Amtrak passengers wait to board the 5:15 p.m. Chicago-bound train Sunday at the Carbondale station.

According to the Illinois Department of Transportation, the 392 Illini and the 390 Saluki Amtrak services from and to Carbondale could be cut by July 2009.

Saluki and Illini lines would be eliminated
Jenn Lofton 

Two years after the state of Illinois and Amtrak collaborated to bring longer train service to Carbondale, passengers could be left with few travel options than they had before.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich's $1.5 billion state budget cut proposal would eliminate three Amtrak train routes, including the Saluki and Illini lines. If the Legislature approves the budget this month, Carbondale passengers would be left with only the City of New Orleans line, which departs Chicago at 8 p.m. and Carbondale at 3:16 a.m.

Since the state Legislature approved a $64.3 million contact with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Amtrak in 2006, there has been a 67 percent increase in passengers taking the Carbondale to Chicago route. From Oct. 2007 to May 2008, nearly 180,000 passengers have used the two lines alone, said Rich Magliari, a spokesman for Amtrak.

“This shows it is an effective and efficient way to get to Carbondale,” said David Gross, executive director of government affairs for SIU.

As travel costs rise across the country, many residents and officials worry the reduction of lines would further isolate Carbondale and the university.

Chicago resident Marylin Blaysz says she uses the route frequently to visit family in Carbondale and is concerned about the two-year period she would be left with after the cuts.

She said taking the train is much easier than driving.

“If they cut the lines, it worries me what the college kids will do for transportation,” said Kristi Owings, a 20-year-old Chicago resident.

Carbondale and is concerned about the two years she would be left with after the cuts.

She said taking the train is much easier than driving.

### Student killed in motorcycle accident

**Family, friends and fellow Marines will gather today to remember an SIUC student who was killed after his motorcycle collided with a van Friday morning.**

Bradley Owens, 24, was traveling west on Illinois Route 13 at a high speed when he ran a red light and crashed into a van turning left off North Station Road, according to reports from the Carbondale Police Department and the Jackson County Coroner. The driver of the van, a 77-year-old Carbondale resident, was not injured and did not receive any citations, according to Carbondale police.

Shortly before the accident, Owens' motorcycle was clocked at 78 mph at the intersection of Route 13 and Briggs Road, and roughly 0.5 miles later at 132 mph at the intersection of Route 13 and Samuel Road, according to the Williamson County Sheriff's Department. The collision occurred roughly 6.4 miles west of where the motorcycle was clocked at 132 mph, near the Holiday Inn and Golden Corral restaurant in Carbondale.

Jackson County Coroner Tom Kupferer said Owens was pronounced dead on the scene because of head, neck and chest trauma. He said speed was a factor.

There were no visible signs of anything that would have obstructed Owens' vision, Kupferer said, and toxicology reports are expected within four to six weeks.

After returning from three tours in Iraq, Owens registered as a freshman at SIUC in May, according to the Office of Records and Registration. His brother, Richie Owens, said he hoped to major in criminal law with the desire to go into law enforcement.

**Anatomy of the accident**

**Former students lose appeal**

**Allison Petty**

Three former students who accused the university of discrimination after they were suspended for hazing in 2004 do not have a federal case, an appeals court ruled last week.

The plaintiffs, who had committed the same actions as depicted in the trial court's findings, according to court documents. However, the U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the plaintiffs did not have enough evidence to uphold the discrimination charges.

The judge also noted that students do not have a property right to a college education and therefore could not be deprived of property without due process.

Debbie Nelson, associate general counsel for the university, attended oral arguments that occurred on Feb. 28.

"The appeals court ruled in accordance with the law and sustaining the trial court's judgment," Nelson said.

Nakia Collins, Monet Williams and Esiquas Johnson filed the appeal after their lawsuit against the university was dismissed in August 2007. The three women, all former members of the traditionally black Zeta Phi Beta sorority, filed a lawsuit in summer 2005 alleging the university discriminated against them and denied their rights during Student Judicial Affairs disciplinary hearings.

Collins, Williams and Johnson were accused of hazing and found guilty by Student Judicial Affairs.

Each was suspended for three years, with their transcripts frozen during that time. Williams' suspension was later reduced to two years.

Richard Fedder, a Carbondale attorney who represents the women, said resources students have a right to due process within university disciplinary procedures, though the court did not uphold this opinion.

He said he found parts of the ruling to be confusing and troubling.

Fedder said though the lawsuit was not about whether the women committed the original crime, he believed they were innocent of the hazing charges.

“Our position, and the truth, has always been that these ladies didn’t do anything,” Fedder said.

The documents name five individual defendants: Potter Wessels, former university chancellor; Terry Huffman, director of Student Judicial Affairs; Kharios Grace, hearing officer for Student Judicial Affairs; Nancy Hustler Pei, assistant to the vice chancellor for Student Affairs; and Chuck Leonard, a university police officer.

If the plaintiffs wanted to continue their appeal, the case’s next destination would have to be the U.S. Supreme Court, Nelson said.

Fedder said he does not have the resources to pursue the case at that level.
"If they cut the lines, it worries me what the college kids will do for transportation," Blazyx said.

Officials at SIUC are also concerned about what impact the cuts could have on the already progressively diminishing enrollment at the university.

Gross said the university was proud to have a train line named after the mascot and if it is taken away SIUC will not only lose a great marketing tool, but also lose students that do not have cars and solely depend on Amtrak to travel.

Gross also said Amtrak has become a significant way of travel for not just students, but state workers and other business people. Gross said state officials such as Sen. Dick Durbin would lobby to fight the cuts.

Maglioli said officials at Amtrak are trying to have a positive outlook on this situation and are prepared for whatever the outcome may be. There are not any set plans if the cut was to occur to raise tickets prices or add more cars to accommodate passengers, he said.

"No matter what happens, we have no intentions to stop continuing service," Maglioli said.

Though the Saluki and Illini lines are extremely popular among students and residents across the state, there is a desperate need to modify the current budget, said Rich Claffey, spokesman for the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Claffey said no one wants this cut to occur, but the $2 billion hole in the state's budget must be brought back into balance somehow.

The budget cut has already been passed by the Senate and now just needs approval from the House. Claffey said the final decision would take effect July 2009.

Jerry Eytis can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 273 or je@eisou.edu.

Motorcycle

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Richie Owens said he would remember his brother as a patriot whose support for the country never wavered after his time in Iraq.

"He was actually thinking about possibly re-enlisting again. He liked it," Richie Owens said. "He didn't like being away from his family, but he did like the Marines a lot."

Bradley Owens enlisted to follow in the footsteps of his grand-father, who was also a Marine, his brother said. He was stationed in Jacksonville, N.C.

Bradley Owens is set to receive a full military funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Pryat Funeral Home in Pinckneyville, a city roughly 30 miles northwest of Carbondale where Owens was born and raised. He will be buried in his uniform, his brother said.

Richie Owens described his brother as a stand-up guy who was always willing to help others. He loved his two nieces, ages 5 and 9, his brother said, and would often babysit them at their home in Pinckneyville.

"He'd come over and spend all day with them, take them to the park. He loved his nieces," he said.

Any donations in Bradley Owens's name should be made to the American Heart Association or the Lupus Foundation of America, Richie Owens said. He said his brother would have appreciated the charity because his father died of lupus in June 1995.

Sean McGohan can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 274 or smcgohan@eisou.edu.

Puppeters needed for July 8 play

• Practice 10:00 a.m. – noon July 7 at Cardboard Public Library
• 4th grade or older may sign up at the circulation desk
• Required practice: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm Tuesday July 8
• Two performances: July 8
• Pizza party after performance
• Last day to register: June 30
• Call Mary Stone at 475-0314.

Submit calendar details to the Daily Egyptian Newsroom, Commercial Services, SU, one to two days before event, or call (618) 536-3311, ext. 266.

Donor gives $5 million to Salvation Army

CHICAGO (AP) — An anonymous donor has given the Salvation Army a $5 million gift to help build a community center in Chicago.

The Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center will cost about $160 million and is planned for the city's West Pullman neighborhood.

The center will offer athletic activities and arts and continuing education programs.

Salvation Army officials say the donor is a longtime supporter of the social service organization.

About 30 Kroc centers are planned nationwide over the next five years.

Much of the funding for the centers comes from a donation from the estate of the late McDonald's heirou Jean Kroc, who died in 2002.

She was married to McDonald's founder Ray Kroc and gave the Salvation Army $51.5 billion.

Jennifer Bousquet can be reached at 618-536-3311 ext. 274 or jbousquet@eisou.edu.

Photos by Rich Blau

The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, with fall and spring circulations of 20,000. Free copies are distributed on campus and in the Carbondale, Murphysboro and Carbondale communities.

The Daily Egyptian is a designated public forum. Student editors have authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval.
**Wildfires force firefighters to pick their battles**

Scott Lindlaw  
Iowa City Press-Citizen

SAN FRANCISCO — With hundreds of wildfires raging across rugged, remote parts of California for a second straight year, firefighters have been forced to strategically choose which to fight and which to leave for burning by nature.

The number of fires burning in central and Northern California — 1800 square miles at last report — has been so great that state fire officials — meaning authorities can't send firefighters to battle every blaze, Jason Kichner, a spokesman for the U.S. Forest Service, said Monday. "It's like eating an elephant — you just got to eat it in manageable chunks," he said.

It's also impossible to attack wild fires in some rugged, remote areas because the risk to firefighters is too great, Kichner said.

"We have to take a step back, figure out where the best place is to make a stand and sometimes wait for the fire to come to us in those situations," he said. "We've got to pick the battles we can win."

Long-running wildfires are not unusual in California. It was four months before firefighters controlled a blaze that blackened more than 240,000 acres of Santa Barbara County backcountry last year.

What is extraordinary this year is the number of fires burning at the same time, Kichner said. The weekend of June 21, some 1200 fires were burning — a figure Forest Service officials said appeared to be an all-time record in California.

The Forest Service put the figure at about 600 on Monday. It attributed the gains to its tactic of attacking smaller fires first, and to significant assistance from other states and Canada.

State officials, however, counted more than 1,000 ongoing blazes. The source of the discrepancy was apparently a different counting method. Also unusually, Kichner said, there have been no significant injuries to civilians or firefighters, even though some 570 square miles have burned in California this season.

"It's a struggle to pay for higher education these days so the more money we can pay students, the better," said Mark Scally, associate athletic director, said the increase wouldn't cut down positions or hours for student workers. In fact, he said, athletic administrators hope to expand the department's student worker opportunities.

The athletic department employs anywhere from 150 to 200 students, Scally said, and the increase couldn't come at a better time. The department $10,000 more than last year.

"As long as people keep buying tickets and supporting fundraisers, Scally said the department would continue to expand its student worker opportunities.

Student workers are very valuable and one of our major missions. We can't operate without them so it would be counter-productive to cut jobs," Scally said. "College students still need to eat, and they like the extra bread is going down anywhere, so we want to help however we can.

Minimum wage is scheduled to increase two times during the next two years. By July 1, 2009, the minimum wage will be at $8 and $8.25 by July 1, 2010. Though minimum wage is expected to increase the next two years, Terri Harlot, coordinator of enrollment management, said the university would be prepared.

When a full-time employee gets a three-percent increase, we don't expect to get laid off for that," Harlot said. "So we don't anticipate a three-percent increase in student wages to cause jobs to be cut." 

Juan Garcia is not so excited about the change. Garcia, a senior from Chicago studying finance, said he disappeared of the increase because the price of everything will make a stand and sometimes wait for support all the students who need federal work-study — and he is one of them.

"That little quarter won't help me as a student," Garcia said. "I will just rather have the $7.50 and keep federal work-study."

Jeff Engelhardt can be reached at 536-3131 ext. 260 or jedgel@ebsa.edu

**Employees have mixed reactions about larger paychecks**

Jenn Lofton  Daily Egyptian

With prices of food, gas and other commodities continuing to rise, many workers say an extra 25 cents is needed now more than ever.

Minimum wage in Illinois increased today to $7.75 an hour because of a bill Gov. Rod Blagojevich signed in 2006 setting the wage to increase every year until 2010. As employees enjoy the extra cash in the short term, many business owners see opportunities to avoid passing down the hike to consumers.

Christopher Dingle, manager of Buffalo Wild Wings in Carbondale, said with the minimum wage is needed, some workers might have more money on other things, employees need a raise to afford to get to work and support their other daily habits.

If an employee works 40 hours a week, the raise will amount to a $10 increase on his or her paycheck, Dingle said, but it could go a long way for some.

Though the prices on the menus will remain the same in the short term, Dingle said, a potential rise could be imminent to offset rising costs of workers.

"Everything is going to go up and because minimum wage is too, a lot of things are going to cost more eventually," Dingle said.

Some workers also worried that the increase could have more of a negative impact in the long term for not only consumers, but employees who fight for jobs.

Daniel Powell, co-manager of the Wal-Mart Super Center in Carbondale, said the increase in the minimum wage is needed, especially for those who travel long distances to work. But in some cases, businesses might have to cut hours to be able to afford to pay its employees the rising wages, he said.

Wal-Mart should not be affected immediately, he said, but many smaller and independently-owned businesses may.

"We could potentially cut hours, but as of right now we need everybody for the back-to-school rush so there won't be any problem," Powell said.

Erin Coffle, who works at 710 Book Store, said she agrees the wage increase is good, but also sees it having a negative impact.

Coffle said as people begin to make more money, they are just going to have to spend more because the price of everything will most likely rise.

"I live only two blocks from work and I walk instead of driv ing, but I will have to spend more money on other things," Coffle said.

Jennifer Walsh of Carbondale works as a waitress at Buffalo Wild Wings. Walsh's manager, Christopher Engelhardt, said she agreed Walsh and other employees at the Buffalo Wild Wings wait staff did not have to worry about de claring long hours due to the wage increase.

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**University officials: Bigger budget won't decrease employment**

Jeff Engelhardt  Daily Egyptian

Kiley Nave is excited about the prospect of a little extra money in her pocket.

Nave is one of more than 3,000 student workers who will be affect ed a minimum wage increase starting today.

The minimum wage in the state of Illinois increased 25 cents from $6.50 to $7.75, causing 3.3 percent increase in university department's budgets for student employment.

Nave, a senior from Arcola studying athletic training exercise science, said every penny matters with the poor state of the economy.

"The higher the minimum wage the better," Nave said. "Groceries and gas are getting so expensive and the old minimum wage isn't what it used to be."

Clendenen, assistant director of financial aid, said past increases show the university should maintain its level of student employment.

Despite the minimum wage increase from $6.50 to $7.50 last year, the university still employed 3,284 students, which is consistent with previous years' amounts, she said.

"Over the last two or three years, federal work-study hasn't changed, but as a whole the university hasn't decided to lower the student employment," Clendenen said. "You may not have as many federal work study workers, but the overall number hasn't changed much."

One of Clendenen's responsibilities is to take the federal work-study money and distribute it to individual departments across campus. SIU has received $2.2 million in work-study funding each year for the last three years less than the potential supplement to department's student employment budgets.

"It's always a struggle in the budget, but we depend on our student workers so we will always accommodate them," Marks said.
Hassan al-Shahristani, Iraq's Oil Minister, talks to reporters in Baghdad, Iraq, April 3, 2005. Al-Shahristani has said that the country was still in negotiations with prospective oil companies.

Ali al-Dabbagh said Monday there is no American influence on the Iraqi government's oil decisions.

"Politics does not come into this," al-Dabbagh said. "There is no preferential treatment for any company." All the oil fields the minister mentioned Monday are currently producing crude, and al-Shahristani said the new contracts would raise Iraq's production by 1.5 million barrels per day. Iraq currently produces 2.5 million barrels per day and hopes to raise that to 4.5 million by 2015.

Adding 1.5 million barrels of oil each day to the world's supply would push the price downward. But some analysts were not convinced it will happen, given the deterioration of the Iraqi infrastructure and potential instability.

Iraq opens bidding on oil and natural gas fields

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq opened international bidding for eight enormous oil and gas fields Monday, paving the way for investment in a nation with some of the world's largest petroleum reserves.

If approved, contracts to update and manage those fields could involve the biggest foreign stake in Iraq since its oil industry was nationalized more than 30 years ago. Iraq is hoping to reach its goal of nearly doubling petroleum production by 2013.

There would be good news with the price for a barrel of oil breathing $143 for the first time ever the price for a barrel of oil breach the $100 mark.

Iraq's Oil Minister, talks to reporters in Baghdad, Iraq, April 3, 2005.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Pentagon unveils attacks in charges

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon has unveiled new charges against Saudi Arabia for "organizing and directing" the 2001 bombing of the USS Cole in Aden that killed 17 sailors.

The charges were announced Friday by U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, who signed the indictment.

The indictment charges a group of Saudis and Yemenis with plotting and conducting the attack. It also charges them with providing material support to the attack.

Attorneys for the defendants did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The indictment is the third one filed against Saudis since 2000. It comes as the United States continues to investigate the role of Saudi Arabia in the attack.

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Officials start work on First Year plan

Jeff Engelfried DAILY EGYPTIAN

SIUC hopes a hired firm can help the university take its first step in its new First-Year Experience program.

Mark Amos, head of the committee to develop First-Year Experience, said SIUC is interested in hiring the Policy Center on First Year of College. It would implement its specialized plan that focuses on retention and creation of a plan to help the university develop an easy transition for incoming freshmen.

Amos said the plan, Foundations of Excellence, gives SIUC the opportunity to get outside opinions on its retention problems.

The Foundation of Excellence includes a yearlong observation program. The card would cost $33,500 a year.

Amos said the university could still decide to do its own research and develop its own program. He said he thinks the plan would be worth implementing because it would allow for outside opinions and networking with other universities.

Benito Muñoz, a senior from Blue Island, completed his junior year at SIUC last year but does not plan on returning for a senior year because he never worked toward a declared major.

Muñoz said a career development component of a First-Year Experience program seems like it would be successful in retaining students.

“It would have definitely helped me to have something like First-Year Experience when I was a freshman,” Muñoz said. “There are a lot of undirected students and the career counseling people are OK, but a whole program would have helped me a lot.”

While First-Year Experience is expected to be in place for fall 2009, Amos said a detailed plan would be finished by next summer and significant changes could be seen by the end of the 2009-10 academic year.

The first phase of the plan includes enhancing the programs already established. Developing more freshmen interest groups, educating instructors about the expanded University 101 course and finding ways to promote freshmen retention are scheduled for the fall semester.

Amos said the University 101 course is one example of the programs SIUC already has in place to develop a First-Year Experience. University 101 is a course to help freshmen transition to college while learning study habits necessary to succeed.

The quality of SIUC’s retention and creation problems will be worth $33,500 a year.

More than half of all gun deaths discovered as suicide

Mike Stobbe THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — The Supreme Court’s landmark ruling on gun ownership last week focused on citizens’ ability to defend themselves from intruders in their homes. But research shows that surprisingly often, gun owners use the weapons on themselves.

Suicides accounted for 55 percent of the nation’s 31,000 firearm deaths in 2005, the most recent year for which statistics are available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

There was nothing unique about that year — gun-related suicides have outnumbered firearm homicides and accidents for 20 of the last 25 years. In 2005, homicides accounted for 40 percent of gun deaths. Accidents accounted for 3 percent. The remaining 2 percent included legal killings, such as when police do the shooting, and cases that involve undetermined intent.

Public-health researchers have concluded that in homes where guns are present, the likelihood that someone in the home will die from suicide or homicide is much greater.

Studies have also shown that homes in which a suicide occurred were three to five times more likely to have a gun present than homes that did not experience a suicide, even after accounting for other risk factors.

In a 5-4 decision, the high court on Thursday struck down a handgun ban enacted in the District of Columbia in 1976 and rejected requirements that firearms have trigger locks or be kept disassembled. The ruling left intact the district’s licensing restrictions for gun owners.

One public-health study found that suicide and homicide rates in the district dropped after the ban was adopted. The district has allowed shotguns and rifles to be kept in homes if they are registered, kept unloaded and taken apart or equipped with trigger locks.

The American Public Health Association, the American Association of Suicidology and two other groups filed a legal brief supporting the district’s ban. The brief challenged arguments that a gun is not available, suicidal people will just kill themselves using other means.

More than 90 percent of suicide attempts using guns are successful, while the success rate for jumping from high places was 34 percent. The success rate for drug overdose was 2 percent, the brief said, citing studies.

“Other methods are not as lethal,” said Jon Vernick, co-director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research in Baltimore.

The high court’s majority opinion made no mention of suicide. But in a dissenting opinion, Justice Stephen Breyer used the word 14 times in voicing concern about the likelihood of striking down the handgun ban.

If a resident has a handgun in the home that he can use for self-defense, then he has a handgun in the home that he can use to commit suicide or engage in acts of domestic violence,” Breyer wrote.

More than half of all gun deaths discovered as suicide
Do not follow in his track an STD. contact. ways to increase your protective practicing abstinence, he or she boundaries/limits and commit to proposed the elimination of two out hurt both southern from Chicago to St. university. through Macomb and university. As we move into the summer Sexual boundaries vary greatly and there can consider 10 people Ow, is committed to being a trusted sour however, ask 10 people. and there SIUC primarily reporting no sexual partners in years, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives decreasing public transportation should not be an option during a time when it could be profiting greatly. Decision making. Alcohol impedes the ability to legally give consent. You cannot give or get consent when impaired. • Be empowered to speak up about what you want out of a physical relationship or abstaining. • Skip the sexual health history interrogation with your partner. You can inquire more about a partner and his or her commitment to risk reduction, as well as mutual respect and personal responsibility by seeing his or her willingness to respect you and your expectations. • Open, honest communication is key in any relationship based on equality. However, if you do choose to be sexually active, consistently use a barrier protection (condom/dental dam). ACHA reports only about 25 percent of students used protection regularly in the last year. • Be proactive with your sexual health. Have a backup for STDs/STI/HIV every year. • Look out for each other. • Respect yourself and others. By the way, that other well-known acronym for SPF (Sun Protection Factor), is just as important to pay attention to this summer. Sunscreen allows you spend more time in the sun without risk of a dangerous sunburn or rapidly increasing your chances of skin cancer. So slather on some sunscreen, use barrier protection, talk up your expectations, know your boundaries, and take steps to increase both of your SPF’s as the weather starts, and continues to, heat up. Either way, play it safe this summer!

What is your SPF (Sexual Protection Factor)? As we move into the summer season, let us look specifically at ways to increase your protective factors regarding your sexual health. Abstinence is trusted as the best prevention against STDs or sexually transmitted infections (STIs); however, ask 10 people what defines abstinence and it is likely 10 different answers will be obtained. Sexual boundaries vary greatly from person to person, and there are many viral STD’s that can be transmitted via skin-to-skin contact. Therefore, even if a person is, by matter of their definition, practicing abstinence, he or she still has the possibility to contract an STD.

As the season heats up, help increase your SPF by considering these tips.

• Plan ahead. Know your sexual boundaries/limits and commit to what is best for you. Forget the myth about what everyone else is doing.

According to the latest American College Health Survey (ACHA) from fall 2007, nearly 32 percent of college students reported no sexual partners in the last 12 months and 45 percent reported only one. • Intimacy is safer and better if sober. Alcohol can, and usually does, tend to impair sexual decision making. Alcohol impedes the ability to give legal consent. According to the latest American College Health Survey (ACHA) from fall 2007, nearly 32 percent of college students reported no sexual partners in the last 12 months and 45 percent reported only one. • Intimacy is safer and better if sober. Alcohol can, and usually does, tend to impair sexual decision making. Alcohol impedes the ability to give legal consent. The consolidation of ownership has created an era of corporate media dominance unsurpassed in its size and level. It forces music to cater to the only demographic they see as profitable — 12-year-old girls. Scanning stations is like driving the interstate; every stop is the same McDonald’s, Burger King and Arby’s. Public, community and student radio fills the intellectual and creative void. The place to start is what I can honestly call my church, since I spend three hours on Sunday listening, laughing and occasionally crying, National Public Radio. NPR was created right after the Creation for Public Broadcasting and is similar to the Public Broadcasting System. It serves as syndicator for local affiliate stations, provides programming for a nominal fee. We have a local station, WDBX (91.9 FM) which receives its programming (Monday–Friday, All Things Considered, Marketplace) as an affiliate station. They also carry other member station shows and some distributed by Public Radio International, which is separate from NPR itself. WNYC, the NPR affiliate in New York, produces Radio Lab, an amazing hour-long show that tackles complex scientific issues from basic engineering to the concept of time in a fun and engaging way. On their program about zoos, for example, they went to a place that keeps chimpanzees. These were chimpanzees that had lives as either stage and show animals or lab animals. If we were so integrated into human life, they were unfit to release into the wild. Chicago Public Radio has the most amazing show I probably to which have ever had the privilege to listen, This American Life. Ira Glass and his cadre of segment producers choose a theme and then pick stories about “ordinary people in extraordinary situations.” The story about a first rate man to try, and fail, to cryogenically freeze someone is one of the most amazing stories ever.

The story of the Pakistani who was sent to Guantanamo because he angered a local cleric friendly with the U.S. by publishing an “Osama” style newspaper was heart breaking. My hour of TAL a week is always something I have to look forward to. I would be doing a disservice if I did a column on radio without mentioning our community station, WDBX (91.9 FM). This in-state station serves as a 24 hour programming service for the Southern Illinois University community and is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, entertainment and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.
By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday 07-01-08 — Are you happy with your job? First, it is the year to make the necessary changes. Learning new skills won't be easy, but you have the motivation. Finish old business so when opportunity knocks, you'll be ready.

To get the advantage, check the daily rating: 10 is the easiest day, 1 the most challenging.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is an 8 — Be a smart shopper! You'll be tempted to get things you don't need. Items you will be using at a quantity discount don't fall into this category. Stock up on those.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) — Today is a 7 — Can you outdo your opponent? Of course you can. Be watchful for curveballs and other surprises, though. This won't be an easy battle.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Figure out how long it will take to reach a specific target. If you have the motivation, you should be able to get your goal worth the effort.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is a 7 — Costs are going up over the next six weeks. Luckily, you've got a great job. Performance will be important. You may see a way to be more efficient.

By Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

[Image of Sudoku puzzle]

SUDOKU

The Mepham Group

Level: 1

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Solution to Thursday's puzzle:

Print answer here:

“PIRATES” CAN GIVE YOU THIS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
Visually, WALL·E is a stated perfection on screen. Emotionally, the plot and characters strike a chord with audiences of all varieties. Physically, you cannot help but smile at the astoundingly perfect personification of wonderful robots that make you wish they were real. It does not take long to fall in love with WALL·E, a robotic trash compactor with a lot of heart, curiosity, and eventual bravery, overcoming childhood and honest inhibitions. He wants to clean up the mess of a world rendered toxic by the competitive commercialism and mass conglomeration of humans, but became the only survivor of all of humanity’s life-less incapacity.

With the exception of his pet cockroach, the self-sufficient bot is all alone, as all of humanity has been living on space station Axiom for 700 years and all other forms of life have vanished from the sunless, desolated landscape.

WALL·E, a charming observer, deliberately sorting through human remains to treasure his favorite accompaniment to his favorite musical. He shares his keepsakes with Eve, a fierce worker-bee robot from Axiom who strictly adheres to her mission of scavenging earth for signs of life. WALL·E falls in love with her at first sight. Though very little dialogue is exchanged, the two build a relationship with the help of WALL·E’s expressiveness, and Eve slowly breaks at hand on account of WALL·E’s irresistible childlike wonder. To show his affection, he introduces her to a plant in four sight that sends her back to her original mission to bring the plant back to Axiom for confirmation of life. WALL·E ends up transported to the space station in his failed attempts to chivalrously save her. His accidental space station arrival innocently breaks a routine that regios over the life-less incapacitated lived of useless, overfed and over-convened humans. (They rely on technology for mobility, communicate only through holographic screens, up endless amounts of juice and sugar to keep their brains from turning off.)

WALL·E’s presence accidentally disrupts the technological trance, his only true motive being to boldly try to appease his beloved Eve. Adorably naive, he is always in the right place at the right time, making cruel, evil people (like evil people) envious.

The storyline is actually kind of scary — humans so obese they are immobile and run by robots far away from their landfill of a home planet sure to be anyone’s worst nightmare — but the sweet love story is so comfortably alluring it trumps the dismal state of life as we know it.

The striking images are photographically authentic, goofy, and as real as WALL·E and Eve, who appear they could step right off screen and exist among us. Immediately, the perfectly rendered framework blow one’s mind, truly creat-

Amber Fijolek
DAILY EGYPTIAN
“WALL·E” Directed by: Andrew Stanton Runtime: 103 min.

WALL·E too cute to be true

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Saluki Insider

The Major League Baseball season has reached the midway point and the Tampa Bay Rays are in first place in the AL East with a record of 49-32, which puts them half a game ahead of the Boston Red Sox. The Rays got off to a fast start, but everyone said they would fade. They obviously have not, so what has been the key to their success?

There must be something in the orange juice at Tropicana Field. The Rays have been scoring runs for the past few years, but their pitchers have not been able to put a team ERA under a dozen since the team's inception. Andy Sonnanstine and James Shields are leading a suddenly strong pitching staff this season, however. My theory is the fruit is juiced and the Rays’ success is the direct result of the pulpy power drink.

When you are as bad as the Rays were for the past 10 years you are bound to have some good draft spots. They have yet to draft below the top 10 in their exists and finally those players are starting to get to the major league level. Just look at guys like Evan Longoria, Carl Crawford and B.J. Upton — all are products of the farm system. Baseball may be all about money, but you can still win if you develop those minor leaguers.

In the 1920s, Robert Johnson sold his soul to the devil and subsequently became one of the greatest blues guitarists of all time. In 2008, the Tampa Bay Rays did the opposite and completely severed ties with the dark man from down under. If other teams want to duplicate the Rays’ success, they should take all and references out of their names. Maybe next season’s NCAA Tournament will end with a match between Devil Blue and Duke Blue.

Out, he said. He personally went around to all 114 kids to meet them and partner them up with a SIU athlete. Even when the numbers were low on the spirit squad who dressed up as one of the Salukis was unable to make the event, Ellis said he saved the day when he put on the outfit and went as the mascot the rest of the night.

“IT’s just something that’s not expected and something I just do personally for my own sake and for people to recognize it makes me feel that much better,” he said.

An NCAA committee will choose a female and male student athlete late this month for the national honor. According to the requirements of the award, the athletes must have demonstrated the values of caring, fairness, courage, honesty, integrity and responsibility in their daily participation in athletics — something Diomone and Ellis have been doing their entire careers in maroon.

Michael Schirmer said the competition in baseball is idiotic.

Moves like that will not go much above .250 so he averages 40 homers and more RBIs. He is another big, strong arm that will not go much above .250, but he is not stealing any bags which makes him just

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TENNIS

Dunbar to play at world championships
First place finish at junior nationals sends sophomore to Poland to compete

Brandon Augsburg
Daily Egyptian

Sophomore distance runner Dunbar began his career at SIU as a middle of the pack walk-on.

Then he found his stride. It has carried him all the way to a first place finish in the 10,000-meter race at the USA Junior Outdoor Track and Field Championships and punched his ticket to Poland for the junior world championships July 9.

As the junior nationals in June, Dunbar worked himself into second place after about a mile. He waited there until the last lap, when he kicked into gear and put 24 seconds between himself and the second place finisher, cross country coach Matt Sparks said.

“I just let my fitness carry me through I’ve been doing all year, and ended up the last lap taking off and winning,” Dunbar said.

He has not always been so dominant, however. Dunbar barely qualified for the state meet in high school and said he slacked off during the indoor season. However, with the leadership of older runners such as junior Jeff Schirmer and senior canoeist Ian Preston mostly restructured himself.

Schirmer said Dunbar’s approach changed towards the end of the outdoor season and he started showing better “racing mentality,” especially at the end of races when he would kick it into another gear. Dunbar said he never seemed to try new things and tried to keep up with the older runners, Schirmer said.

Dunbar said he began to get it together during the outdoor track season and felt strongly going into the outdoor Missouri Valley Conference meet in May.

“Two weeks before the conference I had a really good workout, and I kind of felt like I broke through to the next level,” he said.

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Two Salukis recognized as good sports
Dismore and Ellis nominated for NCAA sportsmanship award

Ian Preston
Daily Egyptian

Tiffanie Dismore and Matt Ellis are not household names. In fact, many people may not know they are SIU athletes.

What Dismore, a former outfielder and Ellis, a former golfer, lack in stats, their coaches and teammates say, make up for it in heart.

Last week, Dismore and Ellis were nominated for the NCAA Sportsmanship Award, an exper- sentative for the Missouri Valley Conference. The nomination is given to a male and female athlete who displays sportsmanship and ethical behavior.

For Dismore and Ellis, it was all about how they overcome adversity.

Dismore entered her senior season as one of the Lady Salukis’ top left field batters. She was poised to have a solid senior season and be a big part in the Salukis’ run in a hotly contested conference race.

That all changed for the outfielder out of Lafayette, Ind., on March 2 at the Coach B Classic. In her first at-bat against powerhouse Northwestern, Dismore was hit by a fastball on her lower jaw, knocking her out of the game and sending her to the hospital. Her jaw was severely fractured and was wired shut for weeks, she said. It appeared the senior’s promising season was over before it had a chance to begin.

That did not stop Dismore from contributing to the team, however. She followed the team through most of the season as “their biggest cheerleader,” head coach Kim Blazek said. Dismore then returned to the team when her coach questioned if she would even make set foot on the diamond again.

“I honestly thought there was Senior outfielder Tiffanie Dismore was nominated for the NCAA Sportsmanship award last week.

Dismore fractured her jaw March 2, but returned to the team a month and a half later.

“Just do it,” Blazek said. “I was really impressed with her ability to come back and contribute to the team.”

Not only did Dismore come back a month and a half later, but in her first game back in the lineup, she went 3-3 with an RBI to help SIU break an eight game losing streak — their longest of the season.

“It’s like the saying goes, ‘You don’t really know how good you have it until it’s gone,’” Dismore said.

“The girls were so supportive of me. I can’t even put into words how much they mean to me.”

Matt Ellis came to SIU as a transfer in 2006 from Meridian Community College in his home state, Mississippi. A highly touted recruit, Ellis was named second team All-America after helping Mississippi take second at the national tournament, he said.

Ian’s All-Hack Team

For this week’s Quick Hits, I will expose some Major League hitters who are playing more like minor league players. Eager is a list of big name ball players who, this season, have played nothing like what we expect. There is no way they are not on our team, and if they are, then here is hoping you find some way to make the most of the player who has earned Curt Schilling’s old spot.

Catcher: Jason Varitek

Yes, he is one of the faces of the Red Sox for the past decade, but he is one of the worst fantasy catchers. He is not bad, but prior to last season he was one of the best in the game. That is why he has that “C” on his jersey and is a great leader, but no matter how loved he is in Boston, in fantasy town he is as popular as gas prices.

He cannot hit anymore. He has not hit .250 since 2005 — and he strikes out a heck of a lot — 60 Ks already this season. In fact, looking at his stats, he is barely in the top ten among catchers, and that is half of the Kansas City Royals catchers.

1B: Ryan Howard

He hit 40 home runs and drove in over 100 RBIs, but you are not in a rotisserie league as Greg Norton (look it up, he is still in the league). OK, he could probably hit 30 dingers in a good season, but he could also strikeout 250 times. In all my years of playing fantasy baseball I have never seen numbers quite like his this season: .215 batting average, 113 strikeouts, 20 home runs and 67 RBIs.

2B: Luis Castillo

This may just be a player just having a down year as he did hit .301 last year, and he is on pace to have the best season of his career in the past five years. However, he is now in his 13th season. Eventually even speedsters like Castillo slow down.

His average is hovering around .250 and he is playing for the Mets, which is becoming the retirement home for good hitters.

SS: Khalil Greene

He is on your team, it is time for you to turn him into a 25 home run hitter by his numbers last year. Greene is not the 30 home run, 100 RBI guy he made trade due to thinking he was last sea- son (27 and 97 in 2007, respectively). He is a defensive shortstop, period.

This is a prime example of why you have to look at the three-year average for this guy. Yeah, he hit for a good average, but prior to last season he was good for 15 dingers and about 60 RBIs. By the way, he is on pace this season for those exact same numbers.

3B: Adrian Beltre

He is the most overrated player in baseball and has quietly put up one fluke season in 2004 — and he does not look like a guy you would want to hit an average of .365, with 25 home runs and 90 RBIs the last four years. Read his lips; he is not good.

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