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Volume 96, Issue 80

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**NATION**  
Former OJ attorney  
says document proves  
Simpson's innocence

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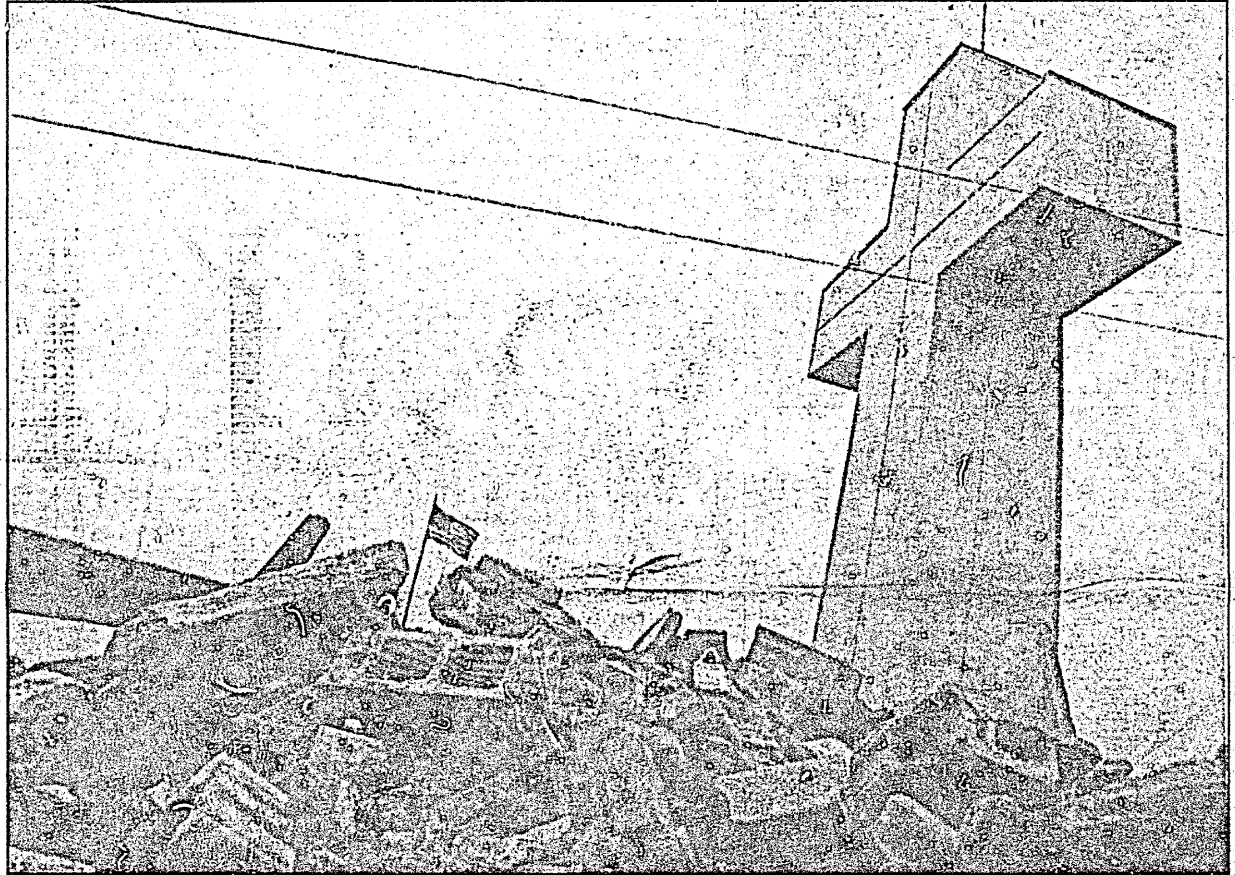
**SPORTS**  
Men split, women  
lose both games  
in homestand

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**CAMPUS**  
Layoff letters  
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LAUREN LEONE | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Construction continues on the partially renovated Bald Knob Cross despite accusations made by Buffalo Grove resident Rob Sherman that a \$20,000 grant from Illinois is unconstitutional.

## Bald Knob restoration continues despite lawsuit

### Donations, fundraisers pay for bulk of project

LEAH STOVER  
Daily Egyptian

The restoration of Bald Knob Cross will continue despite a pending lawsuit filed by a Buffalo Grove man who claims a chunk of the improvement money was unconstitutionally provided by the state.

Rob Sherman, a self-described atheist who has been active in church-state separation issues for the past 30 years, filed the suit against Bald Knob in August. In the suit, Sherman said the \$20,000 grant awarded to Friends of the Cross by the state is forcing taxpayers to pay for a religious symbol.

"It's a free country, and people

have the right to build a Christian cross on private property as high as the FAA will allow them," Sherman said. "They just can't send me the bill as a taxpayer for the cost of constructing that Christian cross."

According to the lawsuit, the money given to Friends of the Cross is on hold until the case is decided. However, D.W. Presley, vice president of Friends of the Cross, said restoration of the cross is nearly finished because of other fundraising efforts. Through contractor donations and other outside sources, Friends of the Cross has raised more than \$550,000 for its restoration project.

Friends of the Cross was formed about three years ago, when the cross was falling into disrepair and there wasn't an efficient board of directors, Presley said.

The objective of the board was to raise money ahead of time so there would be money for when the board did come back into existence, Presley said.

"It's something the area and a lot

**66** The constitution says that no person is required to support any ministry or place of worship without his consent.

of people have really gotten behind; it's definitely been a good couple of years as far as the fundraising and the completion has gone," Presley said.

The state awarded the \$20,000 grant to Friends of the Cross in 2008 in a transaction that Sherman said was unconstitutional.

"The constitution says that no person is required to support any ministry or place of worship without his consent," Sherman said. "Nor shall any preference be given by law to any religious denomination."

Sherman said supporters of the grant claimed the repairs were used for secular purposes, those being tourist attractions. Sherman said the claim isn't accurate.

In a recommendation issued Dec.

10, U.S. Magistrate Judge David Bernthal sided with the state and the cross' overseers, saying the grant was made by the state's executive branch and was not designated a legislative "earmark," as Sherman had called it. Sherman said Bernthal didn't take all facts into consideration when he made the analysis, and he has asked that the recommendation be reconsidered.

Rich Whitney, a civil rights attorney from Carbondale who was the Green Party's gubernatorial candidate in the November elections, said he supports Sherman in his case.

"I agree with Rob on the principle of it, but the court is going to do what they're going to do," Whitney said. Whitney said Sherman's case

would've been a lot stronger had he filed the suit before the state gave the money to Friends of the Cross.

"We're going to have to ask the courts to resolve this," Whitney said.

Presley said members of Friends of the Cross have been advised by their lawyers not to discuss the lawsuit because the case is pending, but restoration of the cross continues.


Presley said the board of directors at Bald Knob will fill nine open positions at its annual elections in February and take control of the reconstruction process.

After the new board members are elected, they will work to raise funds for the purchase and installation of new lighting, Presley said.

He said other renovations, including the construction of brick walkways around the cross, are also on the way.

Leah Stover can be reached at [lstover@dailyegyptian.com](mailto:lstover@dailyegyptian.com) or 536-3311 ext. 259.

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**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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# F. Lee Bailey: Paper proves O.J. Simpson's innocence

**6p** *It's time somebody put out the real facts of the case.*

— F. Lee Bailey  
author of "The Simpson Verdict"

**CLARKE CANFIELD**  
Associated Press

**YARMOUTH, Maine** — Evidence of O.J. Simpson's innocence was held back in the 1995 trial in which he was acquitted in the murder of his ex-wife and her friend in Los Angeles, one of his former lawyers says in a new document.

In the 20,000-word document, F. Lee Bailey tells of four people who could have bolstered Simpson's case but never testified. He also gives an overview of the sensational trial from his own perspective.

Simpson was found not guilty. Most Americans are convinced that he is guilty, Bailey said, but the document might persuade some doubters that he is innocent.

Bailey wrote the document, "The Simpson Verdict," in 2007 as a proposal for a book that never materialized. He published it on his website Sunday.

"It's time somebody put out the real facts of the case," he told The Associated Press.

In the document, Bailey said the defense team was prepared to call four people who never testified — a forensic scientist, an expert on battered women, a blood expert and the person whose possible testimony he says is the most important of the four: a man who might have seen the killers.

That witness, he wrote, saw a woman the night of the murders matching Nicole Brown Simpson's description in an apparent confrontation with two men, neither of whom was O.J. Simpson. Upon hearing of the murders the next day, the witness recalled what he saw on a tape recording and wrote a detailed description and sketch of his observations.

But the defense team decided not to call any of the four to the witness stand out of fear that additional jurors would be dismissed and a mistrial declared if the eight-month trial didn't soon end, Bailey wrote. Bailey said Monday he thinks the real killers were out to collect a drug debt and killed Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron

Goldman after mistaking them for their targets.

The document might sway a sector of the public into believing in Simpson's innocence in the 1995 case, Bailey said. But he knows there's another group whose minds couldn't be changed "with a sledgehammer," and thinks the trial damaged his reputation among that group.

"Among the rednecks of America, which there are many more than people seem to realize, it was terribly damaging," he said. "I got blamed for O.J.'s acquittal."

Bailey was part of Simpson's defense team when the former NFL star was acquitted in the June 1994 deaths of Nicole Simpson and Goldman.

Bailey, who now lives and works as a consultant in this town 10 miles north of Portland, said his agent asked him to write an overview of the Simpson case for a publisher who was interested in a book. But the idea was shelved following the turmoil and eventual cancellation of Simpson's book, "If I Did It," in which Simpson put forth a hypothetical description of the murders.

But Bailey has shared his docu-

ment with several dozen people over the years, and a number of them have urged him to release it. His website developer suggested he put it online, and it first appeared on both his website and that of the Portland Press Herald newspaper.

Although Simpson was found not guilty in a court of law, Bailey said it's important to prove him innocent in the court of public opinion.

"O.J. has what I call the damnation of an acquittal," Bailey said.

Los Angeles attorney Gloria Allred, who represented Nicole Brown Simpson's family during Simpson's trial, said she doesn't see any "smoking gun" in Bailey's document that might persuade people who think he was guilty to think otherwise.

If Bailey's evidence were that strong, she said, it would have been brought into the later civil trial in which Simpson was found liable for the deaths and ordered to pay a \$33.5 million judgment.

"If Mr. Bailey can't think of anything better than trying to help the public reputation of O.J. Simpson, that's really sad," Allred said.

The last time Bailey talked to Simpson was in 2008, the night

before Simpson was found guilty of kidnapping, armed robbery and other charges for his role in the gunpoint robbery of two sports memorabilia dealers at a Las Vegas hotel. He is serving a nine- to 33-year sentence.

Bailey said he isn't shopping his document in hopes of a book deal — although he wouldn't turn down the right offer — but still hopes to get it into the public arena.

He's not surprised that the document got more than 20,000 hits its first day online.

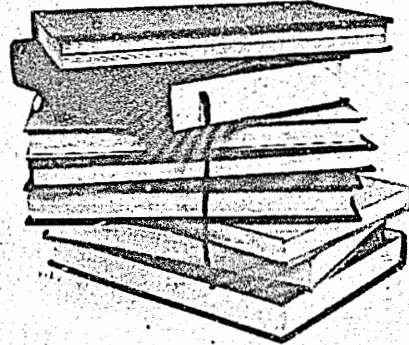
"I can get a firestorm going anywhere in the United States by saying 'O.J.," he said.

Besides Simpson, Bailey has represented clients including Dr. Sam Sheppard, Patricia Hearst and Albert DeSalvo, the man who confessed to being the Boston Strangler, over the course of a storied legal career. He has also been a controversial figure, and has been barred from practicing law in Florida and Massachusetts.

Bailey was disbarred in Florida in 2001 for mishandling \$6 million worth of stock for a client. After reviewing the Florida case, Massachusetts disbarred him two years later.

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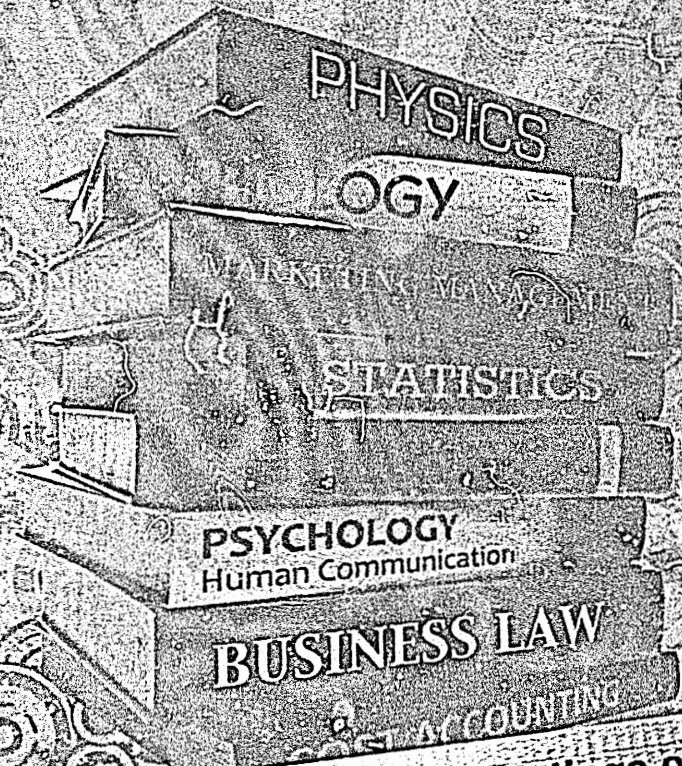


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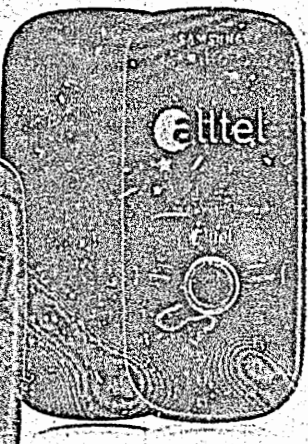
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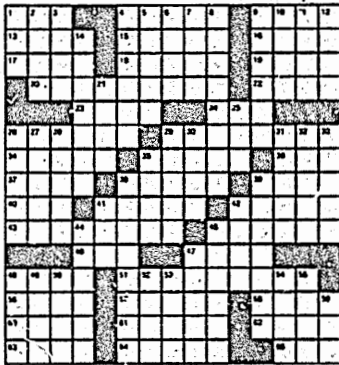
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# Crossword



- Across**
- 1 Debtor's note
  - 4 Inch
  - 9 Casino game
  - 13 Sidewalk edge
  - 15 By oneself
  - 16 Large kitchen appliance
  - 17 Consequently
  - 18 Hollandaise or

- marinara
- 19 Lima's nation
- 20 Partitioned
- 22 Wraps up
- 23 Overlay with gold
- 24 Fond du \_ WI
- 26 Ring-shaped islands
- 25 Sweet pickles
- 34 Inhumane

- 35 Seashore
- 36 Hair covering
- 37 Female red deer
- 38 \_ out; parachutes from a plane
- 39 Roll call response
- 40 And so forth; abbr.
- 41 Michigan city
- 42 Wait on at table
- 43 Young plant
- 45 Warmed
- 46 Attila the \_
- 47 No longer alive
- 48 Notion
- 51 Decide
- 56 Not far from
- 57 Ham it up
- 58 Person, place or thing
- 60 'Cid MacDonald had a \_
- 61 Ceremonies
- 62 Clinton's VP
- 63 Earthenware cooking jar
- 64 Tale
- 65 Currently

- Down**
- 1 Frozen water
  - 2 Belonging to you and me
  - 3 Impulse
  - 4 Artists' stands
  - 5 Thyroid or pituitary
  - 6 Form of arthritis
  - 7 In the past

- 8 Not required
- 9 1/100 of a ruble
- 10 Balanced; fair
- 11 Bookish fellow
- 12 Burden
- 14 \_ the mind; was baffling
- 21 Run-of-the-\_\_ ordinary
- 25 Mr. Linkletter
- 26 Cramping pains
- 27 Commonplace
- 28 1/16 of a pound
- 29 Leaving
- 30 Sentry's cry
- 31 Still; lifeless
- 32 Boldness
- 33 Spirited horse
- 35 Abel's brother
- 38 Has \_ on; refuses to face reality
- 39 Title at the top of an article
- 41 Common ailment
- 42 Stitches; joining
- 44 TV's \_ & Greg
- 45 Denial of a religious truth
- 47 Talk out of
- 48 News, for short
- 49 Good buy
- 50 \_ Grey tea
- 52 Give off
- 53 Dorothy's dog
- 54 Middy
- 55 Frig; replacer
- 59 \_ Hampshire

# Horoscopes

By Nancy Black and Stephanie Clarend

**Today's birthday**—It's time to come out of your shell. The world is your ocean. Take care of it, explore it, and share it. Keep it free of clutter so you can swim more freely. Your career is important. Your space—your ocean, your environment, your community—is even more important.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)**—Today is an 8—People tend to avoid change and the unfamiliar. Change can be good, though—especially during. Rearrange your space and love it.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)**—Today is a 7—If you can't get what you need close to home, look for it elsewhere. Traveling may suit your wandering spirit anyway. You'll find what you're seeking.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)**—Today is a 7—Save a little for priorities. To determine them, ask yourself, "Do I really need this? Anything you can choose to live without is like money in the bank."

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)**—Today is a 6—Budget what you have for what you'll need. Your creativity and analytical nature may conflict with one another, so schedule the time and then get out the paints.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)**—Today is a 5—Be practical. Today you make a good impression. Feed your inspiration by traveling, even if it's just a walk around the block. This time away allows for new perspective.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**—Today is a 7—Practice delegating work. Today and tomorrow are good for travel, or for learning a new skill. Get in touch with a family member and appreciate them.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**—Today is a 7—You're overly practical today. Balance that with a creative community project or by playing with kids. They remind you how to give and take without consequence.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**—Today is an 8—Put all your focus and energy into a new project. Either finish it or get into the completion phase. Plan the celebration for later.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**—Today is a 7—A conflict can be resolved, but don't venture far, and keep money in pockets. Use communication skills online or by phone. You'll be glad you spoke up.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**—Today is an 8—Strive for perfection. It may be there all along. Business interferes with pleasure. What if you could mingle both so that work and play were interchangeable?

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**—Today is a 7—All may not go as planned. Conserve resources, even if abundant. Who knows what's next? A miracle appears on the horizon, and something gets revealed.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**—Today is a 6—You tried something, and it didn't work. You can convince others to do it for you instead. Agree to keep expenses down for mutual benefit.

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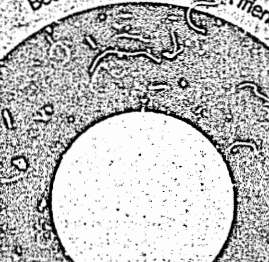
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## BASKETBALL



STEVE BERGCZYNSKI | DAILY EGYPTIAN

Senior guard Justin Bocot drives to the basket Nov. 13 against Illinois at Assembly Hall in Champaign. The Saluki men's team defeated Illinois State 63-59 Sunday to improve its overall record to 9-7. The Salukis will play conference leader Missouri State today at 7:05 p.m. in Springfield, Mo.

# Men, women make strides in homestand

BRANDON COLEMAN  
Daily Egyptian

The Saluki basketball teams shined at moments during each of their last two games, as the men split games against Creighton and Illinois State and the women lost matches against Drake and Creighton. The men played Creighton Friday and the Illinois State Redbirds Sunday at the SIU Arena.

The Saluki women's team (2-12, 0-4 Missouri Valley Conference) lost 70-57 to Drake Thursday and dropped a 61-58 decision to Creighton Saturday. The men's team split its home matches against Creighton and Illinois State to improve its record to 9-7 overall and 3-2 in the Missouri Valley.

Senior forward Carlton Fay, who shot 2-10 Friday in a 72-66 loss to the Bluejays (12-5, MVC

4-1), led the men's team offensively with 33 points Sunday in a 63-59 win against Illinois State (8-8, MVC 0-5).

Men's coach Chris Lowery said the game against the Bluejays came down to free throws. The game would have ended in regulation by a score of 58-57 had Fay hit his free throws during the final minute of the game.

The Salukis shot 5-11 from the line, while the Bluejays shot 20-31.

Sophomore forward Gene Teague saw his first action in more than two weeks against Creighton. Teague sprained his right ankle in practice Dec. 27.

Lowery said Teague's not 100 percent yet, but he's getting better. Had Teague been fully recovered the Salukis may have won because of how he matches up inside with Creighton center Gregory Echenique, he said.

The Salukis improved their free-throw shooting to 16-19 against Illinois State. Fay and junior forward Mamadou Seck were perfect from the line, shooting 8-8 and 4-4 respectively.

The win against the Redbirds came down to a 3-point shot by Fay with 13 seconds to go in the game. Lowery said it took everyone from Seck to senior guard John Freeman to give Fay the open shot.

Lowery said the win against the Redbirds was important because the team plays Missouri State and Northern Iowa on the road this week. Getting a 1-1 split would be good because of how tough it is to play in those two venues, he said.

The men's team plays the conference-leading Missouri State Bears (13-3, MVC 5-0) at 7:05 p.m. today in Springfield, Mo.

The women's team entered halftime tied, 34-34, with Drake

(8-6, MVC 2-1) Thursday, but fell behind in the second half.

Sophomore guard Teri Oliver said the Salukis' intentions defensively were to prevent Drake from hitting 3-point shots.

Bulldogs senior guard Kristin Turk broke loose during the game to score 21 points when her team needed it, Oliver said.

Freshman guard Brooke LeMar said the Bulldogs switched to better on-ball screens in the second half of play, which made it more difficult for the Salukis to penetrate the lane and get to the rim.

"Our shooting percentage was not near as good in the second half, and it wasn't because we weren't getting good looks, we just weren't making them," coach Missy Tiber said.

Against the Bluejays (9-5, MVC 3-0) Saturday, the Salukis closed the first half down by three but were

outscored 40-26 in the second.

The Salukis saw sparks of offense from freshman guard Renee Reed, senior forward Katrina Swingler, junior forward Charnite Mitchell and sophomore guard Teri Oliver.

Bluejays coach Jim Flannery said the "only difference between the Salukis and his team was having three senior to lead the team through difficult points in a game."

Tiber said it's going to take the team time to get together and learn each other's strengths and weaknesses, because it is loaded with freshman.

"Most of the youthful mistakes happened on the defensive end," Tiber said. "There's not one high school kid who comes in here that's a great defender."

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