

Southern's Shining Moments

June
2008



The Order of Lincoln Medallion was presented by Lincoln Academy officials on April 26 at Shryock Auditorium. The 2008 Laureates include: former SIU Board of Trustees member and 1959 SIU graduate William Norwood, the first African-American pilot to fly for United Airlines; Kenneth A. Shaw, who served as president of SIU Edwardsville from 1977 to 1979, when he was named chancellor of the SIU System, a post he held until 1986; and SIU alumnus Irl F. Engelhardt, the former chairman of Peabody Energy, the world's largest coal company.

Erin Pauk (women's basketball), Krystal Stein (softball) and Abby Blank (women's swimming & diving) were three of 38 student-athletes in the MVC to earn the league's highest academic achievement by capturing the President's Council Academic Excellence Award.

Former Saluki quarterback Nick Hill signed to play with the Chicago Bears, while former offensive tackle Darren Marquez joined the Indianapolis Colts.

Bryant Hale, a freshman from Pinckneyville, is a member of the men's softball junior Olympic team. The team will compete in the world championships in Canada from June 20-29.

Young adults from all over North America came to Southern on Memorial Day weekend for Midwest Games 2008. Dating to 1970, the Midwest Games serve as a cultural showcase for Malaysia as well as a unique opportunity for Malaysian university students to gather and participate with one another in sporting contests, a cultural show and more.

Morris Library received a first-edition printing of the first book of verse published by a black poet. John LaPine, SIU alumnus and owner of Printers Row Fine and Rare Books in Chicago, donated Phillis Wheatley's "Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral," which appeared in print in 1773. Wheatley was born in the Senegal-Gambia area of Africa and came to Boston in 1761, as a slave, at the age of seven.

John Mead, director of the Coal Extraction and Utilization Research Center at SIU, recently joined the National Coal Board. The organization advises the secretary of energy on national matters related to coal, coal programs and policies. Mead is one of about 100 members, all appointed by Secretary of Energy Samuel Wright Bodman.

Saluki freshman Nick Evans is one of nine players selected to play on the Reach USA traveling basketball squad that played in China during May. Evans, a 6-foot-11 center from Carbondale, went to Beijing where his team played against Chinese professional club teams.

Robert H. Swenson, associate professor at SIU, has received the Illinois State Historical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award. The ISHS recognized Swenson for his efforts to interpret, preserve and promote the state's history. Swenson has worked with SIU's Preservation Summer and at various historical locales throughout the state, including barns, churches, flatboats, steamboats, ironclads and more.

Senior first baseman Lauren Haas was named the 2008 Missouri Valley Conference Softball Player of the Year.



Southern
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