realize that they meant I’d be a senior citizen when it happened.”
Thanks for Writing

Magazine Stirs Memories Of A Father’s Love For Southern

As usual, your last issue of Southern Alumni was great. I read it, however, with mixed emotions since my father’s name appeared in the long list of alumni deaths. When I saw his name, I began to reflect on how much he loved Southern Illinois University.

My dad, William H. Tallman ’72, grew up in Kankakee. After serving heroically in Vietnam, he chose to go to school at Southern and soon developed a deep admiration for the University, its beautiful campus, Saluki Athletics, and the city of Carbondale. It is there that he met the love of his life, began a family and career, and lived for more than 40 years.

He enjoyed sharing his love of SIU with his family, regardless of whether it was fishing trips to Campus Lake or attending countless Saluki sporting events. He was a loyal and devoted fan of Saluki Athletics, and one of his favorite stories was telling us that he was one of the few fans who actually watched Andre Herrrera rush for 319 yards in the pouring rain in 1976.

My dad’s love for the Salukis was passed on to me at an early age as I accompanied him to countless games. His devotion to Saluki Athletics was always evident.

After my parents moved to the St. Louis area to be closer to their grandchildren, I had a wonderful experience of accompanying my dad on his last trip to Carbondale to see the final game at McAndrew Stadium. He looked forward to seeing the new facilities, and I know he will be with me in spirit the next time I’m in Carbondale for a game.

He loved his University to the very end, and he is missed dearly by his son, a fellow alumnus.

Jonathan Tallman ’98
Life Member
Belleville, Ill.

‘Project 50-50’ Story Inspires Alum

Although there is always something in Southern Alumni that I find inspiring, Gene Green’s column on alumna Shay Kelley and subsequent story on her “Project 50-50” was one of the most incredible things I’ve read in awhile.

If we all took Shay’s approach to helping others by taking her statement of “it has to start somewhere – it might as well start with me,” seriously, it would be amazing how things around the world would change for the better. For this young Southern graduate to help the homeless when she was basically homeless herself is simply an incredible selfless act.

From the look of her beautiful photos online at www.shaykelley.com, and the documentation of her journey she posts daily on Facebook, I would think we have not heard the last of this Mass Communications and Media Arts graduate. She appears to be a special young lady and an incredible talent. If you haven’t yet purchased a photo and donated through Shay’s site, I urge you to go there and consider supporting this wonderful project.

Charlie Hill EX’82
Chicago, Ill.

Editor’s note: Kelley has now added what she calls a “project within a project.” She noticed that many of the homeless she meets need socks and shoes, so in addition to her food drive, she now collects those as well.

“I’ve been able to get about 100 pairs of shoes and more than 3,000 pairs of socks,” she told me recently. “And I’ve heard from many SIU alumni since the story in Southern Alumni appeared – that is exciting.”

Kelley is all smiles as she hands out a pair of socks to someone she recently met during her “Project 50-50” travels. She is now more than halfway through her 50-state journey.
University Fondly Remembers Dorothy Morris

by Pete Rosenberg

Dorothy Morris, the widow of former Southern Illinois University President Delyte Morris, died June 15 in Chapel Hill, N.C., at the age of 101.

Known for her graciousness and warmth, Morris was beloved for her extensive interaction with thousands of students and members of the University community during the 22 years her husband served as president. Delyte Morris was SIU president from 1948 to 1970, and is largely credited with transforming the campus from a small teachers college into a modern university. He died April 10, 1982.

"Anyone who reads the history of this university will know that Delyte and Dorothy Morris were equally responsible for making SIU a great university," SIU President Glenn Poshard says. "Mrs. Morris played an active role in helping to shape the future for SIU and we owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude for her contributions. She is still loved by every alumnus who has passed through our doors over these many years."

SIU Carbondale Chancellor Rita Cheng extended condolences to the family on behalf of the University. She notes that Mrs. Morris was committed to the success of the University and its students. "Mrs. Morris was much beloved and for good reason," Cheng says. "She enjoyed interacting with students throughout the campus and took a personal interest in their welfare and success. She holds a special place in the University's history."

Rickey N. McCurry, vice chancellor for institutional advancement and chief executive officer of the SIU Foundation, had a number of occasions to interact with her through the years, including visits with her for her 96th and 100th birthday celebrations. McCurry, Library Affairs Dean David Carlson, and Chancellor Emeritus Samuel Goldman presented Morris with the SIU Foundation's Medallion of Distinction at her 100th birthday celebration. It is only the second foundation medallion presented.

"She was one of the most gracious women I have ever known, and what amazed me about her was her keenness and awareness of SIU, both from a historical perspective and of her current knowledge of the University," McCurry says.

Morris' read the Daily Egyptian, the University's student newspaper, along with other University-related material, including the SIU Foundation's annual report and Southern Alumni magazine, McCurry notes. "She stayed on top of everything. Even at 100 she was mentally sharp and cared deeply about Southern."

Morris was an honorary member of the SIU Foundation Board of Directors. Scholarships and a doctoral fellowship that honor Morris and her husband also exist. The SIU Women's Club presents the
Dorothy Morris Scholarship to a traditional undergraduate female students of junior standing with a minimum 3.0 grade point average.

Morris received SIU's first university-wide honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in ceremonies in October 1988. Her numerous awards also include the SIU Distinguished Service Award in 1981.

In approving the recommendation for the Distinguished Service Award, the SIU Board of Trustees noted that Dorothy Morris' family while she was at the University extended well beyond that of her two sons, Peter and Michael. In 1949 her "official family" included 3,000 students and 300 faculty members but grew to 14,000 students and 1,300 faculty and staff by 1962, not to mention "numerous cousins" that included "influential leaders in education, government, agriculture, industry and commerce, and civic groups."

When the University grew into campuses in Carbondale and Edwardsville in 1970, her family grew to more than 2,000 faculty members and 36,000 students. "Mrs. Morris involved herself in welcoming each new faculty member and family," the recommendation said. "All were warmly received, including parents who dropped by for unscheduled visits."

A kumakura garden near Faner Hall is named in her honor. In May 2001, a bronze likeness was added, commissioned by anonymous patrons. "It's humbling," Morris said at the time. "I can't imagine why anyone would want to do this. My husband was the one who did all the work, you know."

Born in Orono, Maine, in 1908, Morris attended the University of Maine and earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1930. She met Delyte Morris while working as a circulation assistant in the university library; he was an instructor in the public speaking department and director of men's forensics at the university. The couple married in 1930 and came to SIU in 1948 from The Ohio State University, where he headed the speech and hearing clinic.

Morris is survived by her two sons, Michael, a professor in political science at Clemson University, and his wife, Rekha, and Peter Morris, a professor emeritus of mathematics at Shepherd University, and his wife, Sharon, and sons, Brett, Douglas, and Trevor, and four great-grandchildren.
New Life Members

(June 4 - Aug.18)
David and Kathleen Almy
Kerri Anderson
Cole and Karen Behringer
Shirley Booker
Bruce and Jill Booker
Tim and Connie Borchert
Joseph Bryant and Sally Stotlar-Bryant
Robert Dodd
Joseph Dorner
Dale and Joan Flesburg
Steven Garlinghouse
Michelle Gattuso
Rick Giovengo
Tarnisha Green
Damon Hall
Robert Hardek
Bryan and Kathleen Harrison
Larry and Kathy Howell
Jeremy and Sasha Jordan
Burnell Kraft
Todd Light
Santiago Martinez
Christopher and Karen Midden
John and Lisa Nagle
Charles and Barbara Neal
Cheow Neo
Michael and Mary Norrington
Edmund and Kandace Riddle
Ryan and Rhonda Roseberry
Nathan and Melissa Schaumleffel
Scott Sherer
Barbara Smith
Jennifer Ford Stamps
Katina Strange and Stephen Boergerhoff
Clayton and Gloria Tarter
Chasity Tartt
Joseph Wallace Jr.
Valerie Watson
Christopher Wilken
Kenneth Williams
Scott Dawn Wilson
Susan Yager

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SIU Craft Shop

Located just inside the SIU Student Center, the Craft Shop is your source for all things crafty. They carry a variety of crafting tools and supplies for even the most elaborate artist, and if you have more interest in a craft than you do the skills, don't worry—they offer workshops and private lessons in music, ceramics, painting, framing, woodworking and more. Ride in and check out Saluki Spokes, the newest addition to the Craft Shop. They provide students with free check-out of the basic materials and tools needed to fix bikes. Association members receive 10 percent off all Saluki memorabilia. Visit them at www.siucstudentcenter.org/craft-shop.
Check Out Our Benefit Program

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
JSTOR: Browse thousands of scholarly journals through JSTOR's online database.
*Sherrin - Williams Paints: 10% off regular priced items.
SIU Alumni Association Online Store: 15% off merchandise (membership 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.
*Boyer's Coffee: 10% off.
*Car Rental: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Hertz, and National
*Cord North American: Up to 63% off interstate moves.
Cruise One: 10% discount on published rates.
*JSTOR: Online database.
*Sherwin - Williams Paints: 15% off regular priced items.
*SIU Alumni Association Online Store: 15% off merchandise (membership number required).

• 10% discount at the SIU Alumni Online Store
• Access to member-only areas of career and networking community
• The Sports Performance Store: 10% off regular priced items.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
A Petal Patch Florist: Carbondale - 10% off.
Alongi's Italian Restaurants: DuQuoin - Free avec with purchase of entree (excludes banquet room & other coupons).
American Flooring: Marion - 10% off any regular priced flooring plus 5% off standard installation.
Angelo's Inn Murphysboro: 15% off regular rate.
Barton House Bed & Breakfast: Carbondale - advance registration required for 10% discount.
Bella Terra Winery: Makanda - 10% off first night's stay.
Campus Lake Calendars: 10% off matted prints featuring campus lake.
Carbondale - $2 off any food purchase of $10 or more (not valid on specials or with other offers).
Cruze, Ill.: 10% off regular rates, 20% off for life members, 15% off for annual members.
DPR Realty, LLC: Glendale, Az.- discounted real estate listing.
*High Hand Designs: Newburgh, Ind.: 15% off all purchases.
Kingston Williams Realty: Austin, Texas - ask for Steve or Judy Scott.
Mehta Motors: Elmhurst, Ill.: 10% off oil change and safety check.
Meyers O'Donnell Banners and Signs: Serious Saluki discounts for alumni events and SIU sports outings.
Reppert's Office Supplies: Furniture-Machines: Anna - 10% off regular priced items.
Reppert's Office Supplies-Furniture-Machines: Anna - 10% off regular priced items.
Risovioe Country Club: Homewood, Ill. - 55 off greens fee.
*Ten Pin Designs: Newburgh, Ind.: 15% off all purchases.
The Perfect Sign, LLC: Newburgh, Ind.: 15% off all purchases.

• 10% discount at the SIU Alumni Online Store
• Access to member-only areas of career and networking community
• The Sports Performance Store: 10% off regular priced items.

CAMPUS
McLeod Theater: 20% off adult/senior citizen tickets (excludes Summer Playhouse).
Morris Library privileges - visit siualumni.com for details.
Old Main Restaurant: Student Center - 10% off.
Student Center - 20% off SIU imprinted items.

• Access to member-only areas of career and networking community
• The Sports Performance Store: 10% off regular priced items.

Consider membership as a gift:
Members receive:
• The Southern Alumni magazine quarterly.
• Saluki Pride electronic newsletter twice annually.
• 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.

* Denotes benefit code required. To access codes, please call us at 618-453-2408 or visit us at siualumni.com.
Department of Public Safety Takes A Step At Going Green

The newest addition to Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s Department of Public Safety resembles a tricked-out chariot. But this all-electric personal patrol three-wheel vehicle is more cost-efficient and environmentally friendly than the ancient Egyptians and Romans could have imagined.

The department recently received a T3 Motion Series clean-energy electric stand-up vehicle to use on patrol. With a top speed of 25 mph, the three-wheel scooter features no gas emissions, has a zero-turn radius, and costs about 10 cents per day in electricity. It will allow patrol officers easier access to some areas on campus and supplement existing vehicle and bike patrols, says Todd Sigler, director of the University's Department of Public Safety.

The department received a grant from the University's Sustainability Council, with funds coming from the University's Green Fund. SIU students support the Green Fund through a $10 per semester fee implemented during the fall 2009 semester as the result of a student-led initiative. The goal of the fee is providing a continuing income source for projects promoting energy efficiency, the use of renewable energy, and sustainability.

Jamie Lipe, an officer at Southern, shows off the department's T3 Motion all-electric personal patrol vehicle. The environmentally friendly three-wheel vehicle will allow officers easier access to some areas on campus, and features a top speed of 25 mph, a zero-turn radius, and costs about 10 cents per day in electricity.

The vehicle's ease of maneuverability will lend itself to easier access for officers during large events, such as student move-in days, football games, and other events that draw large crowds on campus. Sigler also anticipates the vehicle, which is extremely quiet, will be useful for patrols in buildings, particularly larger buildings, such as Morris Library.

“We think we can supplement patrols and patrol areas not easily served with foot patrols, such as around campus lake, Thompson Woods, and behind Morris Library,” Sigler says. “When the weather is tolerable we believe this will be an asset; there are a lot of areas on campus where there are patrols that you can’t easily do with a vehicle.

Since initial production in 2006, 75 colleges and universities across the nation, in addition to numerous law enforcement and other agencies, now use the vehicle, reports a spokesman for the company, based in Costa Mesa, Calif. SIU will calculate the savings over the next year. And while the vehicle will not do away with vehicle or bicycle patrols, Sigler expects some savings.

“Generally speaking, any time a squad car is not running or burning gas, not only is there a savings to the environment but for us financially,” he says. “This will not entirely replace a police cruiser but it certainly is an opportunity to utilize environmentally friendly technology and still be able to get the job done in an effective manner.”
SIU Hosts Students From Southeast Asia

Students from Southeast Asia visited Carbondale this summer to study American mass media, government, and culture. Southern hosted the group from Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines as part of a U.S. Department of State Program to build better understanding of the United States.

The students met SIU faculty from the departments of political science, history, economics, philosophy, the School of Law, and the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. Students have been coming to Carbondale for the program for 14 years.

John Foster, retired SIU political science professor, organized the visit. He says the purpose of the trip is to give the students a decent look at how the country works. After Carbondale, the students went to St. Louis, Springfield, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. The trip is paid through a grant through the Fulbright-Hays Act.

John Jackson, visiting professor with the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute and co-organizer of the event, says the students are “bright young people who have been selected because of their leadership abilities” and are always excited to visit. He notes the program also broadens the horizons for SIU.

“We continue to have friends around the world because of it,” Jackson says.

Campus Leaders Make Difficult Budget Decisions

Southern Illinois University Carbondale continues to tighten its belt in the ongoing efforts to manage a difficult budget situation. Earlier this summer, Chancellor Rita Cheng asked all campus units to submit plans for an average four percent reduction in their budgets. The University's financial challenges are the result of the end of the federal stimulus program, state-imposed budget reserves, enrollment concerns, slow state reimbursements and contractual obligations to employees.

“The steps we are taking, which will result in a savings of $7 million, are part of a multifaceted strategy to cover a budget shortfall of $11.5 million,” Cheng says. “These strategies are designed to ensure academic quality and effective operations, while minimizing the impact on our employees.”

The budget reduction plans, developed with input from the Chancellor’s Planning and Budget Advisory Committee, include savings generated by not filling positions, cuts in operational budgets, and additional personnel reductions. The plans called for the elimination of 16 staff positions and two non-tenure track faculty positions. However, administrators and supervisors worked together to place as many of the affected staff as possible, and 14 staff members were reassigned.

“The hiring freeze that has been in place for the past year – and which will continue – allows us to transfer these employees to key positions in critical areas, such as Enrollment Management,” Cheng says.

Two Civil Service staff members and two non-tenure track faculty members are being laid off. “I truly regret that we could not find positions for all members of our work force,” she explains. “At the same time, by not filling positions over the past year, we avoided a much higher number of layoffs.”

Additional efforts that are generating significant savings include postponing the addition or replacement of equipment, sharply reducing commodity purchases, and severely limiting travel. Examples of other steps being taken by University departments include reducing the number of phone lines, reducing or eliminating memberships in professional organizations, and further postponing many long-overdue repair and maintenance projects.

“The campus community has been responsive – and responsible – in finding ways to be more efficient,” Cheng says. “We know we have to tighten our belts even more, and we will continue to look for ways to deliver services in a different, and more cost-effective, manner.”

Third Annual Technology And Innovation Expo Set Oct. 8

New technologies and inventions that are ripe for commercialization and business development – and the Southern Illinois University Carbondale faculty and researchers who developed them – will be showcased at an semiannual exposition of newly patented, patent-pending, and licensable discoveries.

The third Technology and Innovation Expo will be held Oct. 8 at the Dunn-Richmond Economic Development Center in Carbondale. The event will feature technology presentations by inventors from SIU, the SIU School of Medicine and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Barry Moltz, entrepreneur and author of “You Need to be a Little Crazy: The Truth About Starting and Growing Your Own Business,” will speak and the afternoon session will include a panel discussion by new venture and investment experts.

An exhibit area and reception also are planned.

The event is open to alumni and the public. Advanced registration is required and space is limited. Information is available at www.tie.siuc.edu or by calling SIU's Office of Research Development and Administration at (618) 453-4556.

Aside from the annual expo, scientists and supporters also communicate through a group (SIU Carbondale Technology Development) on the LinkedIn website. SIU Senior Technology Transfer Specialist Jeff Myers says the site is a perfect for alumni who want to be kept up to date.

“The University is continuously developing new technologies and ventures in need of potential licensees, managers, stakeholders, and advisers,” he says. The TIE event and the LinkedIn group are both great ways to discover the latest news about SIUC technology development and learn about opportunities for technology licenses and new business ventures.”
SIU Teams Do Well In Air Race Classic

by Pete Rosenbery

The three teams representing Southern Illinois University Carbondale’s aviation program in the Air Race Classic this summer fared exceptionally well. Flight instructors Erin Jackson and Christine Zoerlein finished ninth overall, while the team of Katie Lake and Ashley Carder was 12th, and Sabrina Zwego and Heather Heidinger placed 20th.

Jackson and Zoerlein finished third behind teams from Purdue and Indiana State in the competition for the collegiate challenge trophy. Lake and Carder were fifth in the collegiate division, with Zwego and Heidinger seventh.

“We’re proud of what these women achieved in this demanding competition,” Chancellor Rita Cheng says. “They are outstanding ambassadors for our flight program and the entire University. What they experienced will provide valuable insights for their students.”

The 34th annual event, which celebrates the history of women in aviation, covered 2,157.7 nautical miles in four days, starting in Fort Myers, Fla., before ending in Frederick, Md. Forty-nine of the 51 teams that started the race completed the course; the remaining two teams developed mechanical issues during the event.

“I’m proud of the teams, and all of them did SIU proud,” says David NewMyer, chair of the Department of Aviation Management and Flight. “They were wonderful representatives of SIU aviation, and I’m glad we were able to do this during our 50th anniversary year. It was a great thing to show the University is here to stay in aviation, that we have a wonderful program, and support women in aviation,” says NewMyer, who emphasizes the important community and family support the teams received.

Jackson and Zoerlein also earned honors for being first-time racers with the best time while not using a $300 personal National Weather Service meteorologist who was available during the event. In addition, Lake and Carder finished first in two individual legs and third in another leg.

“Zoerlein says it was a privilege to compete. She will begin U.S. Air Force pilot training in March and doesn’t believe she will have the opportunity to compete in the near future. But it was “an honor to have been able to race, and I couldn’t imagine flying this with anyone but Erin,” she notes.

Jackson says the team accomplished its goals. “We felt like we raced our race. We did the best we could with integrity and teamwork and we had fun. We were really excited that it paid off for us in the long run.”

The team earned a medal by finishing in the top 10 and was the highest-scoring first-time race team.

“That was exciting to know as first-time racers that we were doing something right to have been able to actually compete with these ladies,” Zoerlein says.

“Most of these women own and take care of their own planes and are paying for everything themselves,” she says. “Although we have done fundraising to cover all of the expenses of the race, it was sure an honor to have our names called for roll call and to have the opportunity to represent the SIU aviation department.”

Jackson says it was a “huge privilege” that the department allowed the three teams to each use a Cessna Skyhawk 172R plane when non-collegiate competitors used their own planes.

The experience will assist them in instructing students. The teams experienced different local weather patterns flying in areas, including near the Florida Gulf and over the Appalachian Mountains.

“Another key thing was some of the phenomena that happens when you fly around mountains,” Zoerlein stresses. “Neither of us had any previous experience in that arena, but we teach our students on what they can expect flying near them. Now, after flying over the Appalachian Mountains, we got to see firsthand some of the weather and turbulence that is associated with them.”

Erin Jackson, left, and Christine Zoerlein, flight instructors in Southern’s Department of Aviation Management and Flight, finished ninth overall in the 34th annual Air Race Classic. Two other teams of SIU flight instructors also fared well in the race, which honors the history of women in aviation.
Main Events

**Thursday, October 7**
- 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: All Greek Reunion Registration/Check-In, Student Center, John Corker Lounge
- 7 p.m.: Homecoming Comedy Show, Student Center Ballrooms (sponsored by SPC Comedy Committee)

**Friday, October 8**
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.: Class of 1960, Guided Tour of Campus and Carbondale, meet at front of Student Center
- 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: Dental Hygiene Professional Seminar, Exploring the Common Myths of Clinical Procedures, (Featured Speaker: Sherry Burns, RDH, MS), Student Center Auditorium
- 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: Technology and Innovation Expo, Dunn-Richmond Economic Development Center
- 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.: SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting, Student Center, Ballroom B
- 9:30 a.m. – Noon: Class of 1960 Brunch, Student Center, Old Main Lounge
- Noon – 1:30 p.m.: Lunch, SIU Alumni Association, SIU Foundation, Student Center, Ballroom D
- 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.: All Greek Reunion Open House, Student Center, west side of International Lounge
- 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.: Distinguished Alumni Recognition Reception, Student Recreation Center, 2nd floor; Alumni Lounge; Everyone invited (A program of the SIU Alumni Association)
- 6:15 p.m.: Half-Century Club Dinner, Student Center, Ballroom D
- 6 p.m.: Alumni Band Group. Marching Saluki alumni invited to attend a reception in the Student Center, Cambria Room/Renaissance Room, 1st floor

**Saturday, October 9**
- 9 a.m. – Noon: Tailgating Breakfast, everyone invited. University Museum, north end of Faner Hall
- 9:30 a.m.: Homecoming Parade, downtown Carbondale
- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.: Alumni Tailgate, SIU Alumni Association Tents, on the field at McAndrew Stadium. Everyone invited! (A program of the SIU Alumni Association) REGISTER at the tent to enjoy a complimentary lunch.Bring membership card for easier tent access.
- 11 a.m.: Saluki Row Tailgates, lawn north of basketball arena. Everyone welcome.
- 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.: Student Center 50th Anniversary Tailgate – food, music, displays. Building tours available upon request. In front of the Student Center
- 2 p.m.: Homecoming Football Game – Salukis vs. Northern Iowa Panthers, Saluki Stadium. Tickets: $20 adults, $12 children. May be purchased by visiting the ticket windows at Lingle Hall, Student Center 2nd floor, or at the game.
- 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.: All Greek Reunion Post-Game Party, Student Center, Ballroom D/John Corker Lounge
- 6 p.m.: Alumni Band Group, Marching Salukis Dinner, Spinoni's, 501 E. Walnut, Carbondale. Pay on your own.

**Sunday, October 10**
- 10:30 a.m. – Noon: All Greek Reunion Constituency Group, Student Center, Ohio Room
- 2 p.m.: Special Season Kick-Off Event (free); “Alice Ripley in Concert,” McLeod Theater. Solo concert performance of original music, presented by Tony Award-winning actress Alice Ripley.

Special Offers For Alums:

**University Bookstore:** Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Twenty percent discount on SIU-imprinted merchandise with your SIU Alumni Association membership card. For more information: 618-536-3321.

**Student Recreation Center:** Alumni Special! FREE use of facilities with your SIU Alumni Association membership card, 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday. Free boat rental at Campus Boat Dock. For more information: 618-453-1277, www.reccenter.siu.edu.

**Student Center Bowling and Billiards:** Alumni Special! Bowling for $2 per game, $1 shoe rental, and $3 per hour billiards games, 9 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday; Noon–11 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m.–9:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information: 618-453-2803.

**University Museum:** Panel discussion on collecting art, 7-9 p.m. Friday. Vera Felts' Saluki Stamps Exhibit and Homecoming Breakfast, 9 a.m.–noon Saturday. Featured exhibits: Illinois' Vogel Collection, "50 Works for 50 States," presented by Carbondale Community Arts; "Ghosts," an Ed Shay Retrospective (watercolors and sculpture); SIMS 2nd Annual Form, Fabricate, Forge, display of metalsmith work. Regular museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., closed Sundays.
At the recent dedication ceremony for the new state-of-the-art Saluki Stadium, one phrase dominated the conversation. The sparkling new facility was the result of teamwork—plain and simple.

"What you see here today is the result of what can happen when we work together," SIU President Glenn Poshard told the crowd.

"This project would not have been possible without the cooperation of our faculty, staff, students, alumni, the City of Carbondale, and our elected local, state, and federal officials."

The $25 million stadium is part of Southern's massive $83 million athletic component of the Saluki Way project, which was first introduced to the SIU Board of Trustees in 2005. The plan was linked to a strategic land use initiative developed in 2001 by a committee appointed by former interim chancellor John Jackson.

"This stadium is one part of that plan," Poshard points out. "The athletic portion of Saluki Way (new stadium, renovated SIU Arena, and new office and locker room facilities in the Boydston Center) makes up 20 percent of the entire plan. Academic and student facilities make up the other 80 percent."

Poshard also says SIU Board of Trustees Chairman Roger Tedrick's leadership in getting the project approved and having the idea to build the stadium and renovate the SIU Arena at the same time proved crucial. The budget was helped in part by the timing of a nationwide decline in building activity, as area contractors vied for the work.

"Because of Roger's decision, this project came in on time and under budget," he says.

**Time For A Change**

While some debated how a new stadium would be financed, few could argue that it was time to close the doors on 73-year-old McAndrew Stadium. Opened in 1938, it was funded by the Works Progress Administration during the mid-1930s at a cost of $150,000.
He hired an obscure NCAA Division II head coach named Jerry Kill—who wasn’t on anybody’s short list—for the job.

“A fiery little man from Cheney, Kan., Kill approached coaching like the wedgebuster on a kickoff team. No obstacle was insurmountable. Resurrecting Saluki Football became a crusade, and he won converts with the power of his unbending will.”

With Saluki Football now flying high on the playing field, momentum was finally in place to legitimately consider a new stadium.

“So many before us have ownership in what has happened,” SIU Athletics Director Mario Moccia says. “Kowalczyk was here when the idea began, and successful coaches like Kill, Bruce Weber, and Matt Painter all did great jobs with their respective teams. If they weren’t having that type of success at that time, Saluki Way would never have gained enough support to move forward.”

**Ushering In A New Era**

On March 3, 2009, the first shovels of dirt were turned during a ceremony on the east side of the SIU Arena. The new football stadium construction would soon begin to fill the area between the Arena and Route 51.

Over the course of the next 17 months, the flurry of activity never ceased. Under the watchful eyes of SIU Associate Athletics Director Jason King, the project began to take shape, staying on schedule and under budget throughout.

More than 300 different workers were on the project at one point or another, and in completion, the Saluki Stadium features a horseshoe-shaped construction and seating for approximately 15,000. Seating includes 1,080 prime chair-back seats as well as seating on the grass berm enclosing the north end zone.

The two-story pressbox features 12 club suites, a 2,500-square foot VIP Club Room, and traditional booths for radio, television, coaches, and print media. A 20x40-foot scoreboard with video replay...
The pyramid from McAndrew Stadium was moved to the new facility, and is now a part of the team's pregame walk from the locker room to the field. Here players touch the icon on their way to Saluki Stadium.

Speaking for the players, team captain Joe Allaria says the squad is "humbled" by the new facility they now call home.

"It is remarkable to think that groundbreaking was just 17 months ago," says SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng. "There is an important role that athletics plays at a university in bringing the campus and the region together – this facility can help do just that."

A New Experience
With no track at the new stadium, Saluki fans will be much closer to the playing field. This intimacy, coupled with the massive video board and an electrifying sound system, should completely change the game experience for Saluki fans, predicts head coach Dale Lennon. "I think there will be something going on all the time that will hold everyone's interest," he says. "We want the fans of this region to feel like Saluki Stadium is the premier destination on a home football weekend. It needs to be an event that they feel is unique, fun, and the place they want to be."

He also thinks the crowd can become even more of a "12th man" in providing the Salukis a home field advantage. "You are going to be so close to the field that it almost feels like you're in the game yourself. And we hope the students buy into it and make their presence known behind the opposing bench. It has a chance to be a pretty special thing."

Students hopefully do take ownership for their part of the project, as increased fees were one of the keys to getting the stadium constructed. SIU Undergraduate Student Government President Marcus King says he is pleased with how things

The pyramid from McAndrew Stadium was moved to the new facility, and is now a part of the team's pregame walk from the locker room to the field. Here players touch the icon on their way to Saluki Stadium.
Cutting the ribbon at the dedication ceremony, from left, SIU President Glenn Poshard, alumnus Greg Cook, SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng, SIUC Undergraduate President Marcus King, SIUC Athletic Director Mario Moccia, SIU Board of Trustees Chairman Roger Tedrick, Saluki football player Joe Allaria, Saluki Head Coach Dale Lennon, and SIU Board of Trustees Vice-Chairman Ed Hightower.

have progressed. "Not only does SIU have the best athletes, but now it has the best sports venue as well."

While Lennon is also excited about his new home, perhaps no group has been more impacted than seniors on the 2010 Saluki squad.

Speaking for his teammates at the dedication ceremony, senior wide receiver Joe Allaria echoed the sentiments of many players. "We are honored and privileged to call this beautiful place home," he said. "We are humbled each day we walk into these facilities."

"We are also grateful to the many players and coaches who have gone before us, as they all have ownership in Saluki Stadium. They laid the foundation for us to build on, and without them we wouldn't be here today."

Moccia agrees.

"I was fortunate to be sitting in this chair when the construction was going on, but in no way, shape, or form did the current athletics administration do this by themselves. The list of former players, coaches, alumni, friends, and workers involved to make this a reality is staggering."

"This past year has been an exciting time for Saluki Athletics, as all the planets and stars seemed to be aligned properly to get us to where we are now. It is rare for everyone to come together to make something of this magnitude happen. In addition to all the support by the Board of Trustees, there is no way we are at this point without the City of Carbondale's partnership, and the contributions of countless alumni and friends."

For alumni like Greg Cook, seeing a new stadium adds to family memories he has cherished since attending games at McAndrew as a child with his father, John. He is also pleased that the project was done right.

"When I saw the finished stadium for the first time, all I could say was 'Wow!'" the SIU Alumni Association life member says. "Saluki Football has been knocking on the door recently in the NCAA playoffs - now maybe this facility can help the program take that next step."

"What a fitting place this will be to hang another championship banner."

Former AD Delighted
Project Has Succeeded

In the four years he has been away from Southern, former athletics director Paul Kowalczyk's thoughts have often returned to the Saluki Way project. During his 2000-2006 tenure with the Salukis, he was at ground zero when the initiative began.

The fact it has succeeded matters to him.

"We believed from the beginning that this would change the face and image of SIU for generations to come," the current Colorado State AD says. "It should help recruit students and make alumni feel proud to be Salukis. That sentiment should also carry over to the campus and surrounding communities."

Kowalczyk says former SIUC Chancellor Walter Wendler was a driving force in those early days of the plan.

"Walter felt that this was in the University's best interests and immediately put his foot on the accelerator," Kowalczyk notes. "And I congratulate Mario Moccia and his staff for raising the money and for getting a buy-in from the city and students - they should be pleased and proud of their efforts."

"This project serves as a profound statement about what the University wants to be - that it aspires to greater goals and wants to treat supporters in a first-class fashion. Saluki Way only enhances the image of a proud and beautiful campus and will benefit everyone associated with Southern."

-Gene Green
The American Disability Act celebrated its 20th birthday at the end of July, but Southern Illinois University Carbondale's accessibility came far earlier. The campus began working on accessibility as early as the 1950s, with major strides coming in the 1960s and 1970s.

"The campus was so far ahead of the curve," says Kathleen Plesko, director of Disability Support Services. Southern had already taken steps to benefit disabled students, such as curb cuts and accessible buildings. According to a 1979 report by former Specialized Student Services Coordinator Ron Blosser, the biggest changes to the campus came between 1966 and 1974, including the hiring of a full-time university coordinator for what was then called Handicapped Student Services.

SIU President Glenn Poshard, who began his studies at SIU in the 1960s, says much credit would have to go to former President Delyte Morris. "I think Morris set the tone for accommodating students," he says. "I think our campus has been better off for it for years."

When the ADA was signed into law, Plesko says many of the requirements had already been taken care of.

Nevertheless, the campus created the ADA Task Force to make sure accessibility could be improved wherever needed. She notes other universities called for advice, and some still do.

When Matt Fred, a graduate student in rehabilitation counseling, was looking for a place to learn, SIU seemed like the natural choice for a disabled student.

"That's what drew me to the school," Fred says, "that I knew it was one of the most accessible schools."

He and his wife, Jennifer, say they both found the accessibility for disabled students to be major factors in their decisions. He says there were few problems on the campus, and when they were found, they were often addressed. Fred says when the Student Health Center was built there were elements to the design that were not completely accessible, but he was part of a group panel that was able to offer feedback on improvements.

"Pretty much all the recommendations we put forth were addressed," Fred says.

Plesko says Disability Support Services is working on technological advances for disabled students to make the learning experience a bit smoother. She says the next challenge for SIU will be the veterans, who are served through a variety of offices such as Disability Support Services and the Office for Veteran's Benefits.

She notes that "the commitment of this decade will have to be the veterans; they are coming back with catastrophic disabilities."

—This story first appeared in The Southern Illinoisan.
While serving in the Air Force during Desert Storm, Beth Sherman's low rank kept her from being deployed to Iraq. Some two decades later, she wasn't about to pass up an opportunity to aid her country's current mission.

BY GREG SCOTT

Pictured here holding a RPG, Sherman says her 16-month stay in Afghanistan was a life-changing experience. I forged friendships that will last the rest of my life.
Sherman was initially slated to stay in Afghanistan for one year, but the chief of staff for the 82nd Airborne, which had assumed authority from the 101st Airborne, asked her to stay until his troops departed.

"They thought I was contributing and could make a difference. I was taking on new responsibilities, primarily working with all military branches in our public affairs office," she says. "The public affairs people in both organizations are top-notch.

"The people I worked with are like brothers and sisters to me. We worked 12-hour days and even hung out together when we weren't working. It was a life-changing experience for me. I forged friendships that will last the rest of my life."

She ultimately stayed in Afghanistan for 16 months, departing in June 2010. In reflection, Sherman admits that her family was not necessarily happy with her decision to leave the Pentagon for such a hostile environment, but her mind was made up.

"They weren't overjoyed because it is dangerous. Everyone, whether you're a service member or civilian, is in danger there. That's why we're in Afghanistan in the first place," she says.

"But my family knew there was no sense in trying to talk me out of it. Ultimately, they were very supportive because they knew it was something I wanted to do."

Sherman often used Facebook, which gave her the ability to communicate with 500 friends at once, and email to keep loved ones informed of her well-being. She is thankful for family and friends who communicated and sent care packages to her.

She wonders about the communication challenges her father had during his service in Vietnam.

"I can't imagine writing letters and dealing with the lag time. He didn't have the benefit of instant messaging like we do now," she says. "I talked to my family more in Afghanistan than I did while in the United States because it was important. I even talked my mother into creating a Facebook account because she wanted to know what was going on with me and it was the easiest way to find out."

Despite the hostile environment Afghanistan represents, the lure of one of the most fascinating stories in the world was too much for Sherman to pass up.

Since her days as a youth, Sherman has always been intrigued by the journalism profession. A former newspaper carrier, she enjoyed reading the paper as a child and speaking in front of people.

"I have fond memories of growing up in a household where we all ate dinner together while watching the local and national news," she says. "When I was in high school, I really liked speech competitions, in particular, the radio announcing category."

Following her four-year tenure in the Air Force, the Oakwood native chose Southern because of its strong radio-television program. She mentions a student-produced television newscast, campus radio station, and growth opportunities through SIU professors who would prepare her for success after college.

"The professors helped take me to the next level there and gave me the appropriate training. It was an easy environment to buckle down and get your work done," she says.

She garnered experience through on-campus radio and television outlets, in addition to serving as a sports reporter for WSIL-TV in nearby Carterville. Sherman
also completed an internship at KABC-TV in Los Angeles through the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts Hollywood Studies Program, which provides students with hands-on learning experiences in the broadcast industry.

She credits former professor Ken Keller for arranging the internship for her. “There weren’t too many other interns there, but I received the opportunity because Ken Keller knew someone there,” she says. “It was valuable because I learned various aspects of television news.”

Her journey to the West Coast proved profitable in another respect. She appeared as a contestant on the Price Is Right program and won almost $30,000 in prizes. Her winnings included a 1996 Grand Am, dink sailboat, and hot tub. “For a college student, it made an unpaid internship worth $30,000 in one afternoon,” she says.

So thankful for her SIU experience, Sherman donated $500 to the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, which assisted the College in designing and developing a communications courtyard.

“That was a lot of money for me at the time as a college student,” she says. “However, I really felt the education I was receiving from SIU’s broadcasting program was worth so much more. It was my way to publically acknowledge that and say thanks to the department.”

After graduation, Sherman’s experience led to her landing a job as a news reporter and fill-in anchor for FOX 35 in Orlando, Fla., in 1998. She spent eight years at the station, covering a multitude of assignments ranging from city government and sports to hurricanes and homicides. Sherman eventually realized it was time for a change.

The unpredictable schedule of a news reporter eventually became less appealing and made it difficult to schedule time with family and friends. Changes in the broadcast business began to take their toll. Fewer opportunities existed, and she saw many professionals losing their jobs.

This grim outlook led to her desire to start mulling options for the future. “I had an incredible experience in television news but you make sacrifices. There comes a time when you discover that you’re not going to be an anchor on The Today Show. And I didn’t want to be a foreign correspondent where I’m traveling all the time,” she says. “Besides, I wanted to age gracefully. I didn’t want to worry about what I looked like on high-definition television. I thought there may be something else out there that I would enjoy doing for many years.”

Sherman saw an online government ad for a position with Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, an agency of the Department of Defense that seeks to gain and maintains employer support, and if needed, mediates issues between employers and employees who deploy to serve in the military.

She was hired in 2006 and has served in the position ever since. “We have developed a culture in which employers value the military service of their employees. Our agency honors employers who go above and beyond to support employees who may have to be deployed for extended periods of time,” Sherman says. “Besides, military personnel bring a lot to the table. They are excellent employees that employers can depend on.”

Sherman says the agency supported her own wishes to leave for Afghanistan and welcomed her with open arms when she returned to the Pentagon. “I was looking for an opportunity that I could enjoy for the next 20 years. ESGR is something I can get behind because I love what they stand for in honoring our military servicemen and women. It is quite gratifying to be a part of its mission.”

A lifelong Chicago Bears fan, Sherman dons her team’s apparel while sharing a moment with NFL Hall of Famer Howie Long, who visited Bagram to tape an NFL program for FOX network.
SIU's 'Avatar' Technology May Help Athletes, Patients

by K.C. Jaehnig

The same technology powering characters in the films "Avatar" and "Alice in Wonderland" could boost the performance of Southern Illinois University Carbondale athletes and assist area patients recovering from strokes, surgeries and spinal cord injuries.

In his biomechanics lab on campus, kinesiologist Michael Olson is using motion-capture equipment—a mix of infrared cameras, reflective body markers, and computer software—to translate a person's movements into digital form. With a few keystrokes, he can rotate the resulting images—a group of dots, resembling a stick figure, moving across a grid—for a clearer picture of what the movement looks like straight-on, from the side and from above.

"This equipment lets me analyze things like gait speed, rotation of the trunk, arm swing, joint angles, all of which give me a better idea of how the movement is being performed," Olson says.

While motion-capture technology animates the computer-generated creatures fabricated by game designers and filmmakers (think hordes of enemies in action games or all those teensy people falling off the Titanic), it started out as a biomechanics research tool. Such researchers study how the interplay of bones, tendons, muscles, and ligaments move a human body.

"I deal a lot with neuromechanics (which adds the nervous system to the mix)," Olson notes. "The equipment lets me evaluate, for example, how a movement takes place, specific changes that might be occurring and whether those changes could be short or long term."

Such information could help Saluki athletes retrain bad habits and improve their jump shots, punts, pitching, swings, and sprint starts. "Because you can get a pretty good idea of how a body part is moving as someone performs an activity, you can analyze the overall movement and provide a corrective measure for that skill," he says.

But he also is focusing on a wider application of this technology. "What I would like to do is use the equipment to look at individuals who will be going through surgery (knees, backs, hips) or who have been injured or who have neurological disorders.

When you have surgery, for example, you don't move the same way afterward. If we could do some analysis before the surgery, we could see what your initial movement looks like. If you'd had a stroke, we could monitor what the unaffected side was doing as compared to your affected side.

"In both cases, we could then work with your doctor or physical therapist to enhance treatment and monitor progress. This would help you function more normally and feel more independent."

Olson is looking to approach health care providers about working with them. Such partnerships would offer the region's residents a unique service, he believes, as the closest labs with motion-capture capability are in Champaign, Evansville, Ind., and St. Louis, Mo. In the meantime, he is teaching a laboratory techniques course to help graduate students learn how to use the tool.

"They're getting fairly intimate with it," he says with a grin.
HEY YOU! GET READY FOR SOME SIU FOOTBALL

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SIUALUMNI.COM
Football Salukis Picked To Win League Title

When the 2010 Missouri Valley Conference football season begins Sept. 25 at Youngstown State, the defending champion SIU Salukis will be the team the rest of the league has in its sights. The Dawgs are picked atop the preseason poll conducted by league coaches, media, and sports information directors. The next three spots in the preseason poll were tightly contested, as eight points separated South Dakota State (second), Illinois State (third) and Northern Iowa (fourth).

Southern, which has won a league-record 14-straight MVFC games, received 313 points, including 30 of the 36 first-place votes in the poll. The Salukis posted an 11-2 mark and a perfect 8-0 league record in 2009, and entered the beginning of the regular season ranked fifth nationally.

"The polls are kind of an indication of what you've done in the past so it is definitely a complement to the program," head coach Dale Lennon says. "At the same time, you can't put too much stock into it. It's just kind of anticipation for the season - an exciting thing that is fun for the fans." Lennon has won the MVC Coach of the Year award in each of his first two years at SIU.

A league-high seven SIU players - three on offense, three on defense and one on special teams - were named to the 2010 Missouri Valley Football Preseason Team. Fullback John Goode, offensive lineman David Pickard and wide receiver Joe Allaria were the offensive players selected. On the other side of the ball, defensive backs Korey Lindsey and Mike McElroy, along with defensive end Kyle Russo garnered preseason acclaim.

Kicker Kyle Dougherty made the preseason team and center Bryan Boemer was named honorable mention.

SIU was picked to win the conference in both 2004 and 2005, and each season the Salukis claimed at least a share of the league title. Southern entered the season ranked in 92-straight regular season Top 25 polls and has a chance to break the longest streak in Valley history. UNI was ranked in 96 consecutive Top 25 polls from 1990-97.

The Salukis return nine starters, including starting quarterback Chris Dieker and Buck Buchanan Award candidates Lindsey and McElroy.

Upcoming Saluki football games are included in Calendar of Events on page 35. For the full SIU schedule, as well as results, go to www.siusalukis.com.
Southern Unveils ‘Marion Rushing Lane’

The Southern Illinois University Department of Athletics honored Saluki Hall of Famer Marion Rushing by renaming Tennis Drive, Marion Rushing Lane. About 125 people attended the Aug. 12 held on campus.

"This is the first in a series of events over the next two months that will highlight Saluki Way," Saluki Director of Athletics Mario Moccia says. "Marion Rushing had a prestigious career and will hold a prestigious place literally on this campus for years to come."

The SIU Board of Trustees approved the name change at one of its regular meetings last December. Pinckneyville Mayor Joseph Holder presented a commemorative sign and plaque, stating SIU's approval to rename the street to honor and recognize the achievements of Rushing, who still resides in Pinckneyville.

Holder and Moccia, along with master of ceremonies Mike Reis, Marion's wife Bonnie, former SIU Sports Information Director Fred Huff, and Ryan Rushing, a current Saluki football player and cousin of Rushing, all spoke at the ceremony.

Rushing earned more athletic letters than any other athlete in Saluki history and was inducted into the inaugural class of the Saluki Hall of Fame in 1978. He earned a total of 13 letters while competing in football, basketball, track, and wrestling for SIU. Diagnosed with Parkinson's disease at age 46, he was also a two-time winner of the coveted Henry Hinkley award, given to SIU's top all-around athlete.

Following his career at Southern, Rushing went on to play 10 seasons of professional football in both the NFL and AFL at linebacker for the Chicago Bears, St. Louis Cardinals, and Houston Oilers.

Salukis To Receive NCAA Women’s Basketball Grant Funding

Southern Illinois University is one of 12 Division I schools and two conferences that the NCAA is awarding women's basketball grants to as a part of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Grant Program to increase awareness, exposure, and attendance of women's basketball.

A total of 88 member schools and conferences submitted proposals in the third year of the pilot program.

"What we have learned during the first two years of the program is that marketing focused on ticket sales rather than just attendance and programs that focus on a single concept stand out. They have proven to be more successful in terms of overall attendance, achievement of specific program goals, the ability to bring in new fans and long-term sustainability," says NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Vice President Sue Donohoe.

The 2010-11 other grant recipients are the Atlantic Sun Conference, Bowling Green State University; Columbia University; University of Dayton; University of Hartford; Kansas State University; Miami University; Stanford University; University of Florida; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; West Virginia University; Xavier University and the West Coast Conference. SIU is the first school from the Missouri Valley Conference to be awarded the grant.

"We are honored to be selected for this grant," says SIU Athletics Director Mario Moccia. "With the hiring of Missy Tiber, our goal was to upgrade our program in many areas, one of them by expanding our fan base in southern Illinois. This will be a step towards reaching that goal."

For 2009-10, 10 of the 18 grant recipients increased their home game attendance averages, with grantee attendance up 7.5 percent overall. Eastern Michigan University posted an increase in home attendance of 86.8 percent, while East Tennessee State University increased its average attendance by 77.7 percent.

Several of the grant recipients established single-game record attendance marks.

"This is an exciting time for our program," Saluki head coach Missy Tiber says. "This grant will allow the Saluki women's basketball team to brand itself and to connect with our southern Illinois community. I am extremely thankful for being one of the selected programs for this grant."
Basketball To Usher In New Arena With Nationally-Televised Game

Southern will open its 2010-11 men's basketball home schedule with a nationally televised game versus Northeastern University as part of ESPN's third-annual College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon on Tuesday, Nov. 16.

The contest will mark the regular-season christening of the newly renovated SIU Arena, which has undergone a major retrofit during the off-season. Fans will be greeted by a new entrance and lobby area, plus a concourse that encircles the upper bowl of the arena. Amenities will include a Saluki Team Store, Hall of Fame, expanded concessions and new restrooms.

The most unique aspect of the College Hoops Tip-Off Marathon is the staggered start times, beginning with Miami at Memphis at midnight that day. The Salukis' game against the Huskies will tip off at 9 a.m.

SIU Director of Athletics Mario Moccia says the department weighed all factors related to the 9 a.m. tipoff, and the consensus on campus was that the opportunity for national exposure was too enticing to pass up. "The early start time presents some unusual challenges," he says, "however we will work together with the campus community and business community to make this a once-in-a-lifetime experience for our fans."

The Salukis have made only two previous appearances on the ESPN flagship network during the past decade -- Feb. 21, 2004 vs. Hawaii and Dec. 17, 2006 at Indiana.

The upgraded SIU Arena will also feature 1,200 additional chair back seats, including the first five rows of upper bowl. A club room and state-of-the-art scoreboard with individual statistics and replay capability will enhance the fan experience. Photos of the new arena will be featured in Southern Alumni's December edition.

"We welcome the opportunity to showcase our new arena in front of a national TV audience," says head coach Chris Lowery. "Our fans are going to be extremely proud of the new look and feel of the arena."

Northeastern, which plays in the Colonial Athletic Association, returns two starters from last year's team that won 20 games and lost by two points at the University of Connecticut in the first round of the NIT. "The Colonial is a great league and Northeastern is a quality opponent to open the arena," Lowery says. "They finished second in their conference last year and had an RPI of 78, so they present a formidable challenge."

SIU will play a return game in Boston next year, which Lowery said is an added benefit to the program, which has been trying to schedule an east coast opponent for center Gene Teague, a New Jersey native.

"ESPN's reach of 100 million homes was the tipping point in our decision-making process," Moccia notes. "The opportunity to showcase the arena and our community to the nation was something we could not pass up."

For the full SIU men and women's basketball schedules, go to www.siusalukis.com.

Saluki Volleyball Returns Five Starters

With five starters returning in 2010, the SIU volleyball team still is looking for some respect around the league. For the fourth time in the last five years, the Salukis are picked to finish sixth in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Jennifer Berwanger

The defending regular-season and tournament champion University of Northern Iowa is tabbed as the league, receiving all 10 first-place votes.

"I don't put a lot of stock in preseason polls," Saluki head coach Brenda Winkeler says. As for being picked sixth, we've been knocking on the door, now is the time to push ourselves to get into the top of the league."

Two-time all-MVC senior outside hitter Jennifer Berwanger, who led the team in kills last season, returns as the catalyst of the Saluki offense. Senior right side Alicia Johnson and senior outside hitter Sydney Clark, will add to the Saluki offensive prowess. 2009 All-Freshman team setter Rachael Brown will distribute the Saluki offense, while junior defensive specialist Lauren Blumhorst will hold down the backline.

Go to www.siusalukis.com for the 2010 schedule.

McNeil Dies; Scored First Points In SIU Arena

George McNeil, a longtime University employee and former Saluki letterman who had the distinction of scoring the first points ever at the SIU Arena, recently passed away at age 66 at his home in Carbondale. McNeil '74 scored the first free throw and became the first scoring leader in the newly built SIU Arena in 1964. He followed his playing career years later by returning to Carbondale and providing 26 years of service to Southern as a purchasing agent, retiring in 2006.

He is survived by his wife, Pat '75, M.S. '80 and their daughter, Melva '96. Donations may be made in his memory to the American Heart Association, 1300 Hazel Lane, Johnston City, IL 62951.
Register Now!

Check out our schedule of events...

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2010
9 am - 4:30 pm Registration
6 pm - Meet and Greet Social at Tres Hombres

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010
9 am - 4:30 pm Registration
10 am - 12:30 pm Campus Tours via Saluki Tram
2 pm - 4 pm Chapter Open House - Students & Alumni Connect!
4 pm - 7 pm Winery Tour ($20 per member, $30 per non-member)
7 pm - 12 am Reunion Launch Party at the Holiday Inn ($20 per member, $30 per non-member)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2010
9:30 am SIU Homecoming Parade
11 am - 1:30 pm Alumni "Big Tent" & Greek Tailgate
2 pm Saluki Football vs. Northern Iowa
After Game - 7 pm Post Game Party! ($12 per member, $17 per non-member)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2010
Current SIU Greek chapters will be planning individual chapter activities for Sunday. For more information on what your chapter will be doing, please contact your chapter's alumni representative.

Register for the All Greek Reunion today at www.siualumni.com/greeks or call 618-453-2408.

We will see you there!
Former Saluki Serves As 'Angel' For Ailing Girl

by Sean Keeler

Would you trust Ben Roethlisberger with a camera in your daughter’s classroom? How many pro football players do you know who would pinch-hit for a parent at a school function, on a weekday, no questions asked?

Former Saluki football linebacker Micah King '06 doesn't drink. Or smoke. Heck, he even avoids desserts. His idea of a fun night out is tinkering with a 1990 Dodge Ram Charger that he practically rebuilt from scratch. His favorite words are "please," and "sir," and "ma'am," and "thank you."

"When you're dealing with people, you always get a little skeptical," Ernie Landwehr says when asked if King, who played in 2010 for the Arena League's Iowa Barnstormers, seems almost too good to be true. "OK, something's going to come. Where's the other shoe?"

It hasn't dropped yet. This spring, the Landwehrs discovered at the last minute that they couldn't make an important presentation at Clay Elementary in Altoona, Iowa, where daughter Maddie is a fourth-grader. Flustered, Ernie's wife, Nancy, called one of Maddie's best friends to see if he could pinch-hit. "Just take some pictures," she pleaded. "It'll take five minutes."

Micah not only said yes, but he turned up at Clay the next day, on time, ready to shoot.

"Her mother's like, 'Now don't let (Maddie) twist your arm into staying longer,'" King recalls, shaking his head. "That's exactly what happened." The principal at Clay somehow got word that there was a Barnstormer in the building. Five minutes became 20. Then 40. Micah signed autographs until his hand cramped up.
"Maddie's angels, they come in all different forms," Nancy says. "And he's one of them."

You should see the two of them: King, a 25-year-old workout fiend from East St. Louis, Ill., 238 pounds of solid granite; and Madison Aaditi Landwehr, a 10-year-old computer whiz from India, 36 pounds of pure gold. They take turns lighting the room with their smiles, the way only true friends can.

"He appreciates who I am," says Maddie, who's spent a good chunk of her childhood in and out of hospitals, battling a rare blood disorder. "He enjoys me."

King first met the Landwehrs last July during a game in the Kiwanis Miracle League, a program that allows children with disabilities to play baseball. The Barnstormers were volunteering that day, and the kids got to pick a player to be their partner—or "buddy"—in the field.

Maddie passed over a few giants, then stopped in front of King, perusing him up and down like a toy on a shelf. When Nancy asked her daughter why she'd settled on him, Maddie just beamed.

"Because he's good-looking," she cooed, "and he's got big muscles."

King remembers "looking down, and this little girl is staring me in the face. And she was like, 'Will you be my buddy?' She stole my heart from then on."

It happens a lot. You'd never know it from her bubbly demeanor and boundless energy, but little Maddie has Fanconi anemia. Her blood cells and platelets don't reproduce like they should, making her vulnerable to everything from infections to leukemia. She might have 18 years. She might have 18 months. Every day is a throw of the dice. Every day's a blessing.

Above all else, Maddie is a survivor. Her birth mother abandoned her in the wilderness to die. As a baby, she was attacked by wild dogs that tore parts of her right hip and buttock. As a result, her right leg didn't grow properly; it's about an inch shorter than her left. Special shoes help balance out the difference, but even the smallest steps come with a slight limp.

"She said to me, 'Micah, I've been through so much,'" King says. "Your heart drops. It's hard seeing a child go through all that."

The Landwehrs have been regulars at Wells Fargo Arena ever since. And if Maddie can't see King in person, she'll call or send a text message, just to check up. They'll watch game film in Altoona together, meet up for meals. "He's like one of our kids," Nancy says. "It's kind of like we adopted him."

Right now, King's heart belongs to the Landwehrs, to Madison. A child and a football player, drawing strength from one another. Before the Barnstormers' game at Orlando on April 30, King passed out little purple bracelets with Maddie's name on them to his teammates and implored them to wear them in her honor. They won 50-40.

"She kept telling me, 'I'm your good luck charm.'" King says. "She helped me out while I was out there helping her. It makes all your problems, all your little aches, and it kind of throws them out the window. I just wish I could be as strong as she is, to be able to deal with all this."

He grins. From across the room, Maddie looks up at him again, eyes so wide you can count the twinkles. Angels come in all different forms.
Southern Grad Pilots NHL's Columbus Blue Jackets

by Les O'Dell

Southern Illinois University Carbondale has never had a schoolsponsored ice hockey team, yet alumnus Dick Sanders has reached the heights of success in the National Hockey League, literally. Since 2001, the 1962 graduate has served as the chief airplane pilot for the Columbus Blue Jackets.

Sanders grew up on a farm near Marion, Ill., in the traffic pattern for Ozark Airlines. "I would stop doing whatever I was doing and covet being up in that airplane," he recalls his response when one would pass overhead. Still with his head in the clouds, he enrolled in the mathematics education program at Southern. Participation in the Air Force's Reserve Officer Training Corps program on campus continued to stoke his interest in aviation. As a sophomore, he qualified to be an Air Force pilot.

He earned his private pilot's license the same year he graduated. After completing Air Force flight school, he became an instructor pilot, eventually teaching students to pilot supersonic fighter jets.

The Big Leagues

Following stints with TWA and later US Airways, both as a passenger pilot and later a DC-9 test pilot and instructor, Sanders retired to Marion in 2000. Then came an opportunity to go "to the big leagues."

The NHL had awarded steel magnate John McConnell an expansion franchise for Columbus, Ohio, to begin play in fall 2000. After problems with chartered planes during that first season, McConnell decided his team needed its own plane — and someone to fly it. An executive at US Airways recommended the recently retired Sanders, so despite having only seen two hockey games in his life, he became "captain" of a professional hockey team.

Sanders is the team's primary pilot, although there are four other pilots on the roster, along with the team's own mechanic and two flight attendants for each trip.

"Since 2001, I have been the Blue Jackets' chief pilot. I fly on practically all of the trips," he explains. "Last year I only missed one: the Christmas Day trip to Detroit."

The plane he flies is rather non-descript as custom DC-9s go. A white and cream fuselage features a blue stripe sweeping to cover the entire tail of the airplane. On the tail, "Blue Jackets" is written in script. The interior features embroidered leather recliners, plenty of tables for after-game buffets, and tables custom-made for in-flight card games.

"Sometimes I will bring the plane in and shut the engines down, but the team doesn't get off yet because they all haven't finished their poker hands," he says.

Sanders says outside of the card games, he is able to interact with players a great deal.

"A lot of times they'll stop by the cockpit and chat with us. We often will stay at the same hotel as the players, and sometimes we'll eat meals together."

He says that defenseman Jan Hejda "always has something funny to say," and that he used to often eat breakfast with All-Star Sergei Fedorov. Current team captain Rick Nash even let Sanders wear his 2010 Olympic gold medal, which he won as a member of the Canadian team.

"It's great to talk with the guys; they are so fantastic. You'd never believe that they would be such gentlemen on the plane but such animals on the ice."

Frequent Road Trips

Sanders spends as much time in Marion as he can during the hockey season, but makes frequent commutes to Ohio for road trips.

"I often drive to Columbus, because I can't miss a flight," he notes. "It's 432 miles, and if we have a game, for example, in Denver on Tuesday night, I'll drive part way on
The DC-9 used by the Blue Jackets is O'Dell's home away from home for most of the NHL season.

Sunday, stay overnight near Cincinnati, then get up refreshed to drive the last hour and a half. We'll take off usually at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon.

He says he has to be at the plane at least two hours prior to takeoff to meet with the dispatcher, check weather forecasts, do routine preflight checks, and handle one other item of business.

"I'm a certified Homeland Security screener, so we on the crew are required to screen everyone who is getting on the plane. We go through luggage and use the metal detector wands on everybody. I even have to ask the players every time to see picture ID."

Once the team safely arrives at their destination, Sanders and the crew are on their own to shop, sightsee, or play golf until game time. As pilot, he doesn't get to go to the away games unless the team will be staying overnight in the same city. He, instead, has to return to the plane to get ready for the trip home or to the next city.

"As soon as the players get on board, I'm starting the engines," he adds.

Often on the late-night, cross-continent flights, air traffic controllers who recognize the plane's call sign will ask Sanders about the evening's results.

"They always want to know if my passengers are happy or if they're being quiet," he explains.

The Home Base
When he is at home in Marion, Sanders enjoy spending time with his wife of 48 years, Francine. He's also assistant worship leader at his church and is a member of the Marion Board of Education, and often flies around southern Illinois in his own much smaller private plane.

"I will fly over the campus and try to identify the buildings that I remember from being on campus," he says. "It brings back a lot of nostalgia."

Sanders says he has no immediate plans to retire. He loves his job too much. "It's absolutely fantastic. It's the best flying job I've ever seen."

The perks are good, too. He's looking especially forward to someday being part of a championship team. Hockey tradition holds that each member of the NHL's winning team gets to spend a day doing whatever and going wherever with one of sports' most famous trophies: the Stanley Cup. The honor goes to everyone critical to the team's success, including the pilot. That could make Sanders the first Saluki to ever hoist the trophy.

"You can be sure that if we win it, I'll be bringing the Cup to southern Illinois."
Mike Lechwar ’73 (right) and his son, Justin display a photo of Mike’s father, Edward, who was 20 years old when it was taken during his enlistment into the Naval Reserve, just after the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

TRACING HIS FATHER’S PATH

A journey of a lifetime allows an alumnus to better understand a part of his father’s life that was rarely discussed.

BY BONNIE MARX
Chances are that island-hopping through the South Pacific would rank pretty high on anyone's list of dream trips, but for one Saluki it became the trip of a lifetime for another reason.

Mike Lechwar '73 and his son, Justin, stepped 60 years back in time recently when they visited Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu, the island where Mike's father served during World War II. Today the island is still full of the remnants—everything from airstrips to soda bottles to Million Dollar Point, an underwater junkyard of military equipment—of the time when 500,000 (over the course of the war years) American soldiers inhabited it.

Like thousands of others, 20-year-old Edward Lechwar rushed to enlist in the military after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Because he wasn't yet 21, his father had to grant his permission to go. On his enlistment papers, Edward listed "patriotic duty" as his reason for enlisting. He worked in aviation ordnance and weaponry, spending a lot of time in the rear of dive bombers.

What happened at Santo (as it is usually called) would profoundly affect Edward for the rest of his days, but it was never something he spoke of to his son, or at least in anything but the most general terms.

One thing Mike remembers his dad saying was that "no matter what people tell you about war, it's worse than anybody says.”

A Quiet Truth

Mike says, "I know of no World War II veteran who ever talks about their war years. Dad never spoke about the war and never complained about the personal cost to his body." (Riding in the back seat of dive bombers cost Edward his hearing—deaf in one ear, 15 percent hearing in the other.)

When Mike and Debra Lechwar's children, Justin and Chelsea, were still in their primary school years, Edward came to Phoenix, Ariz., where the family then lived, from his home in Zion, Ill., to stay with his grandchildren while Mike underwent some medical procedures out of state. During that time, "My son and my father became the best of friends," Mike says. "He actually talked a lot more to my son than me."

Edward passed away in 1995, but the stories and dreams attached to his days in the armed forces lived on. In 2009 Justin entered an essay contest through Islands magazine for the trip of a lifetime, cruising on a luxury liner for 17 days through tropical islands. One of the ports of call was going to be Espiritu Santo.

On the island of Malekula, Lechwar—complete with zinc oxide on his nose—points out some of the native crop, bananas.

Before he sent the entry, he asked his dad to accompany him if he won. And for those who believe in such things, it seems that it was meant to happen.

In the essay that did indeed win the contest from among thousands of entries, Justin wrote, "My grandpa served on Espiritu Santo during the war. He rarely spoke of his war-time experiences. Shortly before his death, he shared a few memories of his time on the island—a mixture of some of the highest highs and lowest lows one can experience. I would like to take my father on this cruise to understand a little more about his father—my grandpa—and bring some of his memories of the South Pacific back to life.”

SIU Lends A Hand

When word arrived that Justin had won the contest, Mike started to research records and maps to enhance his knowledge of the time and its people. One of those research trips brought him to Morris Library's map library, a resource that holds more than a quarter-million maps and about 100,000 aerial photographs, along with much more.

Harry Davis, map librarian at Morris, "went into high gear, laying out easily more than 100 references. He sent me articles from databases there that took him to libraries as far away as Australia.”

Feeling guilty about taking up so much of Davis’ time, Mike wrote a note to then-Chancellor Sam Goldman, praising the "depth of knowledge they have, the absolute pride in what they do, and the enthusiasm they bring.” Goldman replied with assurance that SIU was always ready to help.
Lechwar got a private tour of the engine room from the ship's chief engineer, who was impressed by Mike's technical knowledge of engines and drive trains. The ship's engine was manufactured by Caterpillar, where Mike spent the bulk of his career.

Arriving at Santo proved to be a highly emotional moment for Mike, who jumped from the landing boat into the surf and immediately grabbed two handfuls of sand as a sort of tactile confirmation that this was finally happening. He carried a photo of his father with him, showing it to the people he met there, who unanimously made him feel like "the connection was there. They made me feel like I belonged there." That afternoon he left the picture on the fighter airstrip that his father traveled so often. "It was just something I felt I needed to do ... maybe his memory can rediscover the peace of his youth before the war and adulthood weighed heavily on him."

For Mike, the visit simultaneously closed a chapter in his life and opened another one. The new chapter involves trying to figure out why the attitudes and feelings of his father's generation didn't get passed on to their offspring.

"The building blocks that my dad - an honest, working man - put in place for me is the knowledge that freedom doesn't come free. It bothered him that people would try to get out of jury duty, for example. He'd say, 'If you're going to take the good, you've got to do it all.'"

Mike says he's searching for the feeling of passionate patriotism that engulfed the U.S. after Pearl Harbor was attacked, that unanimous support in fighting a threat. "I did not have the privilege of serving in the military," he points out. "I hurt my back when I was three years old and it still haunts me. My back was rebuilt in 1969 and I was given a 4F classification, physically unfit."

"At Pearl Harbor, about 2,000 lives were lost. The next day there were long lines at every recruitment office. We lost double that number at the World Trade Center and we still don't have that. This is to my core. This is what I am - patriotic and searching to understand what this generation did for us."

Over the next 17 days, they traveled almost 5,000 miles and visited 12 ports of call, all in Melanesia. (Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia make up Oceania, a geographical area in the Pacific Ocean.) During those 17 days, Mike reports they saw only one other ship, which drove home a point: "This is a really, really big ocean," Mike said.

But "the real story I want to tell," Mike says, "is how my education prepared me." The lifetime member of the SIU Alumni Association says, "My alma mater gave me more than just a send-off. It has supported me for a long time."

As for the trip to Santo, he says he'll go back. "I'm looking for that feeling of what was happening during the years of WWII. I can't tell you I found it, but I'll continue to look for it. This was the trip of a lifetime, one of the top events in my life. People need to follow their dreams and do things a little out of the ordinary."

The Lechwars at Million Dollar Point, an underwater junkyard of World War II military equipment, on the island of Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu.
October 2010

2  Saluki Football at Illinois State, 1 p.m.
7-9  Class Ring Days, University Bookstore, Student Center, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
7-11  Greek Reunion, go to www.siualumni.com/greeks for more information.
8  SIU Distinguished Alumni Induction Ceremony and Reception, Alumni Lounge, Student Recreation Center, 4:30 p.m.
8  Class of 1960 reunion
8  Alumni Band, Cambria Room, time TBA
9  2010 SIU Homecoming Parade, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
   SIU Alumni Association pregame tailgate under the “Big Tent” on the turf at McAndrew Stadium from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., then Saluki Football vs. Northern Iowa, 2 p.m., Saluki Stadium
10  Alice Ripley in Concert – Performance, McLeod Theater, 2 p.m.
14-17  Crazy for You, McLeod Theater, Thurs.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m.

November 2010

4 & 6  Bananapocalypse, Christian H. Moe Theater, Thurs. & Sat. 7:30 p.m.
5 & 7  Everywhere You Look, Christian H. Moe Theater, Fri. at 7:30 p.m. & Sun. at 2 p.m.
6  Saluki Football at North Dakota State, 3 p.m.
7  Pre-show lecture, “New Plays,” 1:30 p.m.
13  Saluki Football vs. Western Illinois, 1 p.m., Military Appreciation Day
13  Saluki Men’s Basketball at Illinois, time TBA
20  Saluki Football vs. Indiana State, 1 p.m., Senior Day
26-27  2010 Men’s Basketball, Chicago Invitational, Sears Centre Arena, Hoffman Estates, Ill. Contact the SIU Arena Ticket Office at 1-877-SALUKIS

December 2010

2-5  Alchemy of Desire/Dead-man’s Blues, McLeod Theater, Thurs.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m.
4  “A Saluki Christmas” in Austin, Hyatt Resort, Bastrop, Texas
5  Pre-show lecture, Alchemy of Desire/Dead-man’s Blues, 1:30 p.m.

SALUKI ROW TAILGATES ARE BACK!

Members...join us at our new location on Saluki Row, just north of the new Saluki Stadium.
Enjoy great food, music, giveaways and more. Not a member? Join today at siualumni.com

THE PLACE TO BE ON SALUKI ROW!

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Upward Bound Students Find Learning Is Fun At Southern

by Andrea Hahn

One day the "classroom" includes a paddleboat, another day a hunt for treasure. For the students in the geosciences studies portion of Project Upward Bound at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, learning is such an adventure they might even mistake it for fun.

Matthew Therrell and Justin Schoof, both assistant professors in the Department of Geography and Environmental Resources, launched an introduction to the geosciences for the residential Project Upward Bound summer program this year. The three-year project is part of a National Science Foundation grant-funded program, "Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences."

The program offers classroom and field experience to selected students in Project Upward Bound as part of its mission. "The students really seem to enjoy the hands-on part of this experience," Therrell says. Some of the field projects include pulling samples of water from the campus lake to test for bacterial content and pH levels, examining aqua-life in other samples, and coring trees to read rings and learn how trees reflect climate changes.

"We don't even have computers out here with us," Therrell jokes as he and several students examined dragonfly larvae and baby minnows in the samples pulled from the lake during a recent class.

Matthew Therrell, an assistant professor at Southern, works with Chris Huff, from Cairo, to identify insects included in a random sample from the campus lake. Jimmy Ellis, also from Cairo, waits for his turn in the paddleboat to draw samples.

Upward Bound helps students prepare to move from high school to college. All students in the program participate in at least one summer program. Students have morning classes in college preparatory mathematics, science, literature, and English and Spanish composition. Afternoons include fine arts, library skills, career awareness, or specialized courses such as this geosciences course. Evenings present a balance of study time and recreation.

"We want them to try things they might not normally do — like examine lake water," Schoof says. "Perhaps some of these students will turn a day's program into a passion and a career, as we want to make them aware of possible careers in the field."

This year's students came from Cairo, Carbondale, Murphysboro, and Ullin.
Alumni Deaths

Fall 2010

Borella, Vivian L. '31 07/19/10, Owen, N.
Douglas, Helen L. '33 07/11/10, Kann, Ill.
Templeton, Thomas J. L. cx. '34 06/27/10, Pinckneyville, Ill.
Wise, Lawrence E. '34 04/05/10, Peoria, Ill.
Douglas, Allon A. '36 05/13/10, Gulfport, Miss.
Wood, William L. cx. '36 07/22/10, Murphysboro, Ill.
Baker, Mary M. '37 08/15/10, Evansville, Ind.
Arnold, Dr. George E. '39 05/14/10, Edwardsville, Ill.
Schettler, Margaret K. cx. '39 07/04/10, Wadsworth, Ill.
Triplett, Harry G. cx. '39, 04/29/10, Galatia, Ill.
Dunn, Genevieve M. '40 05/11/10, Pinckneyville, Ill.
Dunn, Adeline S. '41 05/27/10, Pinckneyville, Ill.
Starr, Lois M. '42 07/27/10, Effingham, Ill.
Benedict, Bonnie L. Neville, ex '46 05/24/10, Marion, Ill.
Steuerwald, Norm B. '47, M.A. '57 05/22/10, Pekin, Ill.
Hardesty, Matie E. Galloway, '48, M.S.Ed. cx. '99 05/22/10, Carmi, Ill.
Hentzel, Elizabeth J. cx '48 07/01/10, Springfield, Ill.
Fromme, Claire L. '48 07/15/10, Marion, Ill.
Jeffers, Kenneth J. M. '48, M.Ed. cx. '99 04/21/10, St. Louis, Mo.
Larson, James F. cx. '48, M.S.Ed. cx. '51 07/15/10, Belleville, Ill.
Mifflin, Alva L. cx. '48 05/29/10, Carbondale, Ill.
Zernik, Georgia G. 05/10/10, Pittsfield, Ill.
Berry, Denzel E. '46, M.S.Ed. '56 05/29/10, Cullerfield, La.
Corn, Marrian McKennie '49 08/06/10, Benton, Ill.
Bose, William H. '49 06/07/10, Murphysboro, Ill.
Boyd, John H. '50 05/10/10, Terre Haute, Ind.
Eubanks, Sam B. '50, M.A. cx. '53 07/10/10, Springfield, Ill.
Tottlebine, Alva J. '50 04/20/10, Carterville, Ill.
Yuhu, Ernest, M.A. cx. '53 07/05/10, Carterville, Ill.
Habbe, Norma J. ex. '51 06/16/10, Nashville, Tenn.
Dial, Nancy E. '52 05/25/10, Moscow, Ill.
Lamb, W. Scott, ex '52 06/11/10, Woodburn, Oreg.
Masterton, Don A. '52 05/26/10, Baraboo, West Indies
Raiser, Helen J. '53 04/21/10, Beverly, Ill.
Pustmuller, Coulter S. '54 12/22/10, Kanawha, Wisc
King, Betty L. '55 05/04/10, Elkhart, Ill.
Danielson, Ph.D., Jean M. cx. '56, M.A. '60 07/05/10, New Orleans, La.
Hinners, Dr. Scott W. cx. '56 06/15/10, Metropolis, Ill.
Hunt, William R. '56 05/08/10, Vienna, Ill.
Lenz, George J. cx. '56 07/09/10, M. Vernon, Ill.
Reeves, John W. cx. '56 08/09/10, Lillafured, Ind.
Wilkison, Elizabeth M. '56 04/18/10, M. Carmel, Ill.
Briggs, Harold M. Ed. cx. '57 04/04/10, Granite City, Ill.

In Memoriam

Former Rec Center Director Dunn Dies

Mike Dunn, the former director of the SIU Office of Intramural-Recreational Sports, recently passed away at the age of 62. Dunn, who received his master's degree from Southern in 1984, served as director at the Carbondale campus from 1986 to 1994. He was director of Recreation Sports Learning at Ohio State University when he died.

In a letter to the editor written by SIU Director Emeritus of Recreational Sports and Services Bill McMinn and Carbondale Mayor Brad Cole, they noted Dunn was "always first to help young professionals with ways to get started in their careers and help keep the staff and students around from a heavy laugh and a cheery sense of humor. He treated people as people, whether you were a part-time custodian or the president of the campus."

continued on page 41
33rd Annual SIU Day At Wrigley Field

George Loukas ’73 and the SIU Alumni Association hosted 550 alumni and friends in early August to the 33rd Annual SIU Day at Wrigley Field. Prior to the game, a pregame reception was held at Loukas’ Cubby Bear, located directly across the street from Wrigley Field. A delicious lunch was served, as the large alumni group networked and mingled prior to seeing the Cubs host the Cincinnati Reds.

From left, Danny Schwab, Gene Green, and Russ Eisenstein enjoy the pregame event at The Cubby Bear.

SIU Foundation’s Jeff Lorber, Dick Stockner, and Matt Soucy sport their Saluki maroon before the Cubs game.

Cubby Bear owner George Loukas is flanked by the Association’s Zach Sapienza and Michelle Suarez. Loukas was presented with an SIU class ring in appreciation for hosting the event for more than three decades.

Ninth Annual Saluki Family Day At U.S. Cellular

The Chicago White Sox Steering Committee and the SIU Alumni Association hosted 275 alumni, faculty, and friends to a day of fun recently with the Chicago White Sox. Prior to the game, there was a tailgate for alumni to mingle and network. The Steering Committee served lunch to all attendees. SIU Football Coach Dale Lennon spoke to the group about the upcoming football season, and following the game alumni watched a fireworks show from their seats inside the ballpark.

Paul Conti serves up some snacks before the Saluki Family Day game.

St. Paul Saints Game And Tailgate

The Minneapolis/Greater Minnesota Club of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 15 alumni and friends in July to a St. Paul Saints tailgate. While bad weather forced the game to be cancelled, alumni met at Gabe’s Roadhouse where they enjoyed drinks, dinner, and some lively conversation. Max Orenstein and Dean Andrew coordinated the event.
11th Annual Detroit Area Picnic

The Greater Michigan Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association hosted 35 alumni and friends to a picnic at Kensington Metropark in Milford, Mich. Attendees brought side dishes, and the Greater Michigan Chapter served up burgers and brats. SIU Automotive Technology Chairman Mike Behrmann was a guest and gave a brief presentation. After lunch, a raffle was held, followed by several games of volleyball. Chris Micha, Dale Hall, Chad O’Brien, and Kent Wilson coordinated the event.

Former Saluki football player Kenneth Foster, a member of the 1983 national championship team, enjoys the event with his wife, Audrey, and their children.

Judge Julius Johnson, Former Board Member Dies

Judge Julius Johnson, 75, a former national board member of the SIU Alumni Association who retired in 1996 as a U.S. Transportation Department administrative law judge, died July 6 at his home in Washington, D.C. The 1957 Southern graduate spent a decade as an assistant U.S. attorney for the District before joining the Transportation Department in 1976. Johnson joined the Association board in 1996, serving on several committees for more than a decade.

26th Annual SIU Day At Busch

More than 300 alumni and friends enjoyed a Cubs-Cardinals game in St. Louis in August, with a pregame reception held at the Hilton at the Ballpark. The St. Louis Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association assisted with the event and registered guests. Association Executive Director Michelle Suarez welcomed everyone at the pregame social, and introduced SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng who spoke to the group of Salukis. Rickey N. McCurry, vice chancellor for institutional advancement and chief executive officer of the SIU Foundation also was on hand for the annual event.

From left, Karri and Howard Spiegel get ready to go to the Cubs-Cardinals game with Barry, Amy, and Lauren Smith. Barry and Howard are on the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors.
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Award-winning Choreographer Returns To Southern’s Stage

He remembers his time at Southern Illinois University Carbondale as “magical.”

George Pinney, Emmy Award winner and Tony Award-nominated choreographer, earned his master of fine arts degree in theater at SIU in 1980 and returned for several years as a faculty member before leaving for Indiana University, where he has taught for more than 20 years. He returned to Carbondale this July to direct and choreograph The Drowsy Chaperone, a McLeod Summer Playhouse production.

Some things have changed, he notes, remembering that he accidentally drove all the way through a smaller, less-developed town as he was looking for Carbondale his first time here. Some things, however, have remained much the same, such as the sound of the theater doors closing.

“Those metal doors, they close with a ‘thunk,’” he says. “When I heard that, it just brought me right back.”

Right back, he notes, to a supportive atmosphere characterized by freedom.

“When I get together with friends from SIU, that’s what we all remember, the freedom we had here. The camaraderie was incredible.”

At SIU, first as a student and later as a faculty choreographer and director, he formulated his theories of conceptual directing. “The script is the map, the dramatic action the absolute truth,” he explains, describing his directing philosophy in a nutshell. “I look for the concept that will go through all of that.”

After Pinney left Carbondale, he became involved with Star of Indiana Drum and Bugle Corps, a field corps that wanted to break into theater. Businessman and philanthropist Bill Cook invited him to become an integral part of developing the drum and bugle concept into blast! a show that featured at Branson, Mo., and in London. A PBS special on the show led to an Emmy in 2001, followed by a return to the United States and ultimately an engagement on Broadway.

The Broadway appearance led to Pinney’s Tony Award nomination and an inaugural “Best Special Theatrical Event” award for the production. The show also garnered a nod from the League of American Theaters and Producers, including a Best Musical nomination and a Best Choreography nomination for Pinney.

Since then, Pinney’s awards include three prestigious awards for his teaching at Indiana University, where he is a professor and head of the musical theater within the Department of Theatre and Drama. He continues to work mostly in musicals, and works often on many projects. He says the musical is alive and well, and students prepared to follow their passion can pursue a theater-related major and expect to find employment opportunities.

Pinney feels the best thing a theater major can do is be back up the major with a strong liberal arts base.

“I do not believe in luck,” he says. “I believe in preparation. Statistically speaking, a certain number of doors will open and opportunities will come your way. The difference is in the person who is prepared to go through the door and the person who is not.”

In Memoriam

continued from page 37

ORR, James F., Ph.D. '93
05/20/10, Venice, Fla.
DUNN, J. Michael, M.S.Ed. '94
07/23/10, Columbus, Ohio
FELTS, David R., '64
06/03/10, Springfield, Ill.
SHEETS, Joyce L., M.S.Ed. '95, Ph.D. '99
05/11/10, Cobden, Ill.
SKOGLUND, Arnold, '65
06/08/10, Orange Park, Fla.
TRICOLL, Judith K., '83
06/21/10, Florence, Ala.
DICHTEL, Jean M. Hopper, Ph.D. '86
07/04/10, Memphis, Tenn.
DRAPEL, Benjamin F., '86
06/25/10, Tacoma, Wash.
BOX, Mark D., '87
05/15/09, Starke, Fla.

STELLO, M., Albert F., '88
07/07/10, Somerset, N.J.
DABBY, Michael T., '92
04/19/10, West Frankfort, Ill.
MARCH, Philip J., '91
05/04/10, Rockwall, Texas
SHEETS, David R., '64
06/24/10, Du Quoin, Ill.
PARRETT, Richard W., '92
04/11/10, Hillsboro, Ill.
BARTHOLOMAE, John M., '93
06/26/10, Mundelein, Ill.
HAIN, Ralph J., '94
06/20/10, Springfield, Ill.
FINKE, Harold W., '95
04/20/10, St. Cloud, Mo.
PITTON, Scott E., '96
05/17/10, St. Louis, Mo.
SIMON, Linda J., '96
04/23/10, Bowens Mills, N.J.
ROBERTSON, Lester W., '97
06/27/10, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
SMITH, Malissa F., '98
06/16/10, Mt. Vernon, Ill.
TUCKER, Brian S., '92
07/06/10, Anna, Ill.
COLE, Jeffrey W., '93
06/16/10, Marion, Ill.
KIDD, Barbara L., '93
06/05/10, Highland, Ill.
COPELAND, Heath A., '97
06/06/10, Mt. Carmel, Ill.

Faculty and Staff

CROWELL, Richard C., Ph.D. '85
Assistant Director - Division of Continuing Education 6/27/10, Carbondale, Ill.
EASTON, Roberta M., '67
Emeritus Civil Service
Administrative Assistant, International Programs 6/3/10, Murphybonds, Ill.
FOLGOM, Betty Quinn, B.A. '68
Professor, English Department 06/1/11, Great Falls, Mont.
KENNEDY, Ronald J., '77
Emeritus Civil Service
The Rev. Eugene Sherman '55, emeritus professor of sociology at Albany (Ga.) State University, is the founding pastor of the Institutional First Baptist Church in Albany. Sherman says he was the first African American teaching assistant at Southern. This year, he headlined the black history program at the Marine Corps Logistic Base in Albany.

Arlene Heisler M.S. '59 reached a milestone June 5: her 90th birthday. In the 1950s, Arlene and her husband came to Carbondale, where she taught at University School until she was lured to the University, where she taught for more than 20 years in the College of Education and Human Services. In her earliest years at the University, she taught a class to ROTC students featuring lectures on manners and practical advice, such as table settings, that grew into a home economics class for men. Featured here in a pink outfit, she is shown greeting friends at her birthday party.

Ray Hancock ‘62, M.S. Ed. ’68, Ph.D. ’83 has been appointed by Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn to serve on the Illinois P-20 Council, created to provide recommendations to the governor for a seamless, high-quality system of education from preschool through the doctor of philosophy degree.

Larry Cobb M.A. ’64, Ph.D. ’68 has been elected to a two-year term as chair of the board of trustees of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, with responsibilities for the Code of Professional Conduct and certification programs. He also is executive director of EthicsWorks, a nonprofit consulting firm he cofounded in 1999. He continues as executive director of the Foundation for Philosophy of Creativity; its archives are available at Morris Library Special Collections.

Tony Calabrese ’65, kinesiology instructor at SIU, received the Champions Award from the Southern Illinois Men’s Health Conference in recognition of his commitment to health and wellness, to mentoring and inspiring others, and for displaying positive attitudes despite experience with serious illness.

Calabrese spent 30 years as a high school physical education teacher and coach at Glenbrook South High School in Glenview, Ill., retiring in 1994. Former SIUC Football Coach Jerry Kill won the inaugural Champions award last year.

Ray Defenbaugh ’68, M.S. ’72 was one of four Illinois farmers honored as 2010 Master Farmers by Prairie Farmer magazine. Ray and his wife, Alice A.B. ’67, raised four children on their rural Biggsville farm. Today they and their two sons raise corn, soybeans, oats, and hay on 3,000 acres, and they operate a 240-head cow-calf herd. Ray helped organize and eventually became CEO of a local ethanol plant, Big River Resources.

Robert Skirvin ’69, M.S. ’71 is a professor of crop science and horticulture club adviser at the University of Illinois College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. One of his biggest accomplishments, he says, is developing and patenting a thornless blackberry.

Eric Grant ’71 has published a volume of his poetry, Poetry Journal, which he describes as a "spiritual and emotional collection of poems that explores women and their environment." He also is the author of Kaleidoscope: The Autobiography of Eric B. Grant, in which he asserts that his decision to attend SIU "would be one of the highlights of his life." For more information on Grant, or to order a book, visit ericbgrant.com.

Ben Crouch Ph.D. ’72, professor of sociology at Texas A & M and interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts, has been reappointed as a member of the Texas Victims’ Institute Advisory Council, which advises the Crime Victims’ Institute regarding the compilation and study of information on the impact of crime to victims, relatives, guardians, and society.

Melody Pierce ’72, M.S. ’74 is the new vice chancellor of student affairs at North Carolina A & T State University. She was most recently vice chancellor for student affairs at Winston-Salem State University and has worked at Southern (La.) University, Albany State University, Chicago State University, the University of the Virgin Islands, State University of New York, Michigan State University, Stephens College, Lincoln University, and at SIU.
The 30-year career of Mary Roehr '72 has been dedicated to creating beautiful, perfectly tailored apparel, studying its design, care, and maintenance, and passing that knowledge on to others through her five books and one video. Along the way she established a custom tailoring and alteration business, owned a fabric store, and taught at a community college.

David Reid '73, an attorney in Springfield, Ill., has been inducted into the Springfield Sports Hall of Fame. After being a three-sport athlete at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School, Reid went on to lead the SIU football team in receiving in 1969 and 1970. He is married to Dr. Elizabeth Strow M.D. '84.

Beverly Watts M.S. '73, executive director of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, was the featured social adviser to the chair of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, was the featured social adviser to the chair of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, was the featured social adviser to the chair of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, was the featured social adviser to the chair of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission.

Elizabeth Strow M.D. '84.

Beverly Watts M.S. '73, executive director of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, was the featured social adviser to the chair of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission, was the featured social adviser to the chair of the Tennessee Human Rights Commission.

Dean Campbell '74, who operates a farm in Coulterville that has been in his family for more than 160 years, has been reelected chair of the Soy Transportation Coalition, a national group that seeks to position the soybean industry to benefit from transportation systems that deliver cost-effective, reliable, and competitive service. Established in 2007, the coalition is made up of seven state soybean boards, the American Soybean Association, and the United Soybean Board.

He's also on the Illinois Soybean Association board of directors and is a member of the Illinois Corn Growers Association, the Illinois Wheat Association, and the Illinois Agriculture Leadership Foundation. Dean is married to Cookie Campbell '74, M.S. Ed. '00, a reading and language teacher at Coulterville Public School.

Patrick Hittmeier '75, a 29-year veteran of Kampgrounds of America Inc. (KOA), has been promoted to the position of president of the 48-year-old camping company. During his time as vice president of sales and development, Hittmeier led a successful effort to add 50 campgrounds to KOA in just two years. KOA currently has more than 475 locations in North America and hosts about six million camping families each year.

Joseph Ori '78, M.S. '84 is a natural resources specialist for the U.S. Forest Service's State and Private Forestry program out of the Northern Research Office in Evanston, Ill. He's responsible for grant monitoring and technical assistance related to urban forestry for funded programs in the areas of Chicago, northwest Indiana, and southern Wisconsin.

D.R. Wunder '77 has been named faculty coordinator at Webster University's Charleston metro campus. He is an independent human resources consultant and an adjunct professor of human resource management, leadership, and organizational development at Webster and at the College of Charleston.

Joseph Ori '78 joined NRC Realty & Capital Advisors LLC as senior vice president of commercial real estate business development in the firm's Santa Monica, Calif., office. The Chicago-based firm specializes in the accelerated sale of real estate by auction and sealed bid sale, and also provides a full array of real estate and financial advisory services. Ori held previous positions at Rhodes Companies LLC, Lynch Investments LLC, and Rochdale Investment Management LLC.

Kathy Krawczyk '79, M.Acc. '81 has been named the Dixon Hughes Professor of Accounting and is also director of the master of accounting program at North Carolina State University's College of Management. She has received numerous teaching awards and is a member of several professional associations, as well as serving on the boards of several academic journals.

Maj. Gen. Larry Spencer '79, a career officer with 30 years of service in the Air Force, received the Career Achievement in Government award at the annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards conference in Baltimore, Md., an event to recognize and honor African Americans in technical career fields. Spencer was the first Air Force officer to serve as assistant chief of staff in the White House Military Office and most recently served as the deputy assistant secretary for budget in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller.

1980s

Steve Penrod '80 was elected vice president of the United States Enrichment Corp., a global energy company, and will remain general manager of the Paducah (Ky.) Gaseous Diffusion Plant. USEC is a leading supplier of enriched uranium fuel for commercial nuclear power plants.

Robert Hummel '80, M.B.A. '81 has been named senior vice president of commercial real estate at BankUnited, which serves businesses and consumers in 13 Florida counties. He joined
Turning Back The Hands Of Time

A long and remarkable career as a behavior analyst, Marty McMorrow M.S. '82 is off on another road-not-taken with his newly released memoir, Phoenix to L.A. The book, released through Booklocker.com last May, chronicles the true story of one young man's journey out of the 1960s.

Set against the placid backdrop of the 1950s on his little block in Peoria, Ill., Phoenix to L.A. relives the author's arrival at Loyola University of Chicago in the aftermath of the 1968 DNC, portrays the culture of the anti-war protest movement, highlights the impact of period music in shaping young lives, and characterizes the nature of a young man's relationships with family, friends, and others.

Along the way, McMorrow's curiosity and disillusionment turns to wanderlust as he traverses the country on two separate hitchhiking trips before suddenly dropping out of school and landing in an Army recruiter's office to make the choice of his lifetime.

Although that choice, to enlist in the Army as a psychiatric social worker, would ultimately lead to a four-decade career treating people who are considered to be disabled, this aspect of the journey initially landed him in South Vietnam where he treated same-age soldiers who had succumbed to the heroin epidemic that left its mark on so many young men during the late stages of the war.

From would-be "hippie" to would-be "soldier," Phoenix to L.A. escorts the reader through the years 1968 to 1972 in a way that will stir precious memories for children of the '60s and offer bits of living history for their children and their children's children. McMorrow is currently busy marketing his book and starting work on his next, tentatively titled Watching Raindrop Races. For more information and ordering, visit www.martymcmorrow.com or your favorite Internet bookseller.

McMorrow (inset) wrote to the book to chronicle the true story of one young man's journey out of the 1960s.
July 1, was formerly associate dean and director of doctoral studies at Tennessee Technological University. In a career dedicated to special education, Wheeler has focused on such topics as autism spectrum disorders and behavioral supports across the lifespan. In Tennessee, Wheeler served for 16 years as principal investigator and project director of the Make a Difference Project, an effort that offers behavioral consultations, behavioral assessment, behavioral interventions, and training resources to schools in 23 rural and underserved Tennessee counties.

Walter Bartlett '86 has been inaugurated as the fourth president of Piedmont (N.C.) Community College. Bartlett has worked in the North Carolina Community College system for more than 20 years, most recently as vice president of technical programs at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute.

Evangelos Alexandris A.A.S. '86, '91 has been named president and CEO of Fleet Management Solutions Inc. in Naples, Fla., following a merger he orchestrated. His initial duties will include appointing a board of directors and expanding a global sales network for the company's innovative technologies and solutions in the automotive industry's after-sales services and remarketing of leased vehicles.

James Drnek '86, M.S. Ed. '88 is dean of student life at Cleveland State University, a position he has held since 2008. Prior to that he was associate dean of students at the University of Arizona.

Kimberly Sanders '87, M.P.H. '07, the new director of SIU's Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development, was one of only 24 people around the country chosen to participate in the Rural Voices Leadership and Policy Workshop in March in Washington, D.C. It was sponsored by the federal Office of Rural Health Policy.

Lewis Venter Jr. '87, vice president of corporate quality for Cirrus Logic, a leading supplier of signal processing components for audio and energy applications in Austin, Texas, has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for demonstrating dedication, leadership, and excellence in quality management.

For almost 20 years, Bill Handel '88, M.S. '92 has been a researcher and botanist with the Illinois National History Survey in Champaign. Ill., specializing in community restoration, reconstruction of prairie and forest communities, and edible and medicinal plants of Native Americans.

Bob Yack '88 has been selected by major sponsors as one of the top five veterinarians in the country for his dedication to helping animals and strengthening the human-animal bond. He runs the Jackson Creek Veterinary Clinic in Jackson Creek, Calif. The nomination and selection was based on a nationwide essay contest conducted by the Morris Animal Foundation.

Dave Hogan '89, athletic director at Harrison High School in Colorado Springs, Colo., has been named the HHS Alumni Leadership Award recipient by the school's all-year reunion committee. Hogan served the district for 15 years as a special education teacher. He also has coached basketball, baseball, and football. He's been athletic director for five years, supervising 18 sports. He and his wife, Sandra '81, M.S. Ed. '90, also a teacher, are the parents of two daughters.

Patrick Martin '89 is the new sales representative for the southeast region of the United States for STAXI, a leading developer and manufacturer of nestable transportation chairs. The Toronto-based business offers its chairs as an alternative to wheelchairs.
1990s

Kim Ellis ’90 oversees daily operations for both the L.A./Ontario International Airport and the Van Nuys Airport near Los Angeles, Calif. He was formerly manager of regulatory compliance and standards division at Los Angeles World Airports. Ellis has more than 21 years experience in various positions at the L.A. airport.

Jay Datta M.S. ’91 has joined B. Riley & Co. LLC in its New York office as senior research analyst covering semiconductors. B. Riley is a research analyst covering L.A. airport.

Richard Holder ’92 has been named president of the newly formed Electric Components Organization of Eaton Corp., a diversified power management company. He is located at the Electrical Sector headquarters in Cherrington, Penn. Holder joined the company in 2001.

Derek Shelton ’92 is finishing up his first season as hitting coach for the Tampa Bay Rays. Shelton spent the last five seasons as hitting coach with the Cleveland Indians, and before that was a coach in the New York Yankees organization. The former Saluki standout, shown here congratulating Carl Crawford after a Rays’ win, also spent two years as a catcher in the Yankee’s system before an injury ended his playing career. He and his wife, Alison, reside in Wesley Chapel, Fla.

Chad Gregory ’93, senior vice president of United Egg Producers in Alpharetta, Ga., gave a presentation at the 2010 Illinois Pork Expo in Peoria entitled, “HSUS: A Clear and Present Danger.”

Barbara Stephens M.S. Ed. ’94, senior vice president-human resources with Bucyrus International Inc., has joined the board of directors at First Business Financial Services, a Wisconsin-based bank holding company. Bucyrus is a $2.5 billion Milwaukee, Wis.-based manufacturing company that designs and manufactures high productivity mining equipment.

Jennifer Kampspeier ’96, M.S. ’97, founder of Bebe Pulpuz Productions and show manager of the Indy Baby Expo, won the Expo Group’s Show Manager of the Year award. The award recognizes innovative practices, premier customer service, commitment to success, and the ability to overcome obstacles in the trade show industry.

Anita Fleming-Fire Ph.D. ’97, a professor of Africana studies and journalism at the University of Northern Colorado, has been appointed special assistant to the president for equity and diversity at that institution. An interactive video teleconference she produced to recruit African-American students to SIU’s graduate programs in mass communication earned International Radio Television’s Silver Award.

Jeff Bradshaw ’98, M.S. ’01 has joined the faculty at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Panhandle Research and Extension Center as extension entomologist. He will hold the rank of assistant professor, with 50 percent of his time dedicated to research and 50 percent to extension activities. Bradshaw will be responsible for developing research and extension programs in integrated pest management.

2000s

Thomas Annarella ’00 is the new administrator for the county-owned Valley Hi Nursing Home in McHenry County, Ill. He has a decade of experience as administrator at Arbor of Itasca, a private nursing home, since 2002.

Dixie Dennis Ph.D. ’00 is the new associate provost of grants and sponsored programs and dean of the College of Graduate Studies at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn. She currently serves on the board of directors of the American Association for Health Education.

Grenita Lathan Ph.D. ’00 has been named superintendent of Peoria (III.) District 150 schools. A former teacher, Lathan became a program director at Braun Education Center in Chicago before moving in 2005 to become a primary school principal in Guilford County, N.C., the third-largest school district in the state. While there, she was responsible for turning around a failing school. In 2008, Lathan moved to San Diego to supervise the district’s 100-plus elementary schools.

Jamie Headen ’01, an engineer and project manager, has attained the position of principal in the firm of Benton & Associates of Jacksonville, Ill., a consulting engineering firm. An employee of the firm for 15 years, Headen has held a variety of positions over the years.

Lindsey Hankes ’02 is the new director of marketing for Galesburg-based Kleine Equipment Inc. She was formerly extension program coordinator for 4-H youth development for the University of Illinois Extension Service in Knox County.

Scott Herron Ph.D. ’02 is an associate professor of biology at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich. As an associate professor, he specializes in ethnobotany. In January Cambridge Who’s Who recognized Herron for demonstrating dedication, leadership, and excellence in education.

Argus Tong ’02, ’02, M.B.A. ’04, assistant director of programs and events for the alumni association at the Cal State-Fullerton, will serve as co-president of the school’s Asian-American and Pacific Islander Faculty and Staff Association, a group in existence since 1993 that helps Asian-American students achieve educational success. Before moving to California, Tong spent several years as director of chapters and off-campus programs for the SIU Alumni Association.

Damon Tanke ’03 is an instructor of automotive technology at Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield, Ill. Before joining LLCC, he worked at a Springfield auto dealership,
Mary Margaret Wallace '03 was named the 2009 No. 1 Realtor in Oak Lawn and Homewood, Ill., according to the Multiple Listing Service. She began her real estate career in 2003 at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Oak Lawn and has sold more than $50 million worth of real estate since then.

Six female flight instructors in the Aviation and Management Flight program competed in an air race in June reminiscent of the exploits of Amelia Earhart and history's other famed women aviators. Those involved in the event began in Fort Myers, Fla., and ended in Frederick, Md., with eight legs and check-in points in between, including the Southern Illinois Airport. (For more on check-in points in between, see page 10.)

Shawn Odum '04 has been named a partner at Dycus, Bradley & Draves PC, with offices in Carbondale and Marion. He has several years of experience in preparation of income tax returns, management services, and general accounting services.

Shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, Hillary Wykes '04 lost her job as a flight attendant for United Airlines. That's when she decided to join the U.S. Air Force.

Today, as Capt. Hillary Wykes, she's a KC-10 Extender pilot with the 908th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron at an air base in Southwest Asia, serving her fourth deployment to the Middle East. The Plano, Ill., native passed a milestone in late 2009 by flying her 100th combat sortie.

Natalie Delong '06, Ph. Law '09 has joined the Peoria office of Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen as an associate. The law firm employs more than 100 lawyers at its five locations in Illinois.

Anna Keller '06 is a member of the Jasper County family recognized as the Illinois Pork Producers Association's 2010 Pork Producer Family of the Year. Keller's husband, Jason, is the third generation in his family to operate Keller Grain & Livestock in Sainte Marie, Ill. Jason and Anna's responsibilities in the farm operation concern crops and farrowing management.

Chris Bridges M.S. '07 is the West Tennessee program director for The Nature Conservancy, based in Sardis, Tenn., his hometown. A former environmental specialist for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Bridges has experience in water quality, storm water control, conservation planning, and forestry.

Dennis van de Laar M.P.A. '09 has been named the National Air Transportation Association's manager of regulatory affairs. He will be responsible for regulatory items affecting aircraft maintenance, as well as assisting in issues involving airport and FBO operations, and environmental compliance. Van de Laar was previously employed with the Southern Illinois Airport Authority while completing his graduate degree.

Sharon Atchison '08 spent more than 34 years working for the federal government, retiring in 2002 as district manager of the West Frankfort Social Security Administration office. In her post-retirement volunteer work, she saw the need to get a college degree. The degree allowed her to become executive director of The Lighthouse Shelter in Marion, a homeless shelter that is housed in a former nursing home. She also served three terms on the Marion City Council.

Air Force Master Sgt. Timothy Weaver '09 is now serving at Osan Air Base, South Korea. He's a section chief and instructor assigned to the 51st Fighter Wing.

Cancer Survivor Helps Support The Newly Diagnosed

Hearing the doctor say you have cancer may be the scariest words ever. But it's not always a death sentence, as legions of survivors will attest.

For cancer survivor Michelle Parker-Clark M.S. Ed. '06, part of the recovery process is reaching out to the newly diagnosed and becoming whole again through interaction and participation.


One of her volunteer responsibilities will be in the capacity of a first responder for newly diagnosed cancer patients to contact. Parker-Clark journeyed from her job at SIU's College of Applied Sciences and Arts where she works as an academic adviser to John A. Logan College twice weekly for 12 weeks to learn more about taking care of herself through exercise and nutrition.

"I think the Strong Survivors Program helped me reach out to other people," Parker-Clark says. She also got active with ACS initiatives and wants to help other newly diagnosed cancer patients travel a successful road to recovery like she has done.

"Having people to turn to makes a big difference when you find out you have cancer or have been treated for it. I had a wonderful support system, from my experience with the ACS to the friends I met through the Strong Survivors Program. I have a saying, 'I have cancer, but it doesn't have me,'" Parker-Clark says.
A Step Back In Time

100 Years Ago...

When students arrived at The Normal 100 years ago, they could expect to receive a bulletin every quarter. Information inside listed not only classes and paths of study, but outlined what the institution required as its standards of intellectual and moral character. Other advice to students was to “regard teachers as your personal friends, attend church regularly, and write your mother frequently.”

The most expensive term for tuition was the fall, at a cost of $8, while nonresidents paid $15. The bulletin advised that with “strict economy” an entire year would cost about $100.

But in 2010, the encyclopedic course catalogs are about to go the way of the library's card catalogs, as nonexistent on paper. This year marked the final time SIU's Course Catalog will be printed; instead it will soon be all electronic. Only 3,000 were printed this year, down from the average of 15,000 per year for many years, and they're all gone. The entire catalog is currently online and has been for several years, but next year students will get a CD that not only contains the entire course catalog, but much more.

Classes were often much different in the early 1900s, as students (right) are shown working on machinery in a "Manual Training" class. Also note the formal attire of the students, even though they are in a workshop setting.
Alumni Magazine Was A Factor In Decision To Attend Southern

By his final semester in high school career, Todd Frazier '04, M.B.A. '08 already had been accepted and was enrolled for fall semester at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, about an hour south of his home in Grand Rapids.

One day at home he ran across an issue of *Southern Alumni*, a publication he'd never seen before. It was the December 1999 issue with Old Main on the cover, featuring a special pullout section on the beauty of campus called “Southern Colors.” Todd was impressed with what he saw, and queried his father (James Frazier A.T. '72) about it. That was when he discovered that dad was a Saluki.

“Before that I didn’t really know about SIU,” Todd says. “I just knew about Michigan State, which he also attended.”

At his father’s urging — and after “discovering” SIU through the alumni magazine — Todd decided to come to Carbondale for a campus visit a mere two months before his high school graduation. It didn’t take long for him to embrace the campus, especially after discovering the strength of Southern’s programs in aviation and finance, the two paths of study he favored.

At SIU, Todd eventually veered into finance. A couple of months after receiving his bachelor’s degree he landed a job with the Carterville Community Unit School District. After receiving his M.B.A., the school district promoted him to business manager and treasurer.

His father earned his SIU degree in mortuary science and funeral service, then went on to earn a degree in finance at Michigan State. He worked in the mortuary science field for several years before switching to finance, and today is the CEO of Frazier Financial Services in Grand Rapids.

As for Todd, he hasn’t given up on his aviator aspirations. “I’m getting ready to start working on my private pilot’s license. I’ve been putting that off for a couple of years.”

If you ask him why he chose to become a life member of the SIU Alumni Association, he’ll tell you that there are “tremendous benefits that come with being a member and great networking experiences.

“Seeing the examples of past graduates and where they are really is inspiring. It’s amazing how many people have graduated from Southern and how many people around the world know about many of those alums.”