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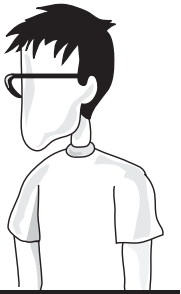
The Daily Egyptian, July 01, 2008

Daily Egyptian Staff

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JULY 1, 2008

VOLUME 93, No. 166

12 PAGES

Amtrak cuts could leave Carbondale isolated



EMILY SUNBLADE ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

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 to and from Carbondale could be cut by July 2009.

Saluki and Illini lines would be eliminated

Jenn Lofton
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Two years after the state of Illinois and Amtrak collaborated to bring more train service to Carbondale, passengers could be left with fewer 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 \$24.3 million contract 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 Marc 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 Marilyn Blazys said she uses the route frequently to visit family in Carbondale and is concerned about the travel options she would be left with after the cuts. She said taking the train is much easier because it is less expensive than driving and allows time to sit back relax and enjoy the scenery. Every time she uses the service it is always packed, especially when school is in session, she said.

177,774 passengers rode the Saluki - Illini line from October 2007 to May 2008



Source: Marc Magliari, spokesman for Amtrak
 Pablo Tobon ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

er because it is less expensive than driving and allows time to sit back relax and enjoy the scenery. Every time she uses the service it is always packed, especially when school is in session, she said.

See AMTRAK, Page 2

If they cut the lines, it worries me what the college kids will do for transportation.

—Marilyn Blazys
 Chicago resident

25 cents and

counting

University braced for wage increase.

Page 3

CAMPUS



Watch reactions about proposed Amtrak cut.

SIUDE.COM VIDEO

Robotic love

WALL-E pleases the crowd. | Page 10

PULSE



Ticket to Poland

Distance runner to compete in junior world championships.

Page 12

SPORTS



Today

Mostly Sunny
 High: 86, Low: 65



Wednesday

Sunny
 High: 91, Low: 71

WEATHER

Student killed in motorcycle accident

Sean McGahan
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

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 Owings, 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 onto Reed 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, Owings' 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.

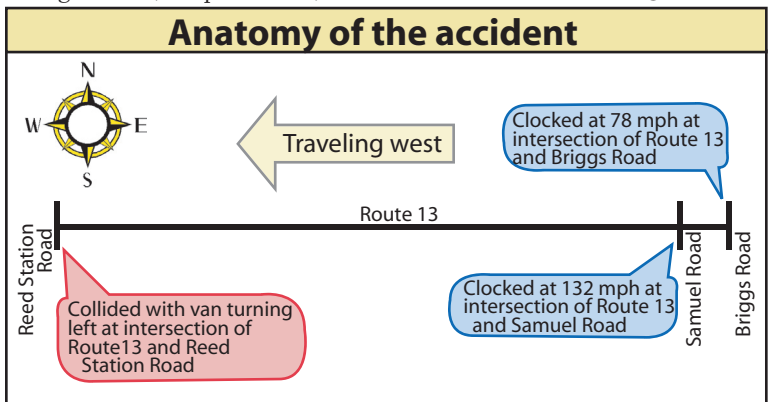
Jackson County Coroner Tom Kupferer said Owings was pronounced dead on the scene because of head, neck and chest trauma. He said speed was a factor.

There were no visible signs of anything that would have obstructed Owings' vision, Kupferer said, and

toxicology results are expected within four to six weeks.

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

See MOTORCYCLE, Page 2



Source: Williamson County Sheriff's Department, Carbondale Police
 Pablo Tobon ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

Former students lose appeal

Allison Petty
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

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 claimed the university treated them more harshly than white students who had committed the same actions, as well as deprived them of the right to due process during disciplinary hearings, 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 judgment also stated 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. 29.

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

Nakia Collins, Monet Williams and Tequeira 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 he believes 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 court's 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.

"Our position, and the truth, has always been that these ladies didn't do anything," Fedder said.

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

If the plaintiffs wanted to continue their appeals, 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.


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siUDE.com Question:
What is the most relevant answer to America's oil crisis?


| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Offshore Drilling | 26% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nuclear | 26% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Solar Energy | 23% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wind Power | 12% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

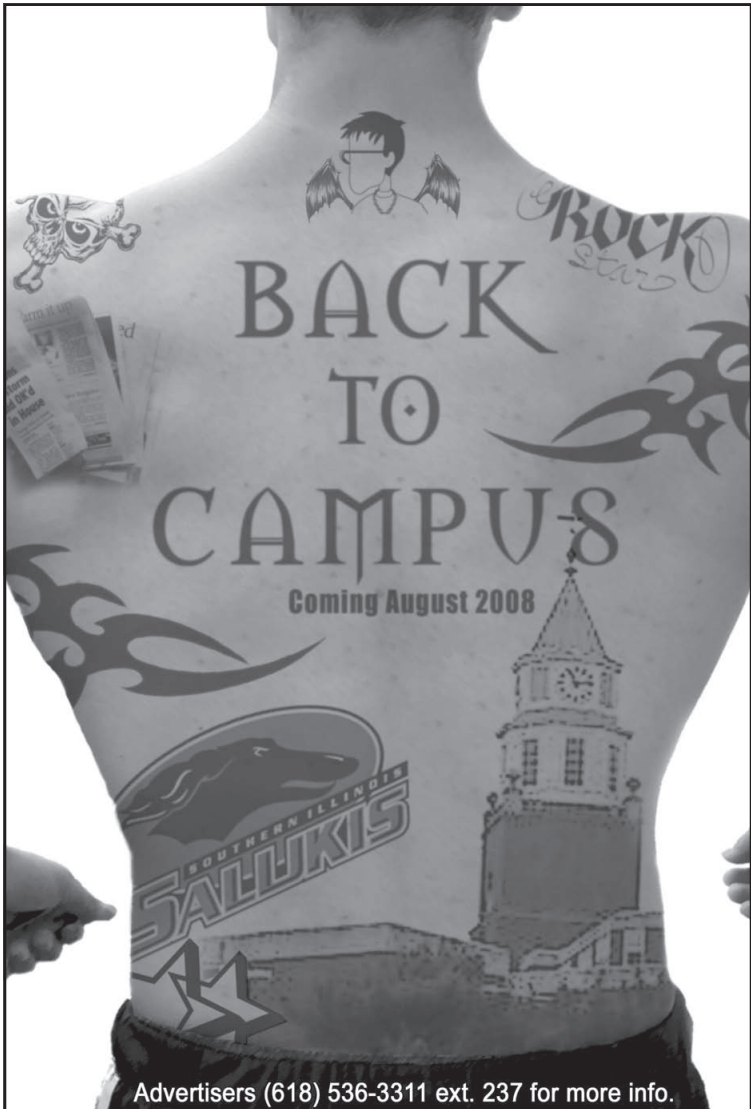
This is not scientific and reflects the opinions of only those Internet users who have chosen to participate. The results cannot be assumed to represent the opinions of Internet users in general nor the public as a whole.

What will the minimum wage increase most likely help you with?
A. Gas prices B. Milk prices C. Electricity prices
D. Shipping prices E. Getting on "The Price is Right"



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AMTRAK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"If they cut the lines, it worries me what the college kids will do for transportation," Blazys 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.

Magliari 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," Magaliari 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 Michael 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.

Jenn Lofton can be reached at 536-3311 ext 273 or jlofton@siu.edu.

MOTORCYCLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Richie Owings 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 Owings said. "He didn't like being away from his family, but he did like the Marines a lot."

Bradley Owings enlisted to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather, who was also a Marine, his

brother said. He was stationed in Jacksonville, N.C.

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

Richie Owings 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 Owing's name should be made to the American Heart Association or the Lupus Foundation of America, Richie Owings said. He said his brother would have appreciated the charities because their father died of lupus in June 1995.

Sean McGahan can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 274 or mcgahan@siu.edu.

Puppeteers needed for July 8 play

- Practice 10:00 a.m. - noon July 7 at Carbondale Public Library
- 4th grade or older may sign up at the circulation desk
- Required practice 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Tuesday July 8
- Two performances July 8
- Pizza party after performance
- Last day to register: June 30
- Call Mary Stoner at 457-0354.

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

Submit calendar items to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications 1247, at least two days before event, or call (618) 536-3311, ext. 266.

POLICE BLOTTERS

No items to report at this time.

If you spot an error, please contact the DAILY EGYPTIAN accuracy desk at 536-3311, ext. 253.

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 heiress Joan Kroc, who died in 2003.

She was married to McDonald's founder Ray Kroc and gave the Salvation Army \$1.5 billion.

ABOUT US

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SIUDE.COM

Illinois minimum wage increases 25 cents

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 affected a minimum wage increase starting today.

The minimum wage in the state of Illinois increased 25 cents from \$7.50 to \$7.75, causing a 3.3 percent increase in university department's budgets for student employees.

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."

Paula 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 declined in 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 to supplement department's student employment budgets.

Lisa Marks, associate director of housing management, said the federal work-study money distributed to University Housing is a significant portion of its student worker budget, accounting for at least \$60,000.

University Housing is one of the biggest providers of student jobs, with anywhere from 600 to 650 student employees. Marks said the 25-cent increase would create a roughly \$65,000 increase in last year's \$1.8 million budget.

Housing has prepared for the raise in minimum wage, Marks said. Raised rates in housing and meal plans will help fund the student employment budget.

"It's always a struggle in the budget, but we depend on our student workers so we will always accommodate them," Marks said.

| Minimum wage increases | |
|------------------------|--------|
| Year | Amount |
| ★ 2006 → | \$6.50 |
| ★ 2007 → | \$7.50 |
| ★ 2008 → | \$7.75 |
| ★ 2009 → | \$8.00 |
| ★ 2010 → | \$8.25 |

Source: U.S. Department of Labor
Pablo Tobon ~ DAILY EGYPTIAN

"It's a struggle to pay for higher education these days so the more money we can pay students, the better."

Mark Scally, associate athletic director, said the increase would not cut down positions or hours for student workers. In fact, he said, athletic administrators hope to expand the department's student employment.

The athletic department employs anywhere from 150 to 200 students, Scally said, and the increase could cost 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 valued here and one of our major commitments. We can't operate without them so it would be counter-productive to cut jobs," Scally said. "College students still need to eat and the price of bread isn't 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 Harfst, 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," Harfst 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 disapproved of the increase because there is no longer enough money to support all of the students who need federal work-study — and he is one of them.

"That little quarter won't help anything," Garcia said. "I would just rather have the \$7.50 and keep federal work-study."

Jeff Engelhardt can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 268 or jengel@siu.edu.



Jennifer Walsh of Carbondale works as a waitress at Buffalo Wild Wings. Walsh's manager, Christopher Dingle, said Walsh and other members of the Buffalo Wild Wings wait staff do not have to worry about decreasing hours due to the wage increase.

JENNIFER JOHNSON
DAILY EGYPTIAN

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 struggle to avoid passing down the hike to consumers.

Christopher Dingle, manager of Buffalo Wild Wings in Carbondale, said with the rise in gas, utilities and other costs, 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 pay-

check, Dingle said, but it could go a long way for some.

Though the prices on the menu 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 driving, but I will have to spend more money on other things," Coffle said.

Jenn Lofton can be reached at 536-3311 ext 273 or jlofton@siu.edu.

Wildfires force firefighters to pick their battles

Scott Lindlaw
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO—With hundreds of wildfires raging across remote, rugged parts of California for a second week, fire officials have been forced to strategically choose which to fight and which to leave to burn for weeks or even months.

The number of fires burning in central and Northern California — more than 1,000 according to state fire officials — means authorities can't send firefighters to battle

every blaze, Jason Kirchner, a spokesman for the U.S. Forest Service, said Monday.

"It's like eating an elephant — you've got to eat it one bite at a time," he said.

It's also impossible to attack wildfires in some rugged, remote areas because the risk to firefighters is too great, he 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, Kirchner said. The weekend of June 21, some 1,200 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 small 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 unusual, Kirchner said, was that there have been no significant injuries to civilians or firefighters even though some 570 square miles have burned in California this season.

There were, however, a few minor injuries as harsh terrain hampered firefighters' efforts to battle a blaze in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

"It is extremely steep, very rugged territory, and there are a lot of injuries, twisting ankles, slipping on hills," Kirchner said. Burning debris is "rolling downhill right past your containment line. It's very complicated, difficult, dirty firefighting work."

Even so, firefighters managed to increase their containment of that 30,000-acre fire from 15 to 23 percent.

Iraq opens bidding on oil and natural gas fields

Sebastian Abbot
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 and help Iraq reach its goal of nearly doubling petroleum production by 2013.

That could be good news with the price for a barrel of oil breaching \$143 for the first time ever on Monday. But the contracts won't be signed for a year, and if Western firms win a dominant role it could feed perceptions that U.S.-led forces toppled Saddam Hussein to get at Iraq's natural resources.

Those concerns were heightened by expectations that Iraq would announce short-term no-bid consulting contracts with five Western oil firms on Monday. The New York Times reported about two weeks ago that the firms included Royal Dutch Shell PLC, BP PLC, Exxon Mobil Corp., Chevron and Total.

But Oil Minister Hussain al-Shahristani told a news conference Monday that the Iraqi government was still negotiating with the companies, which he did not identify. He said the firms were demanding a share of oil production while Iraq wants to pay in cash.

The minister said the short-term contracts were meant to boost production until the government awards longer-term deals next June. But some believe the consulting contracts could give the winning firms an advantage in bidding for the development contracts, which



MARK VON WEHRDEN ~ MCCLATCHY TRIBUNE

Hussain 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.

al-Shahristani said Monday would include 35 foreign companies.

The firms he named included seven from the U.S., three from Britain and others from Russia, China and other countries.

Al-Shahristani said the companies would be invited to bid on the oil fields of Rumeila, Zubair, Qurna West, Maysan, Kirkuk and Bay Hassan and the natural gas fields of Akkaz and Mansouriyah.

"These fields were chosen because their production can be raised in a short time and at a low cost," said al-Shahristani.

He said even the longer-term contracts would include cash compensation and not a share of oil production.

"We don't see a need to allow anyone to share our oil," al-Shahristani said.

Iraqi government spokesman

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 anyone, no matter who."

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 2013.

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

No public criticism at African summit

Anna Johnson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHARM EL-SHEIK, Egypt — Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe entered an African summit accompanied by the meeting's host Monday, a sign that African leaders won't shun him despite Western demands they take a tough stance over his re-election in a tainted ballot.

But behind the scenes, some leaders were pushing for Mugabe to share power with his rival, Morgan Tsvangirai, who dropped out of Friday's runoff election after allegedly state-sponsored killings and beatings of his supporters.

While many African countries — including regional powerhouse South Africa — were unwilling to condemn Mugabe, criticism by the U.S. and Europe only mounted.

France said Monday it considered Mugabe's government "illegitimate," and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown urged the African Union to reject the result

of the runoff.

The summit should "make it absolutely clear that there has got to be change" in Zimbabwe, Brown said in London. "I think the message that is coming from the whole world is that the so-called elections will not be recognized."

Zimbabwe's longtime ruler basked in the opportunity at the AU to show regional recognition of his victory, a day after he was sworn in as president for a sixth term.

He entered the conference hall alongside his host, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, in a symbolic gesture of his status.

Still, there was little overt warmth for Mugabe in public sessions. But while mingling with leaders before the opening meeting, he hugged several heads of states and diplomats, said an African delegate who was present.

"He was hugging everyone, pretty much everyone he could get close to," said the delegate, who

spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't supposed discuss the private gathering.

During public speeches in this Red Sea resort, most AU leaders spoke of the "challenges" in Zimbabwe and none said anything harsh about Mugabe.

But Jendayi Frazer, the assistant U.S. secretary of state for African affairs, said she believed that in private, leaders would "have very, very strong words for him."

"I would suggest that one not take from the soft words in an open plenary as a reflection of the deep concern of leaders here of the situation in Zimbabwe," she told reporters.

At the White House, press secretary Dana Perino also suggested behind-the-scenes pressure, saying Mugabe's actions have "cast a negative light on some really good, democratic leaders in Africa."

"There are a lot of them who are working very hard to institute democratic reforms in their own way," she said.

Problems hit China's Olympic sailing host city

Christopher Bodeen
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — To host the Olympic sailing events, the Chinese port city of Qingdao moved a massive boat yard, relocated industries and spent about \$850 million on transport links, parks, pollution controls and coastal green belts.

But with little more than a month to go until the games, a different challenge is cropping up: forest of blue-green algae is choking the coastal waters, suffocating beaches and lying in thick layers along sailing routes.

Authorities have ordered an all-out drive to clear it and block any more drifting into the area.

"We have stressed ... that the priority should be given to the Olympic venue," Yuan Zhiping, an official with the Qingdao Olympic Sailing Committee, was

quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency.

City officials say they'll need at least two weeks to clear coastal waters, mobilizing 10,000 workers aboard 1,000 boats. It wasn't clear how they planned to block other algae from drifting in.

Environmental problems have posed some of the biggest concerns for organizers of the Beijing Olympics, particularly the dust and filthy air in the Chinese capital, compounded by expected torrid heat and humidity.

It isn't clear whether Qingdao's Olympic planners ever allowed for algae-related contingencies. Calls to the city's Ocean and Fishing Bureau, charged with handling the problem, rang unanswered Monday.

Blue-green algae blooms when nutrients, sometimes caused by excessive pollution, build up in water.

WASHINGTON

Pentagon unveils charges in attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon said Monday it is charging a Saudi Arabian with "organizing and directing" the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole — and will seek the death penalty.

Brig. Gen. Thomas W. Hartmann, legal adviser to the U.S. military tribunal system, said charges are being sworn against Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, a Saudi of Yemeni descent, who has been held at the military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, since 2006.

AFGHANISTAN

Deaths in Afghanistan surpass Iraq

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Militants killed more U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan in June than in Iraq for the second straight month, a grim milestone capping a run of headline-grabbing insurgent attacks that analysts say underscore the Taliban's growing strength.

The fundamentalist militia in June staged a sophisticated jailbreak that freed 886 prisoners.

WASHINGTON

Experiments with 3-D mammograms

WASHINGTON (AP) — Remember peeking through a View-Master? Scientists are using the same concept behind the classic kids' toy to try to see mammograms in 3-D.

Radiologists donning 3-D glasses is not the only potential aid. The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., is testing a new kind of breast camera that might challenge the images of those far pricier MRI exams now reserved for the most high-risk women, but at a fraction of the price.

VERMONT

Vermont police search property

CHELSEA, Vt. (AP) — The investigation of the disappearance of a 12-year-old girl zeroed in on her uncle Monday, with police searching his home while he was being arraigned on sex charges in an unrelated case, authorities said.

Michael Jacques, a registered sex offender who was one of the last people seen with Brooke Bennett before she vanished, pleaded not guilty to a charge of aggravated sexual assault and was held in lieu of \$250,000 bail.

WASHINGTON

Bush signs \$162 billion bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Monday signed legislation to pay for the war operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for the rest of his presidency and beyond, hailing the \$162 billion plan as a rare product of bipartisan cooperation.

"This bill shows the American people that even in an election year, Republicans and Democrats can come together to stand behind our troops and their families," Bush said in an Oval Office ceremony.

Officials start work on First Year plan

Jeff Engelhardt
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 by the policy center, concluding with the center's offering of a formal plan on how to improve retention.

The Foundations of Excellence also offers the university the chances to network with other colleges going through the program and share ideas, Amos said.

"Our student population is exactly the population something like this was designed for," Amos said. "We're trying to set up an easy transition for students, especially at research institutions like this."

The First-Year Experience plan would help students learn how to manage time, take notes and use university resources while adjusting to a new social setting.

John Gardner, credited for developing the First-Year Experience at University of South Carolina during the 1970s, heads the Foundations of

Excellence Program. More than 300 institutions have participated in the program, including in-state schools Illinois State and Columbia College.

Using the firm would cost \$33,500 but 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 Murillo, 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.

Murillo 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," Murillo said. "There are a lot of undecided students at SIU and the career counseling people are OK, but a whole program would have helped me a lot."

While First-Year Experience is expected to begin this fall, 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 interaction 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.

He said what SIUC lacks most is a central establishment to direct students to those services.

"A number of the departments are doing this sort of transitional plan ... and now we just need to unify this into something that will work for the whole university," Amos said. "It's a coordination between academic affairs and student affairs."

University 101, an optional introductory course for freshmen, has been offered since 1980. Virginia Rinella, director of the pre major advisement center, said it has been the main tool in aiding the transition from high school to college.

Rinella said expanding programs such as University 101 is a sure way to help freshmen deal with the stresses of college classes.

"Many universities have University 101 and it really helps students not just transition but transform behaviors," Rinella said. "It helps student become confident in their new environment."

Amos said First-Year Experience has been a long time coming. The idea began under former chancellor Walter Wendler and stalled after multiple changes in the chancellor position.

John Nicklow, associate dean of the College of Engineering, said programs have been being practiced within the college that could help the university as a whole. Exclusive dorms, new courses and a peer mentor program have attracted and retained students.

"We sort of have our own First-Year Experience program for engineers," Nicklow said. "We're able to put all our resources together and it becomes a great tool for first and second year students."

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 nearly 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 households 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 if 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 impact 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.

Many Universities have University 101 and it really helps students not just transition but transform behaviors.

— Virginia Rinella
director of the pre major advisement center

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OUR WORD

Do not follow in his tracks

Gov. Rod Blagojevich recently proposed the elimination of two out of the three Amtrak trains that run from Carbondale to Chicago—a decision that could drastically hurt both southern Illinois and the university.

The elimination of \$28 million in subsidies is part of \$1.5 billion in proposed reductions to stabilize the state budget. Included in the cut would also be three of the five trains that run from Chicago to St. Louis, as well as complete elimination of the train through Macomb and Quincy.

Cutting the state budget could trickle down and eventually cut down the enrollment of this university.

The enrollment at Southern Illinois University Carbondale has decreased steadily over the past few years, losing more than 1,000

students since 2000. To help aid this problem, SIUC opted to use about \$300,000 in funding toward increasing marketing in January.

Within the target audience is northern Illinois — an region where potential students are more likely to not consider SIUC primarily because of the distance.

Having a train available for weekends and holidays helps ease the transition of leaving home five to seven hours away. For many students, it serves as the only option, since they have no transportation of their own.

As of the fiscal year 2007, ridership on the Carbondale-to-Chicago train increased 46 percent, with 263,809 yearly riders, according to figures released by Amtrak in October.

A train leaving Carbondale

at about 1 a.m. and arriving in Chicago at about 6 a.m. would not only become a great inconvenience, likely resulting in shorter weekends and holidays, but it would also sell out more often than it already does.

This proposal could leave some stranded with no other option than to wait until the next available train, either the following day or several days later.

Also, in the midst of a fuel crisis, more and more Americans are looking toward public transportation for slight relief. Ridership appears destined to only increase due to the rapidly climbing gas prices.

Decreasing public transportation should not be an option during a time when it could be profiting greatly.

The lack of bus routes and alternative modes of public transportation are prominent throughout the state, especially between cities.

No one wants to pay a taxi fare of \$300 just to get halfway to Chicago.

Decreasing public transportation should not be an option during a time when it could be profiting greatly.

THE DUKE REPORT

Radio guerilla

ANDREW O'CONNOR

andrewoc@siu.edu



What do stories of retired chimpanzees, the reflections of a man who was the first to try (and fail) at cryogenics and the funk-tastic local band Mathien have in common?

I heard them all on the radio.

Radio is an enormous part of my life. Growing up in Chicago, I was on steady diet of Pumpkins-era Q101, 101.1 FM and Oldies 104.3 FM (shout out to Dick Biondi). In my incredibly awkward middle school years, Dr. Drew and Adam Corrola dropped science and wisdom on my developing brain. And who can forget the first time they heard Aqua's "Barbie Girl?"

TV can excite us, but only radio has the power to use the most creative TV we have: our mind's eye. It has the ability to capture your imagination the way no other medium does.

If you turned on the radio and neither "I Kissed a Girl" or "Lollipop" are transporting you, you're listening to the wrong radio. The consolidation of ownership has created an era of corporate music dominance unparalleled 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 Corporation 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, WSIU (91.9 FM) which receives its programming (Morning Edition, 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 genetic engineering to the concept of time in a fun and engaging way. On their program about zoos, for example, they went to a place for retired chimpanzees. These were chimpanzees that had lives as either stage and show animals or lab animals. They 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 the first 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 "Onion" style newspaper was heartbreaking. 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) and the online student station, WIDB. WIDB has two student-run stations—the Revolution and the Remedy—and is the best place for Hip-Hop, Indie and SIU sports. DBX is certified Carbondale Organic. With local, international and underground music, news and banter, DBX has something different and good. You can join WIDB on the Student Center 4th floor or DBX by going to <http://www.wdbx.org/>.

All these stations have one thing in common: they need your money (except WIDB, taken from tuition). The frequent misconception is NPR receives funding from the government. Since the 1980s, NPR has relied on the donations of its listeners coupled with personal and corporate altruism. Sorry, my Republican friends, altruism doesn't quite pay the bills. Pony up; they need your donations to keep going. WDBX has a way to donate on its website.

All the programs I mentioned are free for download on npr.org and iTunes and I hope you will enjoy them as much as I do.

O'Connor is a junior studying political science.

GUEST COLUMN

Summer sexual health protection

THE WELLNESS CENTER

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 touted 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 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 abstinence.
- Skip the sexual health history

interrogation with your partner.

You will learn 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 checkup for STDs/STIs/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!

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

MISSION STATEMENT

The DAILY EGYPTIAN, the student-run newspaper of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, is committed to being a trusted source of news, information, commentary and public discourse, while helping readers understand the issues affecting their lives.

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We're here, we're queer, and we're registered at Macy's.”

On placard carried by Julie Kendall and Melinda Kendall, both 50, at San Francisco's gay pride parade

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THE Daily Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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- 9 Church path
- 10Yoko's prohibition
- 11 Skipjacks
- 12 Eccentricity
- 18 Elevator pioneer
- 20 Arrived at
- 25 Noted Dodgers skipper
- 28 MLB banned substance
- 30 German river
- 31 Melville's "Typee" sequel
- 35 Cellist Ma
- 36 Rx place
- 38 Get situated
- 39 Major rd.
- 40 Combination
- 41 Blackwater fever
- 42 Hugs and kisses
- 44 Mexican peninsula
- 45 Completely surround
- 46 Awkwardly written
- 50 Eight: pref.
- 52 Stiff bristles
- 54 Indian instrument
- 55 Door handles
- 58 Do mailroom work
- 59 Mach+ jets
- 61 Editorial directive

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lively energy
 - 4 Lofting shot
 - 7 Hyson or pekoe
 - 10 Seller's \$\$ equivocation
 - 13 Writer Levin
 - 14 Lawyers' grp.
 - 15 Actor Wallach
 - 16 Silent assent
 - 17 Mediocre
 - 19 Take flight
 - 21 One more
 - 22 Skin pigment
 - 23 Anderson of "WKRP."
 - 24 "My Gal _"
 - 26 Ham it up
 - 27 Cork populace
 - 29 Venezuelan river
 - 32 Son of Seth
 - 33 NRC, once
 - 34 Selenite, e.g.
 - 37 Prepare salad
 - 38 Santa's startled greeting?
 - 40 _ vincit omnia
 - 43 Peter of Peter, Paul and Mary
 - 44 Affirmative
 - 47 Long skirt
 - 48 California fort
 - 49 Robin of baseball
 - 51 Burn balms
 - 53 Pose questions

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By Michael T. Williams 7/1/08
Clearwater, FL

DOWN

- 1 City southeast of Fresno
- 2 Mesabi Range output
- 3 Of a certain fraternal order
- 4 Bind with cord
- 5 Bassoon relatives
- 6 Port of Iraq
- 7 Reds or Rays
- 8 Dresden's river
- 66 Jurist Fortas
- 67 Enzyme ending
- 68 _ Zedong
- 69 UFO pilots
- 70 Q-U connection
- 71 Actor Beatty

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Sudoku By The Mepham Group

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Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

| | | | | | | | | |
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| 3 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
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| 1 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| 7 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 4 |

HUNGRY?
checkout the online menu at...
SIUDE.com

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday 07-01-08 — Are you doing the job you love? If not, this 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 day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — **Today is a 6** — Hold off on a new idea just a little while longer. Run through the numbers a few more times. You may see a way to be much more efficient. Edit.

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 outwit your opponent? Of course you can. Be watching 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. Include variables, such as how much you'll save at what interest rate. Make 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're capable of great self-discipline. You may not like it much, but you can do it. Stop buying toys.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — **Today is a 7** — Your nerves could get a bit on edge with all the confusion out there. Stay out of any battles that don't directly concern you. There are enough that do.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — **Today is a 7** — For the next six weeks, you'll have a strong compulsion to clean up old messes. You'd like to do other things, God knows, and you'll be able to again, someday. Tough it out.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — **Today is an 8** — You and your crew can get a lot done, in the coming six weeks. Mars, for energy, is going through your area, signifying community involvement. This ought to be fun.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — **Today is a 7** — The battle is heating up. The competition is good at expressing opinions colorfully, and slanting things their way. Better fight back with facts. You're terrible at lying.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — **Today is a 7** — Your mate is quite directive, but in a good way. You get to call the shots at work, let him or her call them at home. Make it easy on yourself.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — **Today is a 7** — A brilliant conversationalist could win your heart. Beware. This is liable to lead to more work. Don't be surprised if that happens.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — **Today is a 6** — You've got the good ideas, but you're a little bit shy. You need a partner with passion to get them out there for you. Think and talk about it with a suitable person, in private.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argiron and Jeff Knurek

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

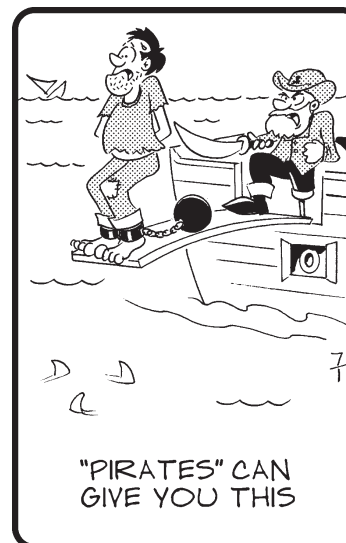
VELGA

PLUIT

SICCUR

IMPAGE

www.jumble.com



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Thursday's Jumbles: OWING GUILD POPLIN KIMONO
Answer: The blue-eyed blonde led the bird watchers because she was — GOOD "LOOKING"

FIND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
In the Daily Classifieds

Gloria Bode says check back tomorrow for music you might want to read about before downlo... I mean buying.



WALL·E too cute to be true

Amber Fijolek

DAILY EGYPTIAN

'WALL·E'

Rated: G

Directed by: Andrew Stanton

Runtime: 103 min.

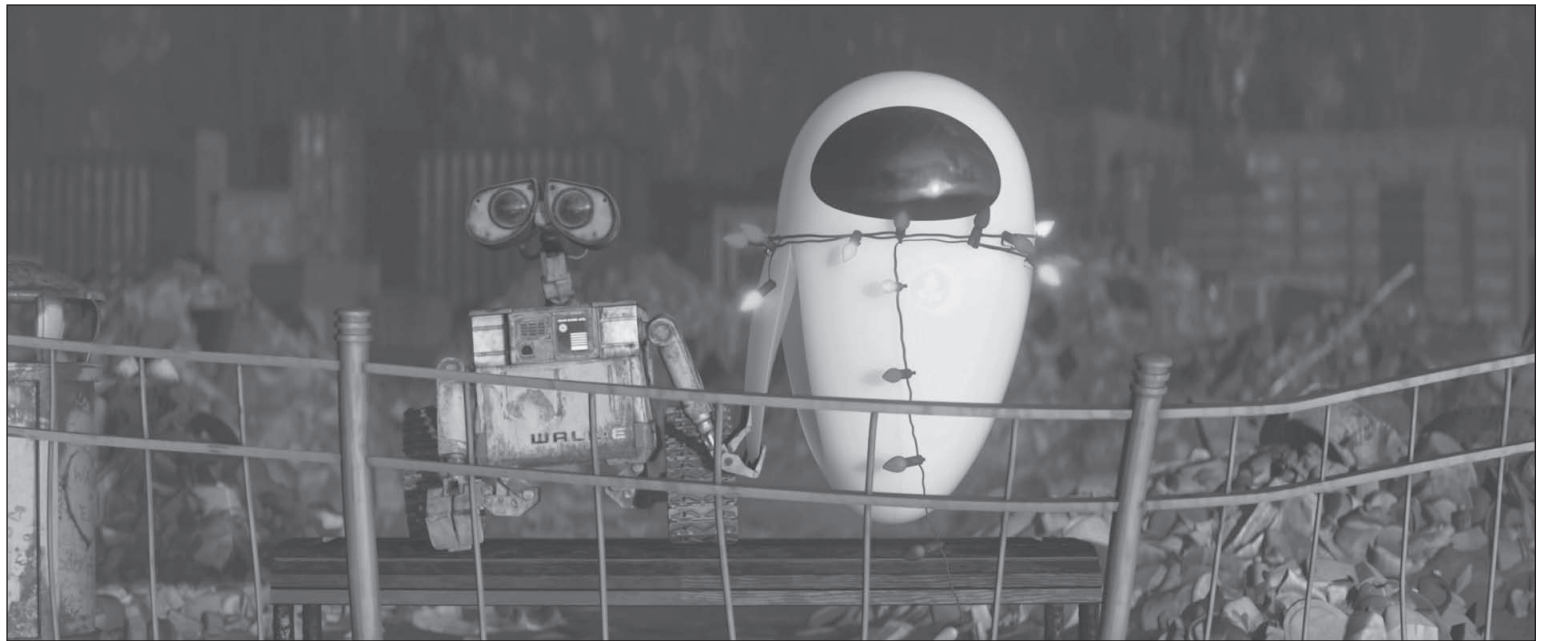
Visually, WALL·E is pixilated perfection on screen. Emotionally, the plot and characters strike a chord with the hearts of audience members of all varieties. Physically, you cannot help but smile at the astoundingly perfect personification of wonderful robots that make you wish they were real.

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 childlike and honest inhibitions. He was left on Earth to clean up the mess of a world rendered toxic by the competitive commercialism and mass conglomeration of humans, but became the only surviving robot left to do the job.

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, desecrated landscape.

WALL·E charms viewers with adorable mannerisms, preciously sorting through human remains to treasure his favorite artifacts in pack-rat style, and preciously clinging to love-scenes from an overplayed videocassette tape of his favorite musical.

He shares his keepsakes with Eve, a fierce worker-bee robot



PROVIDED PHOTOS

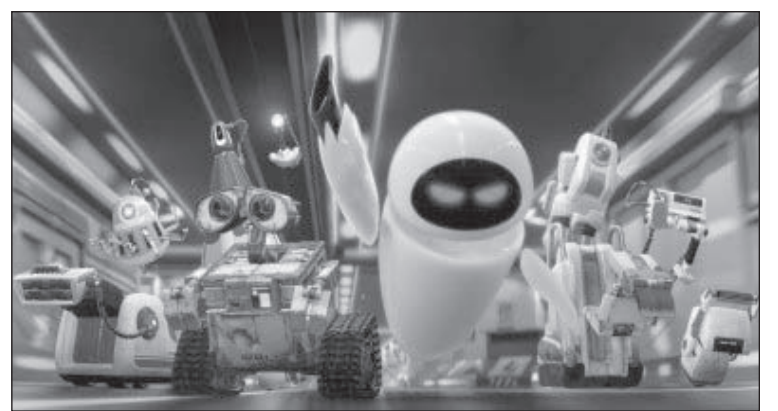
from Axiom who strictly adheres to her mission of scavenging earth for signs of life. WALL·E falls in love with her at first sight. Though very little dialogue is exchanged, the two build a relationship with the help of WALL·E's extreme expressiveness, and Eve slowly breaks away from her task at hand on account of WALL·E's irresistible childlike wonder.

To show his affection, he introduces her to a plant he found, a 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

reigns over the life-less incapacitated lives of useless, overfed and over-convened humans. (They rely on technology for mobility, communicate only through holographic screens, sip endless amounts of juice and are highly susceptible to media brainwashing)

His presence accidentally disrupts the technological trance, his only true motive being to boldly try to appease his beloved Eve. Adorably naïve, he is always in the right place at the right time, making WALL·E everyone's favorite hero.

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 comfortingly alluring it trumps the dismal state of life as



we know it.

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

ing another unparalleled Disney/Pixar world of excellence. The film's detail is amazing and the devotion of its creators is awesome and obvious. Prepare to be wowed.

Amber Fijolek can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or at kelojif@siu.edu.

Wanted flexes its muscles

Luke McCormick

DAILY EGYPTIAN

'Wanted'

Rated: R

Starring: James McAvoy, Angelina Jolie, Morgan Freeman

Directed by: Timur Bekmambetov

Runtime: 110 min.

When entering the theater for a viewing of "Wanted," make sure to do two things:

1. Turn off brain.
2. Turn up testosterone.

This is not a thinking person's action film. It is all stylized violence and bubbling sexuality, never giving its audience a chance to breath from minute one to minute 110.

The film was loosely adapted from a Mark Millar graphic novel of the same name and follows young Wesley Gibson (James McAvoy), who absolutely despises his nine-to-five job in a tiny cubicle. He copes with the stresses of his job and cheating girlfriend by swallowing handfuls of anti-anxiety pills and can after can of energy drinks.

While in line at the pharmacy for another bottle of pills, Wesley is introduced to Fox (Angelina Jolie) who tells him that his father (who left him the week he was born) was one of the world's greatest assassins and that the man who killed him was lurking in the next aisle, looking to put a bullet in Wesley.

Wesley and Fox escape the killer, Cross (Thomas Kretschmann), during an intense car chase scene full of flying bullets and property damage. Fox then brings Wesley to meet the rest of the gang, a centuries-old team of assassins

"cleverly" named "The Fraternity."

These killers look to right the world of evil, getting their targets from a secret code hidden amidst the fibers of the fabric produced by the "Loom of Fate." Somehow this special loom spits out tiny clues to make binary code, turning "The Fraternity" on to their next assignments.

Wesley decides to leave his tedious office job and home life behind and join up to exact his revenge on Cross for killing his father. Fox and the other murder-artists train Wesley in different forms of combat, the most useful being the ability to bend bullets.

Bending those bullets comes in quite handy throughout the film and is used often. Director Timur Bekmambetov places the camera right behind the bullets, following them around corners, through buildings and on splattering trajectories through various body parts.

The action in the film is first-rate as blood is everywhere and cars flip and somersault through downtown Chicago. Basically the film's entirety is montages of action, extremely fast, choppy and brutal.

With the action so amped up and violent, the film does not call for any Oscar-worthy performances, but Jolie dominates the screen every time she graces it.

Her performance is a sultry, sexy, leggy, enchanting eyes affair as she mows down bad guy after bad guy. The film probably would have earned another star if it were just two hours of her erratically driving through the city firing numerous guns.

McAvoy turns in a credible performance, totally losing himself to his new killing ways as he leaves geekdom behind. Morgan Freeman



PROVIDED PHOTO

does the same thing he's been doing for a decade: wise old veteran of everything. But watch out! He drops a couple F bombs towards the film's ending (garnering scattered applause in the crowd I saw it with)!

What "Wanted" lacks in brains it certainly makes up for in balls. This isn't the best movie or even the best action movie this summer, but it is a real fun ride.

Luke McCormick can be reached at 536-3311 ext. 275 or lmccorm2@siu.edu.

PULSE CHATTERBOX

Heidi Montag, star of MTV's "The Hills," has announced she plans to record a Christian pop album. After Montag's recent pop "masterpieces," just how excited are you to hear her crooning for Jesus?

Luke McCormick

I'd be much more excited if she was making a Christian hip-hop album with Pastor Ma\$e. What's that guy doing these days? Throw the man a bone (in a purely metaphorical sense), Montag!

Allison Petty

Maybe it's the machinations of "The Hills" producers trying to engineer a "come to Jesus" moment between Heidi and former friend Lauren Conrad. Either way, I'm looking forward to the moment when Heidi's Spencer-shot music video is released, featuring boobalicious Montag running along the waves and "singing" about the power of mon — I mean, God.

Amber Fijolek

I can't wait — she'll probably put Charlotte Church to shame ... not. I'm an ultra 'Hills'-hater, and a statement from her to promote a renovated, "saint-like" self is probably nothing more than a strategized PR move that luckily will not come to fruition. Thank goodness for that, because really, there's no point in trying to top Charlotte Church. She's epic.

Pablo Tobon

Hmmm, soul-less people singing Christian music? It wouldn't be the first time. It's not just Heidi who's soul-less — it's the entire Hollywood illusion that makes record deals like this possible.

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?



BRANDON AUGSBURG

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@siu.edu

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 post 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 existence 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.

IAN PRESTON

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SEAN MCGAHAN

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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 evil references out of their names. Maybe next season's NCAA Tournament will end with a match between DePaul Blue and Duke Blue.

AWARD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

It would be a rough transition to the college classroom for the Madison, Miss., native, however. He sat out the 2006-2007 season because of poor grades.

After sitting down with head coach Leroy Newton and promising it would never happen again, Ellis returned to the team his senior season once he improved his GPA from 1.4 to 3.4, Newton said. Ellis became coach Newton's right-hand man, was named team captain and watched over the team when Newton was unable to, he said.

"At some point you have to realize it's time to be mature and responsible and get things in order in your life and move on to the next level," Ellis said.

Even after problems with his swing that kept Ellis from qualifying for the MVC tournament, Newton said the

Salukis' historic second place finish would not have been possible without the help of their senior leader.

"He was a real gentleman about it," Newton said. "He understood the situation and was still calling the guys and telling them how great of a job each of them did."

Both Dismore and Ellis were not only valuable members to their teams, but also important to the southern Illinois community. Dismore participated in holiday caroling at a local hospital and went above and beyond just singing, she said. She went out and bought toys for all the pediatric patients, out of her own pocket.

"It's real exciting to be nominated for something like this," Dismore said. "I was really surprised and really honored."

Ellis, who along with Dismore was an active member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee helped and organized the Saluki Kids Night

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 member of the spirit squad who dresses 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 you don't expect 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 later this month for the national honor. According to the requirements of the award, the athletes must have demonstrated the values of caring, fairness, civility, honesty, integrity and responsibility in their daily participation in athletics — something Dismore and Ellis have been doing their entire careers in maroon.

IAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Moves like that are why free agency in baseball is idiotic.

OF: Adam Dunn

He is an older Ryan Howard. He plays in a minor league-size ballpark so he averages 40 homers and more than a 100 RBIs. He is another big, slow wind generator averaging more than 150 strikeouts and with an average that will not go much above .250

throughout his career.

OF: Chris Young

OK, so he is still a pup along with the rest of the Diamondbacks, so maybe it is a bit unfair to label him as an overrated player. He can be a 30-30 guy — 32 homers and 27 steals in 2007 — but those homers were pretty much meaningless last season in terms of fantasy value because he only had 68 RBIs.

In his defense, he is on pace to put up better numbers this season, but he is not stealing any bags which makes him just

another average power outfielder. The majors are stacked with guys like this.

OF: Jeff Francoeur

He had a promising rookie year, hitting .260 with 29 homers and driving in 105 runs. The only problem was he really did not improve in year two — perhaps a sophomore slump — but this year it is worse. He only has 8 home runs with a .239 batting average. Perhaps we were all a little quick to dub him the next great Atlanta Brave.

TENNIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

To do that, Sparks said Dunbar may have to take a few more risks early on in the race. Typically Dunbar gets into a group just behind the leader and hangs around the front, just waiting to make a mad dash at the end of the race, Sparks said.

Because he will be competing against some of the best young distance runners in the world, Dunbar said he wants to run with a fast pack

near the lead in the beginning of the race. Using the final lap kick probably will not propel him to victory but staying on the lead pace should propel him to a personal record, he said.

Schirmer said the competition in Poland will be top notch, but Dunbar's teammates are still betting on him to break 30 minutes.

"[Dunbar] is getting really competitive and I think he'll do really well in Poland," he said.

Sparks said no matter what hap-

pens at the world championships, just competing on that stage is a perk for Dunbar. He said the track coaches at SIU have high expectations for their athletes, and running against some of the best distance athletes in the world will only help Dunbar live up to those expectations in the future.

"It's an opportunity for him to continue to try to develop in the 10k and set a new personal best and build for the next three years as a collegiate runner," Sparks said.

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TENNIS

Dunbar to play at world championships

First place finish at junior nationals sends sophomore to Poland to compete

Brandon Augsberg
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

Sophomore distance runner Daniel 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.

At 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 14 seconds between himself and the second place finisher, cross country coach Matt Sparks said.

"I just let my fitness carry me through like 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 Mohamed Mohamed to aid him, he rededicated himself.

Schirmer said Dunbar's approach changed towards the end of the outdoor season and he started showing a better "racing mentality," especially at the end of races when he would kick it into another gear. Dunbar did not seem scared 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 he felt strong 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.

Dunbar ran the 10,000-meter race at the conference meet and set a personal best of 30:25, which qualified him for the junior national meet, Sparks said. That race opened Sparks' eyes to Dunbar's potential.

"I guess that's where we found that's what [Dunbar] really shines in," he said. "The longer the better."

Schirmer said finding his niche on the team helped Dunbar exude confidence, and his teammates noticed.

"A lot of [Dunbar's] success right now is confidence," he said. "He just got a lot more confident in himself and his abilities."

Despite his potential, Dunbar has realistic goals for the world championships. He said the winner will most likely come in with a time around 28 minutes — Dunbar has never broken 30 minutes. Still, he said competing on the international stage would give him a chance to set another personal record and maybe breach the elusive 30-minute barrier.

"My goal for Poland is to break 30, which is kind of a big barrier," he said.

See TENNIS, Page 11

Daniel Dunbar



O'Fallon Township High School Career

- Southwestern Conference All-Conference team as sophomore and senior
- Belleville News-Democrat All-Area team as sophomore and senior
- St. Louis All-Metro Cross Country team as senior

SIU Career

- 3rd place 10,000-meter run at MVC outdoor conference meet as freshman
- 1st place 10,000-meter run at 2008 USA Junior National Championships

Source: Saluki Media Services



Ian's All-Hack Team

Ian Preston
 DAILY EGYPTIAN

For this week's Quick Hits, I will expose some Major League hitters who are playing more like minor leaguers. Here is a list of big name ball players who, this season, have played nothing like what we expect.

Here is to hoping these hacks are not on your team, and if they are, then here is hoping you find some way to trade them to that guy in your league who has started Curt Schilling all season.

Catcher: Jason Varitek

Yes, he is one of the faces of the Red Sox for the past decade and sure he has that "C" on his jersey and is a great leader, but no matter how loved he is in Beantown, in fantasy town he is as popular as gas prices.

He cannot hit anymore — he has not hit about .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 includes both of the Kansas City Royal's catchers.

1B: Ryan Howard

He will hit 40 homers and drive in over 100 RBIs, but if you are in a roto league, this guy is as valuable as Greg Norton (look it up, he is still in the league). OK, he could probably hit 70 dingers in a 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 homers and 67 RBIs.

2B: Luis Castillo

This may appear to be a player just having a down year as he did bat .301 last year, and he is on pace to have the most stolen bags in a season 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

If he is on your team, it is time for you to admit it — you got fooled by his numbers last year. Greene is not the 30 home runs, 100 RBI guy he made everyone think he was last season (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 of a player. Yeah, he'll 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 all of the baseball. He put up one fluke season in 2004 — his contract year with the Dodgers — and the Mariners gave him a king's ransom to hit an average of .260, with 25 homers and 90 RBIs the last four years. Read my lips: he is not good.

See IAN, Page 11

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 were SIU athletes.

What Dismore, a former outfielder on the softball team, and Ellis, a former golfer, lack in stats, their coaches and teammates say they make up for in heart.

Last week, Dismore and Ellis were nominated for the NCAA Sportsmanship Award as representatives for the Missouri Valley Conference. The nomination is given to a male and female athlete who displayed sportsmanship and ethical behavior.

For Dismore and Ellis, it was also about how they overcame adversity.

Dismore entered her senior season as one of the Lady Saluki's top leadoff hitters. She was poised to have a solid senior season and be a big part in the Saluki's 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 Kerri Blaylock said. Dismore then returned to the team when her coach questioned if she would ever set foot on the diamond again.

"I honestly thought there was



PROVIDED PHOTO

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.

no way she'd do it," Blaylock 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 Meridian take second at the national tournament, he said.

See AWARD, Page 11