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Daily Egyptian Staff

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The Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Shabach Choir performs Tuesday night in the Student Center Auditorium at the beginning of the Dream Alive Program.

Joe Crawford
daily Egyptian

MLK recognition week continues with march, speech reenactment

Frigid temperatures and snow flurries Tuesday night didn’t stop a crowd of 40 people from marching in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. SIUC students and local residents marched from the Free Forum Area to the Student Center, where Joe Rogers, the former Lt. Gov. of Colorado, delivered a reenactment of King’s famous “I Have a Dream Speech” to a crowd of more than 120.

King gave the speech in 1963 on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial after the historic “March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.”

One marcher, the Rev. Rick Jackson of Carbondale, said he remembered what the country was like in 1963, a year before the Civil Rights Act was passed.

“I remember segregated food stands and water fountains and restrooms and buses,” said Jackson, who said he also recalled participating in boycotts in support of the civil rights movement.

A single mother from Carterville, who declined to be named because she said she had been involved in domestic violence, said Martin Luther King Jr. stood for more than racial equality.

“It wasn’t just black people,” she said. “It was poor people in general.”

The woman, who marched with her three children, said her family had been deeply affected by poverty. She said her presence at the march was to celebrate King’s memory, but also to take a stand against inequality.

“Even though they say we get our rights, we don’t,” she said.

Aaron Mulkey, a sophomore from Flossmoor studying electrical engineering, said King and the Civil Rights Movement impacted his life in many ways.

“If the Civil Rights Act never happened you wouldn’t have affirmative action, you wouldn’t have all the help minorities get because of the places they come from and money they don’t have,” he said. “So I believe the Civil Rights Act helped me a great deal going to school right now.”

Dallas Houston, a senior from Danville in paralegal studies, led the organization of the events. Houston said she made the 200-mile trek from Danville to Carbondale Tuesday afternoon, arriving in time to participate in her second set of MLK-week related responsibilities.

See MLK, Page 9

See MLK, Page 9

Contract talks may resume next week

Brandon Weisenberger
daily Egyptian

Negotiations for the SIU Board of Trustees and the university’s faculty union could meet as early as next week to hash out the final details of a new contract after months of talks and stalemates carried the process into the new year.

Faculty Association representatives have presented the BOT team a new offer and are awaiting a response, union spokesperson and vice president Lenore Langedorf said.

The BOT’s contract spokesman Gary Kolb said his side is reviewing the offer, preparing a counter-proposal and could be ready to come back to the table next week.

“Everybody is eager to reach closure here,” said Kolb, associate dean of the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts. “I hope to be able to chace that gap that’s left.”

Neither team would discuss elements of their new proposals. Both sides met Dec. 18, exactly two months after the BOT team presented its “best and last” offer and declared the end of interest-based bargaining, a peaceful negotiations process the union and BOT agreed to in spring 2006.

At that meeting, Kolb said the Faculty Association officially denied the BOT Oct. 18 offer, which addressed salary but made no mention of two other sticking points that stalled negotiations early in the fall semester.

Union leaders have called for
New Student Reception

5 to 7 p.m. today at the Student Center International Lounge.

An orientation reception for new students during spring. 

Many campus departments will be present to assist students in their needs.

Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere: A Forum on Social Justice

10 a.m. at the Student Center, Missouri Room.

A panel of student leaders, faculty, staff and community members will share their reflections and thoughts for social justice, political engagement and the forging of a fair and just community in today's world.

MLK Recognition Week Closing Ceremony: “Then and Now”

Today. There will be an interactive discussion. 

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

Submit calendar items to the Daily Egyptian Newspaper, Communications 1247, at least two days before the event, or call 618-536-3311, ext. 266.

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A partnership of community and university organizations cut the ribbon on a new project Tuesday night, made possible by a $240,000 federal grant from the Office of Minority Health.

Over the next three years, Project YES — which stands for Youth Empowerment Services — will receive over $700,000 to help minority students at Carbondale's Lewis School in the fourth and fifth grades meet Illinois standards in reading and math.

The project's center is located in the Carbondale Boys and Girls Club, where the participants will receive help from 13 recently hired mentors and tutors and a newly outfitted computer lab, both made possible by the grant.

Project co-director Dollean York-Anderson said she thinks the Boys and Girls Club will be a great environment for the children, and the location is a logical combination of community projects. “Like their motto says: ‘It’s a great place for kids,'” she said.

The resources secured through the grant are meant to help all children who come to the Boys and Girls Club, not only those chosen from Lewis School to participate in Project YES, project coordinator Renata Alexander said. Membership organizations in Project YES include SIUC, Carbondale Boys and Girls Club, Saluki Kids Academy, Family Advocacy Services, the Adolescent Health Center, Carbondale Public Library and Lewis School.

Executive Director of the Carbondale Boys and Girls Club Randy Osborn said along with the inclusion of frequent student progress reports done by parents, the project makes sure they are involved in their children’s studies. Lack of parent involvement is what can often cause similar programs to not achieve their desired results, he said.

Julia Wetstein, a board member of the Boys and Girls Club and assistant dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, said increased tutoring opportunities with the project could offer a fantastic addition to students’ resumes in education.

The project will also provide the chance for interested students to research the effectiveness of the project, said Michelle Miller, project evaluator and an associate professor of sociology at SIUC. Osborn said he feels optimistic about the success of the project. "With this program the parents have to be there, which makes all the difference," he said.
Obama launches White House bid

Nation is hungry for change, says Obama


dumping law that has lead to three failed operations and is suffering from a trunck of explosives. Prosecutors he was intent on either the air or the ovell the millennium. Resum was sentenced to 22 years in prison after being convicted of all charges. On Tuesday, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco reversed his conviction on one of the charges and sent the case back to a lower court to issue a new sentence and expel the sonate behind the original 22-year term.

In a brief interview on Capitol Hill, Obama said the resum has been positive and added, "We wouldn't have gone forward this far if it hadn't been positive." Obama soft-spoken appeal on the stomp, his unique background, his opposition to the Iraq war and his Irish face set him apart in a competitive race that also is expected to include front-runner Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York. "I certainly didn't expect to find myself in this situation," Clinton said. "But it has been a shock by how hungry we all are for a different kind of politics."

The 45-year-old has few accomplishmen ts on the national stage after serving little more than two years in the Senate. But at a time when many voters say they are unhappy with the war, the lack of experience in the nation's capital may not be a liability. "Our leaders in Washington seem incapable of working together in a practical, common-sense way," Obama said.

Obama filed paperwork forming a presidential exploration committee that allows him to raise money and put together a campaign structure. He is expected to announce his full- fledged candidacy on Feb. 10 in Springfield, Ill. After 18 months of state's experience in the legislature and tap into the legacy of hometown hero Abraham Lincoln. "I want to reinforce Iraqi forces, there is still a quicken pace here and with American forces to help quicly pacify the country."

The U.N. report also said that violence Tuesday against Shiites may signal a campaign by Sunni insurgents to shed the security accord. America's casualty count for last year was announced in Baghdad by Gianni Magazzeni, the chief of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Iraq for Baghdad. He said 34,452 civilians died and 38,685 were wounded.

In early January, a compilation of Iraqi government figures put last year's civilian deaths at just 12,357. The numbers are gathereed monthly by the AP from reports by three Iraqi agencies.

WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON

Castro taking steps to transition power

WASHINGTON — Cuban President Fidel Castro, aling and out of sight, has been meeting with a stride of international guests, a U.S. governmen t official said Tuesday.

Washington said that Casto is concerned on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive situa tion in Cuba, declined to say with whom Castro was meeting. He said the meetings generally with visitors from Latin America, sugges t he may be setting a transition of power that he hopes will protect the government he has built over four decades.

The Spanish newspaper El Pais report ed that the government of Cuba announced that two newspapers and two radio stations were publishing an interview with Castro. Castro had been meeting with a trickle of international guests in recent months, a U.S. govern ment official said.

SAN FRANCISCO

‘Millennium bomber’ sentence thrown out

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court on Tuesday threw out the sentence of a man who was convicted of plotting to bomb Los Angeles International Airport and another location in the early 1990's.

Ahmed Ressam was arrested near the U.S.-Canadian border in December 1999 as he was driving with a trunk of explosives. Prosecutors he was intent on either the air or the ovell the millennium. Resum was sentenced to 22 years in prison after being convicted of all charges. On Tuesday, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco reversed his conviction on one of the charges and sent the case back to a lower court to issue a new sentence and expel the sonate behind the original 22-year term.

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Those returning to their Carbondale rental residences after a lengthy winter break should have found a new addition in their homes.

A law effective Jan. 1 requires all residential units to have a carbon monoxide detector within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping. Certain exemptions to the law, including residential units that do not use fossil fuels for heat, ventilation, or hot water and structures not connected to a garage, are not required to install carbon monoxide alarms.

For those renting their apartments, houses or other living structures, it is the responsibility of the property owner to install a carbon monoxide detector according to the law. However, tenants are responsible for any maintenance of the carbon monoxide alarms, including changing batteries.

For those expecting quick enforcement of the law on rental properties lacking the detectors, the wait may be a long one.

Greg Gibson, inspector supervisor for the city of Carbondale, said while the law is a state statute, the city would need to adopt a specific ordinance for enforcement.

“It doesn’t say who is supposed to enforce it,” Gibson said. “At the present time, nothing is written into the law for us to cite anyone for it.”

While Gibson said the inspectors have been notifying property owners of the need for the alarms, he encouraged tenants who think their home might be in need of a carbon monoxide detector to talk to their landlord. Gibson said although there is no way for the inspectors to cite properties in violation of the law, should an incident occur, property owners could be held accountable.

“If anything happened, there could be civil liability,” he said.

Shirley Meyer, property manager for Goss Property Managers, said the law was a welcome one and was prepared for the new legislation to go into effect.

“We had them in before the end of the year,” Meyer said.

Kevin Gillespie, director of environmental health for the Jackson County Health Department, said carbon monoxide can be dangerous and is formed by anything that burns fuel, such as coal, wood, charcoal, gas or kerosene.

“It’s a non-irritating, colorless, odorless gas,” Gillespie said. “So you wouldn’t necessarily notice it right away.”

He said carbon monoxide interferes with blood’s ability to carry oxygen. Some of the first signs of carbon monoxide poisoning are headache and nausea, chest pain and fatigue. Gillespie said the final stages of carbon monoxide poisoning were coma, convulsions and death.

He said discretion by homeowners would be needed in determining whether a carbon monoxide detector is needed in a residence that is exempt from the new law.

“If you didn’t have any sources of carbon monoxide and didn’t have an emergency generator, there’s no need for one,” Gillespie said. “If you have any sources, it just makes good sense.”

Andrea Zimmermann
DAILY EGYPTIAN

For the first time since 2000, PK’s bar on the Strip will be open for Halloween and the weekend before while three other bars will remain closed.

Despite a concern about favoritism, the City Council voted 5-2 Tuesday to move the boundary line one block south for restrictions on bars in Carbondale to purchase electricity. Police used tear gas to keep other bars on South Illinois Avenue and to keep other disturbances at the intersection of West College Street and South Illinois Avenue.

Councilman Lance Jack voted in favor of PK’s to open, calling the move, “a baby step forward,” toward further relaxing the restrictions.

Stix Bar & Billiards assistant manager Katie Baker said she didn’t think allowing PK’s to open during Halloween was fair.

“I think they should have kept everyone closed or let everyone open,” she said.

Even though the change would allow PK’s to open for the upcoming Halloween, bartender Russ Wallace said he doesn’t expect business to be much different than on a regular weekend.

Under the restrictions, liquor license fees are waived for bars that agree to close during Halloween and the weekend preceding. Keg sales are also stopped during the weekend.

The council also discussed and later voted unanimously to use Iowa-based MidAmerican Energy Company instead of Ameren to purchase electricity for the city. This will affect how much the city pays for electricity but not residential accounts.

Depending on the contract length the city signs, the estimated savings are expected between 11 and 12 percent, compared to the expected 33 percent increase from Ameren said Michael Ellis of MidAmerican Energy Ellis said other municipalities are still able to join with Carbondale to purchase electricity.

Council: PK’s allowed to be open Halloween weekend

The new carbon monoxide detector law requires:

- Every living space must have a carbon monoxide detector within 15 feet of every room used for sleeping.
- The detector may be in a combined unit with a fire alarm, as long as the alarm has distinct sounds for each occurrence.
- The detector can be battery powered, have a plug-in or backup battery or be wired into a structure with a battery backup.
- The owner of the structure is required to supply the detector and tenants are responsible for maintenance.
- Exemptions from the law are residential units that do not rely on the combustion of fossil fuels for heat, ventilation, or hot water and are not connected to a garage, and is not close to a source of carbon monoxide, as determined by the local building commissioner.

Source: www.idph.state.il.us

For more information on carbon monoxide and the new law go to www.siph.state.il.us
Our Word

A celebration well overdue

He was a famous leader of the civil rights movement fighting against racial inequality. His vision of an equal society has been remembered across the country for decades and SIUC has expanded its traditions of celebration. From his activist marches to the inspiring “I have a dream” speech, he has touched the souls of many Americans.

In honor of this great American hero, the university has recognized Martin Luther King Jr. with a commemorative breakfast for twenty-five years. This breakfast included discussion of Martin Luther King Jr., and has awarded community members for their efforts promoting his legacy. While the breakfast has been welcomed and appreciated, the university has not done much else to celebrate Martin Luther King’s memory.

It has been spoken before to expand the recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. from just the commemorative breakfast. In a Faculty Senate meeting in November, Black American Studies Director the Rev. Joseph Brown made a suggestion that has changed the university. Brown called for the university to do more to honor King’s legacy. King’s inspiring actions resemble this act of change in SIU’s way of celebrating his life of equality. A voice was heard and the norm on campus was changed.

In a short period of time, many campus groups were able to organize the Martin Luther King Jr. Recognition Week with discussions, activities and ceremonies. With the recognition march to the Dream Alive enactment, we recognize the hard work the student organizations put into this celebrating week.

This expansion of Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday was not only to honor and recognize him more than before, but to also reach out to the student body as well. Carl Ervin, coordinator of Multicultural Programs and Services said his aspirations of seeing this celebration inspiring students to make their own change.

We encourage the student body to take vent of the new ways the university has honored Martin Luther King Jr. This new celebration of King’s life has been well overdue for the university.

Are you the next Alex Ayala?

Alex Ayala is a very talented cartoonist. Unfortunately for the Daily Egyptian and the campus community, he will soon graduate. The Daily Egyptian wants to take this chance to hire new cartoonists to learn from Alex before he goes.

Want to share your artwork, make a difference and even make some money?

Send an email to: voices@dailyegyptian.com.

Cartoonist benefits:
- Nightime work
- Flexible hours
- Fun working environment
- Paid position
- Conveniently located on campus
Meet the DE editorial board

I am a junior from the small town of West Salem, located near the Wabash River in southern Illinois. I am not a "traditional" college student, as the university describes it. I am a Navy veteran of six years, and grew up milking cows at a small dairy farm. Before taking on the role of editor-in-chief, I spent most of my time covering entertainment, technology and art. I welcome any and all feedback – good and bad. If you see me walking to class, stop me and tell me what you think.

Mark Edmondson
Editor-in-chief

I also hail from West Salem. I'm a sophomore journalism major, and I got my start in the field at age 13 as a grade school sports writer. January 2006 marked my start at the DE as a campus reporter. This job has allowed me to shoot the breeze with Barack Obama, interview drag queens in their dressing room, walk the devasted streets of New Orleans' Ninth Ward and meet people hailing from Mankausa to Madaed.

Brandon Weisenberger
Managing editor

I am a junior studying new-editorial journalism with a minor in Women's Studies. This is my second semester at the DAILY EGYPTIAN and I was previously a designer. This semester I will play the role of voices editor and hope to spread commentary to the student body.

Wayne Utterback
Newsroom representative

I am from a small town called Ovegoe, near Chicago. I transferred here from a community college studying mass communication. I am a junior studying new-editorial journalism with a minor in Women's Studies. This is my second semester at the DAILY EGYPTIAN and I was previously a designer. This semester I will play the role of voices editor and hope to spread commentary to the student body.

Danielle Dalo
Voices editor

Molly Hill
Assistant Voices editor

I am a senior studying new-editorial journalism and I will graduate in August. My hometown is Cape Girardeau, Missouri. This is my sixth semester with the DAILY EGYPTIAN and my first on the editorial board. I spent my previous semesters as the DE news clerk and calendar editor. In my assistant position, I expect a more challenging work experience. However, I’m excited about this semester and ready to get to work.

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Brett A. Timmons
Senior news clerk and calendar editor

University housing discrepancy

Dear Editor:

I am a student working toward completion of a bachelor's degree in Zoology. In the fall of 2006, I was awarded an Undergraduate Creative Research Award to research the affectiveness of native sunfish on snail predation. I also took a second job as a Resident Assistant with University Housing to further my own education and to give back to the university by providing a positive influence on the lives of in-coming freshmen. After one semester of performing the duties of Resident Assistant and Research Assistant, I received a spotless evaluation from University Housing, maintained a B average, carried out the breeding of a new hybrid sunfish and helped shape the in-coming freshmen into well-rounded students and leaders in their community. On Friday, January 12, 2007 at 4pm, three days before the start of classes and 18 hours before the return of the residents, I received notice that I will no longer be allowed to perform both my Resident Assistant and Research Assistant. Forced to make a decision that could shape my future in the field of Zoology and as a member of the research community, I chose the undergraduate assistantship and found myself in the predicament of being homeless three days before the beginning of the semester. The justification for the inquisition into my college career was the classification of the Resident Assistant payroll. The University Housing Department now classifies the pay given to Resident Assistants as an undergraduate assistantship. Setting that I already held an undergraduate assistantship bestowed upon me by the Office of Research and Development, I was to vacant University Housing with no recourse. In conclusion, I feel this matter is hindering to my education and future here at SIU. University Housing looks as if it has set a standard within this university that research and education of its employees takes second to their financial accountability.

Brett A. Timmons
Senior from Marshall studying Zoology

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with author’s contact information, preferably via e-mail. All letters are limited to 300 words and columns to 500 words. All topics are acceptable. All submissions are subject to editing.

Letters and guest columns can be sent to voices@dailyegyptian.com.

We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.
Family mourns murder victim

Falon C. Taylor died
Jan. 6 from gunshot
Danny Wenger
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Before she died, Falon C. Taylor recorded her singing voice on her sister's cell phone. "It's the most beautiful voice you ever did hear," Selina Thompson of Marion said. Thompson was Taylor's aunt.

Taylor, 21, of Marion, was shot to death on Jan. 6 while visiting a friend's house. Police continue to search for two possible suspects.

A funeral service was held for Taylor Friday afternoon at the New Zion Missionary Baptist Church. Every pew was filled in the small church off Willow Street. The emotions inside the church were reflected by the light rain and gray sky outside.

Pictures inside the church helped family and friends to remember Taylor's life. Three large, poster board displays adorned with pictures of Taylor were in the lobby. A DVD player with a screen ran a slideshow of photos on a constant loop.

The pictures showed a smiling girl with dark hair at different points in her life; from Halloween and singing as a child, to moments Taylor spent with her two young sons. At the front near the podium, a silver coffin sat surrounded by roses, and friends and family stood and spoke of how they knew Taylor. Jelisa Gaston, Taylor's cousin, was one of those who shared memories.

"One memory that I remem- ber from way, way long ago -- we used to always to take baths together," Gaston said. "Go to church off Willow Street. The emotions inside the church were reflected by the light rain and gray sky outside.

"She always had something encouraging to say," Wills said. "Her last words to me were, 'Hey Miss Lana, I love you.' At the funeral, Wills sang "Amazing Grace," a cappella.

"Missie Copeland, a friend of Taylor, also sang to honor her memory. Copeland sang "I Won't Complain."

Thompson also remem- bers Taylor as a talented singer. Thompson said at a young age Taylor dreamed of being a country music star.

"She had a pair of cowboy boots that she would not take off and she used to tell us that she was going to be a country singer when she grew up," Thompson said.

Singing, her encouraging attitude and her sweet personality is what Taylor's friends and family will remember most about her.

"Her death has hurt us real bad but we have so many good memo- ries, that's going to stay with us for the rest of our lives, so that can stop some of the pain," Gaston said.

dwenger@dailyegyptian.com
536-3311 ext. 273

REUSE, REREAD, RECYCLE

We like to sell used textbooks because they don’t involve the cutting of new trees. Call it our way of recycling. It’s a little pro-environment and a lot anti-global warming.

We’ve partnered with The National Arbor Day Foundation. For every used textbook transac- tion, a portion of your purchase will be donated to help build a forest of 100,000 trees in the Greater Yellowstone Region! For the first time, it’s textbooks that make trees – and not the other way around.

Our goal is to build a brand new forest in a world that needs it. We’d love to have your support.
more faculty power in the appeals process when professors are denied tenure or promotion, and have also requested a vote to determine if all teachers pay a Faculty Association service charge regardless if they are members.

The BOT has turned down both requests while the union has disagreed with the team’s salary offers, claiming university leaders aren’t doing enough to make SIUC’s faculty pay comparable to peer universities.

Negotiations got under way in the summer just weeks before the latest contract expired June 30. Both sides have agreed to operate under the old contract until a new agreement is reached.

Langsdorf, a professor of speech communication, said the Faculty Association is now awaiting the BOT team’s response to the union’s offer.

“We hope the administration team will be ready to meet and respond to our proposal real soon,” she said.

brandon_weisenberger@dailyegyptian.com 536-3311 ext. 254

TALKS

continued from page 1

Houston said she has helped her mother, Sandra Houston, organize Martin Luther King Jr. Day events in her hometown for the past 15 years.

“Over time, dealing with her and her program and reading history books I kind of came up with my vision of how I would do a King program if I was able to have that opportunity,” Houston said.

Houston said the march was meant to symbolize the numerous marches King organized and in which he participated.

“That’s how he got national recognition for his cause,” Houston said.

MLK Recognition Week continues today with a panel discussion named “Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere: A Forum on Social Justice.” The discussion will take place at 7 p.m. in the Student Center Mississippi Room.

joe_crawford@dailyegyptian.com 536-3311 ext. 259

MLK

continued from page 1

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Rush Guide 2007

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New Student Welcome Reception

Wednesday January 17, 2007

Student Center International Lounge & Auditorium

5:00p.m. - 6:00p.m. “Meet and Greet Reception”

6:00p.m. - 7:00p.m. Informational Session

It can be overwhelming starting at a new institution, so come to the New Student Welcome Reception and put the right foot forward this semester.

Information will be available about:

• Student Health Programs and Student Insurance Benefits
• Information Technology and Telephone Services
• Campus Parking and Public Safety
  • University Bookstore
  • University Housing
  • Financial Aid
  • Student Development
  • University Core Curriculum
• DID WE MENTION THERE WILL BE FOOD!!!

So come and get familiar with your university, have a chance to talk to other students and staff members, and bring your questions!

For more information please contact New Student Programs at (618) 453-1000 or soart@siu.edu

CALL FOR ENTRIES

2007 Undergraduate Research/Creative Activity Awards

The Office of Research Development and Administration (ORDA) and the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor are pleased to announce the 2007 Undergraduate Research/Creative Activity Award competition under the auspices of REACH, SIUC’s undergraduate research program.

Undergraduate assistantships of 10 hours per week and awards of up to $1,500 will be given to support research and creative activities by undergraduate students working with a faculty mentor. Award activities are to be carried out between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008. Approximately 20 awards will be made.

Eligibility: Applicants must be full-time undergraduates with a GPA of 2.25 or better who are enrolled at least one semester during the 2007-08 academic year. Applicants must work closely with a faculty mentor in their area of research/creative interest to plan the project and prepare the application.

Guidelines: Application packets are available in your academic department, from ORDA (453-4540) or online at www.siu.edu/~reach/awards.html.

Deadline: All applications are due to ORDA, Woody Hall C-206, by 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 26, 2007.

Questions? Contact Jo Nast at 453-4538 or reech@siu.edu.
While other five-year-olds were learning to ride bikes and eating Play-Doh, Randy Burnside was tuned in to the Carter election.

Burnside, an assistant professor of political science who joined the SIUC faculty in the fall of 2005, is a self-described political junkie. He said his cynicism-laced passion led him into college with the hope of becoming a politician.

Not long into his academic career, however, Burnside said he switched his focus from being a politician to learning about them, and eventually to teaching about them.

“I definitely feel like I’ve helped students understand politics, but I also think I’ve helped students understand what they want to do,” he said.

The 35-year-old assistant professor grew up as one of 11 children, farming okra in Philadelphia, Miss., a small, southern town of about 16,000 people that he described as “typical.”

He said that, while having a large family caused conflict, he now appreciates the bonds that have formed.

“It gives you your own personal support network that you know is not going to steer you wrong,” Burnside said. “If you can’t trust your family to give you the best advice, who can you trust?”

Burnside joined the military at age 17 and during his sophomore year at Mississippi State University was sent into Iraq for the first Gulf War.

“They called us on a Tuesday night and we had to be completely out of school and have our stuff packed and ready to go by Friday morning,” he said.

Burnside said he is an independent thinker and the controlling nature of the military made it clear to him that he was meant for academia, where he could have more freedom to think on his own.

“You get to make very few decisions by yourself,” he said. “The problem with that is you can disagree, but you still have to do what they say.”

Upon return, Burnside said he went back to school and realized, with the help of several mentor professors, he didn’t want to be a politician — he wanted to understand how politics work.

He said this realization caused him to press toward a career in academics, hoping to research how politics function while helping students determine their futures.

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Robert Clinton, chairman of the political science department, said Burnside has been a great benefit to the department by enhancing the American politics curriculum and making course revisions.

“He’s proven to be a very valuable colleague, and I think that opinion is shared generally by people in the department,” Clinton said.

Philip Habel, assistant professor of political science, shared similar sentiments. He said Burnside brings experience and a fresh perspective to the department and shows interest in what others are doing.

“I think often times people flip-flop or change their minds, but he is very firm in what he does, and as a result, very fair,” he said.

Habel said after he interviewed for his current job six months ago, Burnside sent him a welcoming e-mail, which he said made him feel part of the group. He said he was stressed and nervous, but Burnside’s friendliness eased his anxiety.

“I think we’re fortunate to have him here as part of our staff,” Habel said.

ryan_rendleman@dailyegyptian.com
536-3311 ext. 268

A political ‘fix’
Randy Burnside has taught his passion of politics to students for almost 10 years

By Ryan Rendleman
Daily Egyptian

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GLBT Resource Center Director Paulette Curkin discusses how GLBT outreach has expanded from a small room in the Student Center to a resource center in Woody Hall.

The center will be open from 1 to 4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and from 8 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Suarez said the resource center would lead to the consideration of some of the other 11 recommendations from the GLBT report, which includes the formation of a GLBT advisory board made up of staff, faculty members and students.

“This is a big first step,” she said. “The resource center is the basis and the foundation for achieving more that will tie back to some of their recommendations.”

— Paulette Curkin
GLBT Resource Center Director

"The biggest thing we're trying to do is to make sure gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning people feel that they are welcome on this campus, that there is a place for them and that we're glad they're here," Curkin said.

GLBT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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This word is way overpriced.
Shins new music for moms

Possible frustration ahead

The Shins: Wincing The Night Away
Release date: Jan. 23, 2007
Label: Sub Pop

The Shins have mastered the simple anthem. It is one of the high points of the album. Case breezes through a set filled with country twang, bluesy swagger and rock panache. Backed only by banjo, lap pedal guitar and upright bass, Case’s rich vocal melodies drive most of the album. While Case’s work with the New Pornographers and good looks have elevated her status as an indie-rocker, much of her previous work has ultimately left her country leanings. On “Live From Austin, Tx,” however, the songwriting warms her roots loudly and proudly. Songs such as the mournful, banjo-tinted “Furnace Room Lullaby” and the cathartic “Behind the House” provide play-ful nods to Case’s harder side while the bass, Case’s rich vocal melodies drive most of the album. While Case’s work with the New Pornographers and good looks have elevated her status as an indie-rocker, much of her previous work has ultimately left her country leanings.

Neko Case “Live From Austin, Tx.: Austin City Limits”
Release Date: Jan. 9

Gloria Bode says none of these songs are on our iPod...

DAILY EGYPTIAN
Page 13 | Wednesday, January 17, 2007
WWW.SIUDE.COM/PODcasts

Shins new music for moms

Julie Engler

The Shins: Wincing The Night Away
Release date: Jan. 23, 2007
Label: Sub Pop

The Shins do a better job of imitating other musicians, mainly The Smiths, than defining themselves. “Wincing” is half “Ooh Inverted World” and half “Chuts Too Namous.” Whereas the band charged up a little bit on “Chuts,” it remained slow, sloppier approach takes on its delight more while adding a little bit of the pop-pop found on the second full-length release.

The 11-track album, which is more like 10 tracks considering one is a minute-long introduction to another song, is a little disjointed. But where the music lacks in length, it makes up for it by being a cohesive and complete collection.

The first two tracks mimic “Chuts” in the 90s pop way of songwriting. The opening track, “Sleeping Lessons,” is true to the classic rock sound and would not be out of place among The Beach Boys and The Monkees.

The Shins have mastered the simple bass-stare-bi-bass drum style of earlier Beatles music. They build strong struc- ture by strumming rhythms on guitar while letting the bass stay with a little variety. Add in a lot of “wooh!” and “la la la” and you get The Monkees.

Comprised of covers and older material, Case breezes through a set filled with country twang, bluesy swing- er and rock panache. Backed only by banjo, lap pedal guitar and upright bass, Case’s rich vocal melodies drive most of the album. While Case’s work with the New Pornographers and good looks have elevated her status as an indie-rocker, much of her previous work has ultimately left her country leanings.

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There are a variety of really won- derful songs on “Friend Opportunity.” “Choco Fight” is a beautiful song with Matsuzaki’s melodic voice before firing off into “Cast Off” territory. There are more straight-forward rock songs like “Matchbook Seeks Maria” with sounding organs drift- ing through the background. “Still” starts off with trumpets blaring before breaking into a stomping rock anthem. It is one of the high points of the album that brings the best of each band member to the forefront.

“Friend Opportunity” ends on the song and musing “Look Away.” A band like Deerhoof is best when performing songs that are short and sweet, and the closer seems to cap- ture the rest of the album, as loosely put together as it is.

The album does have some glar- ing problems. The worst song of the album is the minimalist electronic “Kids Are So Small.” Matsuzaki’s vocals sounds out of place as the song plods along.

Luckily for Deerhoof, the sum of its parts comes out more positive and progres- sive than negative. “Friend Opportunity” has many dimensions and directions, and in the end, it’s that loss of continuity that hurts the album while allowing the band to expand their sound.

Gloria Bode says none of these songs are on our iPod...

Shins new music for moms

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To Reserve Space Call Amber
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Crossword

ACROSS
1. Early bird
5. Reel
9. Piece of a joint
13. Send out
15. Lend
18. Aces
20. Side
22. Aces
25. Poker
26. Viola
27. Lead
28. Next
30. Miss
33. Little man
34. Make a jazz
36. What's up
37. Old machine
38. Make a sound
41. Live music
42. Abroad
43. Sports
44. A shot at
45. A game
46. A chord
48. Fingers
49. Per unit
50. Native New Zealander
52. Mobile
53. License
54. A unit
55. Bunch
56. U.S. rules
63. Morocco grape
64. Piano for the night
65. Unexpectedly
66. Watermelon
67. Counterclockwise
68. Token post office
69. The wire
70. Losing the money
71. CEO
72. Scared service
73. West
74. Unix NCs
75. Poker player
76. Tope
77. Watercolor
78. Bunch of butter
81. Bunch of butter
82. Fingers
83. Per unit
85. Native New Zealander
87. Mobile
88. License
89. A unit
90. A unit
91. A unit

Sudoku

By Michael Mepham

Level: 4

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Sudoku on your cell phone. Enter 743569.com in your mobile Web browser. Get a free game!

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Girls and Sports

by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein

By Linda Black

Today's Birthday (01-17-07). You're a very practical person, not prone to fantasies, usually. This year, trust experience and a hunch to make your biggest haul. 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 5 - Curtail your imagination long enough to be practical. Outrageous schemes are much more interesting if they're bringing in money.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - Conditions are excellent now for long-range planning. You can even venture outside your comfort zone, successfully.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - New assignment: get your financial affairs in order again. Tidy up the bookwork so you know what you have and how much more you can get.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is an 8 - The person you've been training is just about ready to take over. Sit back and watch the performance, and provide encouragement.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 9 - Focus on your work and get as much done as you can. Tackle the most difficult jobs. They'll be easier now.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is an 8 - You're very lucky now, so go ahead and take a risk. Move quickly and acquire something you've wanted for ages.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 6 - A family meeting is helpful, to know what the others want. Compromise will be necessary, first, find out what you have to work with.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - You're on a quest to find the best, and your odds of success are great. Do the research with passion and determination and be the first to the buried treasure.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - Indications are that you're receiving a lot of money. This does not appear to be from the lottery. It's more likely that you cash in something at home of value.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is an 8 - You have a natural talent for doing business, as you may know. Now's a good time to launch that idea you've been thinking about.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 5 - There's a thin line between having prophetic imagination and being crazy. Basically, it has to do with whether you can build the thing. Back to the drawing board.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - Get involved with a group who are passionate about taking care of business. Let them teach you how to make the most of what you have.

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THYME FAMED SCRIBE BOYISH

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DEXUE
MAITY
UNMIF
REVOOD

Answer here: A

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www.jumble.com

JUMBLE

The Duplex

by Glenn McCoy

WELL THEN, MRS. HARDWICK, SMARTLY WOES HERE'S DINNER! LET US SET UP THE TABLE. TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU DO IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. LEAVE ME NOW. I'VE A FINE CHANCE TO CROSS. I SEE IT TO TELL ME EVERYTH
BALTIMORE — Antoine Bethea wanted to hit the showers. He wanted to greet his Newport News family and celebrate with his Indianapolis Colts teammates.

But whenever he reached for his shampoo, whenever he took a few steps, another wave of reporters swarmed his locker.

Bethea’s celebrated teammates get this treatment all the time. Peyton Manning, the incomparable quarterback; Adam Vinatieri, the greatest kicker in postseason history; Dwight Freeney, the pass-rushing demon.

Not Bethea. He’s a rookie strong safety, a sixth-round draft choice from Division I-AA Howard University. He attracted no big-time recruiting interest out of Newport News Denbigh High, no raves from Mel Kiper Jr. on draft day.

By Saturday evening, most who follow professional football knew his name.

Bethea’s goal-line interception was the most crucial play of the Colts’ 15-6 playoff victory over the Baltimore Ravens. A fumble he forced never will appear in the statistics, but it saved his team more than 40 yards and several precious minutes.

“(In preseason camp) you knew he was a playmaker,” free safety Bob Sanders said. “He wasn’t afraid to tackle the football, wasn’t afraid to take chances. Some guys shy away from that.”

Bethea’s eye for the ball never was more apparent than early in the second quarter. Indianapolis led 6-3, and Baltimore faced third-and-goal at the 4.

Clearly, this was going to be a defensive struggle. Clearly, this play was paramount, the closest either team had been — or would be — to the end zone. The Ravens called timeout to plot their call.

Quarterback Steve McNair took a shotgun snap, looked to his left and rifled a pass toward tight end Todd Heap. Playing zone coverage, Bethea lunged in front of Heap, cradled the ball to his chest and collided head-on with teammate Cato June.

Both players crumbled to the turf. June needed help off the field. Somehow, Bethea held on to the ball at the 1-yard line.

“No question the play of the game,” Colts linebacker Gary Brackett said.

“I really didn’t see him,” June said. “I was going for the football. Bethea made a great play.”

So what about it, Antoine? Tell us about the interception.

Such was the chorus each time a new media horde descended. And each time Bethea answered: “I read McNair’s eyes and went for the ball. But I don’t want to focus on one play. It was a group effort.”

And it was. The Colts’ oft-disparaged defense, inept during the regular season, saved Manning (two interceptions, no touchdowns) and the offense for the second time in as many playoff games. Sanders and Nick Harper were outstanding in the secondary, as were June and Rob Morris at linebacker, as Indianapolis advanced to next Sunday’s AFC championship game.

“Their defense is a lot better than people give them credit for,” Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco said.

But the rookie from the Peninsula District was The Man. And his interception took on greater import when Manning subsequently drove the Colts into Ravens territory and Vinatieri kicked the third of his five field goals.

“He’s an HBCU (historically black colleges and universities) guy and not many people knew about him,” Brackett said of Bethea. “Being a free-agent guy myself, I have a bond with him. You kind of root for guys like him.”

Indianapolis Colts Robert Mathis (98), rear and Raheem Brock (79) celebrate late during their AFC Playoff game against the Baltimore Ravens played at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore, Md on Saturday.
Former NASCAR champion dies at 65

Benjamin Parsons made a career of beating the odds, rising up from a childhood of poverty in the North Carolina foothills to a job as a Detroit cabbie, and eventually, becoming a NASCAR champion.

When he was diagnosed with lung cancer, Parsons had every reason to believe he would beat the odds. But despite a battle that stretched since Dec. 26 because of complications from his treatment, he couldn’t win this fight.

“He’s making big plays when he needs those plays to be made,” Jacobsen said. “I just think our guys really rallied around Brooks’ leadership and his work ethic. It’s really paid off for our team.”

Jacobsen said McKowen worked tirelessly in the offseason to improve his conditioning and ball-handling skills, which could have really paid off for our team,”

McKowen said his confidence has also improved due to a different workout regimen, which could raise a problem for Jaquez. “He just tried to take it one play at a time,” he said. “I think in the past I tended to, if I missed a shot, I might dread on it.”

The Shockers stumbled after Christmas and our schedule, it was tough,” he said. “Then we came back well,” he said. “Then we came back well,” he said. “Then we came back well,” he said.

Wichita State assistant coach Mike Robins said the Shockers’ best player, P.J. Cowinrad, missing some time due to illness, was a factor in the team’s slide, but Robins said it’s not an excuse.

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Ohman. two-year contract with reliever Will the right-hander $3.4 million. asking for $3,875,000. The Cubs offered ing an injury-riddled season in which he season. who is eligible for free agency next off- Cubs offered $11,025,000 to Zambrano, and setting one with 210 strikeouts. The 33 starts, matching a career-high in wins Zambrano sought $15.5 million through the Sharapova-Pin match for other Arena, where the roof was reopened to the 6-2, 6-1 in the first match at Rod Laver beat Monique Adamczak of Australia and No. 3-seeded Svetlana Kuznetsova Wednesday, allowing play to start on time rather than pass out and delaying the start on Tuesday, forcing two players to give up so delusional I couldn't think. " I don't think our bodies were made to do that — I was so delusional I couldn't think." Sharapova and Rafael Nadal repre- sented both ends of the spectrum as heat became the story of the day in Melbourne on Saturday, forcing two players to give up rather than pass out and delaying the start of dozens of matches until after sundown. The heat eased slightly early Wednesday, allowing play to start on time on all courts. Former U.S. Open champion and No. 3-seeded Svetlana Kuznetsova beat Marion Bartoli of Australia 6-2, 6-1 in the first match at Rod Laver Arena, where the roof was reopened to the muggy, overcast conditions. On Tuesday, it was too hot midway through the Sharapova-Pin match for other matches to be started on outdoor courts. Sharapova needed a medical timeout for cramps in the last set, an ice vest over her neck at every change of ends and every ounce of tenacity she could muster to beat the Frenchwoman who had made the sec- ond round only twice in 15 majors.ighth-served David Nalbandian used the heat to his advantage, coming back from two sets and a break down as the Frenchman who had made the sec- ond round only twice in 15 majors. Nalbandian needed a medical timeout for cramps in the last set, an ice vest over her neck at every change of ends and every ounce of tenacity she could muster to beat the Frenchwoman who had made the sec- ond round only twice in 15 majors.ized later "I could be feeling a lot worse 41 had lost the match." Eighth-served David Nalbandian used the heat to his advantage, coming back from two sets and a break down as Janko Tipsarevic wilted. Tipsarevic event- ually retired with heat exhaustion with eight games to go. Nalbandian said the conditions were disgusting, and unfair for those who were on court and had to continue playing when the Extreme Heat Policy was enforced. Nadal's 7-6 (8), 6-3, 6-2 win over Robert Kendrick went ahead after the roof was closed. All matches on outside courts were postponed for eight hours.

Zambrano seeks $15.5 million in arbitration

CHICAGO — Cubs right-hander Carlos Zambrano sought $15.5 million in salary next season, while the Chicago Cubs asked Mark Prior to take a pay cut in arbitration, the sides submitted Tuesday. Zambrano earned $4.5 million last season and went 1-7 with a 3.41 ERA in 33 starts, matching a career-high in wins and setting one with 210 strikeouts. The Cubs offered $11,025,000 to Zambrano, who is eligible for free agency next off-season. Prior, who made $3.65 million dur- ing an injury-riddled season in which he went 1-6 with a 7.21 ERA in nine starts, is asking for $3,675,000. The Cubs offered the right-hander $1.4 million. Chicago agreed on a $2.5 million, two-year contract with reliever Will Ohman. A 29-year-old left-hander, Ohman was 1-1 with a 4.13 ERA last year and set career highs in appearances (78), innings (85.1-3) and strikeouts (74). He stranded 33 of 41 inherited runners and limited opponents to a .208 batting average. Ohman will get $900,000 next sea- son and $1,6 million in 2008. He would earn a $100,000 bonus for appearing in 70 games next season and 75 the follow- ing year, and he would get $500,000 for making 80 appearances in 2008. Ohman would earn $125,000 each year from finishing the game, $500,000 for finishing 20 and 25, $100,000 for finish- ing 30, and $150,000 for finishing 35. He made his major league debut with the Cubs in 2000 and missed the 2002 and 2003 seasons while recover- ing from left elbow surgery. Ohman is 5-9 with a 3.64 ERA in 147 games in the past two years.

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Dawgs look for revenge

Aces trumped Salukis 64-59 in last regular season matchup

Jim Nelson

The tasty taste is still in the Salukis mouths.

The Purple Aces (9-2, 2-5 Missouri Valley Conference) topped SIU (14-4, 5-2) 64-59 the last time the Salukis visited Evansville. The loss stung SIU, and it will be something the Salukis remember on their way to Evansville for tonight’s 7:05 p.m. tip-off.

"Obviously it is going to be in the back of our minds," junior forward Matt Shaw said. "But at the same time we have to focus on the game plan and focus on what we have to do to win."

After the loss last season, Saluki head coach Chris Lowery said his team was dominated by two big guys — 6-foot-8 Matt Webster and 6-9 Bradley Strickland, who combined to collect 45 points and 16 rebounds for Evansville in the contest.

This year Strickland and Webster are back as seniors. Webster is the MVC scoring leader for the third consecutive week, averaging 17.6 ppg. Strickland is second in blocked shots.

That may be a reason Saluki Tony Young knows not to look too far ahead.

"We've got to continue to focus on one game at a time," Young said. "We can't get a big head and think we're back on top of the world because we won a couple of games."

Webster is averaging 20 points in Evansville’s nine wins, versus only about 14 in the teams nine losses. The Saluki big men may need help from the bench to slow the attack on the rim. Webster has tended to need trips to the free-throw line to crack the 20-point mark.

Shaw fouled out of the loss last season, and Falker struggled with foul trouble throughout the contest.

Lowery said after the Drake win that it would be hard for the Salukis to win at Evansville, but to have to play his fire starters for 35 minutes is not something he wants to be limited to.

"We're wanted to play this way all year, but we weren't able to," Lowery said of subbing his players. "That is the key, when we can go to the bench a lot earlier."

The Evansville game is the lone hurdle left before the Salukis travel to Omaha, Neb., for a potential collision of two teams tied for first place.

After getting a little help from Wichita State, who beat Creighton Monday night, the Salukis head to Evanville, Ind., tonight, tied for first place in the MVC men's basketball standings. SIU, Creighton and Missouri State all sport 5-2 records in conference play.

The Purple Aces, however, have only two conference wins, albeit in convincing fashion over Drake and Illinois State.

They also lost a close game to Northern Iowa, 64-61, and got blown out by Missouri State 106-54 right days ago. The Purple Aces are currently on a five game losing streak. All of the losses were to last years MVC, NCAA or NET tournament teams.

Still, Evansville is no Creighton. They haven’t had a winning season since the 1999-2000 campaign.

Besides last win over SIU, the last time the Purple Aces topped the Salukis was in Carbondale during the 2000-2001 season. Evansville won 79-74.

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Freshman following the blueprint

Matt Hartwig

Throughout the season the SIU women’s swimming and diving team has obtained top performances from stars like junior Julie Ju, but freshmen have also held of their end of the bargain.

During the Jan. 13 dual meet against University of Northern Iowa and the University of Evansville, freshmen Lisa Jaquez and Karin Mullendore finished second after Lisa Jaquez in the 500-yard freestyle against Evansville and Northern Iowa Saturday afternoon at the Dr. Edward J. Shea Natatorium.

All for the greater good of the team has teammates and coaches raving about her.

Head coach Rick Walker said Jaquez will do whatever it takes to improve even if she doesn’t enjoy hearing what she’s doing wrong.

"Some athletes won’t let go of their habits but she does a good job of continuing to improve," Walker said.

See SWIMMING, Page 18

Jamaal Tatum celebrates with teammate Jamaal Foster after Foster’s dunk in the second half of the Salukis’ home win over Drake on Monday. The Salukis will look for strong play from their bench as they battle the Aces on the road tonight in Evansville.

See MVC, Page 18

Men’s Basketball

A look around the MVC

Scott Mieszala

If you’re looking for high-quality basketball, look no further than the Missouri Valley Conference.

The MVC boasts eight schools with above-.500 overall records and two schools with even 9-9 records, as well as the fourth highest RPI in the NCAA.

The only conferences with better RPIs are the Pacific-10 Conference, the Southeastern Conference and the Atlantic Coast Conference, all of which have at least one school ranked in the Top 25.

"Our league is good," SIU men’s head basketball coach Chris Lowery said. "Right now our league is at a level where the conference winner is going to get a good seed in the NCAA Tournament."

The MVC has had its surprises this season. Illinois State University (9-9, 1-6 MVC) had its lone conference win against University of Northern Iowa (13-4, 4-2). SIU (14-4, 5-2) lost a Jan. 10 heartbreaker to Bradley University (13-6, 4-3), 48-46.

"All 10 teams are good enough to win on any given night,” Northern Iowa head coach Ben Jacobsen said. "I just think it’s going to be a really interesting race.”

New player in the mix

Northern Iowa guard Brookes McKown’s numbers weren’t outstanding in 2005-06, when he averaged 5.6 points per game and 2.8 assists per game.

McKown, now a senior, has improved his statistics this season to 10.1 ppg and 6.2 apg — ninth best in the NCAA.

See MVC, Page 18