Awareness main issue on World AIDS Day

Today is World AIDS Day. Across the globe, experts are seeking to increase research, those living with the disease are spreading awareness and family and friends are recognizing the millions who have died.

From the slums of Africa to one of the top research sites in California, AIDS has affected people on an international level since its emergence in the early 1980s.

According to the England-based AVERT charity for HIV and AIDS, the amount of death and suffering has been staggering.

More than 25 million people have died from AIDS worldwide since 1981, according to AVERT’s Web site. An estimated 39.5 million people currently are living with HIV or AIDS.

HIV infection primarily damages the body’s immune system, leaving it open to attack by opportunistic viruses and tumours. AIDS is a collection of symptoms — ranging from neurological damage to pulmonary illnesses — that can cause death or require people to undergo a lifelong series of pills and treatments.

SIUC Professor of Health Education Mark Kittleson has worked to assess the epidemic since its early stages. When he arrived at the university in 1989, he began work developing educational programs to help spread awareness.

From 1998 to 2003, he worked on an HIV behavioral assessment paid for by a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

"We wanted to assess high-risk individuals on their behavior toward contracting HIV and efforts the state and the nation are making to combat HIV," Kittleson said.

He said one of the largest problems in the public’s understanding of HIV is that it is perceived as far less dangerous than when the epidemic started because of advances in treatment and medication.

"They don’t think it’s that serious because we have the medicine," Kittleson said. "Fortunately, we do have the medicine, but we still need to have the people taking the necessary precautions."

Lights on parade
Winter Weekend festival offers other events too

Alicia Wade
Daily Egyptian

If a humdinger holiday season has people down, this weekend promises to put the cheer back into the festive time of year.

Carbondale Main Street and Carbondale Community Arts’ Fantastic Winter Weekend kicks off today and lasts through Dec. 4. With more than 10 events planned throughout the weekend, organizers say the Fantastic Winter Weekend promises to be fun for everyone.

The first of the weekend events started Wednesday when the Student Center with the 28th annual Holiday Craft Sale, sponsored by the SIUC Student Center Craft Shop. Seventy-five regional craft vendors packed the Hall of Fame and International Lounges with their booths. Crafts from purses, pottery and wooden puzzles to wineglasses, jewelry and candles create a wide variety of choices for shoppers. The Winter Craft Sale runs Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It offers free admission as well as a free shuttle from the SIU Arena parking lot.

See LIGHTS, Page 10

Bad Dawg
Student who portrays Gray Dawg suspended for two games

Brandon Weisenberger
Daily Egyptian

Moaning the opponents’ fans and attempting to “kidnap” their cheerleaders did more than bring a mix of cheers and jeers for SIU’s Gray Dawg.

The Salukis’ mascot man behind the fur, Brian Ardaugh, a two-game suspension and preprocessing to last semester as a mascot.

Ardaugh, a senior from Plainfield studying engineering technology, said he learned Wednesday he would not be able to participate as Gray Dawg when the men’s basketball team hosts St. Louis University on Saturday because of inappropriate behavior displayed at last Saturday’s football playoff game at McAndrew Stadium. He also sat out Wednesday when the men’s basketball team sat out Wednesday when the men’s basketball team.

See DAWG, Page 10

AIDS cases by age (Breakdown of people diagnosed with AIDS through 2004 by age)

- 0-4: 30
- 5-9: 28
- 10-19: 146
- 20-24: 1,316
- 25-34: 15,793
- 35-44: 134,662
- 45-54: 74
- 55-64: 180
- 65+: 1,385

AIDS cases by race (Breakdown of people diagnosed with AIDS through 2004 by race)

- Black/African-American: 17,171
- Hispanic: 430
- Other: 2,508
- White: 443,188
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 181
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 1,300

Illinois is the sixth most prevalent state for AIDS in the nation with 31,020 cases.

He said misleading media reports of declining AIDS-related deaths are a large factor in these misconceptions.

See AIDS, Page 10
Senate approves "phase-in" of higher electric rates

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Senate approved a plan Thursday to ease the pain of looming electric-rate increases, but a legislative stalemate means consumers won't get any relief from higher electric bills during the current legislative session.

The Senate plan would phase in higher electric rates over three years, so consumers wouldn't pay the full increase all at once. House Speaker Michael Madigan, however, is push-

ing for a three-year freeze. So, with the legislative session ending Thursday, the chance of any relief passing this year has practically vanished.

A special session looks unlikely. Lawmakers might still address the issue when they return to Springfield in January, but that would be after rates have already begun rising.

A 10-year freeze on electric rates expires in January, and prices are expected to soar by 22 percent to more than 50 percent.

The Senate phase-in plan passed 40-16.

"This is a good bill, a reasonable bill that will protect the consumer," said Senate President Emil Jones, D-Chicago.

But the plan has plenty of critics. Consumer advocates prefer an outright freeze. Others argue it would plague power companies into financial turmoil by holding down their prices while their costs climb.

"This is a compromise bill, but it's not a good compromise bill," said Sen. Dale Reuscher, R-Peoria. "It will not keep our lights on in my opinion.

"I'm not sure of my vote," Mr. Reuscher said.

Family seeks stiffer penalties for distracted drivers

URBANA — The family of a bicyclist who died after being hit by a driver busy downloading cell phone ring tones is pushing for a new state law with stiffer penalties for distracted drivers.

Gloria and Chuck Wilhelm are seeking legislation that would provide jail time for drivers involved in fatal accidents because of careless or negligent use of cell phones, iPods or other technology.

"I never wanted to be doing this, but I am," said Gloria Wilhelm, of Urbana. Her son, 25-year-old Matthew Wilhelm of Peoria, died of head injuries Sept. 7 after he was hit from behind by a teenage driver while bicycling on Illinois 130 east of Urbana. Authorities say Jennifer Stark was so off the road that she hit Wilhelm with the driver's side of her car.

Stark, 19, of Urbana, pleaded guilty to improper lane usage and on Wednesday was given the maximum sentence of six months conditional discharge, a $1,000 fine and a $1,200 fine. She also was ordered to attend a six-week driving program and to wear a no-fill "poverty armband" for three years.

"This is a tragic case, and one which has demonstrated to us there are many things we can't adequately resolve in this building, unfortunately," the lawsuit doesn't give us an adequate remedy," according to information that the Wilhelms and their lawyers said.

The Wilhelms hope lawmakers push the bill next spring, passing a "New Law," because people are distracted for drivers that "the bill is necessary and important,מקגלדה גו-ז" to the bill, but they believe it could fail," said Gene Ryan, deputy fire chief.

"Given the loss to the community that will be donated to local organizations,

For more information contact (618) 512-2676

Open house: Enjoying the Lights Fantastic Parade

4 p.m. Saturday at the Interfaith Center.

Watch the parade in the Interfaith Center, hot chocolate, coffee, snacks and fireplace provided.

Southern Illinois Alternative Gift Fair

Sunday, Dec. 17, at 1 p.m. at the Center, featuring live music, refreshments, international artisans.

Poverty and Hunger in Africa: Think Globally, Act Locally

Sunday, Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. at the Center.

Garwood's gift with a focus on Africa in a no-fill "poverty meal" will be served.

SIU Amateur Radio Club

7-11 p.m. Thursday at the Engineering building, Room 331.

The calendar is a free service for community groups. We cannot guarantee that all events will run.

Submit calendar items to the DAILY EAGLE newsroom, Communications 1E47, at least two days before event, or call 536-5325, ext. 245.

There are no tickets to report today.

CORRECTIONS

If you spot an error, please contact the DAILY EAGLE accuracy desk at 536-3311, ext. 203.

AccuWeather 5-Day Forecast for Carbondale

AccuWeather.com

Illinois Weather

Carbondale through 5 p.m., yesterday

High temperature today: 65°/81°F

Precipitation: 0.04 in.

Sunrise today: 6:36 a.m.

Sunset today: 4:27 p.m.

Moonrise today: 2:00 p.m.

Moonset today: 9:57 p.m.

High temperature tomorrow: 34°/58°F

Low temperature tonight: 24°/41°

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 6:36 a.m.

Sunset today: 4:27 p.m.

Moonrise today: 2:00 p.m.

Moonset today: 9:57 p.m.

High temperature tomorrow: 34°/58°F

Low temperature tonight: 24°/41°

Almanac

Carbondale through 3 p.m. yesterday

Today

High temperature: 65°/81°F

Precipitation: 0.26 in.

Sunrise: 6:36 a.m.

Sunset: 4:36 p.m.

Moonrise: 2:00 p.m.

Moonset: 9:57 p.m.

High temperature: 34°/58°F

Low temperature: 24°/41°

Regional Cities

Rock Island: 31°F

Peoria: 29°F

Quincy: 28°F

Champaign: 27°F

Carbondale: 25°F

Chicago: 24°F

TODAY

SUNDAY

TUESDAY

Wednesday: mostly cloudy and chilly.

Mostly cloudy and colder

Sunshine, but cold

Mostly cloudy and cold

AccuWeather.com

National Weather Today

Dec 4 Dec 12 Dec 20 Dec 27

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

Dec 4

Dec 11

Dec 18

Dec 25

Dec 32

AccuWeather.com

Content might be protected under the copyright laws of the United States and other countries. All or nothing of this article can be copied, distributed, rewritten, or reprinted.
Net neutrality not a neutral subject

Brandon Augsburg
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Those late-night commercials touting Net neutrality aren’t talking about picking sides in a cyber battle, they’re talking about keeping the Internet free.

A new telecommunications bill, H.R. 2525 which is the nation’s first in more than a decade, was proposed by Republican Sen. Ted Stevens from Alaska and has stalled on the floor of the U.S. Senate because it lacks proper Net neutrality provisions. The bill, as it is currently worded, would allow the Internet to continue development under a free market system and would not hinder the ability of network providers to raise fees and control content.

According to the Google Help Center, Net neutrality “is the principle that Internet users should be in control of what they use on the Internet.” Net neutrality is fundamentally about equal access to the Internet and allowing the continued free flow of information from a censorship and a monetary standpoint, the Web site said.

With the Congressional session drawing to a quick close, advocates of Net neutrality say they believe they have gained a victory this year. Timothy Karr, campaign director for freepress.net and savetheinternet.com, both groups that promote Net neutrality, said advocacy groups took a defensive stance this year as they “desperately tried to stop the phone company juggernaut.”

“Now that we have this momentum moving into the next year, 2007, we’ll be trying to proactively support legislation that is much more supportive of a democratic Internet,” Karr said.

Anti-Net neutrality groups, such as handoff.org, want the government to keep its hands out of the Internet and let the free market determine where it goes. They believe the marketplace is the solution to the global problem of the Internet as the product of an unregulated and untouched system. According to handoff.org, the future of the Internet lies with the protection of the free market in the Internet, and Net neutrality would stifle innovation and advancement.

Representatives from handoff.org could not be reached for comment.

The pro-Net neutrality groups, such as savetheinternet.org, are calling on Congress to pass regulations to keep the Internet free. They want to make sure companies cannot create a tiered Internet where corporations can pay to access special services.

Jeannie C. Gaigher, a representa- tive of Qeery Communications, a pro-Net neutrality lobbyist, said the next round of lobbying would begin next year as the appointments of vari- ous Congressional committees are announced. She said his company plans to use a grassroots approach this year, but he would consider a more traditional approach in the future.

“Now that we have the momentum moving in for the next Congress, though, is totally unknown right now,” Gaigher said. “We’re clearly going to be talking to peo- ple. I’m sure the other side that’s against us working against us will be doing the same. We’re going to continue to make our case for Net neutrality because people like the way the Internet works today.”

Brandon Augsburg can be reached at 536-3111 ext. 262 or brandon_augsburg@dailyegyptian.com.

Net neutrality for or against?

Brandon Augsburg
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Why net neutrality is a must:

• It would ensure that the Internet stays an open and non-discriminatory medium.
• It would keep network providers from double-charging consumers — once for Internet access, and again for user services or applications.
• The government has no business controlling content.

Why the Internet should be left unregulated:

• Equal competition ensures the widest array of consumer choices.
• The government should not meddle with what businesses do on the Internet.
• The government should not favor or inhibit any competitors.
• Users should have total freedom of equipment and applications.

Source: handoff.org

Brandon Augsburg introduces her film “Walking on Sunshine” on Thursday night in Ballroom D in the Student Center. Taylor, who graduated from SIUC in 1997 with a bachelor’s degree in journalism, wrote, directed and produced the film, which was made in 2004.

No more ‘sunshine’

SIUC alumna’s film shows danger of AIDS unawareness

Sean McGahan
DAILY EGYPTIAN

For most of her life, Tracy Taylor was walking on sunshine.

That changed in 2004 when she searched the Internet about the preva- lence of AIDS in black women that had some unexpected results.

Taylor — who graduated from SIUC in 1997 with a journalism degree — discovered AIDS was the No. 1 killer of black females in her age group.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, AIDS is the leading cause of death for black women ages 25 to 34 in America. Black women account for 68 percent of those diagnosed with HIV or AIDS in America from 2001 to 2004.

She said the information inspired her to start writing her first motion picture — “Walking on Sunshine” — which she also directed and acted in.

Taylor screened the film Thursday night in the Student Center Ballroom D as part of a AIDS Awareness Week at SIUC.

“Walking on Sunshine” follows the lives of two black sisters who are largely oblivious to the ways they put themselves at risk for HIV and AIDS.

It follows the sisters through the early years of the epidemic in 1989 through 2004.

The film premiered on Black Entertainment Television in December 2004 and garnered nominations for an abundance of awards — including the 2005 NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Television Movie.

Taylor said her goal with the film is to inform those who are as oblivious as herself at risk for HIV and AIDS.

“I learned to protect myself all the time and to be aware HIV and AIDS is out there,” she said.

Ashley Allen, a junior from Country Club Hills studying social work, said the film was a good reminder of the dangers of unprotected sex.

“Many people are disarmed because they don’t have the information,” she said. “If you don’t have the informa- tion, you’re going out ‘walking on sunshine.’”

For more information, please see the Daily Egyptian’s daily coverage.
Al-Maliki facing revolt from within

Hamza Hendawi
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki faced a widening revolt within his divided government as two senior Sunni politicians joined prominent Shii lawmakers and Cabinet members in criticizing his policies. Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi said he wanted to see al-Maliki’s government gone and another “understanding” for a new coalition put in place with guarantees that ensure collective decision making.

“Under the circumstances of today, there is no way for us to support this government and see it through its term to the end,” al-Hashemi said, according to excerpts from the interview to be aired later Thursday.

“I hope they make a decision because it doesn’t constitute a positive development in the political process,” al-Maliki said at a news conference on his return to Baghdad. “Political partnership means commitment.”

Meanwhile, in an interview with ABC, al-Maliki confidently claimed that his forces would be ready to take over responsibility for security in Iraq by June, a timeline that is about 12 months shorter than what has been floated by top U.S. military commanders.

“We and the President (Bush) agreed to keep the same (U.S.) forces on the ground but to train more Iraqi forces,” he said, according to excerpts from the interview to be aired later Thursday.

Bush draws line on troop withdrawal

Tom Raum
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMMAN, Jordan — President Bush Thursday called for a measured withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq, even as Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki faces doubts about his ability to dampen violence, asserted his forces could take full control by June.

A day after publication of a leaked White House memo questioning al-Maliki’s leadership capabilities, Bush shared a news conference stage with him and offered what sounded like unconditional support. “He’s a strong leader,” Bush said. “He’s the right guy for Iraq.”

Still, Bush and his advisers acknowledged formidable challenges for the Iraqi leader in quelling rising sectarian violence.

“There is a real sense of urgency, but there is not a sense of panic,” said Stephen J. Hadley, Bush’s national security adviser and the author of a leaked memo that underscored doubts about al-Maliki.

The president used the news conference in the Jordanian capital to get in front of reports that a special committee headed by former Secretary of State James A. Baker III and former Democratic Rep. Lee Hamilton would call for a phased withdrawal of troops to begin.

“I know there’s a lot of speculation that these reports in Washington mean there’s going to be some kind of graceful exit out of Iraq,” Bush said. But he said if there is talk of a timetable, “all that does is set people up for unrealistic expectations.”

Al-Maliki, meanwhile, declared in an interview with ABC News that Iraqi forces would soon be in a position to take over security for the country — a position U.S. officials have questioned.

“Senators vote to raise min. wage, own salaries

Christopher Wills
WIRE REPORT

SPRINGFIELD — The state Senate sent legislation to the gover- nor Thursday that would increase the state minimum wage from $5.15, giving raises to hundreds of thousands of Illinois workers.

The state Senate voted to raise their own salaries and those of other top state officials by 15.6 percent.

The Senate, still needs House approval, however.

Under the minimum wage legis- lation, Illinois workers would be required to pay most workers at least $7.50 an hour beginning July 1, 2007. That would be followed by three 25-cent increases, bringing the minimum to $8.25 an hour in 2010.

Advocates estimate 308,000 Illinois now make less than $7.50 and would benefit directly from the increase. Slightly more, the studies prob- ably would get raises if the mini- mum wage increases, even though the state has no collective bargaining.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich has led efforts to raise the minimum wage and pushed the idea into law, even though it differs slightly from what he first proposed.

The Democrats originally wanted to link the minimum wage to infla- tion, so it would increase every year. He also sought to end the practice of letting businesses pay 50 cents less than the state minimum to workers under 18.

Both proposals were dropped in a concession to business groups who argue a higher minimum wage will force employers to raise prices and cut jobs. They predict the impact will be especially severe in parts of Illinois that border states that still use the federal minimum wage of $5.15 an hour.

Some critics argue Illinois should wait to see if Congress raises the fed- eral minimum to $7.25 next year. But supporters say that still wouldn’t be enough, and Illinois should act on its own.

The Senate approved the increase 40-17. The House had approved it Wednesday.

Someone working 40 hours a week at the current state minimum of $6.50 makes $13,520 a year, significantly less than the federal poverty level for a family of three — $13,860.

At $7.50 an hour, that worker would make $15,600. At $8.25, the total reaches $17,160.

WIRE REPORTS

Turkey

Pope offers silent prayer in mosque in hopes of ringing message of reconciliation

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI joined an Islamic cleric in prayers under the towering dome of Istanbul’s most famous mosque Thursday in a powerful gesture seeking to transform his image among Muslims from that of his predecessor, John Paul II, made a humanity,” the pope said inside the 17th-century Blue Mosque — in only their churches he stood beside the spiritual leader of the world’s Orthodox Christians and passionately encouraged steps to end the nearly 1,000-year divide between their churches.

“There is a clear deterioration in security, and everything is moving in the wrong direction,” the Sunni leader told The Associated Press. “This situation must be reversed and peace is possible. If they continue, the country will plunge into civil war.”

Al-Maliki’s No. 2, Deputy Prime Minister Salam Zalikhat Ali al-Zobaiha, also a Sunni, argued that the president’s government failed to curb the spread of sectarian politics.

A boycott by 30 lawmakers and five Cabinet ministers loyal to anti-American Shii cleric Muqtada al-Sadr was in protest of al-Maliki’s meeting with President Bush in Jordan on Thursday. The Sadrists said the meeting amounted to an affront to the Iraqi people.

Bush appealed to the Sadrists to end their boycott and admonished them for an action that he said violated the commitment expected from his partners in the 16-month-old coalition government.

“I hope we understand their decision because it doesn’t constitute a positive development in the political process,” al-Maliki said at a news conference on his return to Baghdad. “Political partnership means commitment.”

Meanwhile, in an interview with ABC, al-Maliki confidently claimed that his forces would be ready to take over responsibility for security in Iraq by June, a timeline that is about 12 months shorter than what has been floated by top U.S. military commanders.

“We and the President (Bush) agreed to keep the same (U.S.) forces on the ground but to train more Iraqi forces,” he said, according to excerpts from the interview to be aired later Thursday.

I know there’s a lot of speculation that these reports in Washington mean there’s going to be some kind of graceful exit out of Iraq.

— President Bush

“I can say that Iraqi forces will be ready, fully ready to receive this command and to command its own forces, and I can tell you that by next June our forces will be ready,” he said.

Hollywood

Desperate Housewives’ Eva Longoria to tie knot with Spurs star Tony Parker

NEW YORK (AP) — Her marriage didn’t work out on “Desperate Housewives,” but things are looking up for Eva Longoria. She’s engaged to her beau, basketball star Tony Parker.

“Tony flew into Los Angeles last night after his game and surprised Eva at her home as she got off work,” Lisa Anderson told The Associated Press on Thursday via a source. “The proposal was romantic and perfect. The couple plans to wed in France in the summer of 2007 in what they describe as a big, happy ceremony with family and friends.”

The 31-year-old Longoria, who plays crafty Gabrielle Solis on the hit ABC show, met Parker, a 24-year-old Frenchman, in the San Antonio Spurs’ locker room after a game two years ago.

Longoria divorced Tyler Christopher, who stars on ABC’s “General Hospital,” in 2004, after two years of marriage.
Southern Illinois faces meth problems head-on

David Lopez
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Southern Illinois has seen a share of methamphetamine problems, but researchers at SIUC have been hard at work to develop methods to fight methamphetamine production and rehabilitate those who have been affected by the growing epidemic.

Thursday was National Meth Awareness Day, and across the country, rallies and seminars were held to highlight the growing problem and the measures being taken to reduce the amount of methamphetamine in the community.

SIUC is currently working to develop new treatment methods for rehabilitating addicts who are willing to clean up.

Shane Kuch is the director of addiction sciences at the Rehabilitation Institute at SIUC. He is currently working on approaches to the rehabilitation of meth addicts.

“The whole field in general has moved more and more to the behavioral aspect,” he said.

Koch and his colleagues are comparing the Rehabilitation Counseling Training Program with the behavioral analysis program to produce methods that center more on the psychological aspects of the rehabilitation.

“Working with Franklin-Williamson Human Services, which treats people with substance abuse problems here, and his colleagues are perfecting methods previously used to treat gambling addictions and applying them to the rehabilitation of meth addicts because the addiction is mainly psychological,” Kuch said.

John Benshoff, the interim director at the Rehabilitation Institute in Rein Hiltz, who has studied meth addicts since 1969 and previously ran the largest heroin addiction rehab program in Pittsburgh.

“We’re creating some of the best traditional money trail, as opposed to searching meth dealers because this hierarchical structure has been distributed. He pointed out the problems being distributed. He pointed out the

Koch said.

“His skills and techniques and class relationship with the whale played a major role in helping the animal calm down and allowed him to eventually swim out of the pool,” Scarpuzzi said.

In the 1999 incident, Peters escaped injury by jumping out of the water, park officials said at the time.

Koontz said that the whale was being pinned by the foot and held him for less than a minute before surfacing, Koontz said.

“The trainer was being pinned by the foot at the bottom of the pool,” observer Karen Ingrandale told KFMB-TV in San Diego.

Mike Scarpuzzi, who oversees logistical operations, said Peters has been working with animals for 16 years, including 12 at Shamu Stadium.

“Allison Hoffman
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO — A killer whale that dragged a trainer underwater during a show at SeaWorld Adventure Park may be allowed to perform again after past incidents stretching back to 1993, park officials said Thursday.

The whale, Kasatka, tried to bite another trainer in 1993. Beaches and twice held him underwater during a show at SeaWorld.

“His skills and techniques and class relationship with the whale played a major role in helping the animal calm down and allowed him to eventually swim out of the pool,” Scarpuzzi said.

In the 1999 incident, Peters escaped injury by jumping out of the water, park officials said at the time.

Koontz said that the whale was being pinned by the foot at the bottom of the pool,” observer Karen Ingrandale told KFMB-TV in San Diego.

“They’re not something right, and the whale was down again under the water. Again they were splashing the water to try to get the whale to come to the surface,” Ingrandale said.

The whale finally released him, and Peters surfaced and swam away. Other trainers stretched a net between him and Kasatka, Koontz said.

He emerged from the tank with one leg of his vest suit torn.

“His skills and techniques and class relationship with the whale played a major role in helping the animal calm down and allowed him to eventually swim out of the pool,” Scarpuzzi said.

In the 1999 incident, Peters escaped injury by jumping out of the water, park officials said at the time.

Koontz said that the whale was being pinned by the foot at the bottom of the pool.”}

Qiong Zhang, a history instructor at SIU, shields herself from the wind and rain Thursday afternoon while walking to the Student Center for the Holiday Craft Sale.

Support the Dawgs!

Go to www.thesouthern.com/playoffs
for extended coverage of Saturday’s SIU vs. Montana game.

Team Comparisons
Photos
Interactive Blogs for SIU and Grizzlies fans

Make your predictions and wish the Dawgs good luck!
Expectations run high for the SIU football team, as they should be — the Salukis’ 38-11 record since the beginning of the 2003 season is reason enough. Reaching the Division I-AA Championship playoffs for four straight seasons is another obvious culprit.

Regardless of any rough sledding in the regular season (anybody remember those consecutive losses in October?), it’s hard to picture the Salukis as an underdog anymore when it comes to football, but that’s the case as they travel up to Missoula, Mont., to face the mighty Grizzlies on Saturday. Yes, Montana, ranked No. 2 in the I-AA national polls, is at least a slight favorite in this matchup, but that is to be expected.

After all, they are ranked No. 2, and it’s been a while since SIU has seen the top 10, and of course there’s the home-field advantage. Montana has a 23,000-seat house that will be pumped up and ready for victory. Also, you have to figure there will be some sort of period of adjustment for our valiant explorers of championship football.

Like those who long ago stretched the wilds of this nation to find unknown treasures and great prosperity, SIU football has spent its recent playoff runs going off to places we know little of around here in search of a national championship. Last year, it was Appalachia, now it’s the “Big Sky Country.”

Last year, these maroon Lewis’ and Clark’s came up short against an Appalachian State University team featuring a battle-tested quarterback who tore them apart. With Montana, we can only speculate on what kind of weapons they have and how they will be used.

From home, we send our best wishes and hope for some sort of reliable source of info on how the guys are doing (if not ESPN or ESPN2, then at least ESPN Ocho will do). When they come back, as victors or as the defeated, we will throw our arms around them and say, “Great job!” or, “You’ll get them next time.” If the latter has to happen, an existence of truth will come with it, SIU has become much better at reloading talent, but that doesn’t mean it wouldn’t hurt a little.

Still, the thrill is in the hunt. For so long after a national championship, the entire country was unified in the idea that the 1983 Salukis were the greatest football team the country had ever seen. Now, the Salukis are, for a second straight year, playing in December. It doesn’t get better than this, no matter the final score.

At this point, you know what comes in this situation. It’s time for you to show your true colors, a TV and get your best disses going against Montana (some ammo). In January their minimum wage jumps up to $6.15 an hour, ours is already at $6.50, ha ha.) The SIU team knows what to do — talented seniors, led by All-American running back Arkeel Whitlock feel their college careers are far from over and that their teammates are ready to back them up.

Sure, Montana hasn’t been on the Salukis’ travel itinerary before, but SIU has a little experience in the wilderness, so they should be okay while walking in the path of these Grizzlies. Still, it doesn’t hurt to wish for a little good luck and a machete or two.
All he wanted was a sandwich

Artwork and column by Alex Ayala

Have you ever made a late-night run to get the remnant of chips, only to get yourself into some sort of altercation you thought couldn’t have been worth it, maybe a battle of words? If you’re the rapper with “No Name,” then yes you have.

On a recent Wednesday night, Gregory Scott Aarons, an undecided freshman from Chicago’s south side who goes by the alias “No Name,” went to Grinnell Hall, fueled by a craving for a ham sandwich and chicken strips. When he got to Grinnell, Aarons encountered an unusually large crowd in the basement, one assembled to witness hip-hop in one of its purest forms.

That night, the Registered Student Organization Underground Arts was conducting its second monthly show called “Fight Klub.”

Fight Klub was inspired and named after an MTV2 show which pitted talented battle rappers against each other in a contest of words, resulting in a cash prize and a boost to their careers.

The coat was so out of place in the audience that it was referred to by his opponents as “General Al Aarons” — a title that was worth, that state of mind.

Aarons has practiced the art of rapping and improvisation since his childhood days, and this seemed like an opportunity to shine and showcase his ability.

“As a kid, I used to rap to songs of other rappers such as LL Cool J, and I would put my own lyrics and name on it,” Aarons said.

When Aarons entered the crowd, rapper “Real” was obliterating the competition. Aarons acknowledged the emcee’s talent but wasn’t one of those shooting out “ohhhs” and “ahhhs.”

“I waited for 20 minutes, and nobody challenged him, so I figured he was pretty competent,” Aarons said.

What those around him didn’t know was that Aarons was waiting for the opportunity to go against the best of the best that night. After a call for a new challenger against “Real,” Aarons squeezed through the masses like a lucky ticket holder at a carnival raffle. To the amazement of the crowd, this rugged, bespectacled boy with the puffly camouflage coat delivered strong verses right away.

“I was just hungry at the time,” Aarons said.

Aarons said that he looked like someone from Iraq, and that was why he was an active soldier in Iraq.

Less was at stake while in Grinnell after having been deployed to do security duty in Al Asad and Al Qaim in the northwest section of Baghdad, he said.

Over the next few rounds, metaphors and similes spit out of Aarons as if he was Muhammad Ali in a primetime mode. Aarons was declared an easy winner.

Most in the crowd were tempted to hear more from Aarons against a new challenger, but Aarons exited the circle and proceeded to the Grinnell cafeteria for his sandwich and chicken strips.

“I was just hungry at the time,” Aarons said.

A similar hunger and desire to perform is the benchmark inspiration most of the performers in Fight Klub have. They hope to engage in an activity that has been with them since childhood.

While everything hip-hop has become a marketing gimmick for BET, MTV, and the World Wide Web, those involved in these organized emcee battles are trying to find a way to capture the essence of hip-hop.

This art form has come close to extinction in Carbondale as students who love it struggle to find forms of entertainment that fit them.

With the weekly Hangar 9 hip-hop shows being moved away from the Strip to Nights Over Egypt, only time will tell what will happen to hip-hop at SIUC and to artists such as “No Name,” who are hoping to add their kind of flavor to this town.
One university program has taken an active approach to helping children with autism.

The Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders is located in the Wham Building. Anthony Cuvo, professor of behavior analysis and therapy and the director of the center, said it provides training for graduate students to teach them to effectively work with children with autism. Through this, he said, the program benefits children in the southern Illinois region.

"Our unique niche is a graduate student training program," Cuvo said. "And then the children benefit from that."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site, autism is a spectrum disorder that impairs the development of a person's social interaction and communication skills. The individual usually exhibits odd behavior or has unusual interests, the site said.

Cuvo said the center started on campus in 2000 when he and a colleague started training graduate students to work with children with autism. The center was eventually set as the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders and has continued to grow. It is part of Illinois' "The Autism Program," which helps develop services for children with autism.

"If the younger we get them and the milder the autism and the fewer of the other disorders they have, the better the prognosis," he said.

Alessa Berman, a graduate student from Chicago studying behavioral analysis and therapy, said she has always enjoyed working with children and realized through her experiences in the past few years as an aid for a boy with autism that she wanted to work with autistic children.

"That's why I keep doing it, because I see progress, and that's a really cool thing to see," she said.

Kirsten Schaper, a speech language pathologist for the center, said autism affects males more than females by a 4-1 ratio. Psychological disorders in general occur more frequently in males, she said.

Cuvo said autism is a genetic disorder and that environmental factors play a role. The genes, or combinations of genes, that create the disorder are unknown, he said.

While treatment can do a lot to help children with autism develop more normally, Cuvo said effects of the disorder never fully leave those who suffer from it.

"There's always going to be some residue of autism," Cuvo said. "Even if they make great strides."

Ryan Rendleman can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 258 or ryanrendleman@dailyegyptian.com.

Graduate program benefits autistic children

Ryan Rendleman

One university program has taken an active approach to helping children with autism.

The Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders is located in the Wham Building. Anthony Cuvo, professor of behavior analysis and therapy and the director of the center, said it provides training for graduate students to teach them to effectively work with children with autism. Through this, he said, the program benefits children in the southern Illinois region.

"Our unique niche is a graduate student training program," Cuvo said. "And then the children benefit from that."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site, autism is a spectrum disorder that impairs the development of a person's social interaction and communication skills. The individual usually exhibits odd behavior or has unusual interests, the site said.

Cuvo said the center started on campus in 2000 when he and a colleague started training graduate students to work with children with autism. The center was eventually set as the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders and has continued to grow. It is part of Illinois' "The Autism Program," which helps develop services for children with autism.

"If the younger we get them and the milder the autism and the fewer of the other disorders they have, the better the prognosis," he said.

Alessa Berman, a graduate student from Chicago studying behavioral analysis and therapy, said she has always enjoyed working with children and realized through her experiences in the past few years as an aid for a boy with autism that she wanted to work with autistic children.

"That's why I keep doing it, because I see progress, and that's a really cool thing to see," she said.

Kirsten Schaper, a speech language pathologist for the center, said autism affects males more than females by a 4-1 ratio. Psychological disorders in general occur more frequently in males, she said.

Cuvo said autism is a genetic disorder and that environmental factors play a role. The genes, or combinations of genes, that create the disorder are unknown, he said.

While treatment can do a lot to help children with autism develop more normally, Cuvo said effects of the disorder never fully leave those who suffer from it.

"There's always going to be some residue of autism," Cuvo said. "Even if they make great strides."

Ryan Rendleman can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 258 or ryanrendleman@dailyegyptian.com.
Report talks about South Africa’s increasing AIDS-related deaths

Clare Nullis
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Fewer than half of South Africa’s 15-year-olds will live to see their 60th birthdays because of HIV/AIDS, according to a new report.

An estimated 950 people died per day between 2006 and AIDS-related diseases and a further 1,400 were infected per day — a total of 360,000 new infections, said the report by the Astranet Society of South Africa and the Medical Research Council.

The report, issued every two years and widely used as a model for predicting the course of the disease and its impact, included an estimate that 5.4 million of South Africa’s 48 million people were infected with the AIDS virus by the middle of 2006 — a figure in line with the government’s own estimates issued earlier this year.

Only India is believed to have more people infected with HIV than South Africa.

The report said life expectancy dropped from 63 in 1990 to 51 in 2006. In the hardest hit province of KwaZulu-Natal, it was as low as 43.

“The Demographic Impact of HIV/AIDS in South Africa: National and Provincial Indicators for 2006” said that 13-year-olds had a 56 percent chance of dying before the age of 60, compared to a 29 percent chance of dying in 1990.

The report said 2.6 million of today’s 15-year-olds are facing a bleak future, and much still needs to be done to protect and support this vulnerable group,” said Leigh Johnson, one of the authors of the report.

The South African government, long under fire for doing too little to prevent the spread of AIDS and to promote effective treatments, recently revamped its strategy. It gave responsibility to Deputy Prime Minister Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and the Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang, who has been criticized for praising garlic, lemons and the African potato as remedies while disparaging the benefits of antiretroviral medicines.

Mlambo-Ngcuka is due to unveil a new national strategy on how to test Russians who traveled aboard the two British Airways planes on which radiation was detected.

The report, issued every two years, said life expectancy will fall to 40 by 2016 if 90 percent of people with AIDS were given treatment, then by 2010 approximately 380,000 AIDS deaths would occur each year.

This compared to approximately 291,000 deaths if 90 percent of people progressing to AIDS started treatment.

The report said approximately 230,000 HIV-infected individuals were receiving antiretroviral treatment and in 2006 a further 540,000 were sick with AIDS but not receiving any therapy.

The youth of today are facing a bleak future, and much still needs to be done to protect and support this vulnerable group.

— Leigh Johnson
one of the authors of the report

FBI joins British investigation of poisoned spy

Jennifer Quinn
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — The FBI is joining the British probe into the poisoning death of a Kremlin critic, the agency announced Thursday. An investigation found traces of radiation at a dozen sites in Britain and a former Russian prime minister reported symptoms consistent with poisoning.

British authorities requested the involvement of the FBI, agency spokesman Richard Kolko said. FBI experts in weapons of mass destruction will assist with some of the scientific analysis, he said.

There is no suspected link to the U.S. in an investigation that extends to five airliners and locations from London to Moscow.

Russian officials said radiation levels were normal on two suspect Russian jets and appealed to British officials for information on how to test Russians who traveled aboard the two British Airways planes on which radiation has so far been detected.

Argo Gaidar, who served briefly as prime minister in the 1990s under Russian President Boris Yeltsin, vomited and then fainted during a conference in March. Nov. 24, a day after ex-KGB agent Alexander Litvinenko died of radiation poisoning.

Doctors treating Gaidar in Moscow believe he was also poisoned, said his spokesman, Valeriy Natanov.

While Litvinenko was a fierce critic of the Kremlin who during his waning hours blamed President Vladimir Putin for his poisoning, Gaidar, one of the leaders of a liberal opposition party, is a figure with little influence in today’s Russia whose moderate criticism of the Kremlin has focused on economic issues.

Gaidar’s illness has added strands to a growing web of opposition in Russia over the death of Litvinenko and the Oct. 7 killing of investigative reporter Anna Politkovskaya. Some critics see the hand of hardliners in the country’s ruling elite, while Kremlin backers have suggested a murder plot by self-exiled tycoon Boris Berezovsky to blacken the government’s reputation.

Andrei Lugovoy, another former KGB spy who was Litvinenko on the day he fell ill, served as Litvinenko’s bodyguard at one point. But there was no other immediate link with Litvinenko, who was poisoned by a radioactive element called polonium-210.

The former Russian prime minister’s daughter, Maria, and Putin had called her father on the phone to inquire about his health and wish him a smooth recovery.

Gaidar, 50, was feeling better Thursday, according to Natanov.

“His condition is stable and improving. Doctors say there is no threat to his life at the moment.”

An autopsy on Litvinenko was to be conducted Friday. Since he became sick a month ago, the story behind the former spy’s poisoning has riveted the world with twists and turns that have resembled like that out of a James Bond film.
**AIDS continued from page 1**

“...There’s not as many deaths in the United States because people are taking the necessary medicines, but we’re still seeing a substantial increase in the number of people who are infected,” Kittleson said.

Kelly Klinger, a 32-year-old graduate student studying social work, is fighting to prevent these misconceptions. As president of the SIUC chapter of AWADAIDS Network International, Klinger and her group of about 20 members have worked to bring prevention strategies and education to the campus. She said the Registered Student Organization aims to combat the epidemic across the Carbondale community.

"Once people are educated, they no longer believe things they used to believe," Klinger said. "It kind of breaks the barriers when people are finally educated and hear the truth about how this is really spread and breaks the barriers when people are no longer believe things they used to believe.

She said the group tries to make it a comfortable topic that people would be open and willing to discuss because it is closer to home than many believe.

’It’s not talked about, it’s pretty taboo, so we try to bring it home to people who are living with it here,” Klinger said.

Idris Alabi, a sophomore from Benin studying accounting, said his country in Africa has not been as highly affected as most, but the problem is still prevalent.

Alabi said contraceptive use and abstinence have been growing trends that have helped limit the epidemic. The key factor, he said, is educating people about prevention techniques.

“Most of the people who are educated in Africa learn about it, and they know about it,” Alabi said. “People who don’t go to school, it’s more difficult.”

He said he was not informed about HIV and AIDS until he was 16 years old.

"Many people, they have sex before they are 16," Alabi said. "They need to be educated at a young age.

Kittleson said this is true for American education as well.

"People think knowledge is harmful,” Kittleson said. "They say, ‘If you talk to kids about sex, they’ll do it.’ If you talk to kids about contraceptives, they’re going to use it, and that’s not the case at all.

He said research shows young people who are provided with information are more likely to use protection when they do become sexually active.

"We need to get off this fear that knowledge is harmful," Kittleson said. "We need to talk to kids about sexuality because this is the most critical time to talk to them about it, because these are decisions that are killing people."
DON'T GAMBLE WITH YOUR HOUSING!

Send your applications in by January 1st and get this year's rent rate. Check out the website for virtual tours.

Get in Touch with Your Apartments For 2007
Solution to Friday's puzzle

By Aaron Warner

Two Dudes

When the butler and maid did the bed, the rich boy’s friend said he — HAD IT “MADE”

Friday, December 1, 2006

By Linda Black

Today’s Birthday (12-01-06). You can have great adventures this year, action, romance and brilliant discoveries. Don’t do it all, vicariously, sitting on your couch. Get out and be a major player.

To get the advantage, check the day’s rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 10 - Be your own scout and check out the territory you mean to acquire. Some of the information can be found in books but a visit is still required.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - You don’t have to make a lot of noise about your success. Living comfortably is the reward you’ve been after. You’re making it happen.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - You and everyone else on your team have a common objective. Don’t let them forget what it is for a minute. Your full intention is required.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - It’s a tough job but that’s why it pays so well. Don’t take any chances. Before you say you’ll do it, get a very comfortable contract.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 10 - Make a list of all the stuff you’ll be, do and have by this time next year. It’s early but the odds are in your favor now.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - You’ll develop the plan. You can even draw it on a big chart, so the others know what they’re supposed to do. Make an offer they can’t refuse.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 9 - You’re looking very good, and so is somebody you love. Graciously let yourself be talked into doing something you’ll greatly enjoy.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 5 - First, finish the job you started and collect your reward. Later, celebrate with a person who always makes you smile.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 10 - Get started early and use the skills that you’ve been practicing. Wonderful sensations are waiting to be experienced, by you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - A few of the items you’ve had stashed away have appreciated in value. The trick is to figure out which ones have, and get them to the right market.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - Having a wide range of points of view at your disposal is good. Ask the others if any of them understand this gibberish. Somebody undoubtedly will.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - You remember things that other people like, and other people like that about you. And, it can help your career, but only if you’re sincere.

(c) 2006, TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES INC. Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune

Girls and Sports

by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Today’s Haricopes are brought to you by...

By Glenn McCoy

DAILY EGYP'TIAN

Girls and Sports

by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

Today’s Birthday (12-01-06). You can have great adventures this year, action, romance and brilliant discoveries. Don’t do it all, vicariously, sitting on your couch. Get out and be a major player.

To get the advantage, check the day’s rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 10 - Be your own scout and check out the territory you mean to acquire. Some of the information can be found in books but a visit is still required.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - You don’t have to make a lot of noise about your success. Living comfortably is the reward you’ve been after. You’re making it happen.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - You and everyone else on your team have a common objective. Don’t let them forget what it is for a minute. Your full intention is required.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - It’s a tough job but that’s why it pays so well. Don’t take any chances. Before you say you’ll do it, get a very comfortable contract.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 10 - Make a list of all the stuff you’ll be, do and have by this time next year. It’s early but the odds are in your favor now.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - You’ll develop the plan. You can even draw it on a big chart, so the others know what they’re supposed to do. Make an offer they can’t refuse.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 9 - You’re looking very good, and so is somebody you love. Graciously let yourself be talked into doing something you’ll greatly enjoy.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 5 - First, finish the job you started and collect your reward. Later, celebrate with a person who always makes you smile.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 10 - Get started early and use the skills that you’ve been practicing. Wonderful sensations are waiting to be experienced, by you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - A few of the items you’ve had stashed away have appreciated in value. The trick is to figure out which ones have, and get them to the right market.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is an 8 - Having a wide range of points of view at your disposal is good. Ask the others if any of them understand this gibberish. Somebody undoubtedly will.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - You remember things that other people like, and other people like that about you. And, it can help your career, but only if you’re sincere.

(c) 2006, TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES INC. Distributed by McClatchy-Tribune

Can’t find where that Funky Smell is coming from in your apartment?

“ ”

— Gusimus Maximus

Sudoku

by Michael Mepham

Sudoku

© 2006 Michael Mepham. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.
Weber CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

“It's a tough place to play, and it was a dogfight, I thought, here last year,” Eikenberg said. “I'm assuming it will be nothing less, hopefully, a dogfight out there Saturday.”

Eikenberg said he hopes it will be a gritty affair, which would conform to his team's defensive style. She said the game against Austin Peay was “one of the ugliest games” she’s ever taken part in and expects more of the same against Weber State.

“We just better be the more scrappy team. We don't have a choice,” Eikenberg said. “We have to play like that right now. We have to make things happen off of our defense.”

The Wildcats’ shooting has been streaky this season — their three-point percentage against Utah was 18.9. In the previous game, though, Weber State shot 35.6 percent from beyond the arc.

In 2005, the Salukis held the Wildcats to 12.0 percent three-point shooting en route to the victory.

Eikenberg said success for SIU is “all a matter of confidence. I have no doubt this team works with elevated confidence. They pick up on things easily. They are good guys, and we seemed to have fig-ured it out, so I think we will be fine.”

Justice, though, put any doubt to rest and said the offense has been doing fine with adjusting to the new strategy.

“It’s worked great for us so far,” Justice said. “I've been working with these guys for two or three years, and they pick up on things easily. They are good guys, and we seemed to have figured it out, so I think we will be fine.”

Another obstacle that could hinder the Salukis could be the weather. The Montana State Billikens (5-1) from of their own backyard should only add to the Salukis’ proving ground.

Weather would not be a factor once the Salukis get there, according to Justice. “We have all played in cold weather, so once the game starts, I don't think it will be a problem for us at all,” Hill said. “It's like anyone who has played football in their back yard in the cold — once you're done, you are in your T-shirt anyway. The weather is not a factor.”

The Salukis will undoubtedly need another superlative performance from senior running back Arkee Whitlock. The Montanans were held to a career-high eight points against Austin Peay with a win.

In 2005, the Salukis held the Wildcats to 12.0 percent three-point shooting en route to the victory.

Eikenberg said Bailey is playing at a high level.

Bailey scored a career-high eight points against Austin Peay with a win.

In 2005, the Salukis held the Wildcats to 12.0 percent three-point shooting en route to the victory.

Eikenberg said Bailey is playing at a high level.
Three Salukis shine at U.S. Open

Santoro, Hedo and Possato make finals

Matt Hartwig

No records were broken, but the SIU swimming and diving team got the job done at the U.S. Open.

Three of the six Salukis who entered the Open made it to the finals Thursday — Antonio Santoro, Dennis Hedo and former Saluki Marcello Possato qualified for the finals after finishing in the top 25.

Meanwhile, Julie Ju, Stephen Ackermann and Alex Marrucho, who also qualified for the meet, did not fare as well.

Although the three didn’t make the finals, they still have a chance to qualify for the finals in different events — the 100-meter backstroke, 200-breaststroke and the 100-200-freestyle will take place today.

Head swimming and diving coach Rick Walker said Ju was feeling sick the entire day, which may have led to her disappointing performance — she finished in 73rd place.

“Those who didn’t qualify are a bit disappointed, and the first swim in 50-freestyle to qualify in the finals, Santoro, said he did better during the finals.

Hedo said he was happy to make the finals and qualifying for the B circuit was a pleasant surprise.

“I wish I could have done a little bit better in the finals, but I’m happy with my day,” Hedo said. “It’s cool to race against guys like Crocker because I have their posters on my wall.”

The finals weren’t exactly fruitful for Possato and Santoro either — Possato finished in 24th place. Santoro finished in 23rd seed for the 400-freestyle C-circuit finals while Possato garnered the 14th seed for the 200-backstroke B-circuit finals.

Perhaps the biggest surprise, though, was Hedo, who finished 13th in the 50-freestyle to qualify for the B-circuit finals.

Hedo knocked off Ian Crocker, an Olympic gold medalist and a world champion from the University of Montana.

Walker said he was pleased with his team’s overall performance, which met his goals.

“I think these guys came in here with a mission,” Walker said. “We upped the ante out there, and we got to the top 24.”

Matt Hartwig can be reached at mhartwig@dailyegyptian.com.
Salukis in the snow?

SIU will face No. 2-ranked team in playoffs for second straight year

Brian Feldt
Today Edition

The two most playoff-experienced teams in the Division I-AA football will collide Saturday.

The Salukis will travel to Missouri, Missouri, to take on the No. 2-ranked University of Montana. The winner will advance to the semifinals of the Division I-AA playoffs - the Salukis' four longest consecutive seasons in the playoffs — the Salukis' four straight appearances (2003-06) is second only to Montana's 14 straight showings (1993-2006).

The Salukis could be presented with a tough challenge: The Grizzlies have a 132-18 all-time record in Washington-Grizzly Stadium and are 21-4-4 in home playoff games.

The Montana football program has trained its fans to erupt just as opposing quarterbacks are about to snap the football. SIU head coach Jerry Kill said running quarterbacks are about to snap the ball during the game against Missouri on Saturday.

Saluki quarterback Nick Hill attempts to dodge Tennessee-Martin defensive lineman Will Grant's grip while running the ball during the Saluki first-round playoff game against the University of Tennessee-Martin on Saturday afternoon at McAndrew Stadium.


Bounty on the Billikens

Saluki basketball team looks to average 2005 loss to Saint Louis

Jordan Wilson
Today Edition

A game in Carbondale couldn't come any sooner for the SIU men's basketball team.

After traveling thousands of miles to an Orlando tournament and experiencing a flight delay after the Louisiana Tech University game, the Salukis will finally be back at their old stomping ground in time for a Saturday matchup with Saint Louis University.

And just as they did against Louisiana Tech — a game SIU won Wednesday, 50-36 — the Salukis will be looking to average a 56-42 loss against the Billikens last season.

In a postgame radio interview, forward Matt Shaw said the Salukis have still outscored their last opponent 60-53 on average.

The silent snap count, which Justice said was used last year against the University of Northern Iowa, will allow for less confusion when calling a play at the line of scrimmage.

The approach seemed to work successfully against the Panthers in 2005 despite the 25-24 Saluki loss.

Then-starting quarterback Joel Sambursky threw for 253 yards and two touchdowns while the offense racked up 465 total yards — a very reasonable number.

With first-year quarterback Nick Hill now in the huddle, the Salukis will try the technique with a new quarterback.

The silent snap count, which Justice said was used last year against the University of Northern Iowa, will allow for less confusion when calling a play at the line of scrimmage.

The approach seemed to work successfully against the Panthers in 2005 despite the 25-24 Saluki loss.

Then-starting quarterback Joel Sambursky threw for 253 yards and two touchdowns while the offense racked up 465 total yards — a very reasonable number.

With first-year quarterback Nick Hill now in the huddle, the Salukis will try the technique with a new quarterback.


Men's Basketball

Bounty on the Billikens

Saluki basketball team looks to average 2005 loss to Saint Louis

Jordan Wilson
Today Edition

A game in Carbondale couldn't come any sooner for the SIU men's basketball team.

After traveling thousands of miles to an Orlando tournament and experiencing a flight delay after the Louisiana Tech University game, the Salukis will finally be back at their old stomping ground in time for a Saturday matchup with Saint Louis University.

And just as they did against Louisiana Tech — a game SIU won Wednesday, 50-36 — the Salukis will be looking to average a 56-42 loss against the Billikens last season.

In a postgame radio interview, forward Matt Shaw said the Salukis have still outscored their last opponent 60-53 on average.

The silent snap count, which Justice said was used last year against the University of Northern Iowa, will allow for less confusion when calling a play at the line of scrimmage.

The approach seemed to work successfully against the Panthers in 2005 despite the 25-24 Saluki loss.

Then-starting quarterback Joel Sambursky threw for 253 yards and two touchdowns while the offense racked up 465 total yards — a very reasonable number.

With first-year quarterback Nick Hill now in the huddle, the Salukis will try the technique with a new quarterback.

The silent snap count, which Justice said was used last year against the University of Northern Iowa, will allow for less confusion when calling a play at the line of scrimmage.

The approach seemed to work successfully against the Panthers in 2005 despite the 25-24 Saluki loss.

Then-starting quarterback Joel Sambursky threw for 253 yards and two touchdowns while the offense racked up 465 total yards — a very reasonable number.

With first-year quarterback Nick Hill now in the huddle, the Salukis will try the technique with a new quarterback.


Women's Basketball

Salukis travel to Weber State

Scott Mieszala
Today Edition

Momentum might finally be on the Salukis’ side. The SIU women’s basketball team ended a three-game slide Wednesday with a win over Austin Peay State University. The Salukis look to carry their momentum into Saturday’s game against Weber State University.

The Salukis (2-4) defeated the Lady Governors, 54-41, after a string of losses against Saint Louis University, the University of San Francisco and the University of Kentucky.

After the game, senior forward Caral Moore said the Austin Peay game was a “must-win” with the team preparing to embark on its four-game road trip, which begins 3 p.m. Saturday at Weber State.

“I think a win builds confidence within the team,” Moore said. “It’s a great motivational push for us.”

The Wildcats are fresh off a 77-43 loss to the University of Utah — a game in which Weber State shot 26.4 percent from the field.

Last season, SIU hosted Weber State in its season opener. The Salukis prevailed, 55-48, with strong performances by junior guard Eryn Pauk and the since departed Amy Hayden.

Head coach Denei Eickenberg said she expects the same kind of game from the Wildcats in Ogden, Utah.

See WEBER, Page 14

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Scott Mieszala
Today Edition

Momentum might finally be on the Salukis’ side. The SIU women’s basketball team ended a three-game slide Wednesday with a win over Austin Peay State University. The Salukis look to carry their momentum into Saturday’s game against Weber State University.

The Salukis (2-4) defeated the Lady Governors, 54-41, after a string of losses against Saint Louis University, the University of San Francisco and the University of Kentucky.

After the game, senior forward Caral Moore said the Austin Peay game was a “must-win” with the team preparing to embark on its four-game road trip, which begins 3 p.m. Saturday at Weber State.

“I think a win builds confidence within the team,” Moore said. “It’s a great motivational push for us.”

The Wildcats are fresh off a 77-43 loss to the University of Utah — a game in which Weber State shot 26.4 percent from the field.

Last season, SIU hosted Weber State in its season opener. The Salukis prevailed, 55-48, with strong performances by junior guard Eryn Pauk and the since departed Amy Hayden.

Head coach Denei Eickenberg said she expects the same kind of game from the Wildcats in Ogden, Utah.

See WEBER, Page 14