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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Legence Bank Partners with SIU Athletics and Learfield Sports to Launch Innovative Micro-Internship Program

Eldorado, IL (October 2025) — Legence Bank is proud to announce its recognition as the first local business to partner with Southern Illinois University (SIU) Athletics and Learfield Sports in launching the SIU Micro-Internship Program, an innovative collaboration that merges workforce development, education, and community engagement. This initiative gives SIU student athletes the opportunity to gain real-world experience while connecting with local businesses that are deeply invested in the future of Southern Illinois.

Through this partnership, Legence Bank hosted SIU Football player and Agricultural Business Economics major, Ethan Goodin, as a micro-intern. Ethan worked alongside Legence Bank's ag lending team — including VP Ag/Commercial Lending - Shawn Bailey, Business Services Manager - Matt Simmons, Carbondale Branch Manager - John Dorris and VP Marketing/Communication – Tricia Overturf — gaining hands-on experience in agricultural lending, community banking, and customer relationships.

The collaboration was captured in a video titled “From the Field to the Future”, showcasing how this partnership bridges education, athletics, and real-world learning. The video debuted during SIU's Family Weekend/Ag Day on the Saluki Stadium Jumbotron, aired on ESPN+, and appeared across SIU's social media channels. “This experience showed me how much community banking impacts local farms and families. It's something I'll carry with me into my future career,” said Ethan Goodin, SIU Football Player and Legence Bank Micro-Intern. “Legence Bank is like a coach for the public, helping people through the highs and lows and always there for their customers.”

The partnership also highlighted the meaningful mentorship provided by Shawn Bailey, whose dedication to agriculture and community banking left a lasting impression on both Ethan and the participating farm partners. Allard Farms, who hosted Ethan and the Legence lending team during the internship, shared that “Shawn Bailey and the Legence team exemplify what true partnership in agriculture looks like — they're not just bankers; they're advocates for local farmers and the next generation of agricultural leaders.”

“This collaboration with SIU Athletics and Learfield Sports perfectly embodies our mission at Legence Bank — to invest in people, empower communities, and make a difference,” said Tricia Overturf, VP of Marketing & Communications at Legence Bank. “By providing real-world opportunities for student-athletes while deepening our connections across Southern Illinois, we are showcasing what it means to be truly rooted in community and focused on the future.”

With this groundbreaking partnership, Legence Bank has set a powerful example of how local businesses can align education, athletics, and community impact — bringing visibility, opportunity, and inspiration to the region.

About Legence Bank

Legence Bank is a trusted, locally owned financial institution serving southern Illinois and southern Indiana. With a focus on community, relationships, and education, Legence Bank is dedicated to helping individuals, families, and businesses achieve financial success while investing in the communities it proudly serves. Legence Bank is forging ahead into the future, continuing its strategic goal of providing the communities it serves with a premier financial institution and state of the art technology and conveniences, while remaining independently owned and committed to our most valuable asset: our customers. To learn more, visit LegenceBank.com. Legence Bank, Member FDIC, EHL

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