Student fees may increase next year

I’m not against the fee increase because I know a lot of students, including myself, who don’t have insurance coverage outside of the insurance that you have with the school. So it’s a plus to be able to go to outside hospitals and get expenses covered.

— Spencer Tribble
USG Vice President

The Undergraduate Student Government will not vote on proposed student fee increases until the group has more time to discuss the figures, said USG Vice President Spencer Tribble.

Auxiliary members – representatives from departments such as the Student Center, Student Health Center and athletic department – requested a 3.1 percent total student fee increase at the USG’s first meeting of the semester Jan. 31. The fee increase would be a total of $57.40 per student from current fees, including student insurance.

Tribble said he understands students may not agree with the student fee increase, but he doesn’t think the increase would be considered negative.

“To a certain extent I understand the need to increase fees on a university level,” Tribble said. “I’m not against the fee increase because I know a lot of students, including myself, who don’t have insurance coverage outside of the insurance that you have with the school. So it’s a plus to be able to go to outside hospitals and get expenses covered.”

While the fee increase may be beneficial and necessary for various student services, Tribble said students should be able to see where their money goes and witness the breakdown of the figures of where the money is allocated.

Tribble said bills, maintenance and the cost of living have gone up so he understands the increase, but students may not be happy with the raised athletic fee because not everyone attends sporting events and the teams are not always very successful.

MARIO Moccia, director of Intercollegiate Athletics, said the cost of gas, food, bus companies, hotels, airline and employment go up every year, which causes fees in the athletic department to increase. He said last year the department had to pay $225,000 for student workers and this year it had to pay $300,000.

Intercollegiate Athletics also pays a portion of its budget to the band and spirit groups, Moccia said.

The extra fee increase from students, he said, would keep the athletic department’s head above water.

“The athletic department has cut five positions in the department and held two positions that are open for hire. We have cut about as much as we think we can, and still remain competitive athletically,” he said.

Lori Stentler, assistant vice chancellor for auxiliary services, said her department is fully aware fee increases may have an affect on its affordability for students. But without fee increases for renovations, she said it’s difficult for the department to keep up with competing businesses.

She said items such as more energy efficient lighting upgrades, chair replacement in the ballrooms, repainting of the bookstore’s loading dock and more are reasons why a fee increase for the Student Center is necessary.

“No projects that are real pretty or will be real obvious from that perspective are being done, but they are all necessary for the maintenance and upkeep of a 50-year-old building,” she said.

Jim Hunsaker, assistant director of student health services, said any increase in fees isn’t popular, but he thinks USG and Graduate Professional Student Council members understand the value of the student insurance plan from the Student Health Center.

KENNETH DIXON
Daily Egyptian

Carbondale’s Little Egypt Chorus offers singing valentines

Flowers, jewelry and candy in a heart-shaped box frequently the usual list of Valentine’s Day gifts. Carbondale’s Little Egypt Chorus, however, offers something a tad different.

The Little Egypt Chorus is part of the Carbondale chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, which has offered singing valentines for many years.

“Barbershop singing is unique in that it is performed a cappella in quartets, said Norm Bauer, Carbondale chapter marketing director.

Forty dollars buys a two-song performance, a silk rose and a customizable card delivered on location anywhere in Jackson, Williamson and Union counties, Bauer said.

“Last year, we performed about 40 valentines,” Bauer said. “By restricting our travels to three counties, we can reach more sweethearts this year.”

Bauer said the Barbershop Harmony Society’s various chapters offer singing valentines nationwide.

The valentines are an important means of generating the necessary funds to sustain the chapter each year, said David Lane, chorus assistant director. The funds support the costs of uniforms, microphones, venue rentals and travel costs, he said.

The annual show on April 21 also helps provide some funding, but the chorus tries to perform at least once a month, Bauer said.
### Corrections

In Wednesday’s edition of the Daily Egyptian, the story titled “SIU rugby competes for national title in Las Vegas,” should have said SIU rugby qualified for the national tournament last year with a first-place finish in its union (conference), and then a third place finish at the Midwest Collegiate Rugby Showcase in Wisconsin. Also, collegiate rugby teams have the same amount of players, regardless of what division they play in. There are either seven on the field per team for a seven game or 15 on the field for typical rugby, or fifteen. The cutline for the accompanying photograph should have read “Fifteen of the rugby teams 40-plus members are heading to Las Vegas for the National Sevens Rugby Tournament Feb. 8 to 11.” The Daily Egyptian regrets the error.

### About Us

The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale, in Carbondale, Illinois. The Daily Egyptian online publication can be found at www.dailyEgyptian.com.

### 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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### Publishing Information

The Daily Egyptian is published by the students of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Offices are in the Communications Building, Room 1259, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL, 62901. Bill Freivogel, fiscal officer.

### Weather Channel® 5-day weather forecast for Carbondale

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### Reaching Us

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### Do Just One Thing

**By Eco-Expert Danny Seo**

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“Our fee doesn’t go to fund anything but the insurance fee program,” he said.

About $7.8 million was paid in claims last year, Homan said, and those were claims for students that otherwise would not have been covered by any insurance.

He said he thinks the student insurance program goes a long way with the student retention rate because it keeps students here who may have to withdraw for medical reasons.

The insurance plan covers emergency and specialty care as well as things that cannot be performed at the Student Health Center, such as diagnostic care like MRI and CT scans.

Simone Biles, USG chief of staff, said she doesn’t particularly like the idea of having to pay more money, but she understands things being implemented need funding.

“Students have to be smart about where we are spending our money and make sure we are educated about where it’s going,” she said.

Kenneth Dixon may be reached at kdixon@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3351 ext. 254.

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**Fee Proposals**

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**Barbershop**

CONTINUED FROM 1

The Little Egypt Chorus consists of 35 members who perform together throughout the year, he said.

He said the chorus, which performed at the Carbondale Community High School Multicultural Festival Tuesday, also performs at churches, organization’s annual meetings and sporting events.

On Feb. 25, the chorus will perform the National Anthem at the final Saluki home basketball game against Northern Iowa.

Aside from taking opportunities to perform for clients, the chorus also visits nursing homes and veterans homes in its free time. Bauer said if the chorus is already together such as for Valentine’s Day performances, it will stop by nursing homes and veterans homes during down time.

“It’s something we enjoy doing to bring joy to someone’s day,” Bauer said. “It helps to take their minds off of any problems they might be having.”

Singing in the barbershop chorus is stress relieving and can function as mental flux, said Bob Fuller, Carbondale’s chapter president.

Unfortunately, there is a struggle to keep this art form alive, Bauer said. There generally aren’t enough newcomers to revitalize the whole society, he said.

Any art form, whether it’s painting or photography, is important to preserve, Fuller said.

Bauer said in an effort to spread the joy a barbershop chorus can bring, the Little Egypt Chorus sponsors a scholarship at Carbondale Community High School for students pursuing vocal music and is hosting an event in Champaign on March 3.

The chorus also offers to send high school chorus teachers to Harmony College in Jefferson City, Mo., which offers classes in barbershop singing and the vocal music arts, he said.

Besides being enjoyable, the singing valentines are also a great way to spark interest while advertising for the chorus, Bauer said.

Appointments for singing valentines will be taken until Feb. 13 and will be deemed pending after that, Fuller said.

“They’re a little more personal than a box of candy and a card,” Fuller said. “They’re better than a dozen roses.”

Tiffany Blanchette can be reached at tblanchette@dailyegyptian.com or 536-3351 ext. 254.

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410 W. Oak 1-5
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507 S. Poplar 2
414 W. Sycamore E
406 S. University 1-4
334 W. Walnut 2

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508 S. Ash 4
514 S. Ash 2, 5
512 S. Beveridge 1-7
514 S. Beveridge 1-7
602 N. Carico
703 N. Carico
908 N. Carico
306 W. Cherry
311 W. Cherry 2
410 W. Cherry Court
310 E. College 2, 3
201 W. College 2, 3
310 W. College 1-4
401 W. College 5-7
501 W. College 4-6
503 W. College 4-6
507 W. College 4, 5
509 W. College 4, 6
710 W. College 4-6
303 W. Elm
120 S. Forest
303 S. Forest
706 S. Forest
716 S. Forest
718 S. Forest 3
507 S. Hays 2
514 S. Hays
402 E. Hester 1-5, 7
408 E. Hester 1-3, 7
703 W. High W
208 W. Hospital 1
703 S. Illinois 203
705 N. James
612 S. Logan
906 W. McDaniel
908 W. McDaniel
506 N. Michaels
300 W. Mill 1-4
405 E. Mill 1-7
409 E. Mill 1-7**
417 W. Monroe
400 W. Oak 3
300 N. Oakland
304 N. Oakland*
608 N. Oakland C, G, H*
613 W. Owens
507 S. Poplar 1, 4-6
1000 Schwartz

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810 W. Sycamore
919 W. Sycamore
404 S. University N & S
404 ½ S. University
402 ½ Walnut
400 S. Washington A
600 S. Washington 1-3, 5-6
406 W. Willow*
804 W. Willow

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503 S. Beveridge*
506 S. Beveridge
918 N. Bridge
309 W. Cherry
311 W. Cherry 1
405 W. Cherry
503 W. Cherry
606 W. Cherry
608 W. Cherry
401 W. College 1-4
809 W. College
104 S. Forest
120 S. Forest
603 S. Forest
716 S. Forest
500 S. Hays
503 S. Hays
505 S. Hays
511 S. Hays
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408 W. Oak
600 N. Oakland
505 N. Oakland
506 S. Poplar 1-7+
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Five Bedroom
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511 S. Forest
502 W. Freeman
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OPINION

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parking situation is no excuse for tardiness

Editor's note: This letter is in response to the letter “Parking ‘solutions’ offered in Tuesday’s article are laughable” published in Wednesday’s edition.

Dear Editor:
No, I am not kidding, Brett Delaney.
Also, I was not offering “solutions” to the parking issues on campus. I simply shared how I had gotten around dealing with the parking debacle when I was a student.
I will admit now that I am an employee, I have been given an opportunity for an alternative perspective on the situation. I will not, however, condone the parking condition being used as an overwhelmingly common excuse for tardiness, which happened to be the topic of the interview from which I was quoted.
One thing I have learned in my 13 years of affiliation with this campus is that no matter what “solutions” are offered, there is no way to please everyone. Anyone can do is try to offer helpful hints and possible alternatives.

Kylie Marie Brewer
office support specialist
for the College of Science

Cheng condensing commencements into one “mega-ceremony” disregards tradition

Dear Editor:
With all due respect to our administration, Chancellor Cheng is off the mark if she thinks that drastic changes to May commencement would somehow keep tradition and cultivate “an even more memorable experience.”
I have proudly defended Chancellor Cheng through the labor disputes and the marketing campaign, along with other topics that the campus community has perceived as gaffes. That being said, I see no benefit to come out of this change to graduation.
I should preface this by imparting the knowledge that undergraduate commencement ceremonies are superfluous as there are droves of students who actually walk without having earned their degrees.
From a pragmatic standpoint we must still do this dog and pony show because it is through such ceremonies that students get their final send-off from SIU.
If students leave SIU upset or disinterested, that sentiment will likely represent their involvement as an alumni (the converse being equally understood).
As for her insistence that the changes will preserve tradition, she couldn’t be further from reality. Traditionally students graduate in May. The status quo at SIU has been to allow for students to have commencement with their individual colleges.
It has been the case that SIU markets itself as a world-class university with a small community feeling. My college, Agricultural Sciences, has the recipient of the outstanding agriculture alumni of the year deliver an address. How many of these traditions are being preserved?
I find that literally no remnant of prior May graduations is being kept. The plan put forth sterilizes the experiences that each and every student has at SIU. We are now embarking on a mega-ceremony lasting hours.
We are turning our back on recruitment rhetoric of big opportunities with a small feel. Our colleges are being stripped of their autonomy and traditions, such as having an outstanding alumni speak during commencement. I detest the shift that is happening at this campus.
Lamentingly, the issues continue on, such as the unannounced hike in graduation fees – justified with a graduation carnival and a menagerie of newpaper advertisements.
We as students must take action to mitigate and reverse these decisions which not only are symbolically atrocious but pragmatically nachnath.
I understand that a mega-ceremony may signal campus unity, but I would argue that if we perceive diversity then perhaps the problem is better solved at the beginning of a student’s tenure here than a last-ditch effort to correct a fictitious problem.
I hope that Chancellor Cheng will make immediate plans to maintain the status quo so we may have a graduation shorter in length, richer in tradition and that lives up to the experiences that we’ve had at SIU – experiences that cannot be standardized.

Thomas Marten
senior from Raymond
studying agricultural systems

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To submit a letter, please go to www.dailyegyptian.com and click “Submit a Letter” or send it to opinion@dailyegyptian.com. Please make your submission between 300 to 400 words. If you have questions, give us a call at 536-3311 ext. 263.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

OBAMACARE, BIRTH CONTROL MANDATE

ThePILL
Chris Probus, left, a graduate student from Pewee Valley, Ky., in vocal performance, acts a scene Monday with stage partner, Laura Neal, a graduate student from St. Jacob in music, during a full dress rehearsal at McLeod Theater. The music department has worked in conjunction with the theater department since the fall semester on two one-act operas, a truncated version of Bizet’s “Carmen” and Gilbert and Sullivan’s “Trial by Jury,” which will premier Friday.

“Trial by Jury” follows a girl who is set to be married until her soon-to-be husband stands her up at the altar, he said.

“The musical elements were very expertly put together by Dr. Transue, and it was phenomenally directed by Tim Fink,” said Adam Floro, a senior from Marion studying theater, who is playing a member of the jury.

Floro said though he’s been in theater for a while, this will be his first opera and he is nervous about going on stage but with the help of Fink, he has been able to use his nervousness in the right way.

“Fink really knows how to put an opera together and how to stage it;” Floro said. “The ways he’s staged ‘Carmen,’ … I’ve never seen it done that way before.”

ANTHONY PICKENS
Daily Egyptian

Tears of sadness and of laughter will fill the McLeod Theater this weekend.

The SIU theater department will present two one-act operas in conjunction with the university’s School of Music on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The operas to be performed are

“The Tragedy of Carmen,” which is based on Georges Bizet’s opera “Carmen,” and “Trial by Jury” by Gilbert and Sullivan.

“If ever there was a time for the novice to go to the opera, this would be it,” said Timothy Fink, director of the opera and music professor.

In an effort to modernize the operas, Fink said he has given the production a contemporary feel by displaying video close-ups of the actors on a big-screen monitor behind the stage.

“The Tragedy of Carmen” is a simplified version of the original opera with a smaller cast, and it gets straight to the main story arc, he said.

Paul Transue, music director for the operas and assistant professor of music, said “The Tragedy of Carmen” tries to tell the story from a slightly different angle than the original.

“It’s the story of ‘Carmen’ as it happens from Carmen’s perspective,” Transue said. “She knows that her fate is death and she goes along with it.”

Fink said the whole opera is performed in French, and students performing in the opera have been learning French since the fall semester while he has helped coach them vocally.

“The Tragedy of Carmen” is the story of a man who becomes obsessed with a beautiful gypsy woman named Carmen. Fink said.

“She uses men as buy toys, way before people ever had any concept of that idea,” Fink said.

Laura Neal, a graduate student in music from St. Jacob, plays Carmen.

“Carmen is a wild animal, really,” Neal said. “Her philosophy of love is a lot different than normal people. She really doesn’t believe in all this monogamy and settling down with one person. She’s just a flavor of the week kind of girl.”

Neal said her character is very demanding of attention, which has been the biggest challenge for her because she is the opposite of her character in reality.

“The Tragedy of Carmen” brings drama to the stage, but “Trial by Jury” will close the night on a lighter note.

Fink said the opera is a parody of the British judicial system. Most of Gilbert and Sullivan’s operas were made to make fun of something in British culture, including the Queen, he said.

“Trial by Jury” follows a girl who is set to be married until her soon-to-be husband stands her up at the altar, he said.

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MUSIC

Thursday, Feb. 9
Copper Dragon – Corey Smith with Florida Georgia Line 10:30 p.m.
Hangar 9 – Yellow Submarine with The Congress 9 p.m.
Old Baptist Foundation Recital Hall – Michael Zerand, percussionist 7:30 p.m.
PK’s – Another Dead Cover Band
Tres Hombres – Big Idea

Friday, Feb. 10
Copper Dragon – Dr. Zhivegas 10:30 p.m.
Hangar 9 – Love & Light 9 p.m.
PK’s – Slippin’ Henry Blue
Rustle Hill Winery – Blackberry Blossoms 6 p.m.
Tres Hombres – Chicago Farmer, Jack Wally

Saturday, Feb. 11
The Bluffs Vineyard and Winery – Swamp Tigers 4 p.m.
Copper Dragon – Wedding Banned 10:30 p.m.
Hangar 9 – Soul Glo 9 p.m.
PK’s – Slippin’ Henry Blue
Rustle Hill Winery – Bruce Zimmerman 2 p.m., Dirr Choir 6 p.m.
Starview Vineyards – Eli Yellow 2 p.m.
Tres Hombres – Barnacle Billy and the Zebra Mussels

Sunday, Feb. 12
Shirley Auditorium – Travis Tritt 3 p.m.
Rustle Hill Winery – Open Mic 5 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 13
Hangar 9 – Open Mic 8 p.m.
Global Gourmet – Love Chant
Tres Hombres – Alex Ket

Tuesday, Feb. 14
PK’s – Skinny Jim and the Number Nine Blackjacks

Wednesday, Feb. 15
Old Baptist Foundation Recital Hall – Terence Mayhue, percussionist 7:30 p.m.

FILM & THEATRE

Friday, Feb. 10
Big Daddy’s Video – Free Film Friday: Medium Cool 7:30 p.m.
McLeod Theater – Two One-Act Plays: “The Tragedy of Carmen” and “Trial by Jury” 7:30 p.m.

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OTHER

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Missouri Room, Student Center – creative writing graduate student in-house readings 4 p.m.
Student Center Auditorium – Massimo Pigliucci: “Nonsense on Stilts: Why It’s Important to Separate Science from Bank” 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 11
Carbondale Civic Center - WDBX Black and White Ball and Silent Art Auction w/ White Gold Centerfold and the Black Fortys

Monday, Feb. 13

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Carbondale Civic Center – African-American Museum, University Mall – Angie Aguayo: Women’s role in southern Illinois ’60s and ’70s civil rights movement

Wednesday, Feb. 15
Copper Dragon – Comedy Night with The Fryman and Conrad Courtyard 8 p.m.
Student Center Ballrooms – International Food Fair 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Student Center Ballroom D – Nancy Sherman: “The Moral Costs of War” 7 p.m.

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Hangar 9 – Soul Glo 9 p.m.
PK’s – Slippin’ Henry Blue
Rustle Hill Winery – Bruce Zimmerman 2 p.m., Dirr Choir 6 p.m.
Starview Vineyards – Eli Yellow 2 p.m.
Tres Hombres – Barnacle Billy and the Zebra Mussels

Sunday, Feb. 12
Shirley Auditorium – Travis Tritt 3 p.m.
Rustle Hill Winery – Open Mic 5 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 13
Hangar 9 – Open Mic 8 p.m.
Global Gourmet – Love Chant
Tres Hombres – Alex Ket

Tuesday, Feb. 14
PK’s – Skinny Jim and the Number Nine Blackjacks

Wednesday, Feb. 15
Old Baptist Foundation Recital Hall – Terence Mayhue, percussionist 7:30 p.m.
The Puzzle Sleeps Tonight by Todd Sanus

ACROSS
1 Where Jimmy Buffett gets lost (Abbr.)
2 San Fran rockers on bikes? (Abbr.)
3 What Floyd rode on "Piper at the Gates of Dawn"
4 Where Jimmy Buffet gets lost (Abbr.)
5 What pop-punk fans do
6 Where 10:00 Maracas spent "Time"
7 Nirvana's November
8 Beatles' meter maid
9 Type of guitarist
10 Who "Sleeps," to R.E.M. in '93
11 What security did when you hopped the fence
12 Famous Harlem venue
13 "Back in the ___"
14 What you did in general admission
15 Overproduced sound component
16 Popular record company/compilation
17 "I've been drinking since half past ___" Social D
18 What beer can be, for a rocker
19 What "Snowbird" Murray
20 Underestimated album component
21 Bicycle Thief "Everyone ___"
22 Singer Amos
23 Al Green's guitarist
24 Exceptional candidate for music tour transports, to Brits
25 What Hum's biggest hit
26 How Santana's addressed?
27 "Snowbird" Murray
28 "Here Comes the ___"
29 Guitarist for "Book," to Calexico
30 "I know it's not true, but ___"
31 "Two Hearts Beat," to U2
32 "I think I'm losing my ___"
33 "Two Hearts Beat," to U2
34 "I've been drinking since half past ___" Social D
35 Exceptional candidate for music tour transports, to Brits
36 Exceptional candidate for music tour transports, to Brits
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DOWN
1 Bicycle Thief "Everyone ___"
4 "I think I'm losing my ___"
5 Bicycle Thief "Everyone ___"
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THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS
1. People born in early August (9)
2. Camel’s smaller cousin (7)
3. Canyon sound (6)
4. Actress Paquin (6)
5. Review the financial books (8)
6. Prison knife (7)
7. Large kitchen appliance (8)
8. Like a very sense of humor (7)
9. Give a hoot (5)
10. What the upper number in a blood pressure refers to (7)
11. Worker (5)
12. Common verb (5)
13. Actor Romero (7)
14. Rub too much (6)
15. Roll of money (7)
16. Unflinching (6)
17. Sharpen (5)
18. Lung contents (6)
19. Get comfy (7)
20. Cricket (5)
21. Eight-limbed sea creature (7)
22. In the air (11)
23. Slight fault (5)
24. Bright brown (6)
25. Veal or veison (6)
26. Off from (6)
27. Hospital units (6)
28. Reinquished (6)
29. One of the Seven Dwarts (5)
30. Ongoing, as a part (5)
31. Cure-all (6)
32. Weaver’s frame (6)
33. Rapids, IA (5)
34. Spill the beans (6)
35. Qualified (5)
36. Proclamation (7)
37. Speak widely (5)
38. Fawn mothers (5)
39. Fender marks (6)
40. Observed (7)

DOWN
1. Asian nation (5)
2. Jealous (7)
3. Individuals (5)
4. Capital of New Mexico (5)
5. Soup server (6)
6. Draw; attract (7)
7. Busted (6)
8. Around; formed a circle, as a mob of people (7)
9. Book of maps (6)
10. Chaperones (7)
11. Scooch (6)
12. Emily (6)
13. Above (5)
14. Fireman’s find (6)
15. First, second, third and home (6)
16. Neck artery (5)
17. ‘Separate the wheat from the chaff’; ‘Matt. 3’ (5)
18. Highest heart (6)
19. Long-running Broadway play (7)
20. Humor (6)
21. Semi-aquatic mammal (7)
22. Greek epic (5)
23. Pinnies (6)
24. 50 Moves quickly (5)
25. In wearing (6)
26. Times; yore (6)
27. Cushion (5)
28. Turns into (6)
29. Ghoulish (5)
30. Flow back (6)
31. Root overhang (5)
32. Take the prize (5)
33. Chopped finley (6)
34. Noise (6)

Wednesday’s Answers:
4. Capital of New Mexico
5. Soup server
6. Draw; attract
7. Busted
8. Around; formed a circle, as a mob of people
9. Book of maps
10. Chaperones
11. Scooch
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29. Ghoulish
30. Flow back
31. Root overhang
32. Take the prize
33. Chopped finley
34. Noise

Cancer — Today is a 7 — Learn what you need to from someone with experience. Promising ideas get presented. Capture important changes in your schedule. A message of love arrives from afar.

Leo — Today is a 9 — Change could be coming down the road. You have a firm hand on the reins. This could get expensive. Reassess your assets. Consider those that don’t usually show up on the books.

Virgo — Today is a 9 — Your capacity to dream is your power tool today. Make it happen. Feeling at ease and in charge of your life makes you quite attractive. Let romance find you.

Libra — Today is a 7 — Look past storm clouds to see the rainbow. When you put it in perspective, it’s manageable. Send your energy in the right direction. A breakthrough is possible.

Scorpio — Today is a 7 — Ask what you can do for your community, and then act on it. Your willingness to help others is sexy. Friends are there for you, too.

Sagittarius — Today is a 7 — A long trip with a loved one and learn something new about yourselves. Listen closely to emotions. Don’t spend more than you budget. Deepen a connection.

Capricorn — Today is a 7 — Put your energy into your relationship, whether it’s an adventurous getaway or just a night at home around the fire. Try on your shoes, and enhance your listening skills.

Aquarius — Today is a 9 — Bring love into your work, and gain more than expected. Transformation is good now. Your advances in just about any endeavor will be warmly encouraged.

Pisces — Today is an 8 — You can go for what you believe in, especially with the help of a friend. You have more support than you know. You love the results, and so do others.

Pick up the Daily Egyptian each day to test your crossword skills.

Crossword

SUDOKU

Now have a beer with your fat patty! Free Delivery on Orders over $8
618-529-5401 611 B S. Illinois Ave. Carbondale

JUMBLE

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

LECC

NODU

ABEENT

TAREN

Answer: NOWEED

Wednesday’s Answers: Jumbles: PRINT ALLOW CLASSY REVERT

Answer: His unique sound system wasn’t this — STEREOTYPICAL

Crossword Brought to you by: THE PRACTICE PAD

Word: ALDIF

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

SUDOKU

Brought to you by: THE MAYHEM GROUP

FAT PATTIES

Now have a beer with your fat patty! Free Delivery on Orders over $8
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Horoscopes

Brought to you by: GREAT SHAPES & WEE...
Honor a loved one’s life with a bang

Families don’t have to keep their cremated loved ones on display in an urn if they don’t want to.

Holy Smoke is a company in Stockton, Ala., that packs deceased loved ones’ ashes into bullets as a way to honor their nature-loving life by giving them one last bird hunt or round of clay targets, according to the company’s website.

The process starts with a visit to the website, where customers can choose which of six bullet gauges they want their loved ones packed in and how the name should look on the handcrafted wooden box they get shipped in. The company then asks for a pound of the deceased’s ashes so they can be “carefully and reverently” placed in a case of 250 shotgun shells or 100 rifle bullets, and the website ensures any excess ash will be returned to the customer with the final product.

The company calls it an environment-friendly way to celebrate the lives of anyone who loved the great outdoors, or a handy way to protect the home and family even in the afterlife.

That sounds like someone gets gypped somewhere. To be dead is to be free of all the obligations and stresses that come with life. Why would someone want to keep responsibility going and make their late loved one protect a home and ensure family security even after they’ve died?

In the same respect, to have one’s ashes placed in bullets and be used to kill another living thing seems a little ironic. They say things usually come in threes, but what good is there in playing death to make it come in 250s?

What ever happened to resting in peace?

The company’s website also claims that the ecological footprint this process leaves is “virtually nonexistent,” but I beg to differ.

Let’s say, for Thanksgiving dinner’s sake, Tom the turkey just fell victim to one of old Randy Schmady’s ash bullets and will now be served as the main dish. Sure, eating Tom and leaving his bones behind is already more exotically than burying him. But bones can take up to 80 years to decay depending on soil conditions, according to the Physics Forum website.

What if Schmady loved to hunt and his family decided the only way to honor his life was to use all 250 bullets for killing turkeys? Even if Schmady’s family had turkey dinner four times a month for the next five years, they would be contributing a maximum 19,200 years of bone decomposition to our landfill.

That ecological footprint hardly seems virtually nonexistent when you think about it like that.

Sure, the bullets don’t have to be used strictly for killing. Using the ash bullets to give a dead loved one a final round of clay target shooting is wasteful too. Shooting a bunch of clay targets doesn’t get anyone anything but pounds of clay trash when it could have been used to make handy objects such as jars, bowls or home decor.

The only logical solution to all of this is to simply leave those sentimental shells in their pretty packages on the mantle where they belong, which could make for a greater honor anyway. Loved ones’ lives may have been taken, but they don’t have to be packed into a box of bullets that could keep on taking.

Laurann Wood can be reached at lawood@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3311 ext 273.

Artists Prepare for love at the glove

Marty Hagler, a junior from Mundelein studying communication design, drops her artwork off Wednesday at the Glove Factory in Carbondale. Hagler, along with other artists from the area, will display their artwork or perform at the 16th annual Love at the Glove Art Exhibit Friday from 7 to 11 p.m. Jason Wonnel, of Carbondale and the president of the League of Art and Design, said the exhibit has never had trouble filling space, but most people usually wait until the last minute to drop off their work.

JESSICA TEZAK
DAILY EGYPTIAN
Salukis lose a thriller against Missouri State

JOE RAGUSA
Daily Egyptian

Former Saluki player and assistant coach Paul Lusk returned to the SIU Arena for the first time as an opposing head coach, and his team won a close game against the Salukis. SBU (18-17, 5-9 Missouri Valley Conference) fell 56-54 against Missouri State (15-11, 8-6 MVC) Wednesday at the SIU Arena. The Salukis had a chance to tie the game at the end of regulation, but senior forward Marcus Seck’s jumper hit the rim and junior forward Jeff Early couldn’t tip in the offensive rebound as time expired. “I was trying to go by (MSU forward Kyle Wrenn), but he played good defense,” Seck said. “I had the shot I wanted, I just missed it.” Missouri State went toe-to-toe with the Salukis in the first half until a 6-1 run at the end of the half gave them the 31-25 advantage. Missouri State center Caleb Patterson was a game-time decision for Lusk because of an injury, but he came off the bench and scored 11 points in the first half. Patterson finished the night with a game-high 18 points. “I thought about not even playing him again tonight,” Lusk said about Patterson, who hasn’t played in two weeks. “He’s not completely healthy yet.” The Salukis continued to trade blows with Missouri State in the second half, with neither side taking a lead larger than six points. Junior guard T.J. Lindsay hit a three with 6 minutes and three seconds left in the game to tie the score at 48 apiece, but that was the closest SIU would get to a victory. “We had our chances. We got what we wanted at the end of the game,” Lowery said. “We shoot 52 percent and to get our rebounded, that’s on the offensive end and (Missouri State’s) rebounds.” The Salukis only had three free throws on 10 attempts, a trend that has SIU at the bottom of the MVC in free throw percentage this season. “Going three of ten from the free throw line is obviously a big problem,” Lowery said. “That’s seven points we left on the board, and (we didn’t) have the chance to really get ahead of them after that.” Indiana State lost to Bradley Wednesday, which means SIU is still tied for eighth place in the MVC, one game behind two teams (Northern Iowa, Drake) tied for sixth. SIU goes on the road Saturday to faceIndiana State at 12:35 p.m in Terre Haute, Ind.

Softball team gears up for a competitive opening weekend

CHRIS ZOELLER
Daily Egyptian

For its season opener Saturday, the SIU softball team will step away from Charlotte West Stadium and go to Woodstock, Ga., to compete in the Kennesaw State University Classic. During the 2009 season, the Salukis’ most recent appearance in the invitational, they went undefeated in the KSU Classic and placed first in the tournament with a 5-0 record, according to the Saluki Athletics’ website. The Salukis will return Saturday from a 36-17 record in 2011. The team lost the last game of the 2011 season to the Drake University Bulldogs in the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament. Head coach Kerri Blaylock said in order for the Salukis to live up to their projected third-place MVC finish, they look to enter their first matchup focused and to play together as a unit. Blaylock said the players’ pre-game routine has kept them balanced, and they don’t feel pressure before tournaments. She said before every away tournament, the team arrives at the hotel, goes to bed, wakes up, eats breakfast and goes out to compete. “We’re really used to it, because normally our first or three or four weekends have to be on the road,” Blaylock said. “Really, the freshmen are the only ones that may not be used to it.” With lots of team preparation and travel plans ahead, Blaylock said she has yet to release starting positions and a starting pitcher. She said this doesn’t put pressure on the players, because if they’ve done their preparation and practiced hard, then it’s possible to put a player at any position when needed. “I usually make a call on the starts the night before,” Blaylock said. “What I’ll normally do is tell the two who are starting the games on Saturday, and then there will be one that’s on relief.” The Salukis will play two games Saturday, first against University of Miami-Ohio and second against Kennesaw State. SIU will take on Austin Peay and Mercer University on Sunday.

Blaylock said the most important key for all games is to come with a massive offensive game. “We have to come out strong offensively,” Blaylock said. “We need to set the tone on the mound. We need to throw strikes, we need to get ahead of hitters, and hopefully, our defense is going to sure up. It’s been looking good in practice, and we just hope to continue that.” Assistant head coach Jen Sewell said Blaylock has done a great job putting together pregame practice plans that show the team what it’s up against defensively and offensively. She said it’s important for the team to remember to on pitching the ball and then focus on defense. “We have gone back to the defensive fundamentals, and I think it’s going to show in games,” Sewell said. “The core of the defensive program) is what Kerri built it on, and that’s pitching.” While Blaylock and Sewell have prepared the team physically for competition, senior shortstop and co-captain Haley Gorman said she and her teammates are formulating the mental side of rivalry. “We’re just going in (competition) the same way we would go into any tournament — ready to come out and play anybody,” Gorman said. Entering her fourth season as a Saluki, Gorman said being nervous doesn’t play a part for this weekend. She said she is excited for the start of the 2012 season and ultimately winning a championship. “I’m ready, and I think we’ve got a really great shot this year,” Gorman said. The Salukis will batter up at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Bobbie Bailey Athletic Complex. Brandon Willingham can be reached at bwillingham@dailyEgyptian.com or 536-3311 ext. 292.

CHRIS ZOELLER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Senior guard Justin Bocot drives to the basket Wednesday against the Missouri State University defense at SIU arena. The Salukis fell to the Bears 56-54. The Salukis will play Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. at 1 p.m. Saturday.

CHRIS ZOELLER | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Freshman infielder Kara Kimball and sophomore infielder Jayna Spivey field ground balls Tuesday during practice at Charlotte West Stadium. The Saluki women’s softball team starts its season on the road as it travels to Woodstock, Ga., for the Kansas University Classic this weekend.

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