

Southern's Shining Moments

April
2008

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The SIU Wind Ensemble performed on March 26 at Carnegie Hall as part of the New York Band and Orchestra Festival. The Wind Ensemble is one of only two showcase ensembles to give a performance. The ensemble earned its spot through competitive audition.

SIU's debate team is the national champions. They captured first place at the National Parliamentary Debate Association first-round championships at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., in March. Kevin Calderwood and Kyle Dennis bested competition from Texas Tech University, University of California at Berkeley and UCLA, among others.

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For the second consecutive year, Saluki volunteerism captured a spot on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The Honor Roll recognizes American college and university students for their hard work, dedication, commitment and efforts to solve problems throughout the country.

SIU's aerobatic team won the International Aerobatic Club's Collegiate Team Award in March. In addition, Andrew Bochnovic, a senior in aviation technologies, won the 2007 IAC Individual Collegiate Trophy as the top scoring aerobatic pilot.

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SIU has been awarded a \$1.2 million emergency preparedness grant funded by the federal government. The grant will assist 17 southern Illinois counties in assessing their disaster risks and making plans for disaster mitigation.

Emily Harris, a senior fashion design student, earned a one-year internship with a top New York bridal gown designer at a design competition. The Peoria native claimed the AMSALE internship opportunity at The Circle City Showcase in Indianapolis.

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James Scoles, a graduate student from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, won the fiction section of the Prairie Fire Fiction Contest for 2007. He received a \$1,250 cash prize, publication of the story and payment for the publication. Scoles won with his story, "El Juego."

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Students Tim Wilkerson and Sean Brown won in the magazine shows category for "Alt.news 26:46" at the 29th annual College Television Awards in March.

Saluki basketball guard Erin Pauk was one of 15 student-athletes named to the 2008 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District V Women's Basketball Team.

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A new research and scholarly networking tool is in place with the establishment of the SIU Center for Delta Studies. The Delta refers to a federally-designated area known as the Delta Regional Authority featuring 240 counties and parishes in eight states bordering the lower Mississippi River. The region includes 16 southern Illinois counties.

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