Southern Alumni

SIU Alumni Association

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SOUTHERN ALUMNI
OUR HOMECOMING HISTORY
Gift Helps Address Chemistry Needs

Distinguished Alumnus is teaming with Southern Illinois University Carbondale's administration to fund state-of-the-art research equipment for instructors and students in the chemistry and biochemistry department.

Bob Gower '58, M.A.'60, chairman of Ensysce Biosciences in Houston, Texas, communicates regularly with the University's chemistry professors. When the West Frankfort native and his wife, Beth '61, were informed of the department's equipment deficiencies, they immediately made mention of the issue in a subsequent meeting with SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng.

"It's pretty inefficient to have equipment constantly going down. I know it's a problem that can't exist, especially at a great University like SIU that is striving for recognition in various aspects of research," Gower says. "I told Chancellor Cheng that I would be willing to help if the University was willing to do the same."

Cheng presented a proposal to Bob and Beth Gower for $75,000, to establish a technology fund in the chemistry and biochemistry department. Their commitment would be matched dollar for dollar by the University. The Gowers obliged. Therefore, $150,000 will fund the acquisition and maintenance of equipment for instruction and research. Additionally, the fund provides the department and college with a long-term resource plan for equipping and upgrading its teaching labs.

"This is a wonderful partnership that responds to a great need in this department," Cheng says. "Cutting-edge equipment and technology are vital to the educational process. The Gowers' generosity provides valuable support to our faculty's teaching and research efforts, and will help our students be better prepared when they enter their professions."

Gower, a researcher himself, says the gift is significant and beneficial to the chemistry department.

"I'm particularly pleased that Chancellor Cheng was interested, and like myself, wanted to address the problem," he says. "As a matter of fact, she was already on top of the issue just weeks after assuming her role at the University. I was quite impressed with her commitment to strengthen our chemistry department."

Jay Means, dean of the College of Science, says the funds provided by the Gowers and Chancellor Cheng will have an immediate impact this fall semester. The department is purchasing a Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer and high performance liquid chromatograph to train advanced chemistry majors in the laboratory setting. He notes that significant gifts such as this are "unique and much appreciated during a time of fiscal uncertainty."

The gift will assist the University in preparing students for careers after college, says Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Chairman Gary Kinsel.

"These funds will go a long way in allowing us to provide modern chemical instruments for our students to use in their laboratory experiences," Kinsel says. "This experience is critical because they'll need to know how to use this equipment when they join the work force – this definitely helps move our program forward."

A recipient of the 1996 SIU Distinguished Alumni Award, Gower relishes the opportunity to support his alma mater.

"I have enjoyed some reasonable success, but came from pretty humble beginnings and know there are students at Southern with a similar background," he explains. "I truly feel indebted to SIU. When you are a beneficiary of such actions, the least you can do is give back if you're in the position to do so."
Our Homecoming History
In 1922, something labeled "an experiment" occurred in Carbondale when the University celebrated its first homecoming. Over the years the event has grown into one of the most important weekends of the year for alumni and friends, after the initial event was hailed as a success almost nine decades ago. "Homecoming has won its place among the yearly events of SIU as the greatest of all," the Obelisk said in 1923. "The event is a valuable asset."

Gone Fishin'
For more than a quarter of a century, Frank Bleyer has made the words "gone fishing" a magical phrase to thousands of Southern Illinoisans with special needs. This summer was the 26th Annual Fishing Expedition for Special Populations, as more than 1,400 people — including those fishing and volunteering — participated in an event that continues to touch many lives.

Following His Dream
Former Saluki point guard Bryan Mullins, a two-time MVC Defensive Player of the Year who left SIU as the program's all-time assist leader, will soon begin his second season playing professional basketball in France for Chalons-Reims. Playing at the professional level is a dream come true for Mullins, who says, "I still love the game," he says. "Whether I'm in Carbondale or France, I get the same emotion and adrenaline when I'm in the game."

Nation's Capitol Inspires Alumna
A leap of faith sent Lindsey Mathis to Washington, D.C., and the 2005 graduate — in her second year as a multimedia reporter for WUSA-TV — has never regretted taking that step. She interned with Ted Koppel at ABC News Nightline while still a student at SIU, and says "that experience inspired me to return to Washington, D.C., and advance my career."
Mike McElroy is not the kind of person who gives up. Last year the veteran SIU Football defensive back battled adversity when an ankle injury incurred against the University of Illinois caused him to miss most of the 2010 season. He indeed was down—but certainly not out.

The fifth-year senior says taking last year off actually was “good for me because I was able to reflect and get my priorities in order.” One priority was finding a way to give back to Saluki Nation. “I wanted our team to leave a legacy in southern Illinois other than football and do something that would affect a community that has given us so much.”

After pondering a few ideas, McElroy approached SIU Head Coach Dale Lennon with a plan that would benefit the local American Cancer Society. Special jerseys would be printed for a select game and fans would bid online for the chance to put their last name—or the last name of a loved one who had been affected by cancer—on the back of each uniform. All money raised would stay locally and help those with cancer. Great idea … right, Coach?

“When Mike explained it, I thought there was no way it could happen,” Lennon admits. “There were many hurdles, especially concerning NCAA regulations. In my 25-plus years coaching college football, I had never heard of anything quite like this.”

Saluki Athletics Director Mario Moccia says he also was skeptical. “Let’s be honest – there was one guy who always believed this could happen, and that was Mike McElroy,” Moccia says. “He took the lead and hounded the NCAA on this.”

Hounded or not, the NCAA’s decision took more than three weeks, as hand-written letters, faxes, telephone calls, and emails produced no response. “Then one day I was walking out of class when I received an email on my phone from the NCAA rules commissioner,” McElroy recalls. “It stated that they were going to allow a one-time exemption for this to happen and wished us luck with it.”

Believed to be the first waiver of this sort ever allowed by the NCAA, Southern will be wearing special jerseys for the Nov. 12 game against Eastern Illinois, as the “Salukis Black Out Cancer.” People interested in bidding may visit SalukisBlackOutCancer.com, or contact SIU Coordinator of Group Sales Steve Sowers at 618-453-5153 to place a bid. After the game, the winning bidders will be given the jersey from the player who wore it.

The 80 Under Armour jerseys will be provided by Cook Portable Warehouses and the Southern Illinois Orthopedic Center (SIOC), as the NCAA did dictate that no University funds could be used for this attire.

As one of the top defenders in the country, McElroy already has two conference championship rings and an Academic All-American Award. He says such accolades are not on his mind right now.

“A couple years down the road people may forget what you have done, how many tackles you made, or how many passes you intercepted,” he explains. “But something like this will be remembered long after our playing days are over with.”
A Professor Who Made A Difference

I wanted to share some thoughts on SIU Theater Professor Emeritus Dr. Alfreds Straumanis, who passed away recently at the age of 89. Born in Russia and raised from the age of 6 months in Riga, Latvia, Straumanis came to Southern in 1972 and served as a faculty member and director of graduate studies in the SIU Department of Theater until his retirement in 1991. At that time, faculty retirement was mandatory upon turning 70 years old.

Straumanis, still vital, spent the final two decades of his life in River Falls, Wis., first building a house on the side of a mountain, and then continuing his career in the theater as a director and a scholar.

Foremost among his many achievements were two senior Fulbright fellowships in Riga, Latvia, and several books on Latvian theater. He leaves behind his devoted wife of 55 years, Biruta, and a son, Andreas. He also leaves as his legacy at SIU a large number of graduate students whom he both taught and mentored. Many now serve at universities and theaters across the country and the world.

I was one such student back in the early 1980s. I began my doctoral studies in theater in 1982 and was at first (like many of my classmates) a bit wary of Straumanis. He seemed to be a brilliant and demanding teacher with high standards and expected a lot of his students. All of that turned out to be true enough, but at his core he was a “teddy bear” rather than a “grizzly.”

He became my dissertation director and helped me see the errors of my way as I began writing my dissertation while taking on my first academic position, and each month I would bang out a chapter and mail it off to him. A few weeks later, I would receive it back, covered in red ink, and begin revisions. At the end of that year, I successfully defended that dissertation and earned my doctorate. Whatever success I have had as a playwright, an educator, and an administrator, I owe in great part to Straumanis and SIU. Through the intervening years we exchanged Christmas cards, talked on the phone, and just a few years ago when I traveled to Minneapolis for a conference, he and his wife met me for lunch at the Guthrie Theatre.

It was then that I decided that I would someday start a scholarship honoring him and my thesis director, with whom I was also close. Less than a year ago, I did that, starting the Kern-Straumanis Scholarship for a graduate student in the SIU Department of Theater.

The last time we talked, I told him about the scholarship, and he had many questions. Little did I know that we wouldn't speak again, but his legacy lives on in his many talented stu-

dents who have spread his love for theater throughout the world.

Jeff Elwell Ph.D. ’86
Life Member
Provost, Auburn University
Montgomery, Ala.

Salukis In Slovenia

My wife and I were in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in late May and were walking near the center of the tourist area when we saw a woman with two Saluki dogs. We went up to her to confirm that the dogs were Salukis, she said they were, and was surprised that we recognized them. She wondered how we knew. We told her that the Saluki is the mascot of the University where I teach, and before I could say the name, she said “Southern Illinois University Carbondale.” We were really surprised that she knew about Southern, but she did.

Pete Mykytyn
Annual Member
Professor and Chair, SIU Department of Management
Carbondale, Ill.

Kathleen Mykytyn M.L.S. ’10 (right) is all smiles after meeting a resident in Slovenia who had two Saluki dogs and knew that the breed had ties to SIU.
University Highlights Its Strengths In New Initiative

Southern Illinois University's students, faculty, alumni, and supporters recognize it's a nationally ranked research institution where "big things are always within reach" and that SIU is "powered by relationships and driven by an insatiable academic appetite." Now, those key messages will further SIU's strategic goals as they are an integral part of the University's new branding platform unveiled by Chancellor Rita Cheng.

The branding initiative includes a dynamic and sophisticated redesigned logo for SIU that is already appearing on banners, publications, websites, and other institutional items. The branding and logo are part of an overall vision Cheng is implementing.

"What I've been struck by is how SIU's story is so compelling - it's home to nationally recognized research that is making an impact. It offers a challenging academic program for the highest achieving honor students as well as those searching for the right academic environment," she says. "Students experience a small intimate setting where they have close relationships with professors. We know all of these things; this new branding initiative is designed to ensure others, outside of the SIU family, get to know them as well."

The branding work included comprehensive research of external and internal perceptions, a competitive analysis, and a review of SIU's core institutional vision. It involved focus groups with more than 100 participants such as students, faculty and community members.

"This is really an investment in SIU that will pay dividends going forward as we help ensure our university becomes even more top-of-mind to prospective students and alumni we want to get re-engaged, and others," Cheng adds.

The branding is part of the University's strategic plan, guided by a steering committee composed of faculty and staff, which has begun to engage in campus-wide conversations that will continue in the coming months. The effort will lead to a strategic plan that will clarify and expand SIU's mission and vision, reaffirm core values and provide a road map to help guide the institution in achieving goals.

More information about the branding initiative is available at siu.edu/brand.

Other initiatives under way include:
• Strengthening SIU's partnerships with the area's community colleges to increase the number of students who transfer to SIU to complete a four-year degree;
• Transforming math and English courses for greater student learning and success;
• Examining all degree programs to ensure that full-time students who do not change majors can complete their coursework in four years at or near the 120 credit requirement; and
• Enhancing student success through University College, which will centralize and coordinate all services to support new freshmen and transfer students and improve their campus experience.

Over the past decade, SIU has disclosed 217 inventions, issued 54 licenses or options, filed 113 patent applications with a resulting 39 issued patents, and received nearly $4 million in royalties.

Princeton Review: SIU Among Best In Midwest

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is one of the best universities in this part of the United States, according to the latest Princeton Review's "Best of the Midwest" ranking profiles.

Southern is one of 153 colleges and universities so named as among the best in the publication's '2012 Best Colleges: Region by Region.' The regional best lists include only 25 percent of the undergraduate programs in the country, selected primarily for academic excellence.

"We know that these guides are among the many sources of information that prospective students and their families consider when choosing a college," Chancellor Rita Cheng says. "This is yet another important indicator of the quality academic experience students can expect from our University."

The online rankings were posted Aug. 1, providing prospective undergraduate students a glimpse into the universities through the eyes of students. Other selection factors include Princeton Review school visits, institutional data, information gleaned from college counselors and advisers, and student surveys.

It also rates the colleges and universities in a number of categories based on institutional data and student reviews. SIU scored particularly high in the financial aid category, with a 91 on a scale of 60 to 99. The University also earned a score of 82 in the "green" category and 89 for fire safety.

The Princeton Review is a nationally recognized education services company.
Southern Alumni

**Grant Will Help Museum Move Into Digital Realm**

The University Museum at Southern Illinois University Carbondale is the recipient of a 2011 Museums for America grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services that will help move the museum into the digital realm.

The $149,955 grant for collections stewardship will help the museum implement the digitization phase of its 21st Century Collection Management Initiative over the next two years. Donna Bachman, director of the University Museum, says the first phase of the project began in 2005 and only recently ended, with the museum entering 60,000 manual records and updated descriptive information through a focused inventory.

"This grant allows us to share the museum's collection with a limitless number of people, of all ages and interests," Bachman says.

**SIU Alumni Association Announces Restructuring**

Executive Director Michelle Suarez has announced organizational changes at the SIU Alumni Association that will provide the unit greater personnel flexibility and optimum use of the resources.

Gene Green, who has served as Director of Communications, will assume additional responsibilities as Associate Director of the SIU Alumni Association. Other changes are: Kathy Dillard will become Director of Corporate Relations; Tina Shingleton will assume the duties of Secretary to the SIU Alumni Association Board and assistant to the executive director; Brent Zelten will assume the duties of assistant to the Director of Off Campus Programs and Chapter Development; and an editorial writer will manage additional responsibilities within the area of communications as a fulltime team member. All other staff members will continue to work in their current capacities.

Additionally, for the first time in many years, all SIU Alumni Association personnel will be housed at Colyer Hall, as the satellite office in the SIU Student Center closed earlier this year as part of the fiscal initiative.

"Not only will these changes allow us to make better use of personnel, but reorganizing also will result in financial savings for the University and the Association," Suarez says. "The way we serve our alumni, and the means we must now use to insure that level continues, has dramatically changed over the years. Having everyone together will allow us to stay focused on crucial initiatives and help our staff serve a large and diverse alumni base."

SIU Alumni Association President Ray Serati says he is excited about the restructuring.

"Factors behind this decision are based on strong and valid reasoning," he says. "This will help the Association continue to support our alma mater in the years to come," he says.

"Remaining status quo would have made it more difficult to accomplish some of our goals, so I see this as a proactive step to maximize both resources and personnel."

The restructuring plan has approval of the SIUC Chancellor, the SIU Alumni Association staff, and Association's Executive Committee.

"Our alumni are incredibly supportive of our students and the University, and we continue to look for new ways to be responsive to them," Chancellor Rita Cheng says. "I appreciate the work Michelle and her team are doing to find new efficiencies while strengthening our connections with alumni everywhere."

**Petrowich Named To Humanities Council Board**

Greg Petrowich '91, executive director of WSIU Public Broadcasting, is now a member of the Illinois Humanities Council Board of Directors.

The private nonprofit educational organization is "dedicated to fostering a culture in which the humanities are a vital part of the lives of individuals and communities," according to its website. The organization receives funds from individuals, corporations, foundations, the Illinois General Assembly through the Illinois Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The SIU Alumni Association life member oversees operation of WSIU's three public radio stations - WSIU, WUSI and WSI; two PBS stations - WSIU and WUSI; and the Southern Illinois Radio Information Service.

Prior to coming to WSIU in April 2009, Petrowich was chief executive for seven years of KUAC-FM/TV/DT, the public broadcasting stations at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He and his wife, Laura '91, live in Carbondale.

**Warwick Named Engineering Dean**

The acting vice president for academic affairs of the Nevada System of Higher Education's Desert Research Institute is the new dean of the College of Engineering at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

John Warwick began his new duties on campus Aug. 1.

"Dr. Warwick's extensive leadership experience, his record of attracting private and public funding and his outstanding scholarship will further strengthen the College of Engineering and our University," SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng says.

"I am pleased he is joining our team and look forward to his many contributions."

Provost John Nicklow says he is "particularly pleased" Warwick accepted the position, noting, "He has a prominent record as a scholar and leader, and brings a new level of enthusiasm and excitement to the position. He is committed to working with external constituents for fundraising, and is focused on further increasing the visibility of our College of Engineering among prospective students and parents."

Warwick has served as acting vice president for academic affairs at the Desert Research Institute since last September, which followed a two-year appointment as interim executive vice president for research. Since 2010, he also has served as executive director of the Division of Hydrologic Sciences and as director of the Nevada Water Resources Research Institute, positions he also held from 2002 to 2008.

"I am excited about the opportunity to work with the students, staff, faculty and alumni of the College of Engineering to develop and implement a truly compelling strategic plan for the college," Warwick says.

"For me, the overarching goal is to continuously improve the quality of the total educational experience for current and future students, both undergraduate and graduate."

Warwick earned his bachelor's and master's degrees, both in civil engineering, from Lehigh University in 1976 and 1978, respectively. He earned his doctorate in environmental engineering from The Pennsylvania State University in 1983, joining the University of Texas at Dallas as an assistant professor in the environmental sciences graduate program that year. He later became an associate professor there and served as director of the university's Institute for Environmental Sciences from 1989 to 1991.
Data Recovery Group

Data Recovery Group is a complete data recovery service specializing in recovering data from desktop drives, laptop drives, external drives, servers, network devices (NAS), storage devices (SAN), flash drives, and camera media. Members of the SIU Alumni Association may take advantage of this service at a special price, with a free hard drive evaluation and 15 percent discount for completed data recoveries. Go to www.siualumni.com/advantages for more information.

SIU Alumni Online Store

Get outfitted in the latest Saluki gear! When you purchase products designed by Dawgs for Dawgs, you also help support Southern. All products on the SIU Alumni Association online store are designed by the creative team at Silkworm, a company with strong ties to the University. Many employees at Silkworm are alumni, and proceeds from purchases made through this store help assist with various Association programs and scholarships. Silkworm and the SIU Alumni Association—it's a great combination to make sure you have all the best in SIU apparel. Members receive a 15 percent discount, so why not visit www.siualumni.com and click on the online store link!

New Life Members

May 18-August 5, 2011

- Donald Blakley
- Karen Blatter
- Corey and Josette Bradford
- Clayton Cochran
- Tamarah Cook
- Lianbin Cui and Li Hu
- Pasquale DeMarco and Sarah Harwerth-De Marco
- Stephanie DeRuntz
- Stewart and Marilyn Dixon
- Chris and Allison Ellis
- Brian Freeburg
- Vera Gibbs
- Ralph Graham
- Jeff and Kelly Green
- Scott and Michelle Gremmels
- Michael Hempen Sr.
- David Hurbit
- Frederick Hurt
- Jacob Israel
- Nedra Joyner
- Brandon Kloeppper
- Veronica Longstreet
- Ramon Lopez
- Brittany Lunt
- Robert and Cindy Mangiaforte
- Lynn Moore McCreery
- Tara Metternich
- Ted and Gail Mieling
- Cory and Dawn Miller
- Andrew Miskell and Leah Landis
- James Molledahl
- Emily Ostendorf
- Alan Osterlund
- William and Sherlin Richelman
- David and Drusilla Rix
- Angela Royal
- Ray Simpson
- Laurie Squire
- Gregory and Lorianne Stettler
- Julie Strauss
- Scott Stone
- Michael Thompson
- Eileen Troutt-Ervin
- John Vana
- Daniel Wilcoxen
- Guy Wood
Member Advantages

You spoke, we listened. Check out your new Member Advantages program, featuring support for SIU students, access to premier resources, and great savings for members only.

Association members have complimentary year-round access to **SIU Career Services.** Take advantage of resume critiques, mock interviews, and career search assistance. Call 618-453-2391 for more information.

**NEW!**

Three year membership

- $100 Individual
- $150 Joint

For more info, visit [http://www.siualumni.com/threeyear](http://www.siualumni.com/threeyear)

Visit your Members Only Center online to download Saluki wallpaper, ringtones, and play Saluki Jeopardy.

**Saluki Row**

Enjoy complimentary football tailgates at every home game!

**Did You Know?**

As a member, you helped support over $50,000 in textbook scholarships to Saluki students in 2010-11!

Find all these advantages and more online at [www.siualumni.com/advantages](http://www.siualumni.com/advantages)
Dear Fellow Salukis:

I hope you had a great summer and were able to enjoy some fun and relaxation with family and friends. While certainly busy on campus, I was able to spend time with alumni in several parts of the country. In early June, I visited with the St. Louis chapter, and at the end of the month I enjoyed meeting with members of the Central Florida chapter in St. Petersburg. The annual Chicagoland Saluki Golf Scramble on July 29 was a great event, and the next day I participated in the 12th annual Greater Michigan Picnic in Brighton, Mich.

As I’ve said before in this space, I am so inspired by your loyalty to your alma mater and your commitment to creating opportunities for future Salukis. I look forward to traveling to more chapter events so I can thank you in person.

We had a very productive summer on the campus and I’d like to share a few examples with you.

Thanks to the ongoing hard work in Enrollment Management and in our colleges, summer enrollment increased by 100 students. While that may not seem like much, it was the first increase in five years. And while this issue was printed before final fall enrollment numbers were available, I can tell you our optimism was building throughout the summer, with several categories outpacing our expectations.

Our researchers and scholars continue their vital efforts. I’d like to share with you just two examples: The National Science Foundation awarded funds to James Garvey, director of the Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center, and Matt Whiles, professor of zoology and director of the Center for Ecology, to study various issues related to the last spring’s Birds Point levee breach in southeast Missouri. We’re also grateful to the Howard Buffett Foundation, which is supporting a multidisciplinary team’s study of ways to improve farmers’ ability to feed the world, make growers successful and at the same time protect the environment. That foundation’s grant is for $7 million over six years.

Thanks to Plant and Service Operations, we continue to make progress with physical improvements, including the cleanup around the lake and in the woods, as well as at University Farms. As part of the campus renovation and restoration effort, we anticipate planting 150-200 trees in November. Twenty-three classrooms received significant technology upgrades, and students living in the high-rise residence halls, at Grand & Wall Apartments and at Thompson Point now have full wireless capability.

We are continuing to pave the way for our new Student Services building, something I am confident we can all agree is long overdue. Construction of the new facility, which will be built where the parking garage now stands, is expected to begin in the spring of 2012. The parking lots just east of the parking garage were enlarged and improved over the summer in anticipation of the demolition of the garage, which will start in mid-December. More work is in store this fall at the McAndrew Stadium site, also, including removal of the track and installation of additional parking from the “50 yard line” south.

Strategic planning will continue to be a key focus for all of us. A very capable and dedicated committee is guiding our efforts to create a new strategic plan, and there will be opportunities for broad campus involvement this fall. Your perspective will be extremely valuable, and I encourage you to participate in these critical conversations. As long as I’ve been involved with SIU, I’ve been one of our most vocal advocates. Now, I’m happy to say, our message is about to reach a much wider audience. We’ve embarked on a mission to make sure that everyone understands exactly what SIU means to Illinois and the world.

As you know, we have been working with Lipman Hearne, an experienced and successful marketing communications firm in Chicago that specializes in higher education. It’s a real plus for us that their chairman, Tom Abrahamson, is an SIU alum; like all of us, Tom and his team care deeply about the success of our University.

The branding initiative includes a new logo that is both sophisticated yet familiar. It is a powerful tool that will help build awareness and recognition. But this is about so much more. We need to make sure our story is getting out to the broadest possible audience, and that will include messaging that reflects who we are and the many accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni. We are producing exciting new materials that will capture the imagination of prospective students and their families.

I hope you like the look and feel of our redesigned website. And there’s much more to come. We’ve created a web page at www.siu.edu/brand so that you can see how we’re talking about SIU, what we’ve produced so far, and the hard work that remains to be done.
The effort leading up to this initiative included comprehensive research of external and internal perceptions, a competitive analysis, and a review of our core institutional vision. It also involved focus groups and discussions with more than 150 participants, including students, faculty, alumni, and community members. Their input was critical to shaping the direction of the branding initiative.

This is an exciting and crucial time for SIU. You helped us get here. And we couldn't possibly move forward without you. Thank you for your commitment and many contributions to our University. As you know, fall is a beautiful time on the campus, and I look forward to seeing you for Saluki Family Weekend Sept. 23-25 and for Homecoming Weekend Oct. 14-16.

Sincerely,

Rita Cheng
Chancellor

Jackson Triplets Ready To Start At SIU

by Andrea Hahn

Family support will always be close at hand for a trio of freshmen who begin their college careers this fall at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

The three say they are excited to be leaving home to strike out on their own, but also happy that family is coming along to college with them. Southern, meet the identical Jackson triplets: Sterling, who plans to major in civil engineering, Sedrick, who will major in mechanical engineering, and Spencer, a sports administration major.

The three brothers will live in a residence hall together, but their declaration of intended majors speaks to their different interests.

The brothers have always received a bit of attention, and not only because they look so startlingly alike. They graduated among the top 10 percent of high school students academically, they were Honor Roll regulars at Peoria High School, and they participated in orchestra and excelled at track, forming the majority of a relay race team. Sterling and Spencer also ran cross-country, while Sedrick tried football.

When they came to campus for New Student Orientation, they were already making plans to get involved in campus life, asking about Rush Week and pledging to fraternities, maybe intramural sports, certainly the SIU track team try-outs, and the University Honors program.

“We wanted to go away from home, but not too far,” Sedrick says. “When we first came to this campus for a visit, we fell in love with it.”

“We're sharing a residence hall, but we are taking different classes,” Spencer says. “We're ready to be independent.”

Sterling says being one of three identical triplets can be a bit of a rollercoaster emotionally. Still, they note, the three of them can argue sports 24/7, and they expect to be able to help each other with homework and the adjustments to college life.

“It's like bringing your two best friends home with you every day,” Sedrick explains.

“We have been blessed,” says Annette Jackson, the triplets' mother. She notes that her sons have a large network of family for support, including aunts, uncles, and cousins. She says community members also have shown support for her sons, acting as mentors and cheerleaders as needed.

“It's a challenge,” Steve Jackson, father of the three brothers, says. “It's the next big step for them.”

Annette teaches business courses at Manual High School in Peoria. The brothers also have a sister, Tanya, who lives in New Jersey with her husband and daughter and works as an engineer.

Sterling and Sedrick got a jump on their brother when it comes to getting to know campus. Both were here for the College of Engineering's Summer Bridge Program, a six-week, intensive study camp for new students majoring in engineering.

The Jackson brothers, identical triplets, are, from left: Sedrick, a mechanical engineering major; Sterling, a civil engineering major; and Spencer, a sports administration major.
OUR HOMECOMING

BY BONNIE MARX

In 1911, the idea of a homecoming celebration to bring alumni back to a college campus was born. According to several sources, that initial plan 100 years ago occurred at the University of Missouri, which invited its alumni to "come home" for a football game, a parade, spirit rally, and a bonfire.

A little more than a decade later—at what was then Southern Illinois Normal University—the first homecoming in Carbondale was celebrated in 1922. In true academic fashion, that initial event was called an "experiment."

The 1923 Obelisk stated, "The SINU Homecoming is new history. It has come and gone, and the predictions of the optimist have been fulfilled, for the Homecoming of 1922 was as big as most urgent boosters had hoped for."

SINU alumni apparently loved the idea, "arriving in droves all day Friday. By noon the campus, the whole town knew that graduates were back again to visit our Alma Mater," according to the Obelisk.

In 1922, Carbondale boasted a population of just over 6,000 people, and enrollment at "The Normal" that year was 1,011. It's likely that the townsfolk would have noticed the festivities—which took place around SINU's five academic buildings (Old Main, Altgeld, Wheeler, Allen, and Shryock; Anthony Hall was a women's dorm)—even if they weren't previously aware of the plan.

Opposite page: This pictorial tribute to SINU's first Homecoming in 1922 is taken from the 1923 Obelisk. Today, Salukis are a fixture at Homecoming, but the ancient Egyptian hunting dog didn't become the University's official mascot until 1951, when the student body voted overwhelmingly for the new symbol. Since 1913, Southern's athletic teams had been known as the Maroons.
At the earliest Homecomings, a play was always part of the festivities. In 1922, the play, "Miss S.I.N.U.," was carefully planned by Miss (Mae) Trovillion (later Smith, for whom a residence hall at SIU is named) to represent different activities and sentiments of the school, according to an account in the Obelisk.

Obelisk, "is to do the other fellow before he does you" in a series of contests that pitted SINU college and high school classes against one another.

There was also a tug of war. "The fire department was out, sending a stream of water across the middle of the rope, the losing team being pulled through the water," the Obelisk reported. "If you think that some of the dignified seniors are always immaculate, you should have seen them fall when the hose was turned on them."

On Friday night, the eve of the game, "was held one of the greatest pep meetings ever held in the history of the school. The Pep Band wore uniforms that included belled pants and skull caps. By 1926 they had graduated to military-style uniforms."

Game day dawned early. At 8 a.m. Saturday morning, alumni were expected to attend a breakfast at Anthony Hall and then the Socratic and Zetetic Societies (campus literary groups) sponsored open houses. Later on there was a meeting at Shryock Auditorium about the armistice program (the armistice between the Allies and Germany was an agreement that ended the fighting in World War I.) "Dr. Chas. R. Scoville gave an interesting address on some of the war work. Mrs. Scoville sang several very pleasing selections. At 11 a.m. everyone faced the East for one minute in honor of our departed heroes."

"At 1 p.m.," the Obelisk said, "everyone met at the New Hundley corner for the Hobo Parade to the football field. Each class represented some certain thing which made the parade very comical. Needless to say, we beat Cape Girardeau 12 to 7 in the football game, and then everyone marched downtown with the team."

A dance that followed that night was called "the crowning event of the program."

NO LONGER AN EXPERIMENT

A year later, the "experiment" was labeled a grand success.

"Homecoming has won its place among the yearly events of SINU as the

The first page of an Ode to Homecoming Processional, circa 1929.
greatest of all events," the _Obelisk_ said. "The event is a valuable asset to the Normal, not only because of the pleasure and enjoyment which it brings, but for the cooperation, interest, and appreciation which it produces among the students, faculty members and alumni."

In 1923, an alumni banquet following the game became part of the program, and through the years Southern’s Homecoming embraced tradition, but still evolved. Readers may have noticed that there was no mention of a homecoming queen in those earliest years. That’s because there was none. In 1925, a forerunner of the queen contest developed when both a king and queen were chosen to rule the campus during a spring festival.

The 1925 king and queen were Leland “Doc” Lingle ’21, ’27 and Edna Hampton (Bridges) ’26. In subsequent years, only a Queen of the May was chosen, until 1938, when the first full-fledged homecoming queen was elected.

In 1927, Southern added a play to its list of festivities, starting another tradition that would last decades. The first play, “Miss SINU,” was directed by Mae Trovillion (later Smith, for whom a campus residence hall is named) and was “produced to represent the school activities.” The _Obelisk_ for that year reports that, “Miss SINU was the picture of the queen of glory, attended by her two handmaids representing knowledge and the various activities that make her perfection possible, namely good sportsmanship.”

In the 1929 yearbook, referring to 1928 Homecoming: “The astonishing feature of the Homecoming dance (held at the Elks Club), was that so many of the graduates had two dollars all at once, for that was the staggering sum required to crash the gate, despite which fact there was a record-breaking crowd.”

In the fall of 1939 came the first-ever _Southern Alumni_, produced as a prelude to homecoming. The following year, it became a quarterly magazine. For

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SINU named its first king and queen of Homecoming in 1925. Chosen for that honor were Leland “Doc” Lingle ’21, ’27 and Edna Hampton (Bridges) ’26. Lingle went on to be one of Southern’s best known coaches, and Edna married R.E. Bridges Jr. Their son, R.E. Bridges III, is the owner of Italian Village, one of Carbondale’s favorite restaurants.

Homecoming 1939, there was a pep parade and rally, a bonfire, open houses, a play, a women’s hockey game, luncheons, breakfasts and dinners, a six-man football game between local high school teams, and a dance where the homecoming queen was crowned.

A new milestone in the Homecoming tradition involved administering the “Ephebic Oath” to new students. Incoming freshmen were required to wear a green ribbon while on campus, indicating their new student status. After the oath of loyalty and their official acceptance into the school, the freshmen tossed their ribbons into the pep rally bonfire and then performed a snake dance around it.

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**STEVE FINLEY TO BE 2011 HOMECOMING GRAND MARSHAL**

One of the best athletes to ever play at Southern Illinois University will serve as the grand marshal for 2011 SIU Homecoming Weekend. Steve Finley ’87, a Major League Baseball star for 19 years, returns to Carbondale for the Oct. 14-15 festivities.

Finley, one of only six players in MLB history to record more than 300 home runs and 300 steals in a career, had 2,548 hits and played in almost 2,600 games with eight different teams from 1989-2007. A great defensive player in centerfield, the former Saluki star was a five-time Gold Glove winner and won a World Series ring in 2001 as a member of the Arizona Diamondbacks.

For the full Homecoming Schedule, go to page 16.
Perhaps these belled pants and skull caps for the SINU band were stylish back in 1922, but they look a bit comical 90 years later. By 1926, the band switched to military-style uniforms.

Going into the 1940s, the war in Europe and America’s entry in 1941 made celebrations more subdued. In 1940, enrollment was almost 2,000; by 1943, it was down to 785. By October 1942, the Southern Alumnus reported there were “700 sons of Southern” serving in the military. Homecoming in 1943 went on despite the lack of a football team (about 2,000 Southern students were away by then). Instead, Carbondale and Pinckneyville High Schools played a game at SINU.

Homecoming 1946 drew thousands to the first postwar reunion. More than 4,000 turned out for the football game between the Maroons and Western Illinois.

‘WE AIN’T NORMAL ANYMORE!’
Bob Odaniell ’51, who headed the SIU Alumni Association for more than 30 years, retiring in 1984, remembers much about Homecoming 1947, his first year on campus. SINU had officially become Southern Illinois University, no longer just a teacher’s college. The

Homecoming 2010 featured exciting action at the new Saluki Stadium, as a Chris Dieker to Jeff Evans seven-yard touchdown pass lifted Southern to a 45-38 overtime win against Northern Iowa. The thriller sent more than 13,300 fans home with a smile.
delightful, devilish theme of that year was “We Ain’t Normal Anymore!”

Odaniell points out that while Homecoming was significant for the SIU Alumni Association, it wasn’t the organization’s signature event. “Those happened every June on graduation day with Alumni Day,” he recalls. “It was more sedate, without things like the game, the floats, and a queen tied in with it.”

Officers were elected and there was a dinner for alumni. Beginning in 1940, the Association published yearly roundups of Alumni Day, usually including remembrances from older graduates. According to Odaniell, that all changed when the University went from a quarter system to semesters in the early 1970s. “When they changed graduation day to May, Homecoming became the main day for our alumni.”

In many ways, Homecoming at Southern continues to embrace long-held traditions from so long ago. SINU students knew they had created something special almost nine decades ago. From the 1923 Obelisk: “We feel that Homecoming has built up such a spirit of loyalty and friendship among the students and alumni of the S. I. N. U. that it will be forever an annual event.

“The pace has been set –

Bob Odaniell, executive director of the SIU Alumni Association from 1954-1984, presents an American flag to Audrey Mayer, 1952 Homecoming Queen, on behalf of the Washington, D.C. Alumni Club. The flag had flown for one day above the nation’s capitol.

SINU’s football teams under William McAndrew wore stripes so McAndrew, who was color blind, could easily pick out his players when they were on the field.
Wednesday, October 12
11 a.m.-7 p.m.  SIU Homecoming Blood Drive, Student Center Ballrooms.
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  Homecoming Kick-Off, Free Forum Area, east of parking garage.

Thursday, October 13
10 a.m.-3 p.m.  SIU Press Sidewalk Sale. Find new and discounted books on Lincoln, Civil War, regional history, botany, Dewey, poetry, and more, 1915 University Press Drive, behind the McLaugherty Annex.
7 p.m.  Homecoming Comedy Show, Student Center Ballrooms.

Friday, October 14
8 a.m.-5 p.m.  Dental Hygiene Professional Seminar, guest speaker Anne Nugent Guignon, "The Melting Tooth Syndrome," guest speaker Linda Bohacek, "The Dental Hygienist in Veterinary Medicine," Student Center International Lounge/Auditorium.
8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.  Class of 1961 Brunch, Student Center, Old Main Lounge.
9:30 a.m.-Noon  Class of 1961, Guided Tour of Campus and Carbondale. Meet at front of Student Center.
10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  Lunch, SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting, Student Center.
1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.  SIU Distinguished Alumni Induction Ceremony, Student Recreation Center, 2nd floor, Alumni Lounge. Everyone invited.
4 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  Homecoming Step Show, Shryock Auditorium.
6:15 p.m.  Half-Century Club Banquet, Student Center, Ballroom D.
7 p.m.  Alumni Band Group, Marching Salukis alumni invited to attend a reception in the Student Center, Cambria Room/Renaissance Room, 1st floor.
7 p.m.  Saluki Volleyball vs. Missouri State, Davies Gym.

Saturday, October 15
9 a.m.-Noon  University Museum: Special displays for the 50th anniversary of the class of 1961 and the School of Dentistry, Vera Feits’ Saluki Stamps, the retired Saluki Dawg mascots, and the University Cannon. Come to the north end of Faner Hall, door 12 and enjoy a Continental Breakfast after the parade and before the game. Everyone invited.
9 a.m.-Noon  American Airlines SIU Aviation Career Day at Southern Illinois Airport; 100 prospective students visit campus courtesy of American Airlines.
10 a.m.  Homecoming Parade, downtown Carbondale.
11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  Alumni Tailgate. Saluki Row. Everyone invited. Register at the tent to enjoy a complimentary lunch. Bring SIU Alumni Association membership card for easier access.
2 p.m.  Homecoming Football Game – Salukis vs. Youngstown State Penguins, featuring halftime coronation of Homecoming royalty. Saluki Stadium. Tickets are $20 for adults, $12 for children, and may be purchased at the game or at ticket windows at Lingle Hall.
6 p.m.  Maroon Madness Basketball Scrimmage, SIU Arena. Begins approximately an hour after the conclusion of the Saluki football game.
6:34 p.m.  40th Annual Miss Eboness Pageant, Shryock Auditorium.
7 p.m.  Saluki Volleyball vs. Wichita State, Davies Gym.

Special Offers for Alums:

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

Student Recreation Center: Alumni Special! Free use of facilities with your SIU Alumni Association membership card during homecoming week, 5:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday. Free boat rental at Campus Boat Dock. For more information: 453-2177, www.reccenter.siu.edu.

Southern Illinois University Press: Sidewalk Sale! Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Find new and discounted books on Lincoln, Civil War, Regional History, Botany, Dewey, Poetry, and more. Cash and checks only. The University Press is located at 1915 University Press Drive, behind the McLaugherty Annex. Southern Illinois University Press has been publishing a diverse line up of scholarly and general-interest books since 1956.

Student Center Bowling and Billiards: Alumni Specials! 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: 453-2803.

Alumni Tent Moves To Saluki Row
The SIU Alumni Association Homecoming Tent will once again be the meeting place for Salukis young and old. Entertainment and refreshments are free of charge for all alumni and friends. Please visit us at our new Homecoming Home on Saluki Row!
Bill and I became engaged in college and were married our senior year at Southern Illinois University. Memories of our collegiate years are some of our fondest. We’re life members of the SIU Alumni Association and take pride in the fact that membership dues help to support not only Southern’s students but its alumni as well.

This year we have been working hard to plan the Class of 1961’s 50-year reunion. We’ll be gathering during Homecoming weekend at Southern and sharing memories of what life was like as a college student in the early 60s. Membership dues support programs like this and that’s why we’re proud to be life members of the SIU Alumni Association.

The SIU Alumni Association publishes this page in part as a tribute to fellow alumnus and friend Bill Ittner ‘61, who passed away at the age of 77 on August 20. His kindness and loyalty to his alma mater will always be appreciated by his SIU family and friends. Please go to www.rendlemanhilemanfh.com for more on Bill’s life.
East Meets West: Foreign Students Visit SIU

Students from China and Hong Kong paid a visit to Southern Illinois University Carbondale this summer to get a taste of American education. The “Discover Your Future” camp brought 12 high school and college students to campus to tour different colleges.

The camp was coordinated with the SIU Department of Continuing Education and International Students and Scholars. Students met with faculty from the colleges, including business, engineering, agriculture, and aviation management and flight.

Camp director Steve Sitt, a graduate student in the College of Education, says the point of the camp is to let students “know there is a choice to study abroad and that they can experience a completely different learning style here.”

Kathy Sitt M.B.A. ’08 is from Hong Kong and says she brings students because when she was in high school she had no idea what she would study. “I want to do something for the students in high school so when they go to college they know where to go,” she explains.

Wayne Wong, student at Wahyan College, an English language high school in Hong Kong, says he enjoyed learning about SIU. “The professors were friendly, and it was a nice environment.”

Sarah Li, a student at Guandong University of Foreign Studies, notes the teachers at SIU seemed more laid back from what she was used to and that she enjoyed her time in Carbondale. “The atmosphere is quite relaxed,” Li says.

Steve Sitt says that while the camp can serve as a recruitment tool for Southern, it can also have an effect on China. “At this age, exposing a different educational and political culture will be feedback to our own country,” he notes.

This article originally appeared in The Southern Illinoisan.
STUDENT LIFE PACKAGE

- 50 Paper Cups
- 50 Plastic Cutlery Sets
- 50 Paper Plates
- 50 Napkins
- SIU Decal
- SIU Hoodie
- SIU T-Shirt

15% Off for SIU Alumni Association Members

Get your Student Life Package and other SIU Apparel & Accessories at
WWW.SIUALUMNI.COM

SIU Alumni Association
Online Store
Troy Stewart of the Elverado Fishing Team points out a spot in the water while assisting Matthew Dunn of Anna. Photos by The Southern Illinoisan.

BY GENE GREEN

For more than a quarter of a century, Frank Bleyer has made the words “gone fishing” a magical phrase for thousands of southern Illinoisans with special needs. 

This summer was the 26th Annual Fishing Expedition for Special Populations and the 2011 event was larger than ever. An estimated 1,400 people – including those fishing and volunteering – enjoyed a grand day of casting, fishing, laughter, and camaraderie at the eight-acre lake Bleyer owns in Jackson County.

Bleyer, chairman of the board at The Bank of Carbondale, is not an avid fisherman. His decision to host such an event occurred decades ago when he and some friends came up with the idea of holding a fishing day for physically or mentally challenged individuals. Basically, he says with a smile, “we simply thought it would be a nice thing to do.”

That first season found only two or three classes consisting of about 30 people baiting a hook when the event was launched in 1985. Bleyer admits he never imagined that it would grow to what he witnessed this summer. The SIU graduate stocks the lake each year shortly before the action, helping to ensure that those fishing “catch something and have a good time while they are there.” In fact, he admits the catch-and-release event has grown to near capacity, as he wants to be sure there is enough room for fishermen to have enough space to enjoy themselves.

As always, fishing equipment is provided free of.
charge to the participants, who come from southern Illinois schools and sheltered workshops in Jackson, Williamson, Union and other surrounding counties. And Bleyer feeds all fishermen and volunteers at a lunch.

To pull it off an army of volunteers join together, as hundreds of helpers from area schools, civic organizations, and the community donate their time to help. Often there are almost 500 volunteers representing more than 50 agencies.

“I get some publicity for this each year, but this happens because I have a lot of great help,” says Bleyer, who earned his master’s degree at Southern in 1955. “To keep things moving along during the day of fishing – and to keep things safe – we have to have many volunteers involved to assist the kids who are out there.”

Brooke Jones marvels at the help her attending group of 15 clients and five staff members got from volunteers this summer, such as Anna residents Bernie Jerolds and his 12-year-old son Logan.

They helped H Group clients bait, reel and catch fish from the lake stocked with bluegill and bass.

A fisherman snags a fish and flashes a smile – a common sight at Bleyer Lake each May. “For that day, they are just happy kids experiencing real pleasure,” Bleyer says.

Frank Bleyer stands in front of The Bank of Carbondale, where he is chairman of the board. The SIU graduate says he started the fishing event years ago simply because he thought “it would be a nice thing to do.”

Jerolds told The Southern Illinoisan it was the first time he and his son had volunteered at the event, but they enjoyed it a great deal. “This is going to be an annual event for us.”

That same sentiment is shared by local residents Jim Martin ’69, and his wife, Elsie ’68, M.S. ’89 who are now regulars at the yearly fishing day.

“My first time volunteering was 2007,” the SIU Alumni Association life member says. “Two years later my wife started joining me out there. We always get to Bleyer Lake early in the morning before the day’s activities begin. It is an exciting day for everyone, generating a great amount of friendship, hope, pride, and happiness for both volunteers and participants.

“This event is a labor of love for everyone and gives us the opportunity to share our senses/blessings with some special people who often do not get the opportunity to do things that most of us take for granted.”

Bleyer is thankful for volunteers like the Martins, and others who continue to step forward and help.
"Time marches on, some volunteers can no longer to be involved, and many have passed away," he explains. "But new people like Jim and Elsie come along, participate once, have a great feeling when they leave, and decide it is something they want to do again.

"They get hooked on it," Bleyer adds with a twinkle in his eye, "and that's no pun intended."

So on the third Wednesday next May – come rain or shine – fishermen, volunteers, and smiles will come together at Bleyer Lake once again. There is only one thing he seeks as payment for all the work that will go into the event.

"When I see a youngster catching a fish and grinning ear-to-ear, it is a feeling hard for me to describe," he says. "On that day, these are just happy kids experiencing real pleasure – that is what we all get out of this."

**HOW TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER...**

Next year's Fishing Expedition for Special Populations will be held at Bleyer Lake on Country Club Road, 1.5 miles south of Midland Inn., on Wednesday, May 16, 2012. As always the event will rely on the help of volunteers, and if you would like to get involved, here are some specifics of the day:

- Volunteers are needed to help these special population children and adults select their fishing equipment and bait their hooks, and encouraging them is also important. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age.
- Volunteers should be at the lake and ready for instruction at 8:30 a.m., as participants from southern Illinois schools and sheltered workshops arrive within the hour. After the participants leave in the early afternoon, volunteers are welcome to enjoy a rest and recreation period until 5:00 p.m.
- When the event nears, there will be an updated page on the Bank of Carbondale website at www.tboc.com where volunteers may register. More information may also be obtained by calling the bank at 618-549-2181.

John Martinko helps Richie Murchick reel in his fishing line.
Football Salukis Look To Build On Last Season’s Strong Finish

The Southern Illinois University football team is picked to finish third in the 2011 Missouri Valley Football Conference Preseason Poll. The Salukis received one first-place vote and garnered 207 total points in the poll conducted by league coaches, media and sports information directors.

SIU is coming off a 5-6 season in which it finished in a tie for third place in the Valley with a 4-4 league record, but the Dawgs return 14 starters this season and finished last year by winning the final two conference games. This is the first time that the Salukis have ever been picked to finish third in the MVC Preseason Poll, which started in 1986.

Southern, which owns a 19-5 league record over the past three seasons, has been voted as the preseason favorite three times (2004, 2005, 2010) and was picked second in the preseason poll twice (1987 and 2009). Southern Illinois won the league outright in 2004 and 2009 and shared the conference championship in 2003, 2005, and 2008. Defending champion Northern Iowa was voted as the preseason favorite in the poll, collecting 29 of the 36 first-place votes. North Dakota State came in second with 275 points and six first-place votes.

The last three preseason favorites (NDSU-2008, UNI-2009, and SIU-2010) did not win the league, but a preseason favorite has claimed the league crown 13 times (in 25 previous polls).

In addition to the poll, the league also released its 2011 MVFC Preseason Team. Saluki seniors Bryan Boemer, Mike McElroy, and David Pickard were selected to the preseason team while Chance Coda made the honorable mention list.

Boemer, a 6-2, 317-pound center, and Pickard, a 6-5, 306-pound left tackle, highlight the Saluki offensive line that returns all five starters from the 2010 team that averaged 30.1 points per game.

McElroy, at 6-1, 212 pounds, leads the Saluki defense from the strong safety position as he returns for a fifth season, thanks to a medical redshirt allowed after suffering a severe ankle injury that caused him to miss the last nine games of the 2010 season. He was a preseason All-American and candidate for the Buck Buchanan Award entering 2010.

Coda, a defensive end that has started in all 36 games over the past three seasons, was a second team All-MVC selection in 2010. The 6-2, 230-pound senior has recorded 15 tackles for a loss and 8.5 sacks in his career.

SIU opens conference play Sept. 24 hosting Missouri State, the first of five MVC home games at Saluki Stadium. The full schedule can be found at www.siusalukis.com. As the team opened fall camp, SIU Head Coach Dale Lennon was emphasizing focus and consistency. He says he looks for the team to improve as it progresses throughout the year.

"I am impressed with our attitude and enthusiasm," Lennon says. "I like the potential of this football team and think the talent is there - it's just a matter of bringing it all together. We are hungry and have something to prove. We're not good enough to just show up and win it and the theme for the year is 'Earn It.' I don't want any of our players with any sense of entitlement, I want that hunger within the team that is genuine."

The returning 14 starters - six on offense, six on defense and two on special teams - have the coaching staff feeling good about the overall talent level.

"Right now it's a team-first mentality," says Lennon, who is in his fourth season as head coach. "There are some things we have to prove in certain areas and know that there is some inexperience to deal with. But we have a good attitude that is genuine that was reflected in a productive and energetic summer program with our guys."

Coming off Southern's first losing season since 2002, and just the third losing season for Lennon in his 14-year career, he notes that the coaching staff's philosophy never wavered.

"We are all competitors," Lennon says. "To be in this profession, there is just something about the game where you always want to see if what you have is good enough. We feel this group has a great chance to be strong football team."
Replacing Talented Seniors
A Hurdle For Volleyball Dawgs

The Saluki volleyball team is picked eighth in the Missouri Valley Conference preseason poll.

SIU received 30 points in the poll as voted by the MVC coaches. Defending champion Northern Iowa was the unanimous selection to repeat in 2011, garnering 100 points and all 10 first-place votes.

The Salukis return four starters and nine letter winners from a team that went 14-14 overall in 2010 and finished eighth in the conference with a 5-13 record.

The Salukis will be in their seventh season under head coach Brenda Winkeler and will look to make it back to the MVC tournament after missing the six-team cut last year. "We have a good core group of upperclassmen returning," Winkeler says. "This team worked hard this summer to be ready physically for the challenge of a strong schedule."

A big question facing the 2011 squad is which players will replace the production that left with the 2010 senior class. Southern lost more than 600 kills and 600 digs combined with the graduation of Jennifer Berwanger and Alicia Johnson, as well as the team's top blocker in Jasmine Conner.

Junior Rachael Brown will run the Saluki offense for the third consecutive season, after ranking fifth in the Valley last season in assists. Senior Amanda Arnold and freshman Krista Menghini give the team depth at setter.

The Salukis return some quality experience in junior Alysia Mayes, whom Winkeler notes "has been a force the last two years in the middle." Mayes is the team's top returning attacker after posting 191 kills last season. She was second behind Conner last season with 71 total blocks.

The outside hitter and right sides took the biggest hits in graduation, as SIU now looks to sophomore Jessica Whitehead to move over from middle blocker and pick up some of the slack. She posted 150 kills during her freshman season.

Southern's defensive back line will be led by the tandem of junior Bailey Yeager and sophomore transfer Caitlin Schumacher.

"We need for everyone to play their role on the team and contribute any way she can," Winkeler says. "If we can get healthy - and stay healthy - that will help us to have a great season."

Setter Rachel Brown will again take on a major role in running the Saluki offense. She ranked fifth in the conference last season in assists.

南方的防守前线将由三年级的Bailey Yeager和二年级的transfer Caitlin Schumacher带领。

"我们需要让每个人在这个团队中发挥他们的角色，并以任何方式做出贡献，"温克勒说。"如果我们能保持健康，保持健康，那将帮助我们有一个伟大的赛季。"

设乐 Rachel Brown 将继续担任重要角色在运行的 Saluki Offense。她在上个赛季在联盟中排名第5。


tenant of junior Bailey Yeager and sophomore transfer Caitlin Schumacher.

"We need for everyone to play their role on the team and contribute any way she can," Winkeler says. "If we can get healthy - and stay healthy - that will help us to have a great season."

Setter Rachel Brown will again take on a major role in running the Saluki offense. She ranked fifth in the conference last season in assists.

Southern opens home league action Sept. 24 against Creighton. For the full 2011 SIU volleyball schedule go to www.siusalukis.com.

Men's Basketball Announces 2011-12 Non-Conference Schedule

Saluki men's basketball coach Chris Lowery announced his team's 2011-12 non-conference schedule, which features five home dates plus the highly anticipated ESPN Diamond Head Classic in Honolulu.

Southern Illinois will open the regular season at home against Ohio Dominican on Saturday, Nov. 12. Fans can enjoy a doubleheader with a football game versus Eastern Illinois at 2 p.m. followed by the hardwood action at 7:05 p.m. Other highlights of the home slate include a renewal of the series with regional rivals Saint Louis (Nov. 15) and Western Kentucky (Dec. 7).

The Salukis last hosted SLU in 2008 and have won the last five home meetings versus the Billikins dating back to 1998. SIU has won four-straight games at home in the series versus Western Kentucky.

ESPN unveiled the bracket for the Diamond Head Classic that will take place Dec. 22-25 in Honolulu. Southern will open the tournament against Kansas State, which advanced to the second round in the 2011 NCAA Tournament and finished 24th in the final ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll. The Salukis are 0-6 all-time against the Wildcats, but the teams have not met since 1983.

The game tips at 4:30 p.m. CT and will be televised by ESPNU. SIU will play the winner/loser of UTEP versus Clemson on Dec. 23. That game will also be televised by ESPNU.

Southern will also play non-conference road games at Northwestern (Nov. 19), at Western Michigan (Dec. 11), at Northern Illinois (Dec. 17) and at a BracketBusters opponent (Feb. 18) to be determined.

The Missouri Valley Conference 18-game schedule had not yet been released at press time. The State Farm MVC Tournament in St. Louis is set for March 1-4.
WHERE ARE THEY NOW...

MULLINS LIVING HIS PRO BASKETBALL DREAM OVERSEAS

BY MATT LECREN

Bryan Mullins is impressing fans in France just as he did at SIU with his unselfish, high energy play at the guard spot. The former Saluki star will soon begin his second season playing professional basketball in France for Chalons-Reims.
Ryan Mullins has spent most of his life chasing his dream of playing basketball at the next level. That quest has taken the former Southern Illinois University star from the playgrounds of Downers Grove, Ill., to some of the biggest arenas in a land 4,000 miles from home.

The 6-1, 190-pound point guard left the United States on Aug. 7 for France, where he is training for his third season in the French Pro B League, the lower division of France’s professional basketball league.

The 2011-12 season, which begins with two months of preseason workouts before the regular season starts in October, will be his second playing for Chalon-Reims, a team located about an hour northeast of Paris. It is not a place Mullins thought he’d be when he was growing up, but then neither did he truly believe he would ever be paid to play the sport he loves.

“In high school, of course, everyone wants to play in the NBA, but it’s not like you’re realistically looking at it,” Mullins says. “But you have that dream, so I always wanted to play as long as I could.

“I didn’t foresee a pro career until I got to SIU, but I kept working hard and figured that if I’m going to put all this work into it, I kind of want to see a payoff after college. During my junior and senior years at SIU, I started thinking about what I want to do next.”

After leading Downers South to an 81-16 record during his three-year varsity career that ended in 2005, Mullins earned a full scholarship to Southern, where he was a four-year starting point guard. With him running the show, the Salukis twice qualified for the NCAA tournament, including a run to the Sweet 16 in 2007 that ended with a loss to Kansas.

He began his career with a solid freshman campaign that saw the Salukis win their first Missouri Valley Conference title since 1998. Mullins set a school single-season record with 94 steals, including a MVC record eight against Creighton, and earned MVC Freshman of the Year and MVC All-Defensive team honors.

In 122 career games at SIU, Mullins averaged 7.7 points, 4.2 assists, 2.3 rebounds and 2.1 steals and graduated as the school’s all-time assist leader and one of just two players in Missouri Valley Conference players with 500 assists and 250 steals.

Despite being hobbled by injuries, including a stress fracture in his shin during his junior and senior years, Mullins was named MVC Defensive Player of the Year both seasons. “It was an unbelievable career,” says the former Saluki standout, who was an Academic All-American and a 25 Most Distinguished Senior at Southern. “I got a lot of personal and team awards. It was a great four years. I couldn’t ask for anything more.”

But more was to come. After graduating with a degree in finance, Mullins worked out for the Chicago Bulls and Boston Celtics, who considered using their second-round pick on him before opting for Lester Hudson from Tennessee-Martin.

“Some guys may be more athletic and can do things different, but it was not like I was getting blown away,” he notes. “I had a really good workout with the Celtics, and I think I was maybe their second choice behind the guy they took.”

At the end of the summer, Mullins was chosen to play for Ireland in the qualifying round of the European Championships. Because his paternal grandparents were born in Ireland, he was able to get an Irish passport. He appeared in all four of Ireland’s games, averaging 35.5 minutes, 16.3 points, 4.5 assists, 3.5 rebounds and 2.5 steals in games in home games against Sweden and Luxembourg and road contests at Georgia and Slovakia.
Mullins draws double coverage against Charleville last season, as teammate Diakite Nouha prepares to slide to the basket for a pass. Mullins led his Chalons-Reims team with 5.0 assists-per-game, more than twice the total for anyone else on the squad.

A FRENCH CONNECTION

Although Mullins was unable to land a job with an NBA team, his agent got him an offer from the French club Bourg in Brest, a town near Lyon, France's second-largest city. "I kind of went there blind, not knowing what to expect. It was a little bit of a wake-up," he admits.

Mullins averaged 9.1 points, 5.7 assists and 2.1 steals for Bourg in 2009-10 — good enough to draw interest from other French teams — and signed with Reims last season. In his rookie year, the former Saluki had to adjust to the length of the French season, which starts in October and runs through May, with playoffs stretching into June.

The French play 35 games, about the same number as American college teams, but they play only once a week. The players get the following day off, but spend the other five days practicing twice a day, two hours at a time.

"It was tough playing one game a week for eight months, compared to college where you've got two or three games a week, and it's a six-month season," Mullins explains. "If you have a good game or a bad game, there is no momentum. You can't get right back on the court and play to get it off your mind, so mentally it's a big challenge."

Another challenge was adjusting to the 24-second shot clock, with no shot clock in American high school basketball and a 35-second clock in the college game. "An advantage that a lot of players in Europe have is they play with the 24-second shot clock their whole life," Mullins noted. "They kind of learn to be professionals as a young kid, so a lot of kids are playing with pro teams when they're 18 years old. They get that experience, whereas we go through the high school and college system.

"With the 24-second shot clock, the point guard has to get something called, has to be vocal every single play. Once you get a set called and you make a pass or two, it's down to seven seconds, and you've got to make sure you know what everyone's doing."

All indications are Mullins will be able to continue playing in France.

"I think they still appreciate that I'm one of the hardest workers," Mullins says. "Everyone knows I'm going to get them the ball if they're open. I'm definitely not a selfish player, so my coaches and teammates have all been great with me and had a lot of positive things to say."

While basketball is now his job, the sport remains fun for Mullins. "I still love playing the game," he says. "It's a different experience over there, but when you're playing on the court, it doesn't matter if you're in Downers Grove, Carbondale, or in France. You're competing and you get the same emotion and adrenaline when you're in the game."

The former Southern basketball standout hasn't given up hope of playing in the NBA, but is delighted to be playing overseas. While the pay in Europe is far less than what NBA players make, top players can earn six-figure salaries.

"This will be a big season for me," he admits. "I want to do well and see how far I can go with this and hopefully move up in Europe or get a shot back home. As long as I love playing and my body holds up, I'll do it until I can't do it anymore."
Cornell Autobiography Now Available

Copies of former SIU track and field coach Bill Cornell's autobiography *The Rest of the Story* are now available for purchase. The retired Saluki Hall of Fame athlete and coach began penning his memoirs to chronicle his long career, and to serve as a diversion from his ongoing battle with Parkinson’s disease.

“I wrote this book in part because my doctors told me it would help to keep my brain and my hands going,” Cornell recently told the *Southern Illinoisan*. “It’s tough to fight this disease — it really doesn’t give you much of a chance. I take one day at a time and find more goals to set.”

Cornell was first diagnosed with Parkinson’s in 1989 and continued his duties as SIU coach for 11 years before retiring after the 2000 season. He and his wife, Rose, who assisted with the book, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at an event that included the first book signing associated with the publication.

To order a copy of *The Rest of the Story*, send a check or money order for $30 ($25 for the book and $5 for postage and handling) to Bill Cornell, 923 N. Hunter Woods, Carbondale, IL 62901. You may also order by calling 618-549-7240, or by email at kerlogue@frontier.com.

Proceeds will help fund athletic scholarships at Southern.

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LIVE Saluki Sports on WSIU Public Television!


Each game repeats same day on WSIU WORLD Channels WSIU 8.2/WUSI 16.2. Visit wsiu.org for game dates and tune-in details.

WSIU is also working to bring more Saluki sports broadcasts to the Chicago area. Updates on Chicago-area broadcasts will be posted on the WSIU website.

The WSIU Saluki Series is a community supported service. Visit WSIU online to meet this season's sponsors and learn how to help support these broadcasts.

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The WSIU region includes all shaded counties. If you live in our coverage area but do not receive WSIU/WUSI on your local cable or satellite system, please contact your system.

Call WSIU at (618) 453-4344 for assistance or information.
2011 BAG Reunion Brings Salukis Home

One of the most popular events this summer was the biennial Black Alumni Group Reunion. The reunion was held the weekend of July 7-10 on campus, and 229 registered alumni, family, and friends returned for the festivities. There were memorial, educational, social, and service activities, including BAG members donating more than 500 books to Thomas Elementary School. BAG officer elections for 2011-13 were held with the following results: Elizabeth "Liz" Smith – president, Richard Gardner – vice president, Bedelia “Dede” Caron – treasurer, and Donna Edgar – secretary. SIU Alumni Association President Ray Serati was in attendance for the weekend events, as were Association Executive Director Michelle Suarez and several staff members.

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Celebrates 40 Years At SIU

The Mu Delta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority enjoyed its 40th year celebration during the Black Alumni Group's biennial celebration. The celebration brought together more than 100 of its current and alumnae members, who celebrated with the Mu Eta Zeta chapter (Carbondale Alumnae) and other sorority members who attended the BAG festivities. The celebration included an opening program at the alumni lounge, a welcome reception, a traditional Saturday morning breakfast, and participation in many of the BAG activities.

"The celebration – as well as this year's BAG event – was certainly a success" says Trina Sherrod, Mu Delta Chapter Past President.

Upcoming activities for the chapter include hosting activities on the SIU campus, participating in the national service initiative Z-HOPE (Zetas Helping Other People Excel through mind, body, and spirit), and meeting in the summer of 2012 at the National Leadership Convention in Chicago, Ill.
Rec Center Employee Earns Wasson Award

by Emily Hunsaker

A Southern Illinois University Carbondale senior was recently awarded one of the highest honors an employee of the Department of Recreational Sports can receive.

Phyllis “Abbi” Allen traveled to New Orleans earlier this year to accept the William N. Wasson Student Leadership and Academic Award, given to top undergraduate and graduate students who are participants of and/or employed by a recreational sports department. The Abbi Allen National Intramural Recreational Sports Association honors only 24 students nationwide each year, as honorees are required to demonstrate academic accomplishment, leadership, and professional development.

The speech communication major has been an employee of SIU’s Department of Intramural Sports and Sport Clubs for Recreational Sports and Services for three years, and plans to continue on this career path while attending graduate school at the University of Florida. While studying student personnel in higher education, Allen will also work as the competitive sports graduate assistant for the Department of Recreational Sports.

“I began working as an office assistant,” Allen says. “However, my supervisor recognized my drive and determination, and I have since held many positions within the SIU Intramural Sports and Sports Clubs department. With all these positions, I have provided services to the campus community, mentored my peers, and also expanded my own passions.”

As one of the University’s 25 Most Distinguished Seniors, Allen has become accustomed to receiving awards. She was recently named SIU Recreational Sports and Services Employee of the Year and the Elizabeth Lance Toth Outstanding Public Relations Student of the Year.

“Being a recipient of such prestigious awards was an honor and a perfect ending to four years of hard work. The accomplishment that I am most proud of is being recognized on a departmental, campus, and national level,” she says. “I had a lot of people who inspired and helped me along the way, and I could not have done as much as I did without them. These past four years have been rewarding beyond what I could have ever imagined.”

The Jerseyville, Ill., native also credits her time at the University with making her into the successful student and employee she has become. “When I began my SIU career in August 2008, I was shy, meek, and timid,” she explains. “Since then, I feel that I have grown into a driven, smart, outgoing, and passionate human being. I owe this transformation to the many opportunities and development experiences I have had at Southern.”

Off-Campus Student Honored For Volunteer Efforts

An SIU student who is earning his degree at one of the University’s U.S. Air Force base locations is the recipient of a prestigious award in his home state.

David Beasley, of Charleston, S.C., recently won the 2011 Governor’s Legacy Volunteer Award presented by Gov. Nikki R. Haley. The presentation at the South Carolina State House recognized Beasley for his volunteerism efforts, particularly with the American Red Cross.

Beasley is a longtime Red Cross donor, giving 64 gallons of plasma along with platelets and more than 10 gallons of whole blood since 1996. In nominating Beasley for the award, the Red Cross noted that Beasley’s ongoing contributions have impacted 972 lives. His volunteerism efforts also include work with the Adopt-A-Beach Program, the Historic Charleston Foundation, the Preservation Society of Charleston and the Riverland Terrace Neighborhood Association.

The Governor’s Volunteer Awards recognize exceptional volunteer service and nominations come from schools, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community groups. A panel of professional volunteer administrators chooses the winners.

Employed by Airgas National Welders in Charleston as a warehouse staff member and relief route driver, Beasley is also taking a full class load, attending SIU weekend classes through the program located on the Charleston Air Force Base. He is completing his bachelor of science in workforce education and development.
THE NATION’S CAPITOL INSPIRES THIS JOURNALISM ALUMNA

by Greg Scott
When administrators and professors in Southern Illinois University’s respected broadcast journalism program encouraged students to attain hands-on experience, Lindsey Mastis was among those who took the advice seriously.

The St. Louis native was a reporter for both The Daily Egyptian and WSIU-TV, completed three off-campus internships during her undergraduate years, and studied abroad in London and Paris. But one particular experience stood out.

Mastis interned with ABC News Nightline with Ted Koppel for five months in 2004. While contributing to and observing the process of producing the popular nightly news program, she knew that the nation’s capital was the place for her.

“Nightline was forward-thinking at the time. It was really amazing to be a part of a news magazine show and witness how everyone coordinates effort to create one final product,” she says. “The primary focus is advancing one particular news story during a particular day. That experience as an SIU student inspired me to want to return to Washington, D.C., someday.”

And she did. The 2005 SIU graduate is in her second year as a multimedia reporter for WUSA-TV, a CBS affiliate in Washington, D.C.

A leap of faith sent Mastis there. She was in a long-distance relationship with her eventual husband, Patrick O’Brien, who moved from St. Louis to accept a job offer in Washington. Mastis subsequently left her role of anchor/reporter at WSIL-TV3 in Carterville, to join Patrick, going there without a job offer of her own.

“I had been at WSIL and was just waiting on my next opportunity,” she recalls. “It’s difficult to land a job in a bigger city and have that special someone with you. It just worked out.”

Mastis explored the city and did freelance work for six months before landing the position with WUSA in January 2009. She received multiple offers but chose WUSA because it was a “great fit for me.” Mastis refers to herself as a “one-man-band reporter,” as she tapes, writes, and edits each of the stories she reports.

One of the first stories Mastis covered was President Barack Obama’s Inauguration.

The SIU alumna, who often incorporates various forms of social media networking into her reporting, tweeted as she walked from Arlington, Va., to the U.S. Capitol to demonstrate how long it...
would take for Virginians to get to the Inauguration. The Secret Service had announced that bridges were off limits to vehicles.

"It presented a unique angle of covering the inauguration," she says. "It was an innovative and exciting to produce a live shot, tweet, and walk in a city that was still pretty new to me at the time."

Social media continues to be an asset for Mastis. She checks in on Foursquare, often combining it with Twitter and Facebook, to provide viewers with a sneak peak of stories she's developing for the evening news. During a blizzard last year, she used Skype to report live from Reagan National Airport as flights were canceled.

"The airport was being cleared out due to cancellations. I was the only person there during my live shot," she says. "It enabled us to free up another crew to cover other aspects of the blizzard because I was using Skype."

Mastis says she developed some of her closest friendships through a "tweet up," which presented Twitter users with an opportunity to meet each other. And viewers often post new stories on her Facebook wall.

"If multiple people comment on a Facebook post, it tells me that our audience really wants to know more about it," she says. "And we're more confident that we're covering a story that they are interested in. I've embraced social media, and it's truly an asset to a journalist."

Even in the midst of her experiences in the nation's capital, one of the SIU graduate's most gratifying efforts occurred during her stint at WSIL-TV. Mastis found a missing sex offender through some investigative journalism techniques she had acquired at Southern.

"We were able to get this man off the streets just as a neighbor was going to allow him to babysit her children," Mastis says. "I was confident in the process of doing that story because of what I had learned at SIU."

A fellow SIU graduate recruited Mastis to Southern. She originally planned on attending Bradley, but her high school journalism instructor, Ed Donnelly '72, urged her to consider SIU. Mastis, who graduated in 3.5 years while taking some distance learning courses, subsequently visited the campus and chose to become a Saluki because: "I was comfortable, and the campus felt like home." She also credits Richard Kuenneke '86, the WSIU Television news director at the time, for reaching out and getting her interested in broadcast journalism.

These days, Mastis is striving to help others herself. A fitness enthusiast, she is an avid runner and is raising money for the American Cancer Society. Her family has been impacted by the disease, including her mother, a two-time breast cancer survivor, and her grandmother, who is recovering from lung and brain cancer. Patrick's father died of esophageal cancer.

And, yes ... social media plays a role in her fund-raising efforts.

"I have a camera in one hand and a phone in the other. I take photos and social network while I'm running ... which is probably something most people refrain from doing."

Mastis has become an avid runner. Here she is running in the Rock 'n' Roll Chicago Half Marathon last year.
October 2011
1 Saluki Football at Western Illinois; game time 3:00 p.m.
5 Risata, Sciocco ... Risata! at 7:30 p.m., Christian H. Moe Theater
6 SIU School of Music presents Concert Choir at 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
8 Saluki Football vs. North Dakota State; game time 2:00 p.m.
15 Homecoming Weekend
Parade 10:00 a.m.; Alumni Tailgate 11:00 a.m. on Saluki Row
Saluki Football vs. Youngstown State, Saluki Stadium; game time 2:00 p.m.
20 Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
22 Saluki Football at Northern Iowa; game time 3:00 p.m.
24 An Evening with Garrison Keillor at 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
25 The Avett Brothers at 7:30 p.m., S IU Arena
29 Saluki Football vs. Illinois State; game time 2:00 p.m.
30 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. Illinois-Springfield; game time 2:05 p.m.

November 2011
2 Log in at 7:30 p.m., Christian H. Moe Theater
3 SIU School of Music presents SIU Wind Ensemble at 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
5 Saluki Football at South Dakota State; game time 2:00 p.m.
5 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. Missouri S & T; game time 7:05 p.m.
10 Southern Illinois Symphony Orchestra presents Mahler and the Stars at 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
11 Disney Live! Presents Three Classic Fairy Tales at 3:30 and 6:30 p.m., SIU Arena
12 Saluki Football vs. Eastern Illinois; game time 2:00 p.m.
12 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. Ohio Dominican; game time 7:05 p.m.
15 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. Saint Louis; game time 7:05 p.m.
17 SIUC School of Music Presents Choral Union & Concert Choir at 7:30 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
19 Saluki Football at Indiana State; game time 1:05 p.m.
19 Saluki Men's Basketball at Northeastern; game time 1:05 p.m.
25 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. Chicago State; game time 7:05 p.m.

December 2011
7-11 Irving Berlin's White Christmas, McLeod Theater, Wed.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m.
7 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. Western Kentucky; game time 7:05 p.m.
8 SIUC School of Music presents Studio Jazz Orchestra at 7:05 p.m., Shryock Auditorium
11 Saluki Men's Basketball at Western Michigan; game time 1:00 p.m.
19 Saluki Men's Basketball vs. SIUE; game time 7:05 p.m.
### Alumni Deaths

**Through July 2011**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Keepper, Founding Ag Dean, Dies At 100

Wendell Keepper, the first dean of what would become the College of Agricultural Sciences at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, died June 22 at his home in Carbondale. He was 100 years old.

Arriving at SIU in 1950, Keepper oversaw a small department in the then-College of Vocations and Professions from a prefabricated structure near the Student Center, serving under SIU President Delyte Morris. From that seedling of a program, the Montgomery County native guided the creation of the University’s School of Agriculture in 1955 and its subsequent growth and success during the next 24 years.

By 1974, when he retired, the School of Agriculture had grown to international stature, with 59 faculty and staff, more than 850 graduate and undergraduate students, and an annual budget of more than $1.5 million.

Chancellor Rita Cheng calls Keepper a man who “was passionate about the role of our University in advancing agriculture. Our students, faculty, and staff, and our many industry partners, continue to benefit from his wisdom and leadership.”

Todd Winters, interim dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, says Keepper’s vision and leadership were crucial to putting it on the road to success. “Dean Keepper was an important part of our college’s history, and his vision has resulted in arguably the most successful non-land grant college of agriculture in the country.

Just three years after arriving, Keepper helped launch the agriculture education track at the University. As the state political winds began blowing in SIU’s favor, the agriculture department left the College of Vocations and Professions and adopted the title of the Division of Rural Studies. In 1955 it would become the School of Rural Studies and, months later, the School of Agriculture.

Five years after arriving at SIU, with no agriculture building and no plans to build one, he looked on as Gov. William Stratton laid the cornerstone for the new agriculture building. It opened in 1957 and continues serving students today.

“We felt it was our job to train young people of southern Illinois and others from different parts of the state interested in the profession of agriculture so that they could help solve the problems facing our agricultural society,” Keepper said in 2005. “Our intent was to train them well in an up-to-date fashion so that they could compete with graduates of other universities for jobs in teaching, research, production and other fields.”

Upon his retirement in 1974, Keepper saw one of his former students, Gilbert Kroening, take his place as dean of the school. Kroening, who has since retired and still lives in Carbondale, says Keepper’s openness and outgoing style convinced him to enroll in the fledgling SIU bachelor’s degree program in 1955.

“He was a man of determination and vision,” notes Kroening, who in 1959 was among the first class to earn a bachelor’s degree in agriculture at the University, and who would go on to earn his master’s degree here in 1960. “He was a strong leader but he also was humble. He never craved recognition for himself. He always did what was in the best interest of the program.”

Memorial donations can be sent to the Keepper Heritage Scholarship Endowed Fund in care of the SIU Foundation, 1235 Douglas Drive, Mail Code 6805, Carbondale, Ill. 62901.
27th Annual SIU Day At Busch Stadium

The SIU Alumni Association hosted more than 400 alumni and friends to a Cubs-Cardinals game in June, with a pregame reception located in Busch Stadium. SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng welcomed everyone at the pregame social and Association Executive Director Michelle Suarez introduced guest speaker Bill Lyons '81, a member of the '83 and '84 Cardinals teams. The St. Louis Chapter of the SIU Alumni Association recognized their 2011-2012 scholarship recipient, Cleveland Walton, who was on hand to accept his award. St. Louis Chapter leaders Anna Vani, Ann Patton, Aimee Snavely, and Leslie Tepen helped coordinate the event.

Bill Lyons, who played with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1983 and 1984, speaks to the gathering at this year's SIU Day at Busch Stadium. At right, Kevin Pona, Eric Cords, Julie Ostrom, Leah Lucas, Kelley Rutherford, and Zachary Sapienza enjoy the pregame event.

J Jerry Kill Speaks To Salukis In Minnesota

The Minnesota Alumni Club hosted its annual cookout at a St. Paul Saints game, and more than 30 alumni and friends showed up to enjoy the food and fun, as SIU alumnus Brent Honcharenko grilled hamburgers and brats. Former Saluki Head Football Coach Jerry Kill – now head coach at the University of Minnesota – was the guest speaker, as he and his wife, Rebecca, chatted with alumni and told them how much their years at SIU still mean to them. Communications Director Gene Green represented the Association, while club president Max Orenstein and club leader Dean Andrew coordinated the event.

Former Saluki Head Football Coach Jerry Kill and his wife, Rebecca, are surrounded by part of the large crowd that attended the Minnesota Alumni Club's annual cookout this summer.
SIU Day With The Grand Prairie AirHogs

The Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter and the SIU Alumni Association hosted more than 50 alumni and friends at an AirHogs game against the El Paso Diablos at QuickTrip Park in Grand Prairie, Texas. Alumni enjoyed an all-you-can-eat buffet and had an amazing view of the postgame fireworks. Director of Off-Campus Programs Zachary Sapienza represented the SIU Alumni Association, while chapter leaders Catherine Ursprung and Paul Piche helped coordinate the event.

Saluki Social In Florida

The SIU Alumni Association hosted more than 50 alumni and friends at a Saluki Social held in St. Petersburg, Fla. SIUC Chancellor Rita Cheng and Tampa Bay Rays Hitting Coach Derek Shelton ’82 were the featured speakers. Executive Director Michelle Suarez and Communications Director Gene Green represented the Association, while Central Florida chapter leaders Tom and JoAnn Chamberlain helped set up the event.

12th Annual Greater Michigan Picnic

The Greater Michigan Chapter and the SIU Alumni Association hosted 55 alumni and friends to a picnic at Kensington Metropark in Brighton, Mich. Attendees brought side dishes and the chapter grilled baby-back ribs, hamburgers, and hot dogs. Also in attendance from SIU were Chancellor Rita Cheng, SIU Automotive Technology Chairman Mike Behrmann, SIU Interim Dean of College Applied Sciences and Arts Terry Owens, and Associate Vice Chancellor of Institutional Advancement Jeff Lorber. Chapters leaders Chris Micha, Dale Hall, Kent Wilson, and Chad O’Brien helped coordinate the event.
Kenya Trip A 'Life-Changing Experience' For SIU Students

by Andrea Hahn

Southern Illinois University Carbondale students who accompany Peter Gitau, associate vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students, to his native Kenya have a lot to write home about.

They visit Nairobi, the cosmopolitan capital of Kenya. They take in the beaches and Indian Ocean on the coastline. They are on safari for three days, seeing up close some of the most exotic and beautiful wildlife on the continent. But it is the week they spend in a Kenyan village, living with host families and working both at family-related chores and tasks, and at the project that is at the center of their trip, that is the most life changing.

And that, Gitau says, is why he takes students to Kenya. “I know when those students go back to their own communities, they will return different people.”

The Kenyan trip this summer included: Martha Cropper, Murphysboro, a doctoral student in health education; Dr. Ted Grace, director of the Student Health Center; Diane Hayes, Edwardsville, a doctoral student in speech communication; Kelsie Koger, Centralia, criminology and criminal justice major; Abigail Mbuvi, Champaign, journalism major; Sean McGahan, Aurora, journalism major; Elhaum Mogharreban, currently of Carbondale, communication disorders and sciences major; Katelyn Nolan, Monument, Colo., graduate student in higher education; and Malcolm X Jamal, a student from the University of Iowa.

Gitau has taken students with him to Kenya for 12 years, even before his association with SIU. His student groups always include a service-learning component, and on this recent visit, the group worked to further construction of a library begun by a previous group. While in the village, the students were paired up and placed with host families, giving them the opportunity to live as native Kenyans live.

Gitau says this particular group was one of the more diverse. This group included students of various ages, majors and backgrounds, and even a student with family in Kenya.

SIU student Sean McGahan teaches a class in Kenya as part of his service-learning study abroad experience.

Learning Another Culture

Mbuvi has aunts, uncles, and cousins in Kenya, and has visited them there previously. Though she has experienced village life in Kenya, this trip still presented her with a different culture, different traditions.

The SIU junior chose to include the service-learning experience into her Kenya trip because Gitau is a family friend. She remembers especially well the day she and the other students presented children of the village with clothing they bought for them. Some of the children, she explains, had uniforms that differed from the standard, a good indicator there may be money problems at home. All the children received some clothing gift, but Mbuvi felt especially moved by a fourth-grade boy who, the students learned, was taking care of three younger siblings at home and maintaining the household much on his own.

That day also resonated with Koger, a fellow SIU junior who enjoyed teaching and working with the children when she wasn’t helping with the library. “It was a life-changing experience,” she says.

The group brought a gift from Saluki Athletics: a 54-pound duffle bag stuffed with SIU jerseys. The group distributed the jerseys at two of the three schools it visited, handing them out as soccer uniforms. Gitau says sports are important in Kenya, but uniforms are not always easily obtained. The Southern jerseys will be soccer uniforms for the students.

He says he never has problems recruiting students, as the students who travel with him are ready to learn about another culture and want more than just a tourist-based gloss.

“You can go to Kenya and see some buildings and see some wild animals, but you will not have seen Kenya,” he stresses. “The best way to learn about
Dr. Ted Grace, director of the SIU Student Health Center, brought a 54-pound duffle bag stuffed with Saluki jerseys when he accompanied Peter Gitau, associate vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students, to Kenya on Gitau's annual service-learning trip. The jerseys were provided by SIU Athletics.

Another culture, to challenge perceptions and break down barriers, is to do this, to live within that culture and to experience it in daily life. At the end of the three weeks, you have a changed person."

He insists that for as much as those who travel with him grow and develop, so do the villagers with whom they stay. "The community is transformed," Gitau says, noting that the SIU students, just by being themselves, break down stereotypes about Americans.

**Possible Medical Service Options**

Grace, director of the SIUC Student Health Center, says he chose to join the Kenya group for several reasons, including the possibility of setting up a medical service learning trip in the future. "We may go back with some of our students in some of the premedical programs, such as community or school health education, nursing, or the physician assistant programs," he explains.

While in Kenya, he had the opportunity to teach a class of middle school and junior high students. Though his topic, human sexuality, initially seemed to embarrass the students, they insisted on a second class to learn more.

"I didn't want to visit a country peripherally," Grace says. "I wanted to get to know the culture. I like the idea that Peter Gitau is from Kenya, that he can guide us and show us all aspects of Kenya. This is a great experience for our students."

Gitau says many students choose to earn college credit for their time in Kenya. "There is an educational component to the entire trip. We can find creative ways for students to apply their financial aid to this service-learning mission, and there are various payment options. We don't want students not to attend because of lack of money."

For more information about service learning in Kenya or any of the other study-abroad opportunities, visit [http://www.ips.siu.edu/SA/index.html](http://www.ips.siu.edu/SA/index.html). The Kenya trip is an annual journey offered during several weeks of late May through early June, and is open to all SIU students, faculty, staff, and community members.

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**The Gitau File...**

- Peter Gitau is Southern's associate vice chancellor for student affairs/dean of students. He was hired in 2008 to fill a position previously held by Jean Paratore.
  
- He came to SIU from the University of Dubuque, where he had been dean of student life since 2006. Prior to that stint, Gitau was executive assistant to the president for diversity and director of multicultural affairs at Manchester College in Indiana from 2001 to 2006. Before that, he spent three years as principal of Veritas Christian School in Lawrence, Kan. From 1996 to 1998, he was a foreign language instructor at the University of Kansas at Lawrence and held a parallel appointment with the university's Office of Multicultural Affairs.

- Gitau is the founder and executive director of TMKC (Teach My Kenyan Children), an international nonprofit organization whose goal is fostering development through education in Africa. You can find out more about this endeavor at [http://tmkc.org/Welcome.html](http://tmkc.org/Welcome.html).

- A native of Kenya, he earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education in 1989 at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, a master's in educational administration in 1996 from Eastern Illinois University, and his doctorate in higher education policy in 2000 at the University of Kansas.

- He is married and the father of three.
1950s

Longtime Marion educators Allan ’54, M.S. Ed.’55 and Wanda ’52, M.S. Ed. ’58 McCabe commissioned a 30-foot-high bell tower that was dedicated in July and stands in the square outside the main entrance to John A. Logan College in Carmi. The McCabes have been active with the JALC Foundation for many years; Allan is a member of its board of directors. The bell tower replaces the nine-foot-tall wood carving of Gen. John A. Logan atop his horse that sat at the west entrance to the college; it has been moved inside the main entrance. The McCabes retired from teaching in 1986 with a combined 74 years of experience.

1960s

Wallace Draper ’60, Ph.D. ’70 and Nancy Draper ’71 are employed by the University of Southern Illinois to teach at the Tianjiao English Training Institute in Xiamen, China, for the 2011 summer semester. Wallace taught at SIU, at various high schools in Illinois, and is an emeritus professor of English at Ball State. He also served as director of the London Center for Ball State, led education tours of London for Kappa Delta Pi, and taught for the Pentagon at numerous sites in Europe.

Legendary jazz musician Hamiet Bluiett ex ’61, joined the Navy as a musician after his stint at Southern, then returned home to Brooklyn, Ill., where he founded the Black Artists’ Group, cofounded the World Saxophone Quartet, the Bluiett Baritone Nation, and the Clarinet Family. Now 70 years old, he’s still touring, recording, and instructing.

The fourth novel written by Bob Hays ’61, M.S. ’72, Ph.D. ’76, emeritus professor of journalism at the University of Illinois, debuted this summer. Hays penned Blood on the Roses, a provocative story of a 1950s racism in the American South, hoping to offer younger generations an unvarnished view into the racial segregation and intolerance of the era. “I love the South,” Hays says, “but as a white man who witnessed the evils of racial segregation firsthand, I felt it was my duty to help make sure that this dark period in American history is not forgotten.”

Tom Scheihhardt ’67, vice president for administration and financial services at the University of Northern Iowa, retired Aug. 31 after 41 years in higher education. He and his wife, Carolyn, will be relocating to Kansas City, Mo., and he says he’ll travel, work with charitable groups, and most importantly, spend more time with his family.

Linda Meredith ’68, M.S. Ed.’93 retired in June as superintendent of Carbondale’s District 95 schools, a position she had held since 2007. She had previously served as director of curriculum, principal at Lewis School, and several more years as a teacher.

After 33 years as an anchor at Florida’s top-rated television station, Jim Sackett ’68, senior news anchor at WPTV in West Palm Beach, and his “velvet voice” are retiring. When Sackett joined the company in 1978 as weekend anchor, reporter, and producer, most people didn’t have cable and received their TV signals with antennas. Lois Zachary M.S. Ed. ’68, an internationally recognized expert on mentoring excellence, is president of Leadership Development Corporation. He’s spent 35 years as a higher education administrator. At Southern, he was a special assistant to the chancellor and taught classes in educational administration and higher education. At Illinois State, Dietz will oversee about a dozen areas, including the $60 million Student Fitness Center, the campus’ 300-plus student organizations, its revamped housing and dining areas, and health services.
Margo Apostolos '71 is director of dance at the University of Southern California School of Theatre and co-director of the Cedars-Sinai/USC School of Theatre Dance Medicine Center. She says her education at Southern "was crucial in providing the foundation for my own career in academia."

Jay Phyer '71, professor of photography and digital imaging for 38 years, has been named outstanding faculty member at Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, Va. Phyer is founder and chair of the photography program at the college.

Tom Blomquist '72 has been promoted to associate professor in the Department of Film and Electronics Arts at California State University Long Beach. He also served as an adjunct lecturer at the American Film Institute Conservatory, University of Southern California, and Chapman University before accepting a full-time position at CSU four years ago. He is the writer and director of the new feature documentary, Kellie Coffey: I'm Still Here, and previously directed two music videos for Coffey, who was named ACM Best New Female Artist of 2003. This summer, Karen Greathouse '72, M.S. '74 became the permanent chair of the Department of Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising and Hospitality at Western Illinois University, a post she has held as interim for two years. She joined Western in 1989; prior to that she had been a private practice registered dietitian.

Dr. Larry Jones '73, M.D. '76, founder of the Primary Care Group in Harrisburg, Ill., has been named Rural Practitioner of the Year by the Illinois Rural Health Association. It's an award that honors leadership by a direct-service provider in bringing health services to citizens of rural Illinois.

David Weinstein '73 has joined Baker & Daniels LLP as a partner in the law firm's Chicago office. He will focus his practice in labor and employment law, where he has more than 30 years experience advising and defending public and private companies. Weinstein is also an accomplished jazz guitarist, performing with the Barristers Big Band, a bar-affiliated band of lawyers and judges, as well as other groups.


Shirley McGlinn M.S. '75 was honored by the Southern Illinois Healthcare Cancer Institute as the 2011 Cancer Star Survivor of the Year. Colleagues in the SIU School of Medicine nominated McGlinn, who worked several years as a biological sciences instructor. Now retired, she continues to teach part time despite her breast cancer diagnosis. McGlinn's recognition came as a part of the SIH Cancer Institute's celebration of National Cancer Survivors Day. She is shown tossing the first pitch at a Southern Illinois Miners baseball game as part of the Institute's event.

Sheri Hunter '76, M.S. Ed. '88, retired English teacher at Carterville High School and president of the Carterville Heritage and Preservation Foundation, is co-author (with Jennifer Spence, a former student of hers) of Carterville, Cambria and Carlinville: A Look Back at Our Towns, a 400-page book with nearly 2,000 images. The book is available at Carterville High School at a cost of $48. Proceeds from the book will go to the recently opened Anne West Lindsey District Library and the nonprofit Carterville Heritage and Preservation Foundation. Hunter is former national president of the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors. She and her husband, Richard '67, Ph. D. '82, reside near Marion.

Dr. Gordon Grado M.D. '77, founder and medical director of Southwest Oncology Centers in Arizona, has been named a distinguished alumnus by the school's Alumni Society Board of Governors for "outstanding contributions to medicine and distinguished service to humankind." A radiation oncologist, he lives in Scottsdale, Ariz., and is an expert on the use of brachytherapy to treat prostate cancer.

Mike Chamness '78 has been named to the newly created position of director of communications for the Illinois Association of School Administrators. Chamness is a former sports editor of the State Journal-Register who survived some turbulent times working for George Ryan as secretary of state and governor. He was director of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency from 1999 until 2003. Most recently he has been senior policy adviser to the IEMA director and chairman of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced in April that Forrest Claypool '78 had been named president of the Chicago Transit Authority. Claypool, who served two terms as a Cook County commissioner, is a former superintendent of the Chicago Park District.

Former SIU swimmer Jorge Delgado '78 received a certificate of merit from the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame at the United Nations, where he gave an "electrifying" speech.

Delgado was a four-time NCAA All-American in his two years at Southern (1975-76) and took sixth place in the 200 butterfly at the NCAA Championships both years. He's one of 16 Salukis to swim at the Olympics, competing in 1972 and 1976 for Ecuador. Delgado is now vice chairman of FINA, an international gov-
Journalists Win Broadcast Awards

Since 1971, the Radio Television Digital News Association has presented its Edward R. Murrow Awards for outstanding achievement in electronic journalism in regional markets. This year several Salukis joined the ranks of those who "demonstrate the spirit of excellence that Edward R. Murrow made a standard for the broadcast news profession."

In Region 7, which encompasses Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio, awards went to:

Steve Grzanich '91 received the "Best Newscast" award in the category of Chicago Overall Excellence. He's afternoon anchor at WBBM-AM in Chicago.

Michelle Eccles McLaughlin '91, news and program director at WTXA Radio in Springfield, was honored for Springfield audio breaking news coverage and also for Springfield best newscast. With Emily Ford '09, Eccles won the Springfield use of video award.

Andrew Tanielian '06, '06, reporter for WICS-TV in Springfield, won Springfield overall excellence.

For Region 9, made up of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, five awards went to:


Maj. Gen. William Enyart J.D. '79 has been reappointed to his third term as the 37th adjutant general of the Illinois National Guard. In that post he will continue to advise the governor on military matters and to oversee the Illinois Department of Military Affairs, as well as being responsible for the daily operations of the Illinois National Guard. Enyart has more than 35 years in military service and is an attorney licensed to practice in Illinois and Missouri, as well as the U.S. Federal Courts and the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Armed Services. He is also a certified military trial lawyer.

Mary Frauenhoff '79 has been elected state president of the Arkansas Hospital Associations coalition of all volunteer hospital auxiliaries in the state. She has more than 20 years experience in the field.

Mickey Gunter '79, professor and chairman of the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Idaho, has a newly discovered mineral named for him by the International Mineralogical Association in honor of his professional achievements in the field of mineralogy.

Carol Sluzevich '80, founder of Mentors 4 Kids, headquartered in Benton, Ill., received the Liberty Bell Award in May from the Franklin Co. Bar Association for demonstrating outstanding commitment and service to the community. A former business owner, account executive, and patient services representative, Sluzevich is a founding member and current president of the governing board of directors of Mentors 4 Kids.

1980s

David Striph '80 has been appointed by the Howard Hughes Corp. as a senior vice president, responsible for leading operations and development at Ward Centers in Honolulu. Striph, who began his career as a certified public accountant with Ernst & Young, is an industry veteran with extensive experience in planning, execution, and management of strategic assets.

Dr. Amber Barnhart M.D. '81, professor of family and community medicine at the SIU School of Medicine, has been named a distinguished alumna by the school's Alumni Society Board of Governors for "outstanding contributions to medicine and distinguished service to humankind." Under her leadership, SIU's medical education program twice won national recognition as a "Top 10" school for its percentage of medical students entering family medicine residencies.

Stan Irvin J.D. '81, former prosecutor in the Kings County, N.Y., district attorney's office, is now pastor of the Carrier Mills United Methodist Church. He graduated from Princeton Theological School.
Seminary in 2004 and accepted his first charge at a Bloomington church before returning to southern Illinois in 2009.

**Ellen King ’81** has joined the nonprofit agency, Community Cooperative Ministries Inc. in Fort Myers, Fla., as chief financial officer. She formerly served as chief fiscal officer for the Department of Natural Resources, Governor’s Office of Management and Budget, for the State of Illinois. CCM provides more than 14,000 meals each month through their soup kitchen and meals on wheels programs.

**Jane McBride Gates Ph.D. ’82** is the new provost and vice president of academic affairs at Western Connecticut State University. She was formerly dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Savannah State University, Georgia’s oldest historically black university, and chair of the political science department at Arkansas State University.

**Bob Beck ’83**, news director for Wyoming Public Radio, has been elected to a two-year term as treasurer of the Public Radio News Directors Board of Directors. Beck, who has been WPR news director since 1988, also worked at commercial radio stations in Laramie, Wyo.; Sheridan, Wyo.; Benton, Ill.; and Herrin, Ill.

**Mike Jensen ’83** is the new director of the Highlands County (Fla.) Extension Service. Jensen, a former Eagle Scout from Chicago, previously worked for the Boy Scouts of America and as a 4-H agent. He’s also a volunteer fireman and a basic emergency medical technician.

**John Moulder ’83** is a priest for the archdiocese of Chicago and a jazz guitarist and composer. Ordained in 1990, he serves at St. Gregory the Great Church in Chicago and at the Shell Catholic Center at Northwestern University. Moulder, a music professor at The College for the Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, Benedictine University, and Northwestern, has released four CDs, and plays at national and international venues.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium has named **Gary Shaw ’85** as administrator of the Alaska Native Medical Center Hospital in Juneau. He began his career as a Navy hospital corpsman and most recently worked at Bayhealth Medical Center in Dover, Del., where he was vice president of operations.

The new head football coach at Murphysboro High School is **Gary Carter ’86**, who was a defensive lineman on the 1983 SIU national championship team. He will also teach physical education. Carter has previously coached at East Alton-Wood River, Jerseyville, and in Georgia.

**Todd Palmer ’86** has joined the law firm of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP in Madison, Wis., as a partner and will lead the Environmental Law Group within the firm’s Energy & Sustainability Industry Team.

**Bill Clark ’88** has been named president of Spindle Mobile, an emerging leader in mobile payment technology. He joins the company with more than 20 years experience in business operations, sales, marketing, and product development in the payments industry.

**Dallas/Fort Worth broadcast television veteran Dave Crome ’89** has joined the Texas Motor Speedway as its broadcast media relations manager. Crome has worked in the broadcast television industry for 23 years, the last 12 in Dallas/Fort Worth as the sports director and anchor for KDAF CW 33.

**Mark Doan ’89** has been named superintendent at Effingham Unit 40 School District. He was previously superintendent with Farmington Central Unit 265 School District, located about 25 miles west of Peoria. During his days at Southern, Doan was the student manager for the football team. He and his wife, **Sharon**, a retired elementary, special education, and Title 1 teacher, will be in Effingham for Mark’s July 1 start date.

**Alex Kajstura Ph.D. ’89**, provost at Tidewater Community College in Virginia, has been named president of the Northwest Campus of Pima Community College in Tucson, Ariz. He has 19 years of community college administration experience.

**Longtime alderman Jim Mitchell ’89** has been appointed mayor in his hometown, Johnston City, Ill. Mitchell is a district agent for Modern Woodmen Fraternal Finance with an office in downtown Johnston City.

**Michelle Sirles ’89** is the new special events coordinator for Southern Illinois Healthcare. She has more than 20 years experience in areas of design, marketing, human resources, management, and business operations. She will be responsible for planning and coordinating Southern Illinois Healthcare corporate fundraising events that benefit the SIH Foundation.

**1990s**

**Kenna Anderes Ph.D. ’92** has been appointed senior vice president of translational medicine at Molecular Response, a privately held molecular diagnostic services company and a leader in the identification of target populations for high-value therapeutics. She has 20 years of experience with research and development in cancer, cardiovascular, and metabolic disease.

As vice president of sales engineering, **Todd Kelly ’93** is part of a new leadership team at CradlePoint, a leading provider of 4G/3G network router solutions for distributed enterprise, small business, and mobile consumers.

**Brad Cole ’94, M.L.S. ’06**, who was the youngest-ever mayor of Carbondale when first elected in 2003 at age 31, is the new downstate director for U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk, R-Ill. Cole worked for then-Gov. George Ryan in several capacities, including deputy chief of staff.
based in Marion. He ran in the 2010 GOP primary for lieutenant governor and also served as an assistant director at the SIU Alumni Association from 1995 to 1999.

Mark Sroczynski '94 has been named executive director of the Golden Living Center in Columbus, Neb. Sroczynski joined Golden Living in 2005 after serving as the division manager of human resources for a hospital in Louisville.

Beth Stedelin '94, J.D. '97 is the newly named coach of the reinstated (after many years) women's tennis program at Kaskaskia College. Stedelin was a standout athlete in tennis and softball at Centralia High School and attended the Nick Bolletier Tennis Academy in Florida as an elementary school student.

Fran DeSimone Becque M.S. '95, Ph.D. '02 was awarded Pi Beta Phi's Dorothy Weaver Morgan Award for Fraternity Service at the organization's 2011 convention in Orlando. She served 10 years as a collegiate director, has been the fraternity's archivist since 1995, and its historian since 2003. Becque is currently executive director of Women for Health and Wellness Inc. in Carterville, Ill.

Mike Mueller '95, senior project manager at Aquaterra Environmental Solutions Inc. in Fairview Heights, Ill., has recently been appointed to lead the civil engineering operations there, where he will focus on managing civil engineering design projects and provide senior technical support to projects and clients.

Greg Bouhl '97, M.B.A. '00, lead business specialist at SIU's Office of Economic and Regional Development, has earned certification as an economic development finance professional from the National Development Council, and also earned a promotion to the post of assistant director of entrepreneurship and business development for the University.

Nathan Schaumleffel '98, M.S. Ed.'01 has been awarded a promotion to associate professor with tenure at Indiana State University in Terre Haute. For the past two years, Schaumleffel has been named outstanding ISU student organization adviser of the year. This year he received the ISU Residential Life Faculty Award for First-Year Academic Success. He was also awarded the first-ever Indiana State University Foundation Faculty Fellowship.

John Ben Nowak '99 is now a horticulture instructor at the Big Muddy Correctional Center. He was formerly an arborist and horticulturist at Tower Grove Park in St. Louis.

2000s

Matt Mason '00 has been named principal of Daviess County High School in Owensboro, Ky. He's been assistant principal for the past two years. At DCHS, Mason has taught social studies and served as athletic director, assistant athletic director, head softball coach, and assistant baseball coach.

Jason McCammon '00 has written his first book, a young adult fantasy novel with an African theme, The Ancient Lands: Warrior Quest: Search for the Ifa Scepter. Conceived as an idea for an animated movie, the book is the first of at least four planned for an Ancient Lands series and is published by Brown-Eyed Dreams.

Andrew Roszak '01, M.P.A. '08, J.D. '08, senior health policy counsel for the Office of Special Health Affairs, Health Resources and Services Administration for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has been appointed by the National Quality Forum to serve as co-chair to a new NQF steering committee on regionalized emergency medical care service.

Lance Trover '01, J.D. '06 is communications director for U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk, R-Ill. He has worked for Kirk's Senate campaign, the Illinois GOP, and the 2010 Andy McKenna gubernatorial campaign.

Angela Rollins '02, '06, a law student at Southern, has received the 2011 Student Division Public Service Award from the Illinois State Bar Association for her commitment to public service law. Her current and recent work includes the Downstate Illinois Innocence Project, the law school's Immigration Detention Project, the Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Southern District of Illinois, and the law school's Domestic Violence Clinic.

Antoinette Arnold '05 is the founder of Authentic Noise, a boutique PR agency based in Chicago. Find more info at their just-launched website, www.authenticnoise.com.

Chad Parmenter M.F.A. '05 joined the faculty of Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, as a visiting professor of English. He previously taught at SIU (2003-2005) and the University of Missouri (2006-2011). At Southern, he was director of the Saluki Poetry Project and assistant director at the Center for Literary Arts.

Paige Pestka '06, a science teacher at Lincoln High School in Tallahassee, Fla., and an athlete all her life, took up mountain bike racing last year and managed to finish near the top in the Florida State Championship Series.

Norma Trueblood '07 is coordinator of student services at Burlington County College's Mount Laurel campus and also translates recruitment and outreach materials into Spanish for the college's Latino Information sessions. She and her husband, the Rev. Ernest Trueblood Jr., serve as pastors of the International Revival Tabernacle of Burlington County, Iowa, at Browns Mills.

Susan Noeth '08 is the newest addition to the construction management firm Sitton Construction Group in O'Fallon, Ill. She joins the
firm as director of client solutions, where she will serve as an adviser for clients on the planning, design, and construction of their facilities.

Brad Norman ’08 will take over as the new basketball coach at Chester High School for the next school year. A native of Dongola, Ill., he also has coached at Dongola Elementary School, Shawnee High School, Century High School, and Anna-Jonesboro High School.

Kelly Caringer M.S. ’09, a Ph.D. student at Southern, was awarded an Edison Fellowship that will cover his summer expenses while he studies and researches some of the earliest known stereo recordings at the British Library Sound Archive in London.

Wesley Clemmons ’09, a former member of the Saluki men’s basketball team, is a graduate of the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute after attending the six-week Certified Firefighter II Academy. He’s employed by the Carbondale Fire Department.

Katie Wagner ’09, a four-year Saluki Scholar Athlete, is the new hitting coach for the SIUE softball team. The Cougars begin year two of play in the Ohio Valley Conference in 2012 after earning a bid to the OVC Tournament in its first year of eligibility in 2011. At Southern, Wagner was a three-sport athlete: softball, basketball, and track and field.

The Marathon Man

For Rich Bauer, superintendent of Southern’s Printing Service, softball was always his game, both playing and coaching. But when the day came that “I got too old to play ball,” Bauer took up running and found a new outlook: “It’s not about winning or losing,” he says. “It’s about being able to finish.”

Last April he finished the 115th annual Boston Marathon at 3:50.28. He calls it a “dream come true,” and says that running has made him into a better person. “It makes me realize what’s important and what’s not.”

Bauer ran his first marathon in 2000, competing in the Country Music Marathon in Nashville, Tenn. Today he trains on a 16-week schedule that includes running 25-50 miles each week. In the summer, that means hitting the road at 3:30 a.m. when it’s cooler. This fall he travels to St. Louis or New York for another marathon. Closer to home “there are a lot of races to be run,” he says, “frequent 3K, 5K, 10K, and half-marathons.”

Bauer, who is a single dad to Andrea Bauer Reiss ’03, Tiffany Bauer Koon, and Cassie Bauer, qualifies as a friend of SIU and says being a member of the SIU Alumni Association just makes sense. “I work here, I participate in most events, and the Association is like a big family. I’m proud of SIU, and I’m proud to be a member.”

Running in the Boston Marathon was a dream come true for Rich Bauer, who trained for his first 26.2 mile race more than 11 years ago. Although proud to have finished 115th in Boston, he says “competing is what it’s all about – not where you finish.”

Payton interned with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy in Washington, D.C., working every day at the Pentagon. Payton and his siblings were home-schooled by their mother, Robyn, at home in Creal Springs. Payton enrolled at John A. Logan College at age 16 and earned his associate degree at 17, the youngest ever to do so there. He was also valedictorian. When he transferred to SIU, it was a family affair. His father is Bob Lindsay ’78, M.A. ’81, who is a biologist for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Two older siblings also earned double degrees – Colleen ’08, ’08 in journalism and anthropology, and Clark ’02, ’02 in business economics and finance.

Emily Toennies ’11, a four-year letter winner in cross country and track and field, has been named the winner of the 2011 Missouri Valley Conference female postgraduate scholarship, the Emerson Excellence Award. She’ll receive $10,000 from the MVC in scholarship funds. She maintained a 4.0 GPA studying biological sciences and chemistry and earned all-conference honors in 2010 and 2011.
70 Years Ago...

The Southern Alumnus magazine celebrated Homecoming Weekend of 1941, as the tradition was already becoming a cherished time for alumni and friends to return to Carbondale each year.
Over her father's objections, Jane Hodgkinson '71, M.S. Ed. '74 followed a boyfriend to Southern. She soon dumped the boyfriend, but unexpectedly found the "love of her life" in special recreation — providing services to people with disabilities.

"My dad wanted me to go to an Ivy League school," Hodgkinson says. "He went to Duke. Had I done that, I'm sure I would not have found special recreation. Providing services to people with disabilities has been a mission and a passion for me. SIU gave me that opportunity."

The opportunity began with a chance enrollment in Bill Freeberg's class. He was the longtime chair of the University's recreation department and is considered a visionary for his efforts in developing programs for people with disabilities.

"I took this class and there was a spark of electricity in my head," she says. "I knew this was what I wanted to do."

Hodgkinson calls Freeberg a "genius, who opened doors for my career and presented me with opportunities that I wouldn't have received at other schools." Through him, she became coordinator of the Southern Illinois Special Olympics. Freeberg, who was a consultant to the Kennedy Foundation, is widely credited with planting the seeds that grew into the Special Olympics.

In June, the headlines read "Recreation Legend Jane Hodgkinson Retires," when she stepped away from her job as executive director of the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association. For 30 years she developed WDSRA into a nationally recognized organization and guided exponential growth in programs and participation for people with disabilities.

A list of Hodgkinson's accomplishments in the field could fill volumes. When she joined the Carol Stream-based organization in 1981 the agency offered a handful of programs that served about 250 participants a year. Today that same agency offers 14,000 to 15,000 different activities and serves 4,500 to 5,000 children and adults in nine municipalities.

Although retired, Hodgkinson still plans to be a presence at WDSRA. A colleague says, "I hope we don't miss her. I hope she'll still be active, because there's nobody like her."

The longtime life member of the SIU Alumni Association returns to campus occasionally — especially when she is needed to help cement Freeberg's legacy. And despite her dad's misgivings years ago, she says she's lucky to have had the opportunities she found at SIU.

"Freeberg devoted himself to researching how to provide learning opportunities for special education students through recreational experiences," Hodgkinson notes, "and taught that learning should be fun. It was a practical approach to learning and retention because it was based on positive memories."
3 Year Membership!

The SIU Alumni Association is now offering a new membership alternative for both new and returning members. The new three-year membership option allows members an affordable way to stay connected with SIU.

For individuals who select this option, the cost for a three-year individual membership is $100 and a three-year joint membership is $150.

To learn more about membership options in the SIU Alumni Association, call 618-453-2408 or visit online at www.siualumni.com/join.

Member

S.A. Lukis