Blagojevich slams Board of Education

Gov. Rod Blagojevich signed during his second annual State of the State address reforming the Illinois State Board of Education and single most important step the state can take in improving education.

While he expressed the accomplishments made by Illinois over the first year — including ethics reform, job creation, budget reform and health care advancement — it was the governor’s dissatisfaction with education that consumed much of the address.

"I’m not satisfied with the state of education in the State of Illinois," Blagojevich said. "The children of Illinois deserve better. The taxpayers deserve better.

The governor said while there is no single cause for the shortfall in education, the problem begins at the top, with the Illinois State Board of Education.

"Instead of being an independent body that could regulate and support our schools, the Illinois State Board of Education is like an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-seeing, all-seeing, all-knowing RSO that controls all," Blagojevich said. "It messes up, it wastes money, it dictates policy and it isn’t accountable to anyone for anything.

Blagojevich said only 46 cents of every dollar spent on a child’s education goes to classroom instruction. He said of the nearly $20 billion the state spends on education each year, $10.5 billion never finds its way into the classrooms.

After giving a laundry list of examples of the board’s inefficiency, the governor repeated the question to the joint session of the state legislature, "What does the board of education do?"

Blagojevich proposed the creation of a new department of education that would report directly to him and give more power to schools.

"I don’t know about you," Blagojevich said. "But I have a lot more faith in our local schools. I believe in their ability, dedication, their willingness to help and want to give them the support they deserve."

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Blagojevich slams Board of Education

Finance Committee could be forced to choose between different activities

Kate Galbreath
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Wednesday evening, the Illinois State Board of Education met for the first time since the legislature passed a $132 during the first year and got more than $800 of signatures without $1.32 million. Davis said it is important for people to know that they can save money if they need to make an additional $1.32 million to the budget, and single most important step the state can take in improving education.

"I am not surprised that many more will come forward. There are a lot of people that have great satisfaction for this," said Wiegand. "The design, created by Graphics Design Supervisor Yvonne Brown, is based on and white with an outline of the Illinois State Board of Education.

The cost of the new plates will be $25 for every license plate purchased. The University, which will receive $25 for every license plate purchased, to use the money to create additional scholarships through the University Alumni Association.

The number of scholarships, as well as the amount, will be determined by the University Alumni Association.

"We want to find ways to help students go to school," she said. "This is another way to provide needed funds for students to go to school."

The $1.32 million is a fraction of the nearly $20 billion the state spends on education each year, $10.5 billion never finds its way into the classrooms.

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Illinois Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn to visit Marion Wal-Mart today

Illinois Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn is scheduled to visit the Marion Wal-Mart, 2795 Walton Way, at 10 a.m. today to promote a national campaign to distribute free gun locks and responsible firearm ownership education. Project ChildSafe, the effort to educate gun owners about gun safety, free firearm safety kits, which include a gun-locking device, will be distributed by various support organizations at Wal-Mart.

Twenty million free gun locks will be distributed nationwide through the project. For more information go to www.ProjectChildSafe.gov.

Carbondale waste/recycle pickup moved back due to MLK Jr. holiday

The city of Carbondale is observing Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday. The refuse and recycling routes will run one day later than normal for the coming week. Bag and bundle landscape waste will be scheduled for pickup Thursday only for next week.

Anyone with questions regarding the schedule change can call the Maintenance and Environmental Services Office at 457-3275 or visit the Carbondale website at www.carbondale.com.

Carbondale Police taking applications for free citizens police training

The Carbondale Police Department is taking applications for the Citizens Police Academy. Classes begin Feb. 11 and run for 11 consecutive Wednesdays, except for the spring break week. Classes are scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. Any adult over 18 who is interested can attend training classes with the Carbondale Police officers and outside instructors.

Anyone is welcome to apply. People interested in volunteering to attend the sessions should contact Carbondale Police officer Don Reed at 457-3200, ext. 428, or Carbondale Police Sgt. Dan Friday at 457-3200, ext. 435. Applications are also available at the Carbondale Police Department. You do not have to be a Carbondale resident to apply. There is no cost for the classes.
University Mall to make changes inside, outside its doors

Panera Bread Company to be built on mall property

Burke Wasson bwasson@dailyEgyptian.com

The University Mall in Carbondale is preparing for major remodeling and construction goals during the next few months, which will result in new businesses coming to the city.

The Carbondale City Council approved final development Jan. 6 for a Panera Bread Company. The building will be located on the corner of West Walnut Street and Lewis Lane, which is on University Mall property. The restaurant will be located at the corner of West Walnut Street and Lewis Lane new Applebee's Bar & Grill and Office Max.

The restaurant is part of Carbondale's enterprise zone, which is designed to help family-owned new businesses in the city expand. Under the enterprise zone, Panera Bread will receive a 100-percent tax abatement for the first five years of its existence and a 50-percent tax abatement for the next five.

Carbondale City Manager Jeff Doherty said the restaurant is not eligible to receive the enterprise zone's non-profit 100-percent tax abatement award for the second five years of its existence because the city's enterprise plan will expire in 2010.

"The enterprise zone was approved and created in 1990," Doherty said. "The life of the enterprise zone that was granted to us by the state of Illinois was 20 years. So, what happens is that it expires in 2010. That's why there's just six years and not a seventh year of tax abatement.

The Panera Bread restaurant will be the first of the new businesses. The other new businesses are in Belleville and Cape Girardin, Mo.

In addition to the Panera Bread restaurant construction on mall property, the University Mall will also be making changes inside its doors.

The mall's food court is scheduled to be turned into one large, sit-down restaurant. The chain of restaurant hit yet to be placed.

New law limits number of passengers with teen drivers

Teens face stricter requirements to obtain driver's license

Bethany Krafell bkralfell@dailyEgyptian.com

Not only will new Illinois drivers have to worry about seatbelts and speeding violations, but they also have to limit the number of passengers.

The Illinois graduated driver's license program went into effect in 2003 to help reduce the number of accidents, fatalities and injuries caused by inexperienced drivers by increasing the standards of a driver's license.

For the first six months new drivers under the age of 18 have their license, the driver cannot operate any vehicle with more than one passenger under the age of 20, exceptions to this rule include siblings, stepchildren or stepchildren of the driver.

Carbondale Community High School driver education teacher Gene Boley said he believes the new law will make a great difference beginning May 1.

"Drivers will be able to concentrate better on the road without the distractions of a full car. It will help cut down on mistakes and make safer drivers," Boley said.

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In addition to limiting the number of passengers, all new drivers will be required in obtaining a driver's license.

New drivers are required to hold a valid instruction permit for at least three months. Drivers under the age of 18 must pass a driver education course and provide proof of passing. Certification by a parent or legal guardian is required to prove the driver has had a minimum of 25 hours of behind-the-wheel practice time.

In addition, to fulfilling requirements, drivers under the age of 18 who have committed the offense of operating a motor vehicle.

Faculty art show to be in University Museum

Reception slated for 4 p.m. Friday; artists will be present to meet

Andrea Zimmermann azimmermann@dailyEgyptian.com

"Dibio" has a bright red face with glowing eyes and huge horns coming out of its head, and it's a perfect fit in the University Museum's new door, seeming to watch those who enter.

"It's always been interesting in masks," said Andrea Zimmermann, director of the museum. "It's a one of many projects part of the museum's latest exhibit, the Combined Faculty Art Exhibition. The museum opened its annual faculty art exhibit featuring works from 30 faculty members Jan. 12 and it will run until Feb. 1.

"It's the gateway to the art world and that is why we look forward to it every year," said Dena Bachman, director of the museum. Faculty from the departments of Cinematography, Theater, Architecture and Interior Design and the School of Art and Design contributed to this year's exhibit.

Nawson has always had a passion for masks. She traveled to Bali in Southeast Asia to study the art of mask making for seven weeks last spring. This summer, Nawson decided he wanted to carve a devil mask. After browsing the numerous masks in his personal collection, the final result was a 13-inch-monster that mixed Japanese and Mexican cultures.

Another of the 30 art works "m fishing and canoe up with a suicide filled with advertisements and irony. The racketed suitcase, which sits against the back wall of the gallery, has a tap tied with a picture of Broadway in New York City at night. The photograpgh highlights the mockery of advertisements and news so prevalent in the downtown area.

"There is a range of things happening, from the horrific to the funny — you know, everything that Broadway has to offer," said Joel Feldman, artist and professor in charge of printmaking in the school of Art and Design.

"It's almost like people were abdicating responsibility. It is a play on indifference," he said. "We, in the U.S., live in a relatively safe environment. I am trying to call attention to the fact and age we live in.

Feldman believes if people were to look at the images that bombard them daily, it would be amazing how an advertisement that is completely different from the next would begin to communicate with itself and others.

"Everything exhibition does not appear by itself — nothing happens itself on the wall. William Snyder, exhibits designer for the museum, sets up to create an exhibit that comes to the museum. An alumna of SIU, Snyder began working with the museum while still in graduate school. He officially worked for the museum almost two years ago.

"I like to develop some out of rhythm to the gallery. There is something for everyone," he said.

A reception will be held this Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the museum. The public is invited to come and meet the artists. Light refreshments will be served.
Friends and family of SIUC student Ashley Dallas deal with her death through memories, comforting one another

story by: JESSICA YORAMA

Ashley Dallas, a junior in equine science, smiles while standing with her boyfriend, fellow student Matthew Hunter. The two had been dating for two years prior to her death one week before the spring semester began.

Ashley Dallas poses with a friend, Shelly, while outside of her home in Galesburg. The SIUC student was 20 years old at the time of her death as a result of pulmonary thromboembolism Jan. 5.

Back To School Bash at

The Mission
(The Church on the Strip next to Paglia's)
Saturday, January 17
beginning at 8:30 pm
Live Music
by the Christian Rock Band
Sanctified
an alcohol free alternative to the bar scene,
but still on the Strip.
Study finds gene linked to alcoholism

Tina Hassman
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ST. LOUIS (KTV) - Researchers at Washington University and five other centers have identified a gene associated with alcoholism in some families.

The scientists, including Danielle M. Dick and Allison Greece of Washington University, are part of a 15-year project known as the Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism. A report published Thursday in the journal Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research shows that the version of a gene called GABRG2 predisposes people to alcoholism. It is the first study to link the gene to dependence on alcohol.

Early studies of twins indicate that at least one-third of the susceptibility to alcoholism is due to genetic factors, said William True of St. Louis University. True conducted some of the twin studies.

The new study takes previous genetic research a step further, and will direct other researchers to take a look at this particular gene reacting to alcohol and how it influences the propensity to alcoholism, True said.

The researchers collected DNA samples from 2,282 people from 422 families heavily affected by alcoholism and identified several regions of chromosomes that were shared between alcoholics in the families. For about four of their colleagues focused on a region of chromosome 15 that contains several genes involved in the movement of neurotransmitters including serotonin, dopamine and GABA, known as neurotransmitters, into brain cells or, GABRG2, believed to interact with neurotransmitters.

In other experiments, they showed that modulating the effects of alcohol on the brain, Dick said.

Using computer programs, the scientists stimulated GABA receptors in the brains of mice and then fed them alcohol, the mice were more uncoordinated and drunk more mice who then drank alcohol. By reducing the activity of the GABRG2 receptors, the scientists found that alcohol’s effects were reduced. The scientists had known for several years used artificial intelligence in virtually every aspect of scientific investigation. Humans at some point "it’s not as radically new as you might think, understanding that a robot scientist is useful in a new ground of our computer, said an assistant professor.

Bar-Joseph, a computational biologist at the University of Illinois at Chicago, said the team used computer programs to do “new science,” but he said the team used computer programs to do “new science.”

"We are committed to opening up our minds to do new science," but he said the team had shown that it was possible that a robot scientist would be useful in a new ground of our computer, said an assistant professor.

William Branigin
The Washington Post

(LATWP) — Saying she was proud of her "breakthrough ground" in her presidential campaign, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton Wednesday ended her long-shot candidacy for the Democratic nomination and threw her support to former House speaker Howard Dean.

In a joint appearance with Dean and Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, Clinton urged her supporters in the state to back Dean as the candidate best prepared to take on the Republicans in the November elections.

"Accepting this endorsement amid an intensifying campaign in Iowa, said he is going to miss you at those debates, stepping in and defending me from those unseemly things that people say," said. "Bran, is the first black woman elected to the U.S. Senate, said she decided to quit the race after realizing her "difficult campaign" could not overcome disadvantages in funding and organization.

"We are committed to opening up our democracy," she said. "We will get telling the readers how the future has changed. Based on the performance of the computer, the computer will be able to eliminate some hypotheses and select new ones in a new ground of our computer, said an assistant professor.

The process is designed to eliminate all but the most obvious hypotheses as quickly and cheaply as possible: "It takes four or five experiments to have the answer," said. "The same answer of humans." The team then turned to a method against other culturing techniques, understanding that a robot scientist is useful in the extent that it saves time, money or both.

"The chemical visa enormously in our knowledge," said. "And it makes a big difference which one you use in the experiment." In one standard lab procedure, the researchers would test the yeast strains of compounds chosen at random, until one of the compounds yielded the desired result. In another procedure called "computer," they would test the compound beginning the cheapest and progressing to the most expensive.

"The computer scientist’s strategy was both cheaper and faster than the other two strategies," said.

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The gender gap in health-care costs

Women spend 68 percent more in out-of-pocket health care costs than men.

Recently, Illinois became the 21st state to mandate insurance coverage for contraceptives. This was a great move considering the rising cost of prescription medications. Some women can’t afford to pay the out-of-pocket costs for birth control pills. Luckily, SIUC students receive a break compared to what most women pay at a regular pharmacy. Birth control pills at SIU’s pharmacy can range in price anywhere from $7.10 to about $30, while CVS Pharmacy has prices that can range from $25 to $45. The cost of Depo-Provera, a contraceptive shot that is given every three months, at SIU’s pharmacy is $52.15, while CVS’s cost is $67.99. Ortho Evra, a contraceptive patch that is used weekly, costs $13.69 per month from SIU’s pharmacy, while CVS charges $17.75.

For years, health insurance has covered Viagra. So wouldn’t it cover the pill? It would appear to be cheaper to help families block unwanted pregnancies than to have them pay for an abortion or continue health care for children.

It took the state over 40 years to mandate coverage of contraceptives protecting women from unwanted pregnancies as well as serving women for medical reasons. There seems to be a misconception of young people taking birth control strictly to avoid getting pregnant. It is time for some changes to be made. With the new health insurance coverage, there will be fewer unwanted pregnancies and a reduction in abortions, and the gap in out-of-pocket expenses between men and women will not be so unbalanced.

Guest Columnist

Simon’s character, integrity the mark of a dying breed

Joseph D. Johnson
junior, English

"Now if a man tried
To take his time on Earth
And prove before he died
What one mass life could be worth
Well I wonder what would happen to this world."

I think of that Harry Chapin song lyric on this somber night [Dec. 9]. The news of Sen. Paul Simon’s death shocked us all. But we can take solace from the fact that Simon’s legacy is a testament to the strength and integrity of the human spirit. And that legacy won’t soon depart.

When folk legend Pete Seeger visited Carbondale, I wrote an article about him. The piece had the luck of appearing in the paper on Sept. 11, 2001. We were all shocked with the grief of that day and I just assumed no one read it. However, just days later I received an envelope in my mail box at work. It was from Paul Simon. He had photocopied the article and mailed it directly to Seeger’s home in Massachusetts. “Dear Pete, I thought you might like to check this out,” Simon wrote in blue ink.

Another personal experience: A friend and fellow journalist Matt Brennan had happened onto the story of a little girl who needed a transplant to live. But her parents were broke, and she couldn’t get the operation. Matt began churning out piece after piece about this tragic situation. Paul Simon happened to be his journalism professor. Once Matt told the story about the little girl, Simon eagerly went to work. He wrote countless letters and even spoke at a rally on campus. Simon received no publicity for this. He didn’t mind a bit.

Everyone knew of Simon’s achievements and even his quirks (such as the bow-ties), his piercing stare and subtle humor. He ran for president and even got portrayed on Saturday Night Live by Al Franken.

But he always gave back to Southern Illinois. After retiring from the Senate, he made his home in Makanda and opened the Public Policy Institute at SIUC. Unquestionably, Simon made the country as a whole a better place while in office. But afterwards, he made it his goal to make Southern Illinois (the place he loved as much as it loved him) a better place to be in.

I had the honor of interviewing Simon about his life in 1999. He talked about how he got involved in public service. I wanted to be a writer who had a lot of influence on public policy. I was publishing a newspaper in a small community where we had wide-open corruption, and I started writing about it. One thing led to another and I tried to get someone to run for state’s attorney or sheriff. I wasn’t a lawyer, so I couldn’t win the much attention. I wasn’t interested in being sheriff, so I finally ran for State Representative when I was 25 years old and I surprised everybody by winning, including myself.”

This ambition, added with his humility and candor, made for a statesman who is truly a dying breed. If we see to honor Paul Simon, let us do it with words or thought; let us do it with action. Let us stand up against corruption; let us be brave and honest. Let us take our time on earth and see how much one man or woman can do with his or her life. We all gave as much as Paul Simon, I wonder what would happen to this world.

Words Overheard

“61 still love my job, and I’ve never changed my level of work as far as how much I’ve put into the job—110 percent. This just shows appreciation for the work that is done, and it does help.”
Sorry, Virginia

BY ABRIGAL WHITFIELD
pablo@222NY.com

My mother allowed me freedom. She knew I had the faith in her word when I was 8 years old. Casually and kindly, she taught me right and wrong out of the envelopes I had tucked beneath my pillow ever since, each containing a tip, bloody south. As I looked at them, I knew that any disappointment I felt at this discovery of all magic was the fault of my own naivety.

Most children have questioned fairy stories years before. I had held onto my fairy tales as a sense of responsibility. Without my belief, my parents had nothing to base the chance of Christmas Eve.

I continued to believe because it was necessary to continue my childhood as I had known it. But when at his bed, I relieved and comforted.

Too much had gone behind closed doors, and to be free meant not to believe in my parents' ability.

After this, I felt I had license to believe in everything such as curfews, God, and miracles.

Now, later in life—in some times—relates a history class or upon hearing a story on a radio that feeling comes over me again the same as it did that day, reminding me of these things as tiny.

I will hear a political speaker, hear myself speak, and another one of a person in power, and all of that he or she was told to wish, and I have to wonder why they let these things continue.

Why is it so easy to accept what these people wish? Our president takes lives in his own hands by sending men and women to war that is not justified and continues to have a high approval rating. I am concerned. I cannot believe the need to have faith is so strong that Republicans, mature adults cannot question his authority. Why, when we hear the economy is improving, we get excited. It would take some to realize the economy improving is a translation for big companies growing, making more money, often by sending jobs.

I grew up in an environment far from these. I grew up in a world where people were told the truth, helped me grow as well as the formal education. I knew that the world, the one she passed from a blood clot that blocked her pulmonary with failing to her lungs. I also do not show a belief in the afterlife with you, I think we can agree.

Phoebe Winter
Feckless Pondering

Remembering King in our everyday life

This morning we will be sleeping through yet another holiday. One that our kids will look forward to in the Christmas tree or the ball dancing at midnight, but rather we will be remembering the legacy of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Dr. King has been observed on every third Monday of January since 1983 because he personified several ideas, peace and equality among every creed, race and political background. As a country, we celebrate school closings and businesses nationwide, but our celebrations are hypocritical to the stance for which the great leader once stood.

Although we have cuturally integrated schools, economic segregation exists among the public school systems of today. And although the Jim Crow signs are rusted and burned, many minorities are severely denied business and basic needs, while violence can be viewed in mini-series, music videos or the game consoles enjoy for simple recreation.

In a day and age where parents are working full time and raising children part time, television, video games, and the internet forms Virtual beta++. This is extremely vital in today’s world, one where the internet is not just a good thing, and I miss the easy cost of radiation.

Childhood is too short, but the truth can be a bit too painful. Those of us who are adults will have to begin to question more the children, who trust us so deeply, will benefit from.

Their time to question our world will come soon enough. For now, I want them not to worry about anything. So when my son stood in his room to me to see Santa and turned to me and asked, “Is it just a guy in a suit?” I took the way of a politician.

“We mean it is real Santa! Well, it might as well be.” And that was all it took, the way you were taught at school.

It is a senior in English, ولكن. Followed appears every other Friday.

These are the days that deeply reflect the lives of the Daily Egyptian.

By Tiffan Gillespie

Stand up and say something now!

Letters

Student lives in stories of loved ones

Dear Editor:

This is in response to Brandon Thomas’s column “Dead Stop Living” printed Tuesday, Brandon, what you were was a romance and harmful. I thank you for showing me Ashley’s pain was not happening to her. I did not have the right helping her move on as well as the emotional growth. I knew she was not. She passed from a blood clot that blocked her pulmonary with failing to her lungs. I also do not show a belief in the afterlife with you, I think we can agree.

Ashley was a temporary fixture in this world. She was just a piece of what she needed to do and left. In her absence, I hope to honor her memory by living every day willing what she taught me.

There is nothing more important than the lesson of living in my actions. Her kindness, grace, compassion, and intelligence lived on in me forever because she showed me the true meaning of all these words.

The way she wrote in her blog about her life in the fast is still there. They are still people of God who have continued her ethical personality and weren’t inspired by her understanding of God and life. I hope many can follow Ashley’s example and live a full life of drive and ambition. She lived the way I have forever in my head and how forever in my blood.

By Matthew Hunter

Moore’s removal not ‘03’s biggest outrage

Dear Editor:

I have to disagree with Alex Bowers’ assertion in his column “Political Polemic” that the removal of Moore was “not the biggest outrage of 2007” in an article that was titled “Are Illinois public universities losing their soul?” But I agree it was not, “the biggest outrage of 2007?” Not yet in the making.

Michael L. Youthe

Inference/psychology

Letters and columns must be typewritten, double-spaced and submitted with author’s photo ID. All letters are subject to approval. Word limit is 500 words. Content of any topic is accepted. All submissions are subject to editing.

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

The Daily Egyptian reserves the right to publish any letter or column.
Fred Adams begins each day with a hearty helping of fried eggs with sides of bacon and sausage. Each evening he enjoys a steak or two, done medium well. And the best part of his eating habits is watching the weight drop away — 14 pounds to date.

There has been a very strong demand for eggs,” Adams said. “High-protein diets have played a major role in that. Sales are considerably higher than six months ago, and I think the trend will continue into the new year, as more people try out the diet as a resolution.”

“Recently statistics suggest the diet craze may not be ringing voices alone; it may also be ringing wallets,” said the U.S. Department of Agriculture research shows egg prices climbed to as much as $1.40 a dozen in the last two months. Although the rising prices will not dent any budgets, they reflect a growing consciousness in America’s acceptance of a fad diet that may be here to stay.

Even fast-food chains have bought into the low-carb craze. P. F. Chang’s Freestyle® hanger is a 400-calorie, 10-ounce, double-meat burger that replaces buns with oversized lettuce leaves.

Jessica Hanley, a junior in business administration who has been following the Atkins Diet for a little more than a year, said it was the only diet plan that helped her lose weight.

“I was always the ‘big’ girl in class, and there were times when I wouldn’t eat in school cafeterias because I didn’t want people to see me,” Hanley said.

“I feel better than I ever have,” Hanley said. “It’s called a fad diet, but I feel it’s more of a lifestyle change. The Atkins Diet is the only diet program I’ve ever followed that I feel I’ll continue into the new year, as more people try out the diet as a resolution.”

Many low-carbohydrate diets suggest using ketosis as a weight-loss tool. However, at the ketosis stage, the body begins to feel starved and can respond with muscle breakdown, headaches, nausea and kidney problems. Carbohydrate limitation also means a low fiber intake, which could lead to digestive complications and constipation. The main health concern of this diet is not the lack of carbohydrates but the abundance of the types of protein in the diet, which can contain large amounts of saturated fat.

Adams is part of the growing number of people participating in high-protein, low-carbohydrate diets. As the chairman and chief executive of Cal-Maine, a Mississippi-based egg company, he is no stranger to protein. Adams, who watches company stock prices soar last month, attributes the rise in business to the high-protein diets, which make eggs a primary staple that millions of Americans have adopted.

“Any diet is a problem if it still has its risks,” said Dr. Amy Lanou, nutrition director for Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine. “But if you go on a diet and it works, it might blind you to the risks.”

“I think people should focus on plant-based foods,” said Lanou. “It’s called a fad diet, but I feel it’s more of a lifestyle change. The Atkins Diet is the only diet program I’ve ever followed that I feel I’ll continue into the new year, as more people try out the diet as a resolution.”

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Board members statewide continue to step down because of ethical issues

Schools uncertain when new board will be named

Valerie N. Donnals

As new ethics laws being implemented boards of higher education across the state are experiencing results similar to SIU. Both administrators and trustees in their resignation, and universities are losing some of their most valuable contributors.

The ethics package signed in December contained a stipulation that prohibits lobbyists and their spouses from serving on state boards and commissions.

Soon after the legislation was signed, SIU Board of Trustees Chairwoman Molly D’Esposito, whose husband is a lobbyist, announced her intentions to resign. She is seeking office in her experience and expertise will Woodard said. “I do know they’re going to take a more rigorous scrutiny, air travelers are undergoing right now before subjecting them to metal detector to pass through the checkpoint. The removed items are examined by X-ray along with carry-on bags.

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The Imaginative Librarians Initiative

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Blagovich commended the efforts of Rep. Mike Bost, R-Murphysboro, as well as other legislators who have championed ideas to reform the IDES.

Bost said it was time to take control away from the board and reinstate the authority of the bureaucracy in education.

"I don't disagree with the governor. I believe he's doing the right thing," Bost said. "I don't know what his plans are; he was very cautious with his speech. Although he had a 29-page speech, he spent all but six pages on bad-mouthing IDES. When he's talking, if it works, would reduce the overall cost of education and still get more money to the kids."

The focus on learning continued as the governor spoke about the Imaginative Librarians initiative that would provide free

children from birth to age 5.

Blagovich said he wants to bring Project Success into the initiative to provide a link between families and various state services necessary for their children to succeed in school.


The estimated cost to restart the program is $5 million and would begin in July.

Blagovich also called for the passage of the Childhood Hunger Education Act, which requires schools to provide breakfast to children otherwise who would not be able to afford it.

The estimated cost of the program is nearly $1 million.

"Yes, times are tough," Blagovich said.

"But we will not balance the budget on the backs of hungry children."

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The Imaginative Librarians Initiative
Mars rover Spirit rolls onto planet's surface

Kathy Sawyer
The Washington Post

PARSADENA, Calif. (LATVWP) - The U.S. rover Spirit, named after a Pop Art painting, pulled out of the dusty orbit of the Martian surface early Thursday and immediately sent home proud snapshots of its first tracks.

It was high noon in Gusev Crater and just before dawn Thursday East Coast time when the lander touched down on the surface of the dusty red planet Spirit - the first sophisticated, mobile robotic field geologist from Earth to tread alien soil.

Controllers said they had fired a pinpoint burst at an angle of 30 degrees to reach solid ground. They then went through a series of images and data, compared it with the rover's model and immediately sent home proud snapshots of its successful landing on Jan. 4, 2004.

"Ctc punctuated repeatedly with eruptions of stress to get here. The predawn hours firming information began to pour in. The first applause and cheers in the control room, as controllers said they had managed to get Spirit on the sunacc, but it was just 2.6 feet from the foot of the off ramp. Controllers said they had shut down as normal self-protective mechanisms to commence "patience" from Earth in order to "phone home".

"Mars now is our sandbox. We are ready to play and learn," said Charles Elachi, director of the JPL, which manages the Mars missions for NASA.

Elachi and many dozen members of the team, some off-duty, crowded the main auditorium here at 3 a.m. Pacific time to trade congratulations and tears of relief and happiness, and a few bubbly tears. "In 40 centimeters above the surface of Mars," Engineer Rob Manning, who had managed the descent and bounce-down, happily shared the sentiment. "Our wheels are finally dirty. This is very project number one.

"But the hand-off to the scientists that was now on-going, Levitti said, "It's as if we've got a big, big mystery the valets are going to report to the court as soon as possible,"

Judge Cedarbaum did not follow the proper procedure here, nor can we see any justification for doing jury selection or empaneling an anonymous jury in this case," said Stephanie Almy, a lawyer for Triton Co., which owns Stewart. "We are going to ask to be heard by the court as soon as possible.

"Stewart, 62, and her former Merrill Lynch broker, Peter Biechacz, face a host of charges stemming from Stewart's Dec. 27, 2001 sale of nearly 2,000 shares of her cut the 1998 bombings of the U.S.駐 New York (LATWP) - In a ruling unusual except in trials of mafia figures or terrorist suspects, the judge presiding over Martha Stewart's case has barred the media from being present at her questioning of prospective jurors.

"There is a substantial risk that such publication or the possibility of such publication would prevent prospective jurors from being candid and could prevent Stewart from receiving a fair trial. There is a substantial risk that such publication or the possibility of such publication would prevent prospective jurors from giving full and frank answers to questions posed to them."

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"This process was used in rare cases where the defendants were mobsters, drug dealers and terrorists and the potential for jury tampering and juror safety. For crying out loud, this is Martha Stewart. The only reason for my reading of this order is that she's trying to prevent the jury from being annoyed by the media.

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**New questions raised about Kelley’s reporting**

David Folkenflik

The Baltimore Sun

(ITALW) More questions are surfacing about the veracity of articles written by former USA Today reporter Jack Kelley.

Kelley was forced to retire nearly a week ago after he was found to have deceived editors during a long—and ultimately intractable—impasse into whether he had fabricated material for several articles. On Wednesday, the newspaper additionally published an internal article about small arms dealers on the Pakistani-Afghanistan border.

Now, several former colleagues of Kelley from USA Today say Kelley was credibly accused of planting words in the mouth of the president of the International Committees of the Red Cross in a sensitive article published in May 1997. The remarks, confirmed in the article, in the time, had actually been made by a Red Cross spokesman as an editor, referring to the conversations with Kelley, they said.

The 570-word article, which explored the organizations’ reluctance to bear public witness to the genocide of the Rwandan, was written in collaboration with two other reporters, Peter Eisler and Katy Kelly. Thanks to Kelley, USA Today in spring 1997 had obtained an advance look at a wave of Red Cross documents from the World War II-era before their public release. And the story cited Dr. David Mazzarella, then USA Today’s top op-ed editor, who had no recollection of the incident. But he said Kelley’s explanation in 1997, even if true, would fail to meet basic journalistic standards. As described in the article, the scene suggested an accidental exchange between then Red Cross President Cornelia Sommaruga and Kelley that yielded the quotation, a spokesman passing along a statement in the name of the boss. “That’s still not the way to do this,” Mazzarella said this week.

A spokesman for USA Today said Thursday that the article appeared not aware of the controversy and that, when contacted, the reporter confirmed he had fabricated the exchange. Though he admitted it was a “non-issue,” he rejected any attribution of the incorrect attribution but an “ambush” in the presence of other reporters. Sommaruga, quickly vouching for the exchange, Mazzarella said.

“I remember asking the situation,” said Sommaruga, according to the former colleague, who had discovered he had repeated words. The style (of the quotations) is certainly mine, and certainly not that of the president,” he added. “I did not remember presenting several aspects of the article, but cannot recall, over the years later, whether they included the quotes.

Several former colleagues of Kelley, however, said Kelley called Peter Eisler, one of the other reporters on the project, to object to the quotation. And Eisler declined to comment for this article. Eisler referred it to the editors, the former colleague said. But Kelley defended his decision. He told editors the quotation came from Gordon-Bates, but Red Cross President Lino Cornella, who is British, could attribute it to Sommaruga, according to the editors, editors and editors charged.

Upon an inquiry by The Sun, the Kelley’s lawyer Banks said the reporter had made a color error. “One of those quotes was mistaken,” he said. “I believe Mr. Gordon-Bates said Banks told Kelley that this was not a news item and that no correction was required,” Banks said.

Mazzarella and his deputy, former Executive Editor Robert A. Dubill, separately said they did not recall the controversy.

Kelley is USA Today’s sole Pulitzer Prize finalist for reporting. He started at the newspaper as an editorial writer for the staffer of the year in 2001, and his wife, Jack Kelly, is USA Today’s senior metropolitan editor defending the newspaper’s advertising. Based in suburban Virginia, USA Today is the nation’s largest daily newspaper.

Kelley was forced to resign from USA Today earlier this month after he was found to have repeatedly deceived editors who had discovered he had repeatedly deceived executives in presenting an article where he claimed, could have been for an article under scrutiny.

As he later admitted to editors, the word he had repeated a crime in the interview. But Kelley’s lawyers have denied that story about the similarity of a different article by Kelley about arms dealers on the Pakistani border with an earlier Post article.

**Thousands protest Iraq transition plan**

David W. Johnston

The Washington Post

BAGHDAD, Iraq (ITALW) - Tens of thousands of Shiite Muslims, described a Thursday in Baghdad, Iraq’s second-largest city, against a U.S. plan to put an unelected, appointed Governing Council and an unelected president to which the occupation forces, the participant said, would “drag their countries into a loss battle if they don’t see the Iraqis as a viable body” before the United States.

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Dormant Life
by Shane Pangburn

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BUT THE LOAFER LOVES IT.

REALLY?

BECAUSE THE LOAFER IS STUPID.

I KNOW.


STICKMAN AND JACKAL

HEY, GNAR! DO YOU HAVE ANY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS?

MY RESOLUTION IS TO TAKE A LITTLE MORE MONEY AND THEN POKE HOLE IN MY CHEESE AND SIT WITH YOU UNTIL SHE SAD.

THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA. YOU MIGHT WANT TO BE HAPPY HER.

HER.

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HER.

Underage Thinking
by Alex Ayala

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Uranus (April 20-May 10) - Today is a 5. Things look good. They will be enormous. You may feel as if the world is your oyster. It's a good idea to delegate the decision-making. There's a reason you and your friends are there for you, and you for them. The more you give, the more you get back. So you might as well celebrate and simply have a good time.

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Daily Horoscope
by Linda Black

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argitow

Newspaper

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

Answer here:

Yesterday's: NOISE FOYER WOEFUL E effort Effort Answer: The court couldn't find the jackpots with spark handles because of this --- 000 FEET

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NOTES
Will third time be charm for McNabb, the Eagles?

Ken Murray
The Baltimore Sun

(LATWP) — Donovan McNabb boarded more like a high-rolling corporate executive than a high-voltage NFL quarterback — wearing a gray, pin-striped suit and stylish cornrows.

This was 30 minutes after his Philadelphia Eagles pulled the great escape of the postseason. They scored all of regulation to reach the Green Bay Packers and then a couple of big breaks in overtime to beat them on Sunday.

McNabb entered in the post-game interview with a dimmer that implied he already had moved past Green Bay, past this fantastic finish, and on to his permanent house of horrors.

"I think that would be up to you guys," he said.

"For me, I am moving onto the third round of the charm-ship with a whole new new you," he said.

It was business, not pleasure, and McNabb, 27, oozed intensity.

"I trust him," he said of his fourth playoff team and fourth championship game.

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**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

Braves limp into game against SIU without star guard Phillip Gilbert

Jens Deju
jdeju@dailyEgyptian.com

Over the past two seasons, Bradley has had a hard time hanging with SIU, losing four of the five games the two teams have played.

Now they will have to try to break that slump without arguably the most potent offensive threat in the Missouri Valley Conference — star guard Phillip Gilbert.

Since Gilbert went down with a stress fracture in his left foot, the Braves have gone 1-5 and have lost each of the last four games by double-digits.

Most recently, the Braves have lost to Evansville and Wichita State by a combined 28 points. SIU beat those same teams by a combined 27 points in its last two games.

Bradley, who was picked to finish third in the preseason poll, is now just a game behind. SIU beat Evansville 76-70 on Wednesday night and positioned itself for a 15-3 conference record in the Missouri Valley Conference.

"He's a four-year starter. He's probably the heart and soul of our team, so I'm pretty sure they took a hit both on and off the court with him," Gilbert, the preseason conference player of the year, entered the game as the MVC's leading scorer and was leading the league with an average of 20.2 points a game before being injured.

Throughout his career, the Salukis have been able to keep Gilbert under control as he has averaged about 12 points a game against SIU.

Still, without his potential threat of going off at any moment, the Braves will need someone else to step up and score some points.

So far, that job has fallen on the shoulders of senior guard James Robinson.

Point guard Marcello Robinson — who had some success replacing Gilbert as the team's primary ball handler — also returned to the lineup last week.

"We just want to make him put it in his heart, and make him work a little more, try and do some of the things he's not used to doing," Korn said.

The Braves hope to have the Salukis at Carver Arena for a second year in a row, and they will need Gilbert and Robinson not to only play but do so better than they have been so far.

One of the league's premier defenders, Gilbert, said he's determined this season he can do a little more than defense as well.

In the last game he played, Gilbert poured in a season-high 31 points in the loss to Evansville.

Summerville, who played at Iowa and Southwestern Illinois College before arriving at Bradley, is one of the top newcomers in the MVC and rightfully so.

The Braves native, with about 10 recruits out of high school and was an NCAA Division I first team All-america after averaging 25 points and 10 rebounds a game a year ago.

"We just watched a little bit of film on him, and he's just a strong young man who can do so many things," senior forward Brad Korn said.

"We just want to make him put it in his heart, and make him work a little more, try and do some of the things he's not used to doing," Korn said.

With Gilbert in the lineup, the Braves have been averaging a little more than 12 points a game.

"We just appreciate that," Korn said. "It's just great to have him back and to be able to play with him."
ON THE AIR TONIGHT

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ON THE AIR TONIGHT
Salukis look for revenge

Zack Creglow
zcreglow@dailyEgyptian.com

Last season, the SIU men's basketball team witnessed firsthand a program that appeared to be a season away from dominating the entire Missouri Valley Conference.

A year later, that same Bradley team — plus one former top national high school recruit in Iowa transfer Marcellos Sommerville — appears miles away from the top tier of the conference.

Peoria still seems to have the Salukis' number, though. The Salukis were making their late-season run last year when Bradley knocked off SIU 77-73 in overtime at Carver Arena.

"It is a tough place to play," said senior Sylvester Willie, who is coming off a 15-point performance Wednesday against Evansville. "We all know it is going to be tough going up there. We remember last year, though, and it just us hard. We just hope we can go there and steal a victory."

The Braves, who were considered by some to be the conference favorite this year, are finding themselves as a critical juncture in the season. With no hope whatsoever of earning an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament, many people thought was a realistic possibility for the Braves.

In fact, the Braves need to get momentum on their side and sweep through the MVC tournament to have a chance to dance.

But that will be difficult to do with diversity in the SIU lineup having more downs than ups, especially after an embarrassing 89-81 loss to Eastern Illinois in December 2002.

The Salukis have put together a four-game winning streak ever since.

While the Salukis may be all about winning games at the moment in the MVC standings, the pre-season voters predicted Bradley to finish two spots ahead of SIU at third place.

"We just want to try and separate ourselves," Willis said. "We know it's not going to be an easy game, but we just want to try.""We're just going to try and separate ourselves" Willis said. "We know it's not going to be an easy game, but we just want to try."

With the Braves top scorer out with an injury, the Dawgs are coming across Bradley at the opportunity time. Phillips Gilbert, who is out with a fractured left foot and isn't thought to be ready for another week. The Braves are a

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SIU looks to carry over success from one game to next

Stetson Hairston Jr., Saluki guard, goes up against Evansville's Kyle Amslinger, to make the lay-up in the 2 half of the basketball game against the Aces Wednesday night. The Salukis finished 81-63 against the Aces and race Bradley Saturday night in Peoria.

Seen REVENGE, page 18