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Today:
High: 85, Low: 61

Thursday:
High: 87, Low: 64

Friday:
High: 87, Low: 65

DAILY INTERSESSION EDITION EGYPTIAN



Gus Bode says enjoy the break, it's short.

VOLUME 94, No. 184

AUGUST 12 - 18, 2009

8 PAGES

Century-old church comes down



James McDonough
DAILY EGYPTIAN

Workers use heavy machinery to clear debris at the demolition site of the First Baptist Church in downtown Carbondale Tuesday. Bud Watkins, project supervisor for Spirtas Wrecking Company out of St. Louis, said the demolition, which began

Monday, should take approximately one month. Once the demolition is complete, the Carbondale Memorial Hospital, which now owns the property, plans to build a memorial garden from some of the decorative stonework from the original church sanctuary, said Rosslind Rice, a spokesperson for Southern Illinois Healthcare. Rice said plans for the garden are fluid right now, but that it would eventually contain natural elements and be open to hospital employees and the public.

Quinn signs credit card law

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO (AP) — Gov. Pat Quinn has signed a law that will clamp down on credit card marketing on college campuses.

At the bill signing Tuesday, Quinn said the legislation won't ban credit card companies from marketing on campus, but it will help ensure they act in a responsible manner.

Under the law, credit card companies wouldn't be able to give out T-shirts, gift cards or other freebies to entice students into signing up.

The legislation says cash-strapped college students are vulnerable to predatory lenders and lawmakers don't want students to be burdened by credit card debt.

Any Illinois college or university that enters into an agreement to market credit cards to students will also have to offer a financial education program so students understand the consequences of obtaining credit cards.

To friendly crowd, Obama assails health care foes

Phillip Elliot
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (AP) — Braced for a fight he never got, President Obama went on the offensive in support of his health care plan Tuesday, urging a town hall audience not to listen to those who seek to “scare and mislead the American people.”

“For all the scare tactics out there, what is truly scary is if we do nothing,” Obama told a friendly crowd of about 1,800 in a high school auditorium and a nationwide audience watching on cable television.

The White House had been ready for an unruly reception from opponents of overhauling health care. There was no sign of that, perhaps because of the makeup of the day's crowd or out of traditional deference for the president.

Obama's push came amid a string of disruptive health care town halls nationwide that have overshadowed

his message and threatened to derail support in Congress. Indeed, Republican-turned-Democratic Sen. Arlen Specter faced hostile questions, taunts and jeers earlier Tuesday as he tried to explain his positions at a town hall in Lebanon, Pa. Voter fears of a government takeover of health care were on stark display.

Some lawmakers, holding forums during Congress' August recess, have gone so far as to replace public forums with teleconferences or step up security to keep protesters at bay.

But the Democratic president faced no outbursts.

The encounter was so friendly, in fact, that by the end Obama was even asking for skeptical questioners to come forward — to no avail.

He told his audience reassuringly, “For all the chatter and the yelling and the shouting and the noise, what you need to know is this ... if you do have health insurance, we will make sure that no insurance company or government bureaucrat gets between

you and the care you need.”

Retooling his message amid sliding support, he addressed some of his remarks to a vital and skeptical audience: the tens of millions of people who already have health insurance and are generally satisfied with the care they get.

He said the overhaul is essential to them, too, contending it is the way to keep control in their hands. Obama said while government

“For all the scare tactics out there, what is truly scary is if we do nothing.”

— President Obama
United States President

bureaucrats should not meddle with people's care, bureaucrats at insurance companies should not, either.

The president accused critics of

creating “boogymen.”

“Spread the facts. Let's get this done,” Obama implored the crowd.

The tone was set as soon as Obama arrived. He came in to applause and told one person who shouted support, “I love you back.”

One man identified himself as a Republican and said, “I don't know what I'm doing here.” The Democratic president said he was happy to have him in attendance.

Toward the end of the session, Obama went so far as to ask people to give him skeptical questions. The best he got were queries about why he doesn't chastise Congress more and where the nation would find the additional doctors and nurses it needs.

Heading toward a pivotal fall debate before congressional action, Obama is scrambling to get lawmakers and the public behind what would be the most ambitious and costly changes to the health care system in decades.

He reiterated his determination that the plan be paid for without adding to the nation's soaring deficit.

He took on what he described as erroneous claims that have risen as the debate in Washington and the nation has developed.

He singled out the charge that the Democratic health care legislation would create “death panels” to deny care to frail seniors. Former Republican vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin has said the Democrats' legislation includes “death panels” that could deny care.

Obama declared that a provision that he said had caused the uproar would only authorize Medicare to pay doctors for counseling patients about end-of-life care, living wills, hospice care and other issues, if the patients wanted it. It would not “basically pull the plug on grandma because we decided that it's too expensive to let her live anymore,” as Obama put it.

Calendar

Submit calendar items to the DAILY EGYPTIAN newsroom, Communications 1247, at least two days before the event.

Police Blotters

There are no items to report at this time.

Corrections

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

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USOC: Chicago 2016 is our only focus

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—U.S. Olympic leaders repeated Monday that their attention is completely fixed on the quest to bring the 2016 Games to Chicago.

“Let me reiterate that position in the most adamant terms,” CEO Stephanie Streeter said. “Chicago is not only our current bid city, it is our only bid city, and it is the sole focus of our efforts.”

The statement came in the wake of recent reports that Pittsburgh might explore a bid for the 2020 Summer Games — a possibility that would only exist if Chicago failed to land the 2016 Olympics.

Also, the deadline for submitting formal proposals for the 2018 Winter Olympics is in October, and cities such as Denver and Reno, Nev., have been mentioned in the past as possible candidates. Denver leaders have also said 2022 might be more realistic.

The USOC has repeatedly

said it would not back 2018 bids. A city has to have the support of its Olympic federation to submit a bid. The USOC became more active in the bid process after confusion hurt New York's failed bid for the 2012 Olympics.

The International Olympic Committee will choose Chicago, Madrid, Rio de Janeiro or Tokyo to host the 2016 Olympics at its meeting in Copenhagen in October.

There are fewer than eight weeks left until the decision is made, and Streeter doesn't want other cities sharing the spotlight with Chicago.

“So, with all due respect to those cities that are dreaming about one day bidding for the Games, now is not the time,” she said. “This is Chicago's time. Please join all of us at the USOC in standing with Chicago 2016. Given what they've accomplished in projecting the right image for our country, it is clear they have earned our full respect and devotion.”

USOC Hall of Fame in Chicago

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO (AP) — The final fundraiser for Chicago's bid for the 2016 Summer Olympics will be a big one with top athletes inducted into a hall of fame.

The U.S. Olympic Committee is holding its hall of fame induction at Chicago's McCormick Place on Wednesday.

Inductees include the 1992 men's Olympic basketball “dream team” that include Chicago's

Michael Jordan, track star Michael Johnson and skiing champ Picabo Street.

The ceremony doubles as a fundraiser for the local Olympic organizing committee, which will find out soon if Chicago gets to host the Olympic games.

Chicago is a finalist along with Tokyo, Madrid and Rio de Janeiro to host the 2016 Summer Olympics.

The International Olympic Committee will announce the host city in October.

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the Daily Egyptian

Obama must face Mideast realities

Frida Ghitis
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

President Obama deserves credit for keeping his promise to work for peace in the Middle East from the earliest days of his administration. Unfortunately, the results so far have proven less than encouraging. In fact, some recent trends look downright ominous.

On all sides American efforts have run into embarrassing setbacks. Much global attention has focused on the spat between Washington and Jerusalem over the growth of Israeli settlements on the West Bank and Jerusalem. But Obama's efforts to pressure the other side are running into stiff resistance — and much worse.

Obama planned to use his verbal gifts to persuade all sides to start with small gestures of reconciliation. All the players would then develop the mutual trust required for the push towards the ultimate prize, peace. It hasn't worked out that way.

The first major setback came during a humiliating visit to Saudi Arabia by the American president. The incident received little attention, since it happened hours before Obama's headline-monopolizing speech to Muslims from Cairo. Obama asked Saudi King Abdullah

to give him a token of good will to show Israelis as he publicly pressured them to freeze settlement activity. The Saudi's answer was a most definitive "No."

In Washington on July 31, the Saudis held up their rejection of Obama's plan before the world's cameras. In a joint press conference with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton diplomatically called on "Arab states, including our friends in Saudi Arabia, to work with us to take steps to improve relations with Israel, to support the Palestinian Authority and to prepare their people to embrace the eventual peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis." Clinton maintained the shadow of a smile on her face as the prince cavalierly dismissed Obama's approach, saying, "confidence-building measures will not bring peace."

Even more troubling are developments inside Fatah, the more moderate Palestinian faction, the one the world backs because it favors coexistence with Israel in contrast with Hamas, whose charter calls for Israel's destruction.

Fatah, the party that controls the Palestinian Authority, just held its first convention in two decades in Bethlehem. In advance of the gathering, Fatah officials displayed a

troubling tendency toward renewed radicalism. The aim is to drum up popular support among the Palestinian public.

In an effort to top their rival Hamas in their perceived commitment to Palestinian statehood, Palestinian moderates are leaving behind their moderation.

Mohammed Dahlan, once a favorite of Washington and a top Fatah man in Gaza, told a Palestinian TV interviewer that it is a mistake to think Fatah wants Hamas to accept Israel's existence. "We don't demand that Hamas recognize Israel because the Fatah movement does not recognize Israel even today," he explained. The disheartening exchange can be seen online at tinyurl.com/ks7gnf, where Dahlan also explains the need to show the world an image of moderation with a government "that is acceptable to the international community."

Another leading Fatah man sounded less than moderate in an interview with al-Quds al-Arabi, a top pan-Arab newspaper. Former Palestinian Labor Minister Rafik Natsheh said Fatah "does not recognize Israel's right to exist" and it has not abandoned violence in pursuit of its objectives. If that is the case, the peace process is a charade, and peace

will prove impossible to achieve.

On the Israeli side, Obama has obtained some concessions, but new problems are emerging. Israel has removed checkpoints, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reluctantly agreed to the two-state solution. But friction remains. Although most Israelis are no fans of the settlements whose growth Obama wants stopped, fears that the U.S. president is not evenhanded are undermining Israeli trust in the process.

The issue of settlement construction on the West Bank will ultimately reach a resolution. Construction in Jerusalem is another matter. In fact, Jerusalem is the most emotionally charged issue in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. That's why it is surprising that Obama already chose to delve into that piece of radioactive terrain.

On paper, the peace plan looked pretty good: Sparks of goodwill would start a chain reaction of trust and confidence that would lead to peace. But setting off sparks in the desert is a perilous activity. Obama's well-intentioned ideas could easily turn to disaster if the administration neglects to decisively put out the new fires of extremism already visible in the horizon.

Ghitis writes about global affairs for The Miami Herald.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No physical or mental barrier can restrain the power of the human spirit."

President Obama

on the death of Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver at age 88

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.

About Us

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 Carterville communities.

Editorial Policy

Our Word is the consensus of the DAILY EGYPTIAN Editorial Board on local, national and global issues affecting the Southern Illinois University community. Viewpoints expressed in columns and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect those of the DAILY EGYPTIAN.

Notice

The DAILY EGYPTIAN is a "designated public forum." Student editors have authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval. We reserve the right to not publish any letter or guest column.

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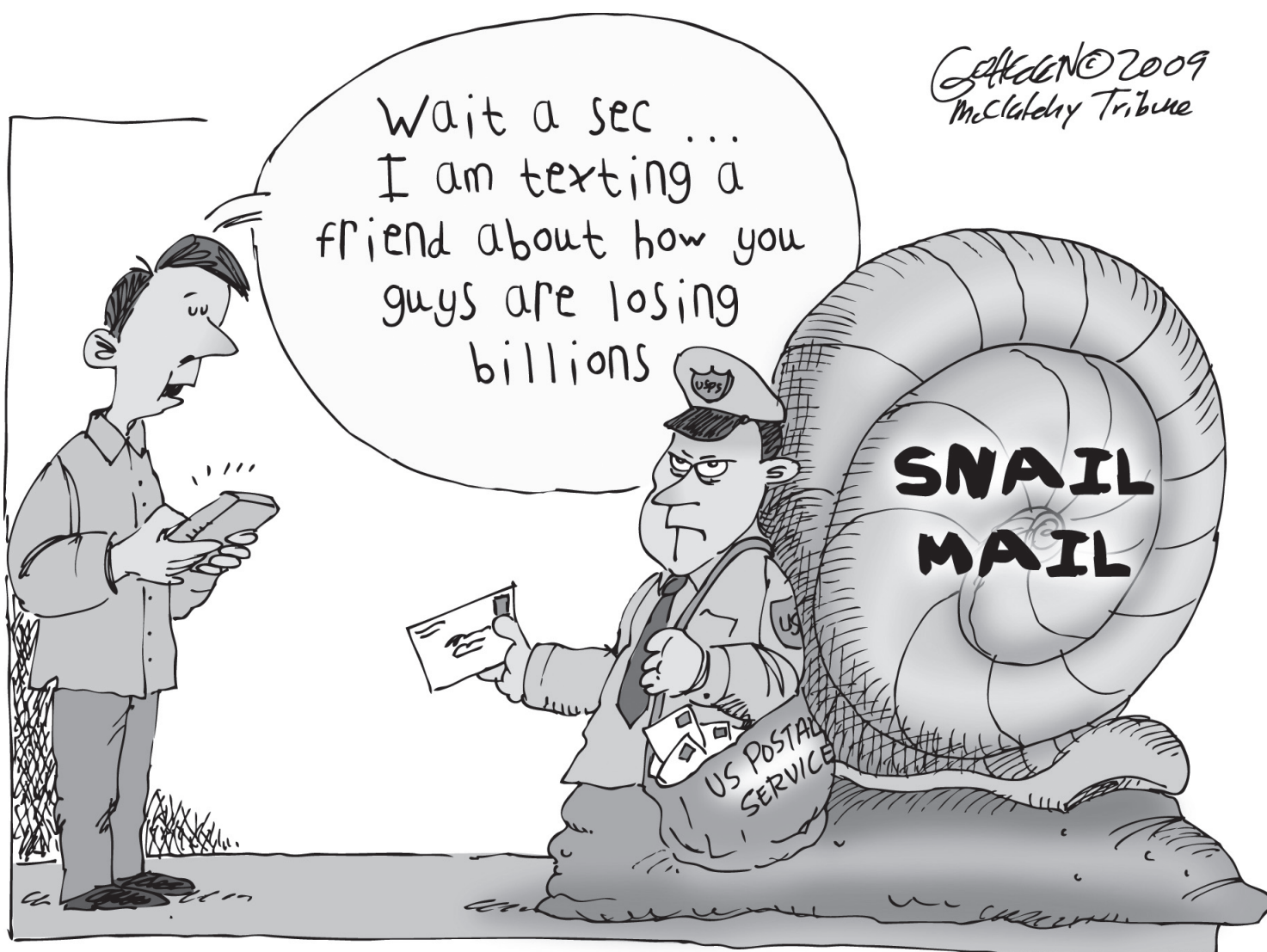
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GM says new Volt could get 230 mpg in city driving

Kimberly S. Johnson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WARREN, Mich. (AP) — General Motors said Tuesday its Chevrolet Volt electric car could get 230 mpg in city driving, making it the first American vehicle to achieve triple-digit fuel economy if that figure is confirmed by federal regulators.

But when the four-door family sedan hits showrooms late next year, its efficiency will come with a steep sticker price: \$40,000.

Still, the Volt's fuel efficiency

would be four times more than the popular Toyota Prius hybrid, the most efficient car now sold in the U.S.

Most automakers are working on similar designs, but GM would offer the first mainstream plug-in with the Volt, which seats four and was introduced at the 2007 Detroit auto show.

The Volt will join a growing fleet of cars and trucks powered by systems other than internal combustion engines.

Unlike the Prius and other traditional hybrids, the Volt is powered by an electric motor and a battery

pack with a 40-mile range. After that, a small internal combustion engine kicks in to generate electricity for a total range of 300 miles. The battery pack can be recharged from a standard home outlet.

Hybrids use a small internal combustion engine combined with a high-powered battery to boost fuel efficiency. Toyota's Prius — which starts at about \$22,000 — gets 51 mpg in the city and 48 mpg on the highway.

The number of all-electric vehicles available to U.S. consumers remains limited. The Tesla Roadster, a high-

end sports car with a range of 224 miles, is perhaps the best known. But its \$100,000-plus price tag keeps it out of reach of all but the wealthiest drivers.

The company is working on an electric family sedan that will be priced considerably less.

Nissan Motor Co. unveiled its first electric car, the Leaf, earlier this month. Nissan said the vehicle will go on sale in Japan, the U.S. and Europe next year.

General Motors Co. is touting the 230 mpg figure following early tests

that used draft guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency for calculating the mileage of extended-range electric vehicles.

The EPA guidelines, developed with help from automakers, figure that cars such as the Volt will travel more on straight electricity in the city than on the highway. If drivers operate the Volt for less than 40 miles, in theory they could do so without using a drop of gasoline.

Highway mileage estimates for the Volt based on the EPA's methodology have yet to be released.

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NICE, CLEAN 1 bdrm, 509 S. Wall or 313 E. Mill, a/c, avail May or Aug, \$295+util, no pets, 529-3581.

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www.saluki-apartments.com

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G & R's BEAUTIFUL NEW, 2 bdrm apts, no pets, call 549-4713 or visit 851 E. Grand Ave or www.grentals.com.

QUIET 2 BDRM, Unity Point District, w/d, d/w, large rooms, 1-2.5 bath, varied floorplans, central heat/air, pets considered, \$645-\$900, 457-8194.
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512 S. Beveridge #4,6,7
514 S. Beveridge #1,2,4,6
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406 W. Cherry Court
407 W. Cherry Court
408 W. Cherry Court
409 W. Cherry Court
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400 W. College #1,2
503 W. College #6
500 W. Freeman #3
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408 W. Cherry Court
409 W. Cherry Court
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VOLLEYBALL

Roberson and Salukis look forward to season

Matt Freeland

DAILY EGYPTIAN
MATT720@SIU.EDU

The SIU volleyball team returned to the court this week in its first step to qualify for the Missouri Valley Conference tournament.

The Salukis hope to improve on their 17-12 (7-11 MVC) record from last season and make the conference tournament after missing it by one spot last year.

Senior Chandra Roberson talked about what it will take throughout the year for the Salukis to have a successful season.

DAILY EGYPTIAN: How was the first day of practice?

CHANDRA ROBERSON: It was really exciting. It was great to finally start our season. We had little practices over the summer, which was really good to see everybody to play together. This just marks the real first day.

DE: What did you guys work on during the practice?

CR: Our first session we played a little bit to get the feeling back. We did a lot of six-on-six drills, a lot of two-on-two, three-on-three team stuff. The second half we worked on our technique and getting the basics back down again.

DE: How will practice change as the season progresses?

CR: As the days go on it will be a little bit harder, a little bit more in detail working on specific things. Right now we're just getting the basics back and seeing who's going to be the best fit on the court.

DE: What are your goals, as a team, going into the season?

CR: Definitely our goal is always to be better than what we did last year. We've come up with a few new things. Our new quote for the year is, 'Keep a winning attitude.' We really want to keep that competitive nature. We just want to work hard and be one of the top four or five teams and make the tournament this year.

DE: How difficult would it be



Senior middle blocker Chandra Roberson, who is on track to set a record for most blocks all-time at SIU, goes up for a spike at practice Tuesday in Davies Gym.

JOE REHANA
DAILY EGYPTIAN

for the team if you didn't make the tournament?

CR: Right now I'm not considering that as an option (laughing). If we don't make it, it would really be upsetting but with our talent I don't even see that being possible.

DE: What do you know about your newcomers?

CR: We've gotten to know them

volleyball-wise a lot. They're really tough competitors, they've come from winning programs, were in clubs, all went to nationals, their high school teams were great and I think they fit perfectly with us.

DE: Are you and the other leaders on the team more vocal leaders than by example?

CR: We're all pretty vocal. I

think we start off maybe leading by example, but you got a couple qualities in both. All the seniors and juniors have been playing together for a while and all of us have taken the leader role.

DE: What are your personal goals this season?

CR: I just want to be the leader for the team. I need about 35 more

blocks to be the best blocker in history so I'm focusing on that. I want to be a leader on and off the court.

DE: Are you going to have a celebration once you get it?

CR: I don't know, I hope so (laughing). I think they might call it whenever it happens, stop the game for a second and say something.

FANTASTIC FANTASIES

Who's hot, who's not

MATT FREELAND
matt720@siu.edu



In the last edition of Fantastic Fantasies, I'm going to take a quick look at who in Major League Baseball might be worth a look at picking up and also whom owners should think about releasing.

This late in the season, most players are easy to figure out in terms of how they will be playing for the rest of the season.

But there are always a select few who get unrealistically hot and there are also some that get ridiculously cold.

Let's take a look at who's hot and who's not as of today.

Who's Hot

Milton Bradley of the Chicago Cubs has been hitting much better than he has throughout the entire season to date.

During his last five games he has hit for an average of .529, however only two runs scored and two RBIs with zero home runs.

This is a player that owners must

look at, because if the Cubs' offense gets hot and his power picks up, he will be scoring plenty of runs.

The Detroit Tigers' second baseman Placido Polanco is on fire right now.

From Thursday on, Polanco has 13 hits on 23 at-bats and he's also on an 11-game hitting streak.

In that lineup, he could not only score tons of runs but he could also record some RBIs.

On the season, his runs and RBI numbers are equal at 52.

Who's not

Cleveland Indians' closer Kerry

Wood should be dropped immediately unless you are absolutely desperate for saves.

His ERA is still near 5.00 and the rest of his team has been traded away.

He will get a minimum amount of save opportunities the rest of the way and it's not like he's been any good for them anyways with five blown saves in 20 chances.

Future Hall of Fame candidate John Smoltz's career may be nearing an end.

He can't get it together so far and there have been no signs of him coming back to life.

He has had one decent start since he's been back and it was against the Kansas City Royals, even though he still only made it through five innings.

Boston Red Sox first baseman Kasey Kotchman should be avoided permanently unless injuries hit the Bo Sox.

He will be played sparingly and even when he does, you can't count on him for anything more than a 1-for-4 performance.

He once looked like he would be a solid backup at first base, but as long as he's in Boston, he's not worth it.