

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

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February 2000

Daily Egyptian 2000

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## The Daily Egyptian, February 01, 2000

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Volume 85, Issue 85

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DAILY EGYPTIAN

Tuesday  
FEBRUARY 1, 2000

**Rams**  
Director of core curriculum program stresses importance of required courses.

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**Digital**  
Director of core curriculum program stresses importance of required courses.

page 3

**City Council**  
The Carbondale City Council will meet tonight at 7 in the Carbondale Civic Center, 200 S. Illinois Ave.

**FORECAST**

**TODAY**  
Cloudy  
High: 38  
Low: 18

**TOMORROW**  
Cloudy  
High: 43  
Low: 26

SINGLE COPY FEE  
VOL. 85, NO. 85  
12 PAGES



DEVIN MILLER - DAILY EGYPTIAN

**BRINGING IT HOME:** Lindy Eidsenmayer celebrates along Market Street during the St. Louis Ram's victory parade on Monday. Police estimate 40,000 fans crowded the streets of downtown St. Louis for the 4:30 p.m. parade to celebrate the first ever Rams Super Bowl win in franchise history against the Tennessee Titans. See related story, page 6

## New Jersey housing fire an eye-opener for SIU

*Authorities worried false fire alarms desensitizing housing residents*

KELLY E. HERTLEIN  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS EDITOR

Garrel Smith and his roommate John Giunta slowly woke to the sound of a fire alarm and soon realized thick clouds of smoke and uncontrollable flames were quickly claiming their building. The young men rushed to escape together, feeling their way through the halls and stairways. Screaming students, coughing and unbridled fear made the attempt to flee the building more difficult. Once outside, Smith turned to check on his roommate, only to find that Giunta had not

been able to escape.

Like many students in residence halls at SIUC, waking to the sound of a fire alarm was common place for many students residing in Boland Hall at Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J. Several false alarms during finals week led students to think an alarm triggered last Wednesday was simply another intoxicated student pulling a prank. Smith and Giunta, both 18-year-old freshmen, were among those students who had become desensitized to such sounds.

Giunta was one of three students who perished in the Seton Hall fire. Two students burned to death, one died from smoke inhalation and several others suffered severe burns. Also injured were two firemen and three police officers.

With more than 80 false alarms on campus at SIUC in 1999, the lure of

pranks turning deadly may be fatally real. Fires occurring in Boomer III last semester is an example of a potential threat SIUC officials are trying to avoid.

Jamie Schrader, a senior in social work from Wonder Lake, is a resident of Neely Hall. She and many students living in residence halls have become accustomed to the routine of being woken by the blaring fire alarms.

"We leave very slowly," Schrader said laughing. "A lot of us think they are fake and figure someone pulled them so we take our time. I get dressed for the weather as my suite-mate puts in her contacts."

Schrader said while living in Schneider Hall, nearly two years ago, the alarm system sounded more like an alarm clock than a fire alarm.

"Schneider was a buzzing noise, and I just always thought it was my alarm clock,

if it even woke me up."

The triads and Brush Towers have recently been equipped with new fire alarm systems, including strobe lights, sirens and a loud-speaker recording requesting students to exit and move away from the building.

**VOICES**

With all the housing fires around the country, we need to stop crying wolf.  
PAGE 4

Assistant Director of Housing Glenn Stine said during the summer, Thompson Point will receive a \$500,000 fire safety makeover, the first such changes since the structures were built in the late 1950s. Four of the 11 housing units in

SEE FIRE, PAGE 5

## Governor forces stops on state's capital punishment

*Ryan wants Illinois' death penalty system examined*

RHONDA SCIARRA AND  
DAVID FERRARA  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTERS

Gov. George Ryan's decision to halt all executions of Illinois' death-row inmates Monday pleases a Carbondale-based group that has spent the last two years lobbying for the same outcome.

Ryan's actions to make Illinois the first state to stop capital punishment will remain in effect until the state creates a panel to investigate the system.

Since the death penalty was reinstated here in 1977, 13 death-row inmates have been cleared and 12 have been put to death.

Elsie Speck is a co-chair of the Southern Illinois Campaign for a Moratorium on the Death Penalty, a group of about 10 Southern Illinois residents that has spent the past two years pushing for an end of capital punishment.

"I'm glad the governor had the courage," Speck said. "This is only a small victory that we've had. We've got to continue to open the doors. The whole prison system has to be studied."

Ryan said he thinks the death penalty is still a proper response for heinous crimes,

but was convinced to cease capital punishment by a series of articles in the Chicago Tribune. The Tribune articles highlighted serious flaws within the state capital-punishment system.

"I now favor a moratorium because I have grave concerns about our state's shameful record of convicting innocent people and putting them on death row," Ryan said. "And I believe many Illinois residents now feel that same deep reservation. I cannot support a system, which in its administration, has proven to be so fraught with error and has come so close to the ultimate

*Faculty and students favor moratorium*

GINNY SKALSKI  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

It sounds like it is straight out of a movie: Someone is put on death row, his or her life is to end at the hand of the state only to find evidence suggesting the person may not be guilty of the crime he or she was accused of.

But it is not a movie; it is what has happened in Illinois 13 times in the past 22 years.

Thirteen death-row inmates have been cleared of the death penalty since 1977, while only 12 have been executed.

Monday, Gov. George Ryan imposed a moratorium on the death penalty in Illinois.

Albert Melone, professor of political science, is sure these numbers are the reason Gov. Ryan has halted all executions in Illinois until a panel is created to investigate the state's capital-punishment system.

"There's considerable evidence that the state of Illinois has wrongfully convicted people on death row," Melone said. "It's a very serious matter to execute someone who is not guilty of a crime."

Melone said he thinks the problem stems in the judicial system where many defendants do

SEE MORATORIUM, PAGE 5

SEE DECISION, PAGE 5



is published Monday through Friday, during the fall and spring semesters and four times a week during the summer semester except during vacations and exam weeks by the students of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

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 DAILY EGYPTIAN (USPS 169220) is published by Southern Illinois University. Offices are in the Communications Building at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, Ill. 62901. Phone (618) 536-3311, news fax (618) 453-8244, ad fax (618) 453-3248. Donal Johnson, business manager. First copy is free; each additional copy 50 cents. Mail subscription available. Postmaster: Send all changes of address to DAILY EGYPTIAN, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. 62901. Second Class Postage paid at Carbondale, Ill.

**CALENDAR**

Calendar item deadline is two publication days before the event. The item must include time, date, place, admission and sponsor of the event and the name and phone of the person submitting the item. Items should be delivered to Communications Building, Room 1247. All calendar items also appear in www.dailyegyptian.com. No calendar information will be taken over the phone.

**TODAY**

- Carbondale Community/ SIU Winter Blood Drives, Feb. 1, 4 to 8 p.m., Recreation Center and Delta Zeta, Vivian 457-5258.
- Baptist Collegiate Ministry Center is offering free lunch for internationals, every Tues., 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Baptist Student Center on the corner of Mill and Forrest St., Judy 457-2898.
- Japanese Table, every Tues., noon to 1 p.m., Student Center Cambria Room, bring your lunch, Dawn 536-6380.
- College of Liberal Arts Advisement appointment information, graduating summer or fall, Feb. 1, senior not graduating, Feb. 3, specialized populations, Feb. 8, all other students, Feb. 11, self advisement, Mar. 21, art/design, music, speech and theater students are exceptions and need to see their respective advisors.
- Instructional Programs Tai Chi, Feb. 1 through Mar. 7 and Mar. 28 to May 2, 5 to 6 p.m., SRC Dance Studio, Michelle 453-1263.
- SPC Films meeting to select films for student entertainment, every Tues., 5 p.m., basement of Student Center, Amanda 536-3393.
- College of Liberal Arts Student Learning Assistance, now through May 11, Mon. and Thurs. 5 to 9 p.m., Wed. 1 to 5 p.m., Faner 1229, Mary Jane 453-2466.
- Saluki Naturalists meeting, 6 p.m., Ag. 209, Ed 529-4510.
- Alpha Kappa Psi informational meeting, 6 p.m., Mississippi Room Student Center, Amber 536-1153.
- Circle K meeting, 6:30 p.m., room announced on scheduled events board in Student Center, Patrick pmukora@siu.edu.

• Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity is having an undergraduate and graduate informational, 8 p.m., Student Center Video Lounge, Rob 351-6559.

**UPCOMING**

- Carbondale Community/ SIU Winter Blood Drives, Feb. 2, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Kesner Hall 1225 Douglas Drive, 12:45 to 6:45 p.m., University Park-Trueblood, Vivian 457-5258.
- Public Relations Student Society of America open house, Feb. 2, 4:30 to 6 p.m., Corner Diner, Halima 529-4338.
- Instructional Programs improve your racquetball skills, Feb. 2, Beginners 6 to 7 p.m. and Intermediate 7 to 8 p.m., Racquetball Courts, Michelle 453-1263.
- Pi Sigma Epsilon meeting, every Wed., 6 p.m., Ohio Room Student Center, Amanda 351-8198.
- Alpha Kappa Psi informational meeting, Feb. 2, 6 p.m., Activity Room A Student Center, Amber 536-1153.
- AnimeKai presents Japanese animation films with English subtitles, every Wed., 6 to 8 p.m., Faner 1125 Language Media Center, Jason 536-6365.
- Cornerstone Christian Fellowship bible study in the books of Hebrews, Feb. 2, Inquiries Room Student Center, Wayne 529-4043.
- Chi Alpha Campus Ministries African American bible study, every Wed. and Thurs. 7 p.m., Ohio River Room Student Center, Karleton 549-8496.
- Association for Computing Machinery meeting open to all students, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m., Faner-1005, Caroline 457-5075.
- Organization of Sport and Exercise Science meeting, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m., Davies Gym Faculty Lounge, Mark 457-5092.
- Library Affairs finding books using ILLINET online, 9 to 10 a.m., introduction to constructing Web pages, 10 a.m. to noon, Morris Library 103D, 453-2818.
- Carbondale Community/SIU Winter

Blood Drives, Feb. 3, 4 to 8 p.m., Recreation Center, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Law School, 4 to 8 p.m., University Hall 1101 S. Wall St., 11 to 3 p.m., Pulliam Gym, Vivian 457-5258.

**UNIVERSITY**

- Department of Philosophy meeting, Feb. 3, 4 p.m., Faner Hall New Media Center, Kim 536-6641.
- University Career Services resume/cover letter workshop, Feb. 3, 5 p.m., Lawson 121, Vickie 453-2391.
- Anthropology Club meeting, Feb. 3, 5 p.m., Booby's.
- SIUC Kendo Club meeting, every Thurs., 6 to 9 p.m., Davies Gym, Todd 353-4002.
- Instructional Programs Salsa Dance session to feel the heat of Latin music, Feb. 3 to Mar. 19, SRC Aerobics Room, Michelle 453-1263.
- Instructional Program Irish Social Dance session, Feb. 3 through Mar. 9 and Mar. 23 through Apr. 27, 7 to 8:30 p.m., SRC Dance Studio, Michelle 453-1263.
- SIU Veterans Association meeting, Feb. 3, 7 p.m., Saline Room Student Center, MaryAnn 985-9937.
- SIU Sailing Club meeting, every Thurs., 8 p.m., Ohio Room contact Shelley 529-0993.
- Carbondale Community/ SIU Winter Blood Drives, Feb. 4, 12:45 to 6:45 p.m., Thompson Pl-Lentz, Vivian 457-5258.
- Library Affairs introduction to constructing Web pages, Feb. 4, 3 to 5 p.m., Morris Library Room 103D, 453-2818.
- Spanish Table meeting, every Fri., 4 to 6 p.m., Cafe Melange, 453-5425.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

- An SIUC student told University police his \$96 textbook was stolen from Lawson Hall between 1 and 1:15 p.m. Friday. There are no suspects in this incident.
- Michelle P. Baker, 18, of Carbondale, was arrested and charged with possession of false identification in the 100 block of East College and taken to Jackson County Jail after being unable to post bond at 3:22 a.m. Friday.
- Oktavian P. Dudek, 22, of Carbondale, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol after being stopped on Chiquita Street at 2:07 a.m. Saturday. University police released Dudek on a recognition bond.
- University police said two cars parked in Lot 45 had tail lights damaged at a loss of more than \$300. Police received an anonymous report around 2 a.m. and have no suspects in the incident.
- A 28-year-old University employee reported that a window was shattered on a University vehicle while it was parked west of Campus Mail Service between 5 p.m. Friday and 6 a.m. Saturday. A damage estimate was unavailable and University police have no suspects in this incident.
- A 20-year-old SIUC student told University police his \$45 coat was stolen from a stairwell in Kell' 1142 at 9:05 p.m. Saturday. There are no suspects in this incident.
- A wreath was set on fire at an Evergreen Terrace residence around 5:30 p.m. Saturday, causing about \$100 damage. University police have two possible juvenile suspects in the incident.
- Shane Davis, 25, of Cutler was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol at 1:51 a.m. Sunday at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Faner Drive. Davis posted his driver's license and a \$100 bond and was released.
- A 20-year-old SIUC student said someone entered his car while it was parked in Lot 59 and stole items between 1 a.m. Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday. The loss estimate was unavailable and police have no suspects in the incident.
- Two SIUC students got into a fight outside Mge Smith Hall about 4:30 a.m. Sunday. Police said a 17-year-old man and an 18-year-old man were taken to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale for treatment and released. Criminal charges are pending on both men.

**CORRECTIONS**

Readers who spot an error in a news article should contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN Accuracy Desk at 536-3311, extension 228 or 229.



**SIUC Library Affairs February 2000 Seminar Series**

Seminars are open to all and are held in Morris Library. Registration is strongly recommended. To register, call 453-2818, send an e-mail message to [ug@lib.siu.edu](mailto:ug@lib.siu.edu), or stop by the Undergraduate Library Information Desk. For a description of the classes offered go to the Morris Library Home Page at <http://www.lib.siu.edu> and click on Seminar Series. Most seminars are held in the Technology Demonstration Lab; Room 103D in the Undergraduate Library; other locations in Morris Library are as noted. Enrollment limits are also listed. Items marked with an asterisk [\*] are taught in Instructional Support Services, located in the lower level of the Library.

Date	Times	Topic	Location	Enrollment
2-3 (Thursday)	9-10 am	Finding Books using ILLINET Online	103D	16
2-3 (Thursday)	10-12 noon	Introduction to Constructing Web Pages (HTML)	103D	8
2-4 (Friday)	3-5 pm	Introduction to Constructing Web Pages (HTML)	103D	8
2-7 (Monday)	2-3 pm	Finding Books using ILLINET Online	103D	16
2-8 (Tuesday)	10-11 am	WebCT 2.0 Overview*	Room 15	15
2-8 (Tuesday)	10-11:15 am	PowerPoint	103D	8
2-8 (Tuesday)	6-8 pm	Introduction to Constructing Web Pages (HTML)	103D	8
2-9 (Wednesday)	10-11 am	Instructional Applications for the Web (Asynchronous learning)	103D	16
2-9 (Wednesday)	1-2 pm	Digital Imaging for the Web*	Room 19	16
2-9 (Wednesday)	2-4 pm	Intermediate Web Page Construction (HTML)	103D	8
2-10 (Thursday)	2-3:15 pm	E-mail using Eudora	103D	16
2-11 (Friday)	11-12 noon	Finding Scholarly Articles	103D	16
2-11 (Friday)	2-3 pm	Instructional Applications for the Web (Asynchronous Learning)	103D	16
2-14 (Monday)	10-11 am	Finding Full Text Articles	103D	16
2-15 (Tuesday)	9-10 am	Finding Books using ILLINET Online	103D	16
2-15 (Tuesday)	11-12:15 pm	PowerPoint	103D	8
2-16 (Wednesday)	10-11 am	WebCt 2.0 Overview*	Room 15	15
2-16 (Wednesday)	10-11:15 am	PowerPoint	103D	8
2-17 (Thursday)	3-4 pm	Introduction to the WWW using Netscape	103D	16
2-18 (Friday)	9-10 am	Finding Scholarly Articles	103D	16
2-21 (Monday)	11-12:15 pm	E-mail using Eudora	103D	16
2-22 (Tuesday)	10-11 am	Digital Imaging for the Web*	Room 19	16
2-22 (Tuesday)	2-4 pm	Introduction to Constructing Web Pages (HTML)	103D	8
2-23 (Wednesday)	2-3:30 pm	JavaScript	103D	16
2-24 (Thursday)	11-1 pm	Intermediate Web Page Construction (HTML)	103D	8
2-24 (Thursday)	2-3:15 pm	PowerPoint	103D	8
2-24 (Thursday)	3:30-4:30 pm	Finding Full Text Articles	103D	16
2-28 (Monday)	2-3 pm	Introduction to the WWW using Netscape	103D	16
2-29 (Tuesday)	1-2 pm	Finding Books using ILLINET Online	103D	16

# Certificates offered for gerontology study

*Program educates students and workers on aging*

ANTONIO YOUNG  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Courses designed to enhance the under-standing among people who work with the elderly are part of a new SIUC certificate program offered this spring.

The College of Education developed a program called Certificate of Gerontology, which provides an opportunity for SIUC students to gain a deeper understanding of the issues and challenges of serving older adults.

"There are a lot of changes that occur throughout life, and personalities change and people can become less patient," said Sally

Perkins, program coordinator. "I really do believe it will really help with getting people more accustomed to older adults."

The program's goals are to broaden the understanding of aging as it relates to today's society and to enhance skills needed to work with an aging population. The courses also may increase the marketability of students who have a desire to work with the elderly.

"Students or persons currently working with older populations may want to have better backgrounds in what they're doing, or enhance their education to get new knowledge in different areas of working with older adults," Perkins said.

According to a 1998 Vital Statistics report, Southern Illinois has had an increase in the number of people who are 65 years of age or older in the past 10 years. A

study by the Institute of Medicine in 1997 showed the most rapidly growing segment of our population would be 65 years of age and older within the next half century.

"There's a growing need for people to work with older adults because there are becoming more and more older adults," Perkins said. "We're making a step in the right direction by doing this [certificate program]."

Open to post-bachelor level students who are interested, the certificate program is designed to provide knowledge, skills and specialized training in a variety of settings and agencies suitable to the individual's interest.

The certificate program offers a lot of hands-on experience. Students without experience working with older adults are required to take a six-hour practicum. For those with more experience, the

## GERONTOLOGY

INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM AND APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACQUIRED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN DAVIES GYMNASIUM. A COMMITTEE WILL ACT ON THE APPLICATIONS STARTING FEB. 1.

option is given to do the six-hour practicum or do a three-hour practicum with an elective course. Students seeking a certificate must complete a total of 18 hours of study.

The Certificate of Gerontology is an interdisciplinary program that uses personnel and course work from the Departments of Physical Education, Health Education and Recreation, Curriculum and Instruction, the School of Social Work and the Rehabilitation Institute.

# MCMA prepares for the age of digitalization

*Broadcasting systems begin transition toward digital television*

ANDREA DONALDSON  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

SIUC broadcasting wants to channel about \$20 million to complete a mandated transition to digital television.

Joe Foote, dean of the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, said the money is expected to come from federal,

state and private funds.

Bob Gerig, director of Broadcasting Services, said the College of MCMA is preparing to make many changes in its broadcasting system as a result of the May 1, 1999 Federal Communications Commission's mandate. It states that all television stations must begin the transition from analog television to digital television. SIUC is expected to have this change completed by May 1, 2003. The nation-wide transition is expected to be completed by December 31, 2006.

"This University and station

officials are working hard with the expectations of meeting the deadline," said Gerig.

Foote said with this transition, the college will not only have to get new equipment, it will also have to provide new housing for it. The equipment is expected to cost about \$8 million to \$10 million, and the cost of the facilities has been estimated at \$9 million to \$10 million.

Foote said the big issue is trying to get approval from the state to move forward in the building of additional facilities to provide space for the digital transition.

"If the whole package is

approved, including the complete facilities, it will really make this a leader in the state of Illinois," Foote said.

Foote said meetings have been underway with top consultants to create a plan determining where facilities will be built and figuring the exact costs.

"We're excited because we have a top-notch consulting and engineering firm advising us," said Foote. "We've got momentum here on campus to move forward."

SEE MCMA, PAGE 5

# Financial aid processes made easy this month

*February brings awareness for 11th consecutive year*

JENNIFER WIG  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

Katie Laux depends on a \$3,000 grant from SIUC, in addition to her student loan and parents' financial aid loan to help pay for her education and expenses.

"I would be [in school] without it," said Laux, an undecided freshman from Breese. "But it would be a lot more difficult."

February is Financial Aid Awareness Month and the SIUC Financial Aid Office is attempting to make applying for funds an easy process for students.

Laux had no problems receiving financial aid or filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form because she sent the form to a company in Collinsville that filled out the form for her and returned it.

Gov. George Ryan declared February Financial Aid Awareness Month for the 11th consecutive year to promote the development of

financial aid for students. Fifty-three workshops for filling out the FAFSA form will be occurring in Illinois throughout the month.

About 74 percent of SIUC students depend on financial aid. SIUC distributed more than \$137 million in financial aid last year.

Monica Brahler, coordinator of public relations for the Financial Aid Office, encourages students to fill out the FAFSA online because of the efficiency the method provides.

"It cuts processing time in half and there are built-in edits," Brahler said. "It improves accuracy."

The University Ombudsman Office reports only 8 percent of cases relating questions or problems with the financial aid office, numbers which are "surprisingly low" according to Ingrid Clark, the director of the Ombudsman Office.

"Considering the vast majority of our students have some association with that office, it is low," said Clark. "That office is mature. They have their own checks and balances and places to go if students experience problems."

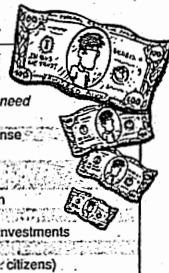
If students are having problems,

information needed to fill out free application for

## Federal Student Aid

For the 2000-2001 School Year you will need the following information from 1999:

- your social security card and driver's license
- W-2 forms or records of income earned
- your Federal Income Tax Return (and your spouse's if you are married)
- your parents' Federal Income Tax Return
- records of untaxed income received
- current bank statements and records of investments
- business or farm records, if applicable
- your alien registration card (for non-U.S. citizens)



JASON ADAMS - DAILY EGYPTIAN

the numbers are no indication. Last year the Financial Aid Office had a satisfaction rate of 93 percent. The Financial Aid Office sends out student satisfaction surveys annually to determine areas for improvement.

"On average, our staff has about 16 years of experience," Brahler said. "We have a lot of expertise in our office."

For students new to financial

aid; SIUC is participating in three local workshops about the FAFSA form. Two workshops occur from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 1 — one at Steeleville Community High

School, 701 S. Sparta, Steeleville, and one at Pinckneyville High School, 101 E. Water St., Pinckneyville. SIUC is also participating in a workshop 1 p.m. Feb. 20 at Kaskaskia College in Centralia. Admission is free, and all parents and students are welcome.

Brahler's advice for students includes renewing their financial aid early and making sure all information is correctly updated. The priority deadline for SIUC is April 1. Students who mail in applications by this time are the first group to be considered for campus-based aid.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

CARBONDALE

### Meeting for Democratic primary race tonight

The College Democrats will be having candidates and representatives for the Democratic Party primary race for 59th State Senate seat meet with students at 5:30 tonight in Activity Room A and B of the Student Center.

Sen. Ned Mitchell, Larry Woolard, D-Carterville, and Mark Donham, or representatives from their campaigns will be there to answer questions.

All students are welcome and the event is free.

### Student strikes University police, bribes

A 19-year-old SIUC student was arrested on five charges after he struck and threatened University police outside Warren Hall Saturday.

Jeremiah A. Ferentz, of Morton Grove, was detained after causing a disturbance at the residence hall. He was charged with resisting and obstructing a peace officer, battery, illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor, bribery and intimidation. The charges against him stemmed from incidents that occurred after police arrived at the scene.

Ferentz offered police money to forget the incident and be released, police said.

While police were taking Ferentz to Jackson County Jail he allegedly threatened to harm officers.

### McNeal remembered with memorial service

A memorial fund has been established for Robert McNeal, who died Jan. 13 after a four-day battle with pneumonia. McNeal was a graduate student in rehabilitation administration from St. Charles.

Donations may be forwarded to SIUC Credit Union: Attention Kathy or Tina, at Account No. 41147, 395 N. Giant City Road, P.O. Box 2888, Carbondale, IL 62902-2888.

For additional information, contact Terrance Lyles at 529-7172 or Carolyn Porter at 536-6100.

NEWARK, N.J.

### Seton Hall computer seized for fire probe

Investigators seized a computer belonging to a student living in the same dormitory where a deadly fire broke out two weeks ago after university officials received an e-mail threatening of an even worse blaze.

The computer was taken from a second-floor room in Boland Hall three days after the Jan. 19 fire, which killed three students and injured 62 — four of whom are still in critical condition.

Investigators are analyzing the computer's hard drive and software to determine if the e-mail was a prank, school officials said.

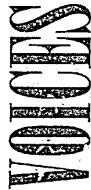
They do not know whether the student who owns the computer had anything to do with the message or the fire and have declined to release the student's name.

—from DAILY EGYPTIAN News Services

**Did You Know?**  
22,028 students,  
4,077 faculty and  
13,753 Carbondale residents  
Total 39,858 D.E. readers daily  
**Daily Egyptian**  
Advertising That Gets Results!

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Fri & Sat 4pm-12am  
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(includes garlic bread)  
Small ..... \$1.49  
Large ..... \$2.50  
Salad ..... \$1.10  
515 S. Illinois (Inside Dining Only)

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**English**  
as a Second Language  
Practice your English Talk with others  
Placement Test:  
February 4, 1 p.m.  
3113 Foner  
Class Meetings:  
February 7 - May 5  
Thursday, 1 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.  
Cost: \$40  
To Register: Call Division of Continuing Education 536-7751



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Do you have something to say?

Bring letters and guest columns to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Room 1247, Communications Building.

Letters and columns must be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted with author's photo ID. All letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. All are subject to editing.

Letters also are accepted by e-mail ([editors@usa.edu](mailto:editors@usa.edu)) and fax (453-8244).

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we may verify authorship. Students must include year and major. Faculty members must include rank and department. Non-academic staff must include position and department. All others include author's hometown.

The EGYPTIAN reserves the right to publish any letter or column.

OUR WORD

# Move 300 feet away from the building. It's not funny anymore

Enough is enough. Waking up at 3 a.m. to the sound of sirens and a recorded female voice asking people to "move 300 feet away from the building" is common for many East-Campus residents. The trek of 17 floors for those students in Brush Towers, cold weather, lack of sleep and mere frustration has caused students to become complacent with tendencies to disregard drills as a false alarm.

The practical jokes have turned dangerous as students allegedly ignited several fires on purpose in Boomer III. Recent events at Seton Hall University may demonstrate a devastating reality. Students thinking a fire alarm was false, procrastinated in exiting the building, resulting in three deaths and more than 50 serious injuries. Several other incidents, such as the death of Elizabeth L. McCowan, a senior at the University of Virginia, and fires claiming the lives of two students at Central Missouri State University and the University of Tennessee at Martin are also examples of how childish pranks have the potential to result in deadly consequences.

More than 130 fire alarms were reported on campus in 1999. Nearly half of those occurred in residence halls. A majority of students are frustrated with the number of fire alarms occurring across campus. Unfortunately, many students are also becoming desensitized to the sounds and procedures associated with the alarms.

In Tuesday's Daily Egyptian, a student was reported as saying a possible motive for the "prank" of setting fires was "When you're a freshman, coming in, you don't

have anything to do, that's why." Baffling are the motives, frustrating is the reality that some people think having nothing to do is an excuse. With more than 200 Registered Student Organizations, the Recreation Center, Saluki Volunteer Corps, and the Strip, the notion that there is nothing to do on campus not only shows stupidity, but ignorance.

For those freshmen who are unfamiliar with the tragedies fire can cause, or think it can't happen here, we would like to remind you of a devastating event — the Pyramid fires. On Dec. 6, 1992, a fire at the Pyramid Apartments (now Rawlings Street Apartments) on South Rawlings Street, claimed the lives of Ronald A. Moy of Chicago, Cheng Teck Wong and Mazlina Ab Wahid from Malaysia, Kimiko Aijoka from Japan and Lai Hung Tam from Hong Kong. The lives of hundreds of people were affected and five ended because of arson. A childish prank, boredom? We think not.

After several jaunts outside, waiting for an electrician to turn off the alarm, the firemen to clear the building, and filing back up the stairs into a warm bedroom, students are treating the alarms like the little boy who cried "wolf." Although the fire department said it respects students for their cooperation during the frustration of false alarms, it is taking longer to clear the buildings as more and more students attempt to hide themselves or ignore the procedures. There are no wolves to attack, but as they say, "playing with fire may get you burned."

In grade school and high school, pranks brought attention

to those daring enough to take the challenge. Detentions and, if severe enough, community service was the punishment for child's play. A red-flag warning to all of those who still have the high school mentality, the consequence for pulling a fire alarm on-campus is a class-four misdemeanor, attached with a possible \$25,000 fine and up to three years in jail. Not so light hearted anymore? It's certain to take years to pay off the debt, but how many years will it take to work off grief after a practical joke takes the life of an innocent bystander?

We know the difference between right and wrong. We are told of the consequences of our actions at an early age, so why are the rules so difficult to abide by? Carbondale fire officials say there may be a strong stitch to accidental fires and campus officials say, drunken students are typically the suspects for pulling a false fire alarm. No more excuses. If you can't handle your alcohol, don't drink. If you can't follow the rules, get out.

There is nothing attractive or appealing about endangering the lives of others. And if students have the notion that fires are a rare occurrence, think again. Between the years 1990 and 1994, an average of one person each year is killed in a residence hall fire. More than 1,437 residence hall fires had occurred and 54 people were reported injured. Aside from the loss of life, the financial cost is also devastating. The fires reported did an average of \$5,573,900 worth of damage.

It seems tedious for us to repeat common knowledge, and yet lessons haven't been learned. No one is laughing; no one is impressed.

## Who are the people in your neighborhood?

December 31, 1999, I spent my evening watching the world go into the new millennium, time zone by time zone. Like my friends, I decided to heed the warnings of the government — or more accurately, the media — and stay home. "Avoid large crowds," was the gist of most newspapers and networks.

And I did. I wasn't about to spend my New Year's buried under a pile of rubble, while the police searched through the wreckage looking for survivors.

I was watching a movie called "Arlington Road," in which Jeff Bridges played a professor teaching a terrorism class. Tim Robbins and Joan Cusack played an oddly suspicious couple living across the street in the peaceful suburban neighborhood. As the story progressed, Bridges began to suspect his neighbors of terrorism.

The couple was living the "American dream," raising their three children in an affluent neighborhood. How could they be terrorists? How could a terrorist possibly reside in this rose-colored world? While we're on the subject, why would someone blow up an Oklahoma City building where children are playing at the daycare? Why would two normal kids bring an arsenal to a public school and kill their classmates?

At one time or another, it has crossed all of our minds. Is the guy sitting next to me really stable? Is that woman at the post office really happy with her job? Think back. Was there

For The Rest Of Us  
RUDY SAN MIGUEL



For The Rest Of Us appears Tuesdays. Rudy is a sophomore in cinema production. His opinion does not necessarily reflect that of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

[sanmig1@hotmail.com](mailto:sanmig1@hotmail.com)

anyone in your life that you treated badly? Do you spend any time in a job, school, or social activity that could be targeted by angry opposition or even hate groups?

There is an "anti" group for everything. Anti-black, anti-white, anti-woman, anti-gay, anti-jewish and on and on. And those are just the groups residing in our own back yards. We don't want to think about the outside forces at work against the United States.

What has become of the world we knew? When was life like a Norman Rockwell painting, or even like the Brady Bunch? Do you remember a time when problems like this were a million miles away?

Ignorance is bliss. We all feel safe in not knowing. You've heard it a thousand times: "It couldn't happen here." Of course it could. It could happen anywhere. None of us know what

makes someone snap.

So what do we do? Spend our lives developing ulcers and building fall out shelters for something that may or may not happen? Do we constantly look over our shoulders and regard every stranger with apprehension. Do we fear public places and avoid large crowds all our lives?

The government is attempting to curb our fears. In the weeks leading up to 2000, they began questioning and arresting suspicious-looking people. Schools began implementing various methods of finding those "loners" who could turn out to be psychopaths. This, however, is a double-edged sword. In some cases, it works. A car was stopped at the Canadian border and bomb paraphernalia was found. Many students with malicious intent have been stopped before they could do any harm.

However, in some cases, innocent children and foreigners are being singled out and labeled. The percentage of threatening people that have been caught is much smaller than those who have not.

We must decide what is most important to us. Do we board up the windows on our houses and sit with shotguns, waiting for someone to come and get us, or do we believe in fate and destiny and understand that by living in fear, we are not really living at all? If it is going to happen, then so be it. In the end, whether you see it coming or not, your destiny is predetermined.

MAILBOX

## Preserve the few natural areas left in Illinois

DEAR EDITOR,

During the past 180 years, man has plowed the Illinois prairies, drained the marshes, cut the forests, and replaced them with homes, highways, factories and farm fields. As population increased and technology advanced, the pace of human activity and change in the landscape have quickened. Only a few natural communities of wild plants and animals still remain as they previously existed, undisturbed through the ages. One by one, these remnants, too, are being crushed and converted.

One hundred eighty years ago, virgin prairies and forests covered Illinois. Practically none remain in virgin condition.

In the 1970s, the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory identified small fragments of land throughout the state which were still in a nearly natural condition. These designated natural areas comprise seven one-hundredths of 1 percent of Illinois. Even these last vestiges of our natural heritage are not safe from attack.

In Southern Illinois, most of the natural areas are in the Shawnee National Forest. In recent years, irresponsible horseback riders, and illegal all-terrain vehicle riders have severely degraded some areas. They have sued in federal court in an effort to do away with all protection for natural areas. And now they have enlisted a state's attorney in Pope County to sue for equestrian and motorized access to these areas.

Our natural areas are too small, too rare and too valuable to sacrifice to destructive recreational activities. We must provide them with more protection, not less. There are plenty of places to spend leisure time without damaging public resources. There are too few places that can be considered true remnants of our natural heritage.

Citizens can utilize and enjoy natural areas without degrading them. Public officials should focus on protecting these public treasures.

Tammy Fishback  
Carbondale resident

## Confederate flag's history should not reflect present

DEAR EDITOR,

What we should be doing is getting together as a community to prove that our generation no longer will tolerate hate. This is a free country, and we are allowed to disagree. How can we disagree about a basic human right? A human right that is declared in our constitution: ALL men are created equal.

It may have taken our country a couple of hundred years to figure out what that means but we did it. THAT is the point — it is time we start teaching it. The Confederate flag should be displayed in history books as a mistake our country has learned from, not in college dorm windows. That flag is not a proud symbol of American history — it is a constant reminder that people can't put aside color and see each other as human beings.

In my first semester at SIUC, I have seen the segregation in the Student Center and other places on campus. I have seen the effects of Matt Hale's pathology, and it leads to nothing but a divided community and destruction. We must make our voices heard TOGETHER! There is a group that Matt Hale despises. It is called the ANTI-RACIST-ACTION or ARA for short. We have been trying to gain momentum, and this little Southern town seems to turn a blind eye to it. I ask you, in fact, I implore you to contact ARA and ask what you can do to help. It is up to US to make social change, and I believe we can do it. Contact [ARACarbondale@usa.net](mailto:ARACarbondale@usa.net).

Trisha James  
senior in social work

OVERHEARD

"We're doing everything we can to protect the residents in the hall. One person can't do it by him or herself. That's why we need to get the community involved."

ED JONES  
University Housing Director

**DECISION**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nightmare, the state's taking of innocent life."

Whether the hold on the death penalty will last is in question. Ryan may release the moratorium and continue to execute in Illinois after the panel investigates the system.

And with none of the presidential candidates opposed to capital punishment, Speck expects a tough road toward abolishing the death penalty completely.

"If we get these [presidential] candidates here, we'll be out with signs," she said.

Speck's group includes Mary Mertzluft, one of four members who traveled to Springfield a week ago, lobbying for a bill to call for an examination of the system.

"We hope to see who will be on [Ryan's panel]," Mertzluft said. "It takes a long time to study an issue

of this magnitude. We hope the group has an open mind about [the death penalty] and are not predisposed one way or the other."

Ryan has the ability to grant reprieves to those on death row, an action delaying execution but retaining the inmate under a death sentence. The 13 men who were sentenced to death and exonerated were removed from death row because of DNA evidence and independent investigations.

Three of 158 inmates scheduled to die in Illinois are on death row at Tammis Correctional Center, which is about 50 miles from Carbondale.

Willie Enoch was scheduled to be executed at Tammis in 1998, but his execution was stayed for an inquest of DNA evidence. Enoch and Walter Thomas, a DuPage County man, have exhausted their appeals and were expected to be the next men put to death in Illinois.

In 1998, Anthony Porter's execution was to be the first at Tammis, but he was cleared after being

found mentally unfit to be executed. Porter was convicted of a 1982 Chicago double murder, but was later released after journalism students from Northwestern University recovered someone else's confession to the crimes.

State legislature in Nebraska issued a moratorium last year on executions, but the moratorium was later vetoed by Nebraska's governor. In the United States, no other state with the death penalty has declared a moratorium.

Last year, the Illinois House of Representatives approved a bill to impose a death penalty moratorium, which failed to pass in the Senate. Committees similar to the one to be formed by Ryan have also been created by the state Supreme Court and General Assembly to look into Illinois' capital punishment system.

Rep. Mike Bost, R-Murphysboro, suggested that the General Assembly committee has found the system to be working for

the state, but supports Ryan's decision.

"I do believe in the death penalty because I believe in certain instances, when a heinous crime has been committed, it is proper, and it is a deterrent to others," Bost said. "[Ryan] just wanted to make sure that no one who is put to death is innocent. The governor has an awesome responsibility in that respect."

Paul Vanni, a Murphysboro attorney defending four clients on death row, said Ryan's decision is long overdue. Vanni is actively involved in his clients' appeals processes. After being convicted and sentenced to death, an inmate has three appeals at the state level and three on a national level to overturn the conviction.

"For me, it's business as usual," Vanni said. "I've got to keep advocating for my clients. We're going to have to keep fighting the fight. On the whole, the moratorium is a great victory."

**MORATORIUM**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

not have enough money for quality representation, and where the public defenders are so overloaded with cases that they are not able to fully focus on each case.

"Apparently there are innocent people being convicted of crimes they did not commit," Melone said. "Clearly they did not have a fair trial. This is a scandal of the greatest proportion, and I think Gov. Ryan understands this."

Illinois College Democrats President Marco Orozco said he is pleased with Ryan's decision to halt executions in the state because he

thinks it has not lowered the crime rate and is not cost effective.

"It's great that finally something is going to be done in Illinois; it gives me a sigh of relief," said Orozco, a senior in political science and economics from Schiller Park. "The system is a travesty. It's saying something about the system when so many people are put to death and 13 people have been found not guilty."

Jim Cavanaugh, a junior in history from Orland Park, wrote several papers and speeches on capital punishment in the past and thinks Ryan's decision is a good way for people to be better informed about the death penalty.

"People are unaware and misinformed of the facts of capital punish-

ment," Cavanaugh said. "[Ryan] should put it on pause so we can see how the people feel."

Marc Riedel, professor of administration of justice, has been researching the death penalty since the 1970s.

He said as a whole, capital punishment does not have a deterrent value, but instead the system provides a chance for innocent people to be killed.

Because of this reason, Ryan's decision to look into the moratorium is crucial, he said.

"It is a human system, and given that it is a human system, there are going to be mistakes," Riedel said. "The death penalty is irreversible. Once you make a mistake, that person is dead."

**FIRE**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thompson Point will receive the renovations including Abbott, Smith, Warren and Kellogg Halls. Stine said the money for the improvements is derived from residential fees.

Although some housing units are operating on the older systems, Deputy Director of the Physical Plant Brad Dillard said the equipment is all working well and the Physical Plant is able to monitor all of the systems.

"All of the fire alarms on campus are networked to the Physical Plant," he said. "There is someone monitoring the network 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We know anytime there is a problem and we are able to quickly respond."

Dillard said each hall and campus building is yearly inspected for fire alarm operations. During the summer, prior to the start of summer school, residence hall fire alarms are active and inspections are performed. For academic buildings, an ongoing process and tests are conducted to insure that all systems are working properly.

The monitors at the Physical Plant are responsible for the initial dispatch to the local police and fire departments, as well as contacting an electrician if the alarm is triggered after midnight.

With 31 actual fires, 81 false mechanical fire alarms, 21 false criminal fire alarms and 1 arson on campus in 1999, the network has been tested and proven effective. One hundred

and thirty-four alarms have caused the police and fire departments to become concerned with students' reaction to actual fires.

Larry Webb, Carbondale fire inspector, said he is sympathetic for students who have to file outside at 3 a.m. for a fire drill, but is concerned they do not fully understand the consequences a real fire may spark.

"People who die in a fire are usually dead before they are burned," he said. "With all of the false alarms and movies, I don't think they understand what a real fire is like. Smoke will put you in a deeper sleep, and in a fire, you can't even see your hand in front of your face, and you easily become disoriented."

Webb said he does not understand why any student would pull an alarm as a prank because it not only endangers the residents in the building, but the community as a whole.

"It is only a small percentage of students that do this as a prank, but they put so many people in harm's way by doing this. Not only are they putting others out in the cold, but then it ties up the other units if a fire breaks out in town."

I just don't think the people who pull these understand what they are doing to people."

The fire department approaches every alarm as if it were a real fire, resulting in a cost of about \$3,500 per alarm. SIU Police Lt. Todd Sigler warns the fines and penalties are steep.

Being convicted of pulling a false fire alarm is punishable by a class-four misdemeanor, with a significant fine of

up to \$25,000 and up to three years in jail.

During his 14 years on-campus, Sigler said he has not witnessed a fire fatality in on-campus housing. However, in 1992 a fire at the Pyramid Apartment complex (currently Rawlings Street Apartments) on South Rawlings Street claimed the lives of five SIUC students.

Sigler compares SIUC students' reaction to false alarms with those students injured and burned at Seton Hall.

"Just look at Seton Hall and how many students said 'Gee, we thought it was a false alarm and rolled over and went back to sleep,'" Sigler said.

Residence hall fires are not a rare occurrence in the United States. According to the National Fire Protection Agency Journal, there are an average of 1,437 residence hall fires per year with one person dying as a result, each year. The fires have done about \$5.5 million worth of damage between five years.

Webb said precautionary measures may be taken by students to avoid such instances. He suggests students limit the number of extension cords they use, never leave candles unattended, smoke with caution and not in bed, and keep the room relatively clean.

Yet the fear for those at the Physical Plant, fire and police departments may have already reared its head as students such as Schrader admit alarms are not taken seriously.

"We all assume they are fake alarms," she said. "I even know friends who hide to get out of it."

**MCMA**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Scott Hodgson, chair of the Department of Radio-Television, said the change to digital will be done in stages. It will begin with the larger stations such as ABC, CBS, FOX and NBC and continue down

to the smaller markets.

He said this transition will bring changes in reception signals from analog to digital. It will also change the type of television screens viewed. The screens will be wider and have resolution like a computer screen.

Hodgson said the college will continue to broadcast through analog television for about three years

before completely switching to digital television.

The department is working to prepare students for the technological changes by currently teaching on digital equipment, said Hodgson.

"Our mandate is to prepare our students to be the best that they can be," said Hodgson. "Our mandate is to give you guys an education that is superior."

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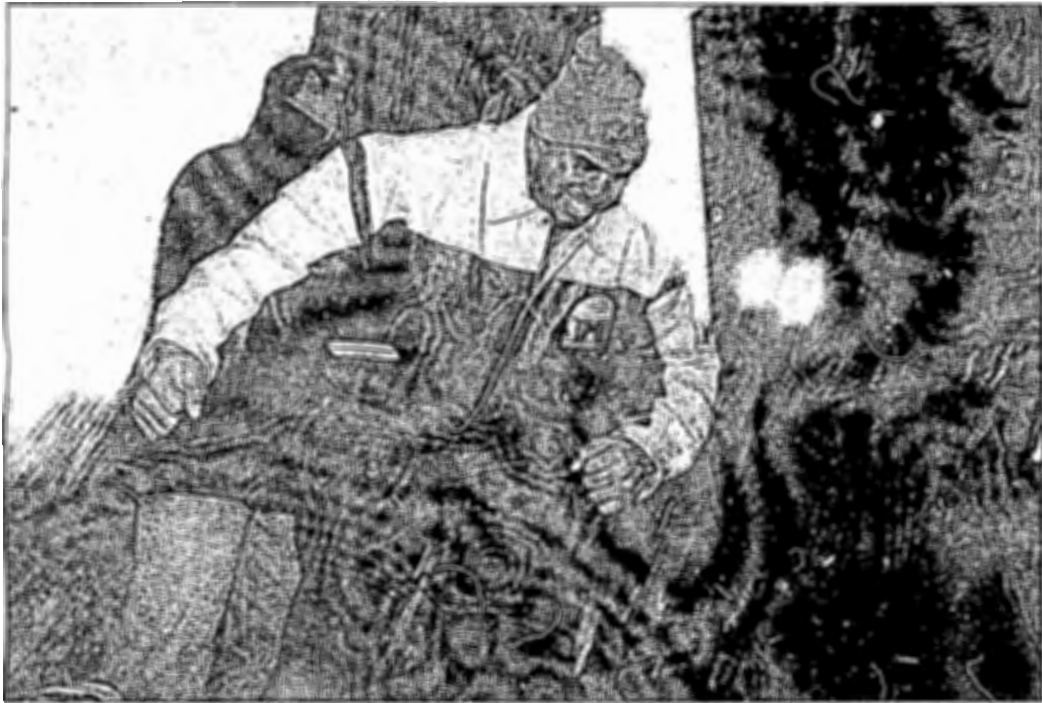
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# SUPER ST. LOUIS

STORY BY  
GEOFF RITTER &  
ANDY EGENSE

PHOTOS BY  
DEVIN MILLER



TOP: Nicole Corso (left) approaches Orlando Pace for an autograph during Monday's Rams Super Bowl victory parade in downtown St. Louis.

LEFT: St. Louis Ram tackle Fred Miller dances in celebration in the back of a Dodge Ram pickup truck while passing in front of jubilant fans during Monday's parade.

Rams hat: \$10  
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Skipping your 1 o'clock class to witness the Super Bowl party: Priceless.

And therein lie the thoughts of four SIUC students who made the trip to the St. Louis Rams Super Bowl celebration parade Monday night in downtown St. Louis.

"We talked about it last night when it was 16-0 and said 'We're going,'" said Mike Knysak, a freshman in biological science from Millstadt. "I had a chemistry class today at 1 o'clock, and I was like 'No I can't go.'"

Knysak was persuaded and accompanied Dan Uchtmann from Sparta, Luke Mayer of Belleville and Clint Huffman from Tennyson, Ind.

The parade downtown commemorates the first Super Bowl victory of a St. Louis football team. To greet the players upon their return, crowds of about 100,000 gathered in the bitter evening weather.

The four friends departed for St. Louis about 12:30 p.m. for the scheduled 4:30 p.m. parade down Market Street.

As it turned out, they arrived on the scene in plenty of time because St. Louis police officers had difficulty clearing the overflowing mass of people from the center of the parade route, resulting in a 45 minute delay.

"This is bigger than I remember from the Cardinals in the '80s," said Officer Slade, a St. Louis police officer. "This is huge."

Slade said all members of the St. Louis Police Department were dispatched for crowd control measures.

"It's 5 o'clock, and we're getting pissed," Mayer yelled when police were clearing the path.

But for 45 minutes, an estimated 100,000 Rams fans brace the numbing temperatures to watch the new heroes pass through the swollen downtown streets.

But the students would not have missed the event for any-

thing.

Huffman said although he was not a Rams fan, he came to be a part of a potentially historical event.

"I don't know why I'm here," he said. "I'm always looking for something to experience."

His thoughts were echoed by the groups' actions as soon as head coach Dick Vermeil began the parade led by the famous Budweiser Clydesdale horses and the eight car police escort.

Knysak repeatedly jumped on top of Mayer's 15-year-old younger brother's shoulders to get a better look. They, along with the rest of the city, greeted the players, coaches and cheerleaders with roaring cheers and clouds of confetti. Streamers flew from nearby buildings as the parade moved the sea of blue-and-gold.

About half-way through the march, the streets were barely open enough to let the Dodge Ram pickups to make their way through.

The crew fought their way to the front of the mass, in some parts 20 people deep, to get a close-up view of their favorite players.

Uchtmann separated himself from the rest of his friends to get even closer.

"I bet I shook hands with 70 percent of the players," Uchtmann said.

The celebration reached an even more intense moment when the truck carrying offensive tackle Orlando Pace was surrounded to the point where the fans were pounding on the sides of the vehicle.

Pace encouraged the fans on, raising his palms to the sky and igniting the already hyped crowd.

The students even let loose, dancing in the streets as a marching band following D'Marco Farr's truck passed by.

The Rams Super Bowl victory was a near miracle for the Cinderella team, and for the students, a memory they will never forget.



Rams' fan Antonio Lewis displays his loyalty in front of the parade route Monday afternoon in downtown St. Louis.





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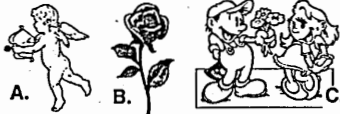
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507 1/2 W. Main #B	208 W. Hospital #1	503 W. Cherry	417 W. Monroe	308 W. College	507 W. College	
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334 W. Walnut #2	300 E. College	303 W. College	600 N. Oakland	113 S. Forest	417 W. Monroe	
703 W. Walnut #E	309 W. College #1-5	407 W. College #1-5	602 N. Oakland	120 S. Forest	402 W. Oak E & W	
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504 S. Ash #1, 2	115 S. Forest	115 S. Forest	913 W. Sycamore	503 S. Hays	401 W. College	
514 S. Ash #2, 5	120 S. Forest	120 S. Forest	1619 W. Sycamore	507 S. Hays	906 S. Elizabeth	
502 S. Beveridge #2	303 S. Forest	303 S. Forest	1710 W. Sycamore	509 S. Hays	406 E. Hester - ALL	
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# Bears cannot swim after all, but Salukis can

Men's and women's swimming and diving teams swim past SMSU

COREY MCCAIN  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

In what appeared to be a preview of a possible Missouri Valley Conference tournament championship matchup, both the SIU men's and women's swimming and diving teams easily defeated conference rival Southwest Missouri State University.

The men's team (7-2) coasted to a 140-101 victory behind strong performances by its star swimmers.

Coming into the meet, senior Herman Louw was undefeated in the 200 freestyle. Saturday would prove to be no different as he coasted to a first-place finish with a time of 1:38.84.

"I feel very confident competing in

the 200 free, and I am going to try to go to the NCAA championships with it," said Louw.

SIU's Gustavo Leal, Craig Quarterman and Jason Corrigan finished second, third and fourth respectively behind Louw. A n d there was no stopping Matt Munz in the 200 backstroke. Munz finished four seconds ahead of teammate Manuel Martin-Torres.

Munz finished a full second behind teammate Chrysanthos Papychrysanthou, who executed nicely and placed first in the 50 freestyle with a time of 20.97.

Come Prozesky anchored the Saluki attack with two first-place finishes. Prozesky's time of 2:04.56 was five seconds faster than teammate Joe Tidwell, who placed second in the 200 breaststroke.

Prozesky finished the 400 IM in impressive fashion. He left the nearest swimmer, who happened to be teammate George O'ános, a full 12 seconds behind.

Men's swimming and diving head

coach Rick Walker could not help but be all smiles after the meet.

"We did a better job of racing," he said. "We are really pleased we did what we wanted to do, because we wanted to send a message."

Not to be outdone, the SIU women's swimming and diving team performed equally well in the 200 freestyle, also fielding the top-three finishers. Meredith Smith (1:56.65) edged out teammates Niki Michalidou and Sarah Simek, who finished second and third respectively.

Unfortunately for the Lady Bears, the domination did not stop there. SIU poured it on by winning first place in all but one event.

Sophomore Brooke Radostis led the way in the 100 freestyle with a first place time of 55.61. Teammates Cary Kinnaman and Meredith Smith rounded out the top three in one of the many events in which Southwest Missouri State failed to have a swimmer finish in the top three.

The 1,000 freestyle seemed like one million freestyle to the beaten-up

Bears, as SIU's Carly Hemphill, Melanie Williams and Mary Beth Wehner left the bears wishing the event had been canceled. Hemphill (10:48.12) finished first, Melanie Williams (10:50.30) was second and Wehner (11:17.96) placed third in the event.

Jenna Meckler, Dana Morrel and Daniela Muniz gave encore performances of their races last week. Meckler swam the 50 freestyle in 24.65 for first place. Morrell placed first in the 400 IM with a time of 4:43.43.

Muniz (2:11.77) just missed first place in the 200 butterfly, finishing eleven-tenths of a second behind teammate Beth Ann Erickson, who finished first. Meanwhile, Amber Mullins finished first in the 200 backstroke with an impressive time of 2:09.23.

Both the SIU men and women are now cooing with confidence with the conference championships coming Feb. 17-19.

"It was a great team performance and we feel very confident," Louw said. "We are unstoppable."

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## Callahan eager to move past nightmare

Maybe its remodeled outfield is just what the SIU baseball team needs. Perhaps the new millennium will help. Or if it really wanted to be drastic, it could re-name Abe Martin Field "New Beginnings Stadium."

Any kind of modification might be helpful in forgetting last season's humiliating late-season collapse, a fold job that was as pathetic as pathetic can be.



JAY SCHWAB

SPORTS EDITOR

SIU baseball head coach Dan Callahan was on top of the world after a four-game sweep of the University of Northern Iowa late last March. The Diamond

Dawgs were a dazzling 20-4, including a season sweep of the University of Illinois and a win over the University of Michigan. SIU was knocking on the door of a prestigious spot in the Top 25.

The phone rang frequently in Callahan's office, as ex-players and various supporters checked in to congratulate him on his Salukis' extraordinary play. Then, as Callahan put it, "all hell broke loose."

And that wasn't a good thing. The Salukis seemingly did nothing right from April on. Callahan attempted to remain composed, then he tried wrathful butt-chevings, such as the one he issued his team after a particularly lackluster 9-3 loss to Murray State.

Nothing worked. The Salukis lost 25 of their final 30 games, blundering their way to a final mark of 25-29. SIU, a program rich in baseball tradition, had fallen apart at

the seams and failed to qualify for the Missouri Valley Conference tournament.

Now, Callahan is preparing for the fast-approaching 2000 season, but it's impossible to block out last year's agony.

"We were demoralized and we just did a poor job of picking ourselves up," Callahan said. "Where you finish the season is what counts. What happened early on becomes irrelevant, and I just feel like we let some people down."

The season mercifully and fittingly concluded when SIU was swept in a four-game series against Illinois State University. Finally, the disastrous season that began so splendidly had ended.

But for Callahan, the serious soul-searching began.

He had his players fill out anonymous surveys, asking them to identify problems on the team. The coaching staff gnashed its teeth in search of causes of the team's demise. But the reason behind the Salukis' swift fall from grace remains muddled.

"You'd like to have some answers," Callahan said. "You'd like to say what went wrong. I guess the unfortunate aspect is we never really came up with any clear-cut answers."

Callahan said he didn't sense a lack of effort or bad attitude from his team, but still holds himself accountable for what happened.

"You don't have a second-half collapse like that and just say 'Well the players didn't play well or didn't execute well,'" Callahan said. "Somewhere along the line there were a variety of problems that probably weren't addressed."

After having all off-season to second-guess himself, Callahan is grateful for the chance to begin making amends. Even if it means waking up before sunrise.

The Saluki baseball team is currently practicing indoors six days a week,

starting at 5:30 a.m., readying themselves for a season opening trip to the University of South Florida, Feb. 11-13.

So far, Callahan likes his team's versatility and envisions improved depth on the squad enabling him to tinker with more diverse lineup combinations. And he has some talent to work with.

The infield appears solid, with returnees Luke Nelson, Jeff Houston, Jeff Stanek and Steve Ruggieri anchoring the group.

The ballclub should also be significantly improved in the power department. Look for incoming recruits Roman Schooley, Andy Cenkush, Dustin Downs and Jason Rainey to aid in making SIU more of a long ball threat than last season's club.

However, there are many question marks in the outfield and on the pitching staff, where newcomers will be heavily relied upon to shore up the gaps left by departed veterans.

Still, Callahan said his team should be competitive. He admits Saluki baseball has fallen from the Valley elite in recent years, and aims to restore luster to the program to catch up with rival MVC programs such as perennial national power Wichita State and Southwest Missouri State.

"I feel like we owe it to some people, even outside of Saluki baseball, whether it's the University, whether it's former players, whether it's the local community — to put a competitive product on the field and keep it going," Callahan said.

"We haven't been as successful as I would like, as our coaching staff would like. It's time to do something about it."

First, though, Callahan's team will have to put the scars from last spring's debacle behind them. That shouldn't be a problem.

After all, as the old saying goes, there's no crying in baseball.

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# Salukis avoid monotony and settle for second

*Cornell mixes up lineup for new look and falls to community college*

CHRISTINE BOLIN  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER



Saluki senior distance runner Joe Parks leads the mile Saturday at the 2000 McDonald's Saluki Invitational next to his twin brother Jeremy, an unattached runner. Joe finished the race in first place with a time of 4:13.28, while Jeremy dropped out after five laps.

TED SCHURTER  
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Though the SIU men's track and field team lost by 60 points last weekend to Wallace State Community College at the 2000 McDonald's/Saluki Invitational, senior distance runner Joe Parks thinks the loss could have been prevented.

"It is not that big of a deal we lost to a junior college," Parks said. "We could have easily made this competition a lot tougher if we ran more of our distance runners in the mile, 3,000 [meter run] and the 5,000 [meter run]."

SIU finished second of the seven teams at the invite.

Instead of placing distance runners such as Parks, junior Chris Owen and senior Matt McClelland in the same race, SIU coach Bill Cornell decided it was best for the Salukis if some of the distance runners swapped events.

"If we ran the distance runners in the same events over and over, they would get stale, so we switched," Cornell said.

Instead of Parks running in the 5,000-meter run like he did last weekend at the Illinois Open, this week, he ran in the mile, and scored the Salukis a first-place finish with a time of 4:13. Owen placed second behind Parks with a time of 4:21.19.

And rather than racing in the mile like he frequently does, McClelland (8:24.97) dominated the 3,000-meter run by defeating his closest competition, Jackson State University's David Rop, by 13.55 seconds.

"Matt showed he is in tremendous condition," Cornell said. "He put on the pressure and lung with his competition. No one was going to beat him."

The distance runners, however, were not the only Salukis to score big points for SIU. Freshmen weight thrower Rob Firrell (49-1 3/4) and shot put hurler David Readle (52-6 3/4) each won first in their respective events.

Even though SIU did not place first as a team, McClelland said the distance runners are conserving their energy for the next meet, the Mid-America Invitational at Indiana University, which begins Thursday.

"This was a relaxing meet for us," McClelland said. "I am pleased with the way [the distance runners] are running and how we are handling ourselves. We are just having fun."

### UPCOMING

THE SIU MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM COMPETES THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT THE MID-AMERICAN INVITATIONAL AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY IN BLOOMINGTON, IND.

# Women's track and field appears to be back on track

*After a disappointing performance after winter break, DeNoon's team seemingly ready for the MVC hunt*

CHRISTINE BOLIN  
DAILY EGYPTIAN REPORTER

As SIU women's track and field runner Joy Cutrano crossed the finish line in the mile run, she gasped for air and victoriously raised her arms in the air to celebrate her first-place finish.

"On the fifth lap [in the mile], I knew I had to pick it up," said Cutrano, a senior. "I picked up the pace, felt a surge and went around everybody."

SIU's first-place finishes did not stop with Cutrano's 5:05.06 time in the mile. Senior Erin Leahy was the other Saluki distance runner to win first place during the weekend at the 2000 McDonald's/Saluki Invitational. Leahy (10:26.84) won the 3,000-meter run.

Saluki head coach Don DeNoon finally received the results he was waiting for, as the Salukis fin-

ished first of nine teams.

"It was a convincing win, and exciting track meet," DeNoon said. "It gave a chance for some of the SIU athletes to really shine."

The last time the Salukis competed before the McDonald's/Saluki Invitational was two weeks ago, when they struggled. Seemingly frustrated and out of sync after winter break, SIU finished that meet, the Saluki Booster Club Invitational, in second place.

But after having last weekend off, DeNoon said the Salukis showed great signs of improvement. He said the main difference was the performance of the Saluki distance runners, who added 39 points out of a possible 62 to the score.

"That is how dominating our distance runners are," DeNoon said.

The Salukis' final score was 141.5, 35.5 points better than their closest competition, Southeast Missouri State University.

Another bright spot who racked up points for the Saluki squad was junior Caryn Poliquin's (55-3 1/2) first-place finish in the weight throw, and Jamie Waters hurl of 48-2, good for second.

### UPCOMING

THE SIU WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM COMPETES THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY AT THE MID-AMERICAN INVITATIONAL AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY IN BLOOMINGTON, IND.

In addition to competing in the weight throw, Poliquin (43-9 3/4) and Waters (42-2 3/4) placed third and fourth, respectively, in the shot put.

"All the throwers are like a relay team—we all work together to combine our efforts," Poliquin said.

DeNoon would like to see the Salukis come through again in their next meet, the Mid-America Invitational. The Missouri Valley Conference Championships meet is four weeks away, and DeNoon thinks the Salukis are on the right path to a conference title.

"Our capabilities for conference are so strong. I don't see any of our conference teams stronger than us," DeNoon said. "We need to make sure we can [maintain our performance] and keep it up until the end."



Derrick Tilmon

## SPORTS

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### Swimming

SIU men's and women's swimming and diving team defeat Bears.

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### Commentary

SIU baseball coach Dan Callahan is 'umping at the bit to overcome last season's devastating ending.

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