The Daily Egyptian, June 11, 2014

Daily Egyptian Staff
Cheng sole finalist for NAU presidency

TYLER DIXON
Daily Egyptian

Chancellor Rita Cheng announced in an email Friday morning she is the lone finalist for the Northern Arizona University presidency.

After a six-month search, the Arizona Board of Regents chose Cheng, and her selection awaits a formal vote from the board.

"Dr. Cheng has a distinguished record of innovative and transformational leadership while consistently demonstrating a deep commitment to academic excellence," Rick Meera, co-chairman of the Arizona Board of Regents, said.

Cheng said she was contacted by NAU in March about being its next president. She said even if the timing wasn't right, these opportunities don't come along very often.

"It's a good fit, it would be a natural next step for me," Cheng said.

LuAnn Leonard, co-chairman of the Arizona Board of Regents, said its extensive search started in February with more than 62 possible applicants.

Cheng said she is contacted weekly about potential jobs, but NAU was the only school she said she would have a conversation with. She said two reasons she considered NAU is because of its similarity to SIU and she has family in the west.

"They have had some really incredible success in many of their initiatives," Cheng said. "I wanted to be connected to a campus like that."

SIU President Randy Dunn said he was not aware of Cheng being in contact with NAU when he was hired. He said he will not get ahead of Chancellor Cheng and will not move forward until her hiring becomes official.

When the hiring is official, Dunn said he hopes to have an interim chancellor in place before the academic year begins.

"I think there's a good chance we can do that," Dunn said.

Randal Thomas, chairman of the SIU Board of Trustees, declined to comment on the matter.

Outgoing NAU President John Haeger's contract expires June 2015. He said in a NAU press release he would like to resume teaching before that date.

"I said from the beginning that NAU would best be served by a visionary and dynamic leader from a peer institution," Haeger said in the release.

Cheng will address the NAU community Thursday, June 12.

"If all goes well, I will have a contract signed by the board at the end of next week or early the following," she said.

Leonard said the board will have a vote the week after Cheng's meeting on the NAU campus.

"We're very excited and looking forward to a great new leader," Leonard said.

Northern Arizona University is located in Flagstaff and had a fall 2013 enrollment of more than 26,000 students.

Cheng said she will always appreciate her time at SIU and the university is currently on a course for future success.

"Although I won't be here, I will always think fondly of SIU," she said. "I'll always be a Saluki."

Dixon can be reached at tdixon@dailyegyptian.com or 596-3511 ext. 292
KABUL, Afghanistan — Five American troops were killed in an apparent coalition airstrike in southern Afghanistan, officials said Tuesday, in one of the worst friendly fire incidents involving United States and coalition troops since the start of the nearly 14 year war.

The U.S.-led international coalition said the service members were killed in an apparent friendly fire incident, which an Afghan official said was an airstrike in southern Zabul province. A statement said all five soldiers died on Monday, but did not give further details.

"Five American troops were killed yesterday during a security operation in southern Afghanistan. Investigators are looking into the likelihood that friendly fire was the cause. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of these fallen," Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. John Kirby said.

If confirmed, it would be one of the most serious cases involving coalition-on-coalition friendly fire during the war. The casualties occurred during a security operation when their unit came into contact with enemy forces. Tragically, there is the possibility that franciske may have been involved. The incident is under investigation," the coalition said in an earlier announcement.

In Washington, two U.S. defense officials said the five Americans were special operations force members, but they were not more specific. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because notification of the families of the five had not yet been completed.

One of the worst such friendly fire incidents came in April 2002 when four Canadian soldiers were killed by an American F-16 jet fighter that dropped a bomb on a group of troops during a night firing exercise in southern Kandahar. A senior police official in southern Zabul said the coalition soldiers were killed Monday when they called for close air support.

Provincial police chief Gen. Gholam Sakhi Rooghlawanay said there was a joint operation by Afghan and NATO troops in the area Arghandab district early Monday. After that operation was over, the troops came under attack from the Taliban and called in air support, he said.

"After the operation was over on the way back, the joint forces came under the attack of insurgents, and then foreign forces called for air support. Unfortunately, five NATO soldiers and one Afghan army officer were killed mistakenly by NATO air strike," Rooghlawanay said.

There was no way to independently confirm Rooghlawanay’s comments. The coalition would not comment and NATO headquarters in Brussels also declined to comment.

The only U.S. troops now involved in combat operations are usually Special Operations Forces that mentor their Afghan counterparts. They often come under fire and are responsible for calling in air support when needed. Because of constraints placed by outgoing Afghan President Hamid Karzai, such air strikes are usually called "in extremis," or when troops fear they are about to be killed.

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A soldier from northern Illinois who went to Afghanistan a month after his father died was among five American troops killed this week during a friendly fire incident in Afghanistan, a friend of the family said Tuesday.

Aaron Toppen, 19, was killed Monday, family spokeswoman Jennie Swartz told the Associated Press from Mokena, about 30 miles south of Chicago. Swartz said representatives from the U.S. Army came to the door of Toppen’s mother, Pam Toppen, in the middle of the night to deliver the news.

Aaron Toppen’s sister, Amanda Gralewski, told the Chicago Sun-Times her brother had joined the Army after graduating from Lincoln-Way East High School in Frankfort. He was set to leave in February for Afghanistan, but after their father died that month, he waited until March to deploy.

Now, she said, the family is suffering a “double hit” of grief.

Gralewski said her brother was a “funny, caring, loving kid” who enjoyed being outdoors and spending time with his friends and family.

“He would give the shirt off his back for anyone,” she said.

The five American special operations troops were killed by a U.S. airstrike called in to help them after they were ambushed by the Taliban in southern Afghanistan.

**Illinois soldier among five killed in friendly fire**

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2 dead, student and shooter, at an Oregon high school

MICHAEL MUSKAL
MATT PEARCE
Los Angeles Times

One student has been killed and the shooter is also dead at Reynolds High School near Portland, Ore., police said Tuesday morning.

At a televised news conference, Troutdale Police Chief Scott Anderson told reporters that the violent situation, which began at 8 a.m., was concluded and over.

The chief said one student was fatally shot in the campus attack. No names were given.

Students, who had been locked in place at the school, were evacuated from Reynolds High School and were being reunited with their parents in a nearby supermarket parking lot.

Police and emergency personnel responded Tuesday to reports of a shooting at the school, about 16 miles east of Portland.

"Every officer we have is out on that call," a spokesperson for the Troutdale Police Department told the Los Angeles Times.

In addition to those officers, officials from as many as 13 surrounding communities have responded. Troutdale Mayor Doug Dauvit told MSNBC.

The Clark County, Wash., Sheriff's Department is among those responding, an official told the Los Angeles Times.

Television images from the scene showed parents anxiously waiting outside the grades 9 through 12 school. It is finals week at the school, the mayor said.

Social media have been on fire over the incident with one student tweeting the school is in lockdown and a number of police cars have rolled up. A second student has tweeted the scene gunfire. A third reported a police officer racing toward the school's gymnasium.

Jacob Saldana, 16, a junior, told the Times he saw a teacher who had apparently been shot and "skimmed" in the lup, but who was not seriously wounded.

Saldana said he was walking in the school as classes were about to start when a school secretary pulled him into the front office and said there was a lockdown. He thought it was just another drill, until the secretary hurried him into a back room away from windows.

"When I got into the room and I saw one of the teachers had a wound, I knew this was not a joke, it was real," Saldana said, adding, "He was definitely bleeding ... (But) he was really strong for somebody who had a wound, he was kind of walking it off."

Eventually, a police officer came to the front doors of the school and administrators unlocked the door after the officer slipped a card under the door.

They led Saldana and the others out. At Saldana ran out of the school, he said he ran past "dozens" of cop cars.

"There is literally cop cars here from every surrounding city," Saldana said. "We ran through the cops, then we got to the church across the street, and we were patted down."

Saldana added, "It is still surreal right now, as he was surrounded by hundreds of students at the church, unclear about what happened and what happens next."

Another student, Hannah Amerson, 17, a junior, said she was on her way to school "when I saw at least six or seven cop cars head up the road. I got a really bad feeling so I asked my friends if everything was OK and they said they heard gunshots."

One of those friends said he had heard about seven gunshots, she said. "So I turned the other way and went to a friend's house," Amerson said. "While walking to my friend's house, I saw more and more and more cop cars. More than I had ever seen in our town at one time."

"Now I'm safe at home watching the news and talking to whoever I can to make sure I know what's going on."

Savannah Bottenfield, 16, a junior, said she was in the arts building in the bathroom when a girl came in and said they were on lockdown. A teacher came in and they barricaded their door with a trash can because the bathroom door didn't have a lock.

"We had to be quiet, and the doors to the arts building and the bathroom were unlocked, so I felt really scared and very unsafe because I knew there would be nothing we could do if someone walked in the building."

— Savannah Bottenfield
junior at Reynolds High School

If they fail to pay the fine within seven days, they will be further imprisoned for six months.

— Pang Khee Teik
Leader of Seksualiti Merdeka

Cross-dressers imprisoned in Malaysia

McClatchy-Tribune

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Malaysia’s Islamic authorities imprisoned 16 men dressed as women after a raid on a wedding just outside the capital Kuala Lumpur, activists and police confirmed Tuesday.

Seventeen men were arrested Sunday night in the town of Bahau in the state of Negeri Sembilan, 60 miles south of Kuala Lumpur, according to Pang Khee Teik, leader of gay rights advocacy group Seksualiti Merdeka.

Pang said a Sharia court Monday sentenced 16 of the group to seven days’ imprisonment and fined them $296, while the remaining accused, a minor, was allowed to go home. He will have to report to the local Islamic authorities once a month for the next year.

"If they (16 convicted by Sharia court) fail to pay the fine within seven days, they will be further imprisoned for six months," he said on his Facebook page.

A police official who requested not to be named confirmed the incident.

"Those arrested were wearing women's clothes, which is a crime under state Islamic laws," he said.

Malaysia is a predominantly Muslim country with more than 30 million people.

"If they fail to pay the fine within seven days, they will be further imprisoned for six months."

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Leader of Seksualiti Merdeka

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SUMMER BBQ

Thursday, June 12
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Student Services Pavilion
(with Sunset Concert following the event)

Free food, drinks, games and summer prizes!

summer.siu.edu
NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (AP) — A truck driver accused of triggering a highway crash that injured Tracy Morgan and killed another comedian hadn't slept for more than 24 hours before the accident, authorities said Monday as Morgan recovered in a hospital.

Wal-Mart trucker Kevin Roper is expected to appear in state court Wednesday. It was unclear if Roper, of Jonesboro, Ga., had retained an attorney. He remained free after posting $50,000 bond.

Authorities said Roper apparently failed to slow for traffic ahead early Saturday in Cranbury Township and then swerved to avoid a crash. Instead, they said, his big rig smashed into the back of Morgan's chauffeured limo bus, killing comedian James "Jimmy Mack" McNair and injuring Morgan and three other people.

The accident occurred in a chronically congested area of the New Jersey Turnpike where a five-year widening project is expected to finish this year. A turnpike spokesman said two of three northbound lanes had been closed about a mile ahead of the accident for road work, which likely slowed traffic.

Spokesman Tom Feeney said turnpike officials haven’t seen an increase in fatal accidents in the construction area, which stretches about 35 miles.

Morgan, a former "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" cast member, was in critical but stable condition Monday. His spokesman, Lewis Kay, said he faces an "arduous" recovery after surgery on his broken leg.

Morgan suffered a broken femur, a broken nose and several broken ribs and is expected to remain hospitalized for weeks, Kay said. Morgan’s fiancée was with him at the hospital, he said.

Roper has been charged with death by auto and four counts of assault by auto. Under New Jersey law, a person can be charged with assault by auto if he or she causes injury after knowingly operating a vehicle after being awake for more than 24 hours.

According to the criminal complaint, Roper operated the truck "without having slept for a period in excess of 24 hours resulting in a motor vehicle accident." It doesn’t specify the basis for that assertion.

The limo bus’ driver, Tyrone Gale, told ABC News he was disoriented after it flipped over. "I climbed around and heard Tracy screaming for help," Gale said. "I climbed up on the body of the limo bus ... but I couldn’t reach them.”

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. President Bill Simon said the Bentonville, Arkansas-based company “will take full responsibility” if authorities determine its truck caused the accident.

Wal-Mart trucks have been involved in 380 crashes in the past two years, federal data show. The crashes have caused nine deaths and 129 injuries. Wal-Mart has 6,200 trucks and 7,200 drivers, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and they drove 667 million miles last year.

Roper’s truck was equipped with a system designed to slow its speed and notify him of stopped traffic ahead, a company spokeswoman said. It’s unknown if the system was working.

The National Transportation Safety Board is working with state police to look at any issues in the crash related to commercial trucking and limousine safety.

Federal regulations permit truck drivers to work up to 14 hours a day, with a maximum of 11 hours behind the wheel. Drivers must have at least 10 hours off between work shifts to sleep.

Wal-Mart said it believed Roper was operating within federal regulations.

"Safety is the absolute highest priority for Walmart,” it said in an emailed statement.

But safety advocates said they hope the accident will help their case.

"This is part of a systemic problem of having tired people driving at night and driving large trucks," said Henry Jasny, vice president of Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety.

But Dave Osiacki, vice president of the American Trucking Association, said no regulations can prevent a
The ‘Fault’ is in the script, not the ‘Stars’

KARSTEN BURGSTAHLER
For the Daily Egyptian

It was the famed comedian Bill Cosby who said, “If you can find humor in anything, even poverty, you can survive it.”

That’s what writer John Green did when he wrote 2012’s “The Fault in Our Stars,” the blockbuster book which follows two teens, both affected by cancer, who fall in love. Neither of our protagonists, Hazel or Gus, must deal with poverty. But both are outsiders, finding humor in their pain and forming a bond through their trials.

This story really isn’t anything new. In fact, the one scene in Zemeckis’ “Flight” where James Badge Dale’s character briefly ruminates on his lung cancer with his fellow patients is more heartbreaking than anything in “Stars.” The difference is “Flight” feels real. “Stars” feels manufactured.

A bit more on the plot: Hazel (the always charming Shailene Woodley) and Gus (the new on the scene Ansel Elgort) have different types of cancer. Hazel has come close to death and now carries oxygen with her everywhere, while Gus managed to eradicate his cancer, but lost his leg in the process. The two meet at a cancer support group where, refreshingly, neither of them is sarcastic. At least not on the surface.

Hazel has given up on an afterlife, but is obsessed with a book called “An Imperial Affliction,” somewhat because she’s desperate to know what happens after the book ends abruptly. This is an interesting character trait dying to be explored.

But instead of giving us the character study Woodley could’ve shined in, the movie is more focused on reforming the meet-cute. “Stars” actively fights becoming a traditional teenybopper romance, taking some scenes in unexpected directions in an attempt to show life isn’t always rosy. But it fails to go all the way. If directors and writers want to make an impression they can’t just push the envelope — they have to break down barriers. Failing to address things like Hazel’s spirituality beyond a brief exchange does moviegoers a disservice.

“Stars” also comes dangerously close to faltering under a star image problem. Readers can picture the characters however they want with the novel; once the story moves to the big screen, there seems to be more of a concern about box office returns. Hazel and Gus always seem to be made up, looking their best even when they’re close to death. Gus claims no one finds him attractive because of his leg. But the camera seems to try awfully hard to make him attractive.

This isn’t the first time the screen has seen a contradiction like this. Katniss looks very well fed and fit in “The Hunger Games” even though she’s supposed to be starving. All of this could be forgiven if “The Fault in Our Stars” actually made a point, rather than hiding behind a smokescreen of catchphrases and revelations engineered to start the waterworks. If it weren’t for Woodley, “Fault” would be just another single, dim star in the solar system-sized romance genre.
For Sale

Auto
BUYING: JUNE 2nd. running, acred, cash paid, $1000-$1,000, call 618-629-0456.


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THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Jacqueline E. Mathews

ACROSS
1 Father Knows
5 Hindu teacher
10 Orange I'd
14 Aware of the disability of
15 Dulcet Bell
16 Edge to stand under during a rain shower
17 Microwave
18 Leather, flexible
19 Big smile
20 Normal
22 Horrors
24 "In... we trust"
26 The Gem State
29 Boat propeller
30 Rather pump
34 Spray
35 Letters to click on to get info
36 Want
37 Raux... social blunder
38 Exceptionally good ballplayer
40 Lamb's cry
43 Charged atom
54 Flutter about
55 High-intensity beam
61... day now; pretty soon
47 Nourishes
48 Get rid of reaches, e.g.
49 By way of
51 Main courses
54 Tell a story
56 Apple's
59 Cruise ship
60 Roses, pinks
61... market;
62 Swap meet
63 Garden tools
66 Female relative
69 Inert
70 Defeat

DOWN
1 Soldier’s shoe
2 Jealousy
3 "... on it!" cry to a sloth
4 This evening
5 Collectable, e.g.
6 Cry loudly
7 Mr. Linkletter
8 Yarn from an Angora goat
9 Bumbling
10 Winged horse of myth
11 British peer
12 Malicious
13 Part of the eye
14 Pigeon’s sound
15 Actor Sellers
20 Burros
28 Poppée’s Olive
31 Holy book
32 Interlaced
33 Poet William Butler...
35 Avian
36 VP... Quayle
38 Concur

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

Aries — Today is an 8 — Consider long term goals for career and family. If you could have anything, what would you want? Where would you be, and with who? It’s more about the question than the answer.

Taurus — Today is a 7 — Put aside guiltiness or distraction to reveal poorly hidden falsehood. Pay attention to the man behind the curtain. Procrastinate later. Sunlight disinfects.

Gemini — Today is an 8 — Get a second opinion or move you put the deposit on. Do you really need it? Romance is better tomorrow or the next day, so plot it patiently. Take it easy.

Cancer — Today is an 8 — Avoiding a responsibility can take more effort than actually just doing it. Use your imagination to creatively express the outcome you most desire. Prepare for a test.

Leo — Today is an 8 — Before taking action, check the facts. Go for efficient efforts rather than big ground. Keep scrapping tasks off the list, and reward yourself well at the end of the day.

Virgo — Today is a 9 — Avoid wild schemes and get into homebody. Give in to artistic self-expression with any media you choose. The garden? A creative project? Whatever you do, fill it with imagination and flair.

Libra — Today is an 8 — It’s time to put the work aside and focus on your relationships. Delegate tasks to your team. This may seem like it takes longer, but it’s building future speed.

Scorpio — Today is a 6 — To the temptation to spend time in contemplation at home. Indulge contemplation at home. Indulge

Sagittarius — Today is a 7 — Plan a vacation for the next four weeks, preferably with family. Don’t go into debt, though. Good planning saves a bundle. Don’t travel yet.

Capricorn — Today is a 7 — You may find yourself going in circles. Lean on someone you trust. There’s strength in numbers, and in love. Express emotion through the arts.

Aquarius — Today is an 8 — Watch out for sand traps that leave you spinning your wheels. Distractions and indulgences could get you off-track. Choose wisely. postpone an excursion.

Pisces — Today is an 8 — Communication may prove difficult today, but nothing you can’t handle. Use wit and humor. Stay out of the negativity tunnel. There’s no cheese there.
**AARON GRAFF**

Daily Egyptian

Senior right-handed pitcher Todd Eaton became the 2nd Saluki and 11th Missouri Valley Conference pitcher selected in the 2014 Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft.

Eaton was selected 1,023rd overall by the Kansas City Royals in the 34th round.

"It's awesome," Eaton said. "It's a childhood dream obviously. This is the first time it's happened and it's pretty cool. It feels pretty good."

Eaton was a starter his freshman year before moving to the bullpen. There, he finished tied for second with Al Levine in Saluki history with 19 saves before being named a starting pitcher once again his senior year.

"The whole deal with starter to closer and back to starter to do that with action and mechanics," coach Ken Henderson said. "I think he would have gotten drafted, I don't think anything has changed if we left him in the closer's role."

Eaton finished his senior season with a record of 3-3 and a 4.10 ERA. He was named the MVC Pitcher of the Week after throwing 10 complete innings against Illinois State University April 26.

Henderson said Eaton would have been selected in last year’s draft if he didn’t intend on staying for his senior year. Henderson said the draft is too hard to determine ahead of time, but he knew Eaton had the skills to play professionally.

"Obviously, anybody who gets drafted is extremely talented," Henderson said. "I think to be drafted in the 34th round is an unbelievable honor, but part of that is because I think that he was a senior and had no bargaining power."

Eaton's father, Mike Eaton, and mother, Jane Eaton, said they noticed professional talent from Todd when he first played in college.

"He came from a very small school," Mike said. "We were wondering if he could even play at the Division I level and once he got there, and had a little bit of success, we felt he had a chance because he was playing with people who moved on."

Mike and Todd were on a golf course when he got the call to move on to the Giants in the fifth round of the Major League Baseball draft.

"We were playing a tournament and I was in the foursome ahead of him," Mike said. "I saw him walking and he was on the phone so I knew he got a call. It was very exciting, I drove back to confirm it with him, it was a very neat thing."

Todd said he has no idea what he would do if he didn’t get drafted, but he wasn’t only happy for himself.

"I’m sure we’ll have a decent conversation before or after the games," Eaton said. "It’s pretty cool playing against people you’re familiar with."

Eaton’s family is from the St. Louis area, but said they are going to have to be Royals fans from now on.

"We just want to thank SIU and the coaching staff for giving Todd the opportunity," Eaton's father said. "We’re very thankful for that."