Crammed at Menard

LUKE NOZICKA
Daily Egyptian

Violence is down at Menard Correctional Center, but the maximum-security prison is overcrowded, according to the 2015 John Howard Association inspection report.

The JHA first started inspecting and reporting on detention centers in 1981.

Menard is a maximum-security state prison for adult males in Chester.

The report used staff assaults, serious inmate assaults, shortage of chemical agents utilized, weapons confiscated and inmate disciplinary reports to evaluate violence levels.

From 1970 to 2005, prison population in the United States increased by 700 percent, according to a recent report by the Pew Charitable Trust America.

The number was estimated after only 60 percent of the budget was reviewed.

The JHA report states, “With double-cells as small as 4-feet-8 inches wide, inmates at Menard may experience the paradoxical determent of both being crowded and isolated.”

Al Alan Mills, the Uptown People’s Law Center legal director and an attorney who represents inmates at Menard, said two prisoners are roomed together in one tiny cell.

“This used to be very small for one person and now have two people living in them,” he said. “There literally is not room for two people to stand in that cell at the same time and there’s no air circulation so they will typically spend 23-24 hours a day sitting inside that cell with nothing to do other than lying in bed or watching television, if they are lucky enough to have a TV.”

The JHA report states, “With double-cells as small as 4-feet-8 inches wide, inmates at Menard may experience the paradoxical determent of both being crowded and isolated.”

Mills said Illinois law has a minimum square-footage requirement of 50 square feet per person, and Menard clearly violates the rule.

“It’s understaffed. It’s underfunded. It’s overcrowded,” he said. “So we have way too many people sitting in their cells with nothing to do. General population does get to go out twice a day for meals, which means they’re out of their cell for a total of about an hour.”

About 300 of the 3,000 inmates at Menard are in classification levels and are taught by five teachers.

“There is only one leisure-time services which are supposed to be coordinating whatever recreational and educational activities there are at the prison,” he said. “One for all 3,000 prisoners, so there’s no way the staff can actually do anything there.”

While the report states overall violence is down, inmate-on-inmate assaults increased from 80 to 109 from 2010 to 2013. The number of serious inmate-on-staff assaults increased from five to eight as well.

Mills said while the center has troubles, it made strides by cutting down on lockdowns.

Tom Shart, director of communications for the Illinois Department of Corrections, said the number of lockdowns at Menard has had a tremendous decrease.

“We’ve not had three full lock downs since last May that were not health related,” Shart said. “We did do some lockdowns in part of the facility because some of the inmates had the flu and we didn’t want it to spread.”

Scooping the blizzard

LUKE NOZICKA
Daily Egyptian

The Undergraduate Student Government meeting Tuesday night covered the state of the student Recreation Center, USG budget and new allocations given.

It began with news of extended hours and an annual economic update of the Recreation Center by Troy Vaughn, director of recreational sports and services.

More than 625,000 people come to the Rec Center each year, with 700 community members and 40 sport clubs, 30 of which are competitive. Recreational Sports and Services is the number-two student employer on campus with 250 student employees, generating an annual $720,000 back to the university.

Vaughn said the Rec Center will be open until midnight in Fall 2014, and with extra money could look to extend hours until 1 a.m.

This is the second year the Rec Center has not asked for a fee increase from the students and currently has more programs than ever before.

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Vaughn said the LED lighting in the Rec Center will save approximately $50,000 to $150,000 a year.

The HVAC and Energy Conservation project, approved by the Board of Trustees Sept. 8, 2011 costs $5 million.

USG talks Recreation Center

LUKE NOZICKA
Daily Egyptian

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City deficit near $1million

SETH RICHARDSON
Daily Egyptian

The Carbondale budget crisis is more than $200,000 worse than previously expected.

City Manager Kevin Baity relayed the bad news to the City Council on Tuesday. Baity said, at the Feb. 11 City Council meeting, the city’s deficit was estimated $761,000. However, the number was estimated after only 60 percent of the budget was reviewed.

The budget deficit after a complete review is $977,000.

Baity said his office already took steps to decrease expenditures, including a spending freeze. He said anything costing more than $250 must first be reviewed by the city manager’s office.

Acting Mayor Don Monty was blunt about the situation and said balancing the budget is more difficult than eliminating waste and inefficiency.

“Those of us sitting back here, who have worked through the city budget in recent years, know that you’re not going to find any significant money in the city budget you would classify as waste or inefficiency,” he said.

The council discussed several ways to curb the already bare budget, including reducing the number of police officers, fire fighters, code enforcement officers and street department workers.

Student insurance changes
See Pg 3

Kid Cudi review
See Pg 6

Mens golf falls short
See Pg 11
Paul Simon poll shows most republican voters undecided

Seth Richardson
Daily Egyptian

There is still no clear favorite for the Republican primary for Illinois governor in southern Illinois, according to a new poll.

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute released a poll Monday showing a majority of likely Republican primary voters at 34.6 percent are undecided. Of the candidates, Chicago billionaire Bruce Rauner led the nominees with 32.5 percent. 2010 Republican candidate for governor Bill Brady trailed the rest of the nominees with more than 12 percent. State Senator Kirk Dillard finished with around 11 percent with State Treasurer Dan Rutherford just below 10 percent.

Director of the Paul Simon Institute David Yepsen said while Rauner held a significant lead among the candidates with southern Illinois voters, the numbers may tell a different story.

“Rauner has about 32.5 percent of the vote, about a third,” he said. “That means two-thirds of the likely voters are somewhere else, either for other candidates or undecided.”

Yepsen said Rauner’s lead was likely because of the significant amount of money he has spent on advertising. Rauner’s out-of-pocket total is $6 million, a record for an Illinois governor race.

However, Yepsen said the significant number of undecided voters — more than 34 percent — could swing the vote a number of ways by the March 18 primary.

“With two weeks left to go, there’s still a lot of softness in the Republican primary electorate,” he said. “It’s too early to say this race is over with any many undecideds.”

All candidates except Rutherford held slight leads over Gov. Pat Quinn, but all were within the margin of error of 5.7 percent. Yepsen said this is both good and bad news for the current governor.

“On the one hand, Pat Quinn is in trouble,” he said. “He’s got republicans very competitive with him. On the other hand, he’s hanging in there and he’s not blown out of the water against any of the four of them.”

USG
CONTINUED FROM 1

Seventeen new pieces for different weight rooms have been purchased over the last year. Vaughn said there is a push to get new treadmills in the Recreational Center as well.

“The average treadmill costs about ten grand,” he said. “There are many positives, the Recreation Center predicts future challenges.

“We are facing, as everyone on campus, some pretty significant challenges past 2015, and ’16 and ’17 are looking a little i

Vaughn said another challenge is operating in a building built in 2018. “Believe me, as you would pay off a mortgage or you would pay off a car — you’d go hip-hop hoary,” Vaughn said.

He said at this point there is no discussion to expand the weight room in Lentz. Treasurer Cameron Shulak, a junior from Louisville, Ky., studying aviation, said USG has allocated more than $37,600 this semester alone, with more than $26,300 left.

“We actually have more money to allocate this semester than last semester due to some roll overs from last semester that we didn’t allocate,” Shulak said. “We’ve funded a lot of groups this year.”

USG also voted in four new senators during the meeting, three of which were sworn in on the spot. The other senator will be sworn in on the spot.

The Student Nutrition Academic Council bill was postponed indefinitely and was not allocated for the requested $1,235.

MCM representatives said they cannot fundraise through their end of the year red carpet event anymore.

“The other fundraising event we were doing was with the Daily Egyptian, who we were actually stuffing for their paper but they had actually stopped that, so we no longer will be able to use that as a fundraising event,” MCM representative said.

Shulak said the last time USG allocated food was not under his time as treasurer, and is something USG does not like to fund.

“USG allocated Delta Sigma Theta $83 for coffee supplies and $1,325 for an upcoming charity ball. The National Society of Black Engineers was allocated $2,000 for a career fair.”

The Horticulture Association requested $1,500 for the annual PLANET student career days and was approved by the Senate.

USG also paid a $500 request from Movie Camera Militia. $200 was allocated for props, $200 for equipment rental and $100 for makeup.

The original request was $800, the excessive $300 for food. Shulak said the funding board did not recommend allocation for food because they did not view it as a responsible way to spend student money.

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Luke Nozicka can be reached at lnozicka@dailyegyptian.com, on Twitter @lukenozicka, or at 536-3311 ext. 282.

Council
CONTINUED FROM 1

Eliminating street sweeping was also considered, however the council agreed the last time the city adopted this option in 2008, it led to terrible consequences for the sewer system and general appearance of Carbondale.

“You (Bairy) threw out street sweeping and, in the same breath, said you could do the same bad idea again.”

The idea of cutting funding to all community agencies and organizations was discussed and would lead to a savings of $570,000. However, councilmembers were not receptive to a blanket cut in all programs, particularly Carbondale Tourism and Carbondale Main Street.

Bairy said even if the city raises the sales tax, hotel/motel tax, motor fuel tax, or increases fees to services, the city’s budget troubles will likely remain.

“Until the economy gets out of the soft spot area we are in and consumer confidence comes back, we forecast we will see flat lines with a slight increase at best,” he said.

A budget is due by the March 25 meeting before the April 1 deadline.

Despite the budget problems, the City Council was able to achieve funding for housing redevelopment. The council accepted a $168,000 grant from the Illinois Housing Redevelopment Authority for single occupancy homes. Monty said the grant should benefit at least four families.

Those interested should submit applications for the grant money to City Hall.

A budget adjustment for an Illinois State Historical Society Market was also passed by a unanimous vote. The marker is over three feet wide and two feet tall, and honors the previous location of Carbondale College and Southern Illinois College, the precursors to Southern Illinois University.

The memorial costs $2,300 and was raised through donations from community.

The next City Council meeting is March 25 where the Council is expected to pass a budget for the upcoming year.

Seth Richardson can be reached at scrichardson@dailyegyptian.com, on Twitter at @EgyptianRich or at 536-3311 ext. 268.
Four undergraduates failed to appear at the Student Health Insurance Task Force meeting on February 20, costing undergraduates representation on insurance policies. Amanda Barnard, a member of Graduate Professional Student Council and a representative of the Student Health Advisory Board, said undergraduates have not lost their chance at voicing their opinion completely.

"The voices of the Student Health Insurance Task Force have the potential to pick new insurance plans for the University and without the undergraduates' opinions policies could end up meeting more needs for graduate students," she said. "However two undergraduates will be invited to the next meeting to look over the bids so their opinion could still be voiced."

Barnard said she could not identify the students who had failed to appear. They represented Undergraduate Student Government. The said the current insurance policy is self-funded and is not fully Affordable Care Act compliant.

"At some point SIU will have to offer a fully ACA compliant plan. It was not compliant for this academic year and it possibly wont be for next year, so this is why the University is getting bids from companies now," she said. "The task force will then evaluate those bids based on the needs of the university as well as the students."

The next meeting for the Student Health Insurance Task Force will be announced after the bids have been received.

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Morning News 536-3311 ext.268

Joseph Shaer, an attorney for the men, said Menard has a large mental health staff and inmates are not put in segregation because they have mental health needs.

"The primary reason for segregation is to segregate those who violated the rules-usually in a physically aggressive or harmful way," he said. "We're very sensitive to health care needs." Shaer said there is still much to be done.

"If anyone wanted to do something helpful who is located in Carbondale, I would say go out to that prison and put up a big sign and make some noise," Shaer said. "It would mean a lot to the people inside."
Troops in Ukraine defending Russians

JOHN HEILPRIN
Associated Press

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on Monday sought to justify the use of Russian troops streaming into neighboring Ukraine’s Crimea region as a necessary protection for his country’s citizens living there. He also urged Kiev to comply with a deal that opposing Ukrainian sides had reached on Feb. 21 but Moscow did not sign.

The use of Russian troops is necessary “until the normalization of the political situation” in Ukraine, Lavrov said at an opening of a monthlong session of the U.N. Human Rights Council in Geneva. “We are talking here about protection of our citizens and compatriots, about protection of the most fundamental of the human rights: the right to live and nothing more,” Lavrov said.

Ukraine has accused Russia of a military invasion and has called on the Kremlin to withdraw its troops. Lavrov dismissed the criticism and said “information is coming in about preparations for new provocations that are being committed, including against the Russian Black Sea fleet,” which is based in Crimea, a strategic peninsula now effectively under Russian control.

Those who are trying to interpret the situation as a sort of aggression and threatening us with sanctions and boycotts, these are the same partners who have been consistently and vigorously encouraging the political powers close to them to declare ultimatums and resume dialogue,” Lavrov said. “We call upon them to show a responsibility and to set aside geopolitical calculations and put the interests of the Ukrainian people above all.”

Lavrov urged Ukraine to return to the Feb. 21 agreement signed by pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovych aimed at ending his country’s three-month political crisis. Yanukovych fled his country after signing the deal with the opposition and foreign ministers of France, Germany and Poland to hold early elections this fall and surrender much of his powers.

A Russian envoy who was part of those talks did not sign the agreement, and a key Russian lawmaker criticized it, but since Yanukovych’s departure Moscow has insisted on its implementation as one of their key demands.

Lavrov said Yanukovych respected the agreement, but the opposition “did nothing.”

Singing for inspiration

Yolanda Harrington, left, from Carbondale, and Denise Frazier, from Carbondale, rehearse hymns Thursday for the Black History Month Musical at Rock Hill Baptist Church.

The Black History Month Musical is an annual event directed by Daniel Cross that presents hymns, duets, solos and spirituals. The choir in the musical is made up of different singers from other community churches Harrington, from New Zion Church in Carbondale, said. “We all come together to sing for Daniel every year he needs a choir because we love him,” Harrington said. The musical was cancelled Sunday, Mar. 2 because of weather and will be rescheduled for Mar. 23 at Rock Hill Baptist Church.

Ellen’s Oscar celeb selfie a landmark media moment

DAVID BAUDER
Associated Press

Ellen DeGeneres’ celeb-studded selfie from the most-watched Oscars telecast in a decade was a landmark social media moment at a time online conversation is boosting television viewership and vice versa.

It’s also a murky example of what is or isn’t product placement in a hyper-marketed world. Would the world’s most retweeted photo have been shot by an iPhone if Samsung hadn’t been a commercial sponsor of the Academy Awards? An estimated 43 million people watched “12 Years a Slave” win the Oscar for best picture on Sunday night. It was the most-watched Academy Awards since 2004, when “Lord of the Rings: Return of the King” was the best picture. And it was the most popular entertainment event on TV since the previous record of 810,000 retweets for Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt also crowded into their Oscar post-Oscars special, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt also crowded into the frame. She asked viewers to help her set a new record, and they quickly complied.

By Monday afternoon, it had been retweeted some 2.8 million times, shattering the previous record of 810,000 retweets for the photo of President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama hugging after the 2012 election. Twitter was humming at 254,644 tweets per minute after DeGeneres’ request, and the company said the crash disrupted service for 20 minutes. DeGeneres handed a Samsung device to Cooper to take the selfie. Since the Oscars host’s Twitter posts from backstage included shots from an iPhone, Samsung doesn’t seem to be her usual smartphone of choice.

Social media was clearly a driving force Sunday and is why live events on networks “have become basically the currency,” co-producer Neil Meron told The Associated Press.

“What it’s all about right now is creating a conversation, and social media allows for the conversation as it’s happening,” he said. No social media moment was bigger than when host DeGeneres briefly caused Twitter to crash after going into the audience and asking Bradley Cooper to take a picture with several other stars crowding around. Besides Cooper and DeGeneres, Meryl Streep, Jennifer Lawrence, Kevin Spacey, Julia Roberts, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt also crowded into the frame. The ratings provide further evidence of how big event programming is a growth engine for broadcast networks, in large part because of fans watching the event and conversing with friends on tablets and smartphones. Twitter said some 14.7 million tweets mentioning the Oscars or prominent actors and films were sent out during the Sunday night telecast, and Facebook said there were 25.4 million interactions about the show.

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Not much competition between Chicagoland rivals

ASHLEY ZBOREK
Daily Egyptian

I haven’t had the proper amount of writing or editing for any sort of organization to SIU. I know you can never repay me. When I was uninterested in even trying to get the layout done correctly, you guys were the calming factor I needed. I cannot wait to work with you guys in the future. My professors at SIU taught me literally everything. David Lipman, Bill Reckeweg, Bill Freyvogel, Bill Babcock and Eric Fidler, without your expertise and acumen, there is no chance I could write for anything more than a school newsletter. I brag about you consistently to any and all who listen (and even those who don’t). I could not ask for a better group of instructors, and frankly would not be the person I am without the respect of Attorney General T aylor Bryant and her staff.

I was a greenhorn who really had no idea what it was. But I decided to sign up and play the part of a veteran and had the time of my life. I was addicted and looked forward to my college and good friend Joe D’Alonzo organizing a debate is big around here. I’m used to the much more heated rivalry between Chicago’s teams, the 2005 World Series Champion White Sox and the 1908 World Series play sports, Michael Jordan. He has forgotten more about winning than most people will ever know. For a time, His Armsloc led them up for nothing other than the Chicago White Sox. Need I say more? You see, I don’t mind that the Cubs are more popular. I don’t care more people attend their games. Because I am a fan, a true fan. That means I care about one thing winning.

It really was a team effort. By that measure, neither the Cubs nor the White Sox have been wildly successful. However, there is a clear winner and the Cubs are not it. Sticking with this theme, examining both teams like a business, the Cubs come up short in another area. As one of the nation’s most popular and marketable teams, the Cubs have many more resources than the White Sox. How will they have used those resources in the past 20 years? The White Sox averaged 81.85 wins per season in that span. A shade over .500, very respectable, especially with the 2005 Championship. At 75.15 wins per season, the Cubs averaged more than 95 losses per season with no Championship to show for it. All of the Cubs fans who read this will no doubt bask on what they have always touted: tradition. Such achievements as World Series, Champions and stars, they have better attendance, more fans like them, U.S. Cellular Field and many other common defenses will be shouted. Bottom line is this they don’t give out rings to those who had the most attendance or all fans. They give out rings to winners, which the Cubs aren’t.

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A special thank you for the help

SETH RICHARDSON
Daily Egyptian

Normally I use my column space to speak some unpopular opinion. But this week I wanted to get a little more down to earth. Model Illinois Government, a government simulation event held every spring at the Illinois Capitol Complex, bestowed me with a great honor this semester in the form of a chilly envelope from the Kurtis L. Hermes Award for Outstanding Journalist. I haven’t had the proper amount of writing or editing for any sort of organization to SIU. I know you can never repay me. When I was uninterested in even trying to get the layout done correctly, you guys were the calming factor I needed. I cannot wait to work with you guys in the future. My professors at SIU taught me literally everything. David Lipman, Bill Reckeweg, Bill Freyvogel, Bill Babcock and Eric Fidler, without your expertise and acumen, there is no chance I could write for anything more than a school newsletter. I brag about you consistently to any and all who listen (and even those who don’t). I could not ask for a better group of instructors, and frankly would not be the person I am without the respect of Attorney General T aylor Bryant and her staff.

I was a greenhorn who really had no idea what it was. But I decided to sign up and play the part of a veteran and had the time of my life. I was addicted and looked forward to my college and good friend Joe D’Alonzo organizing a delegation for SIU. When all was said and done this year, I again participated with John A. Logan College for personal reasons, but the amount he did for the SIU delegation is unimaginable. Joe, thanks for bringing this awesome organization to SIU. I know you will be successful in any and all future endeavors. I would not be where I am without several teachers and instructors. First and foremost is my teacher from John A. Logan College, Matt Garrison. When I was uninterested in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills. I have experienced in even attending, you encouraged me to keep going and hone my skills.

My political science teacher Perry Kopf helped me through a tough stretch and made sure I kept going. You introduced me to MIG through a brochure and my time in your class taught me invaluable lessons I’ll forever keep.

Then there is the best faculty advisor in the world, Jane Bryant. I might not always be on time with my dues or slips, but you stuck with me and make MIG exciting, even for a novice. You make MIG more than an experience. You make it a family.

Without the respect of Attorney General T aylor Bryant and her staff, Tim Murray, James Collind and Jake Topp, not a single paper would have been completed. When I was pulling my hair out at 1 a.m. trying to get the layout done correctly, you guys were the calming factor I needed. I cannot wait to work with you guys in the future. My professors at SIU taught me literally everything. David Lipman, Bill Reckeweg, Bill Freyvogel, Bill Babcock and Eric Fidler, without your expertise and acumen, there is no chance I could write for anything more than a school newsletter. I brag about you consistently to any and all who listen (and even those who don’t). I could not ask for a better group of instructors, and frankly would not be the person I am without the respect of Attorney General T aylor Bryant and her staff.

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Cudi travels back to the moon

KYLE SUTTON
Daily Egyptian

If someone were to take a look into the history of hip-hop and rap, they would find a plethora of styles, each unique. Some styles blend together while others produce a sound so distinct there are no other artists who come close.

When looking at the career of Cleveland native Scott Mescudi, better known as Kid Cudi, one thing is certain — he is not your typical rapper. He proves this to the hip-hop community time and time again. Cudi’s new album, “Satellite Flight: The Journey to Mother Moon,” dropped unexpectedly Feb. 25 on iTunes after an announcement from the artist via Twitter.

In the album, Cudi uses his unique moon man sound to invite listeners on a ride back to space as he creates a type of sound similar to his earlier “Man on the Moon” album series. It is supposed to work as a bridge between his last album, “Indicud,” and “Man on the Moon 3,” set to release sometime this year.

However, the album falls short of greatness because it lags in its use of an important element: lyrics. Four of the album’s productions are instrumentals; Cudi’s lyricism and vocals are heard on almost half of the songs.

As Cudi prepares to blast off to space, he offers a short down-tempo introductory song, “Destination: Mother Moon,” as a launching pad into the rest of the album. The dark, slow instrumental drops the mood in an instant as listeners prepare for the emotional journey laid before them.

Cudi first begins his lyrical exploration with “Going to the Ceremony.” On this track, Cudi explains his reasons for leaving earth in a way his fans are quite familiar with. Memories of the earlier “Man on the Moon” albums come to mind as Cudi uses this rock-like production to show his lonesome journey back to space with nothing but a bottle of liquor to keep him company, which does not seem to bother him.

“Satellite Flight,” the album’s title track, follows the tradition of classic Cudi, humming and rhyming his way into the minds of the listeners as he speaks of leaving earth in hopes of getting away from all the negative distractions at ground level.

As the album reaches the outer limits of the atmosphere, Cudi flips the cruise control switch on the metaphorical space vehicle with the song “Copernicus Landing.” The instrumental sounds like something you would hear on the soundtrack for a sci-fi movie.

A melodic tone forms and builds throughout the song, used as an entry point for the sexually charged lyrics found on “Balmain Jeans,” featuring Raphael Saadiq. Using Saadiq’s calm R&B vocal style, Cudi expresses his poetic love in the slow and sensual track.

The album reaches its emotional peak on “Too Bad I Have To Destroy You” and “Internal Bleeding” as listeners reach the record’s second half. While keeping the slow instrumental rhythm, these songs portray Cudi as a man searching for peace in a world of negativity while calling out any critics trying to bring him down. He speaks of his pains with distant vocals breaking through the deep emotional bass beat.

Two more instrumental songs, “In My Dreams 2015” and “Return of the Moon Man,” remind the listeners they are still on a journey destined for the moon without the use of lyrics. The beat builds and drops in these songs, helping the listener envision Cudi’s spaceship as it nears landing.

The album ends with “Troubled Boy,” a slow melodic song with a simple guitar riff overlaying Cudi’s distant voice as it fades into the background.

Kid Cudi’s unique style of rap comes to the foreground in this trip to the moon, a space exploration of his inner artistic struggles. The album is available for purchase on Amazon and iTunes, or can be streamed on Spotify.
Wild Beasts play wild beats

JAKE SAUNDERS
Daily Egyptian

When it comes to staying in the moment, Wild Beasts has it covered with their new album "Present Tense."

The band has built a positive reputation from producing the melodic atmosphere of a dreamscape. Their success became clear in their 2009 album "Two Dancers," which was nominated for a Mercury Prize and was mentioned in the 2011 edition of "1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die."

Wild Beasts' sounds are based on pop tempos, quick and successive, while the rhythm is ultimately experimental, overtaking and driving.

The album opens with "Wanderlust," an intro with a rhythmically dark complexion. The entrance of the lead voice, the tenor melody from bassist Hayden Thorpe, begins to lead toward a lighter side falling into a unique falsetto. The drum taps are quick, rhythmic and concise. All of the instrumentation flourishes and rises, with the synthetic ambiance roaming in the background until the end of the song where it becomes prominent until it fades.

The next track, "Nature Boy," suggests a familiar, synthetic sound nostalgic of the '80s, yet it is distinct and different. The band's secondary voice, baritone Tom Fleming, creates an altered composition. The vocals and guitar strike in a synchronous manner as the listener becomes wrapped in sound and driven down a waterfall of rhythm.

Having drifted down the waterside, near drowning in psychedelic sound, the following track floats toward a now distant listener. "Sweet Spot" swims in a round, or what is perhaps best described as a cyclic revolution of swirling sounds, with the resonance of Thorpe's falsetto. The alteration of voice hits here as Fleming and Thorpe change places, creating a unique toned dynamic. This track thoroughly uses their pop-oriented sound, shaping a catchy melody, which works well through the experimental atmosphere.

The alteration of voice works well enough. The combination offers a sense of melodic fullness — it will satiate the tastes of the listener who salivates for symphonic drink.

The proceeding tracks explore the technical dynamics in sounds "Wild Beast" are able to produce. "Pregnant Pause," which displays the range of Thorpe's voice in furious and glorious slow form, writs in dramatics well. "A Simple Beautiful Truth" presents the pop exchange of vocal arrangement and elegant fingerings of guitar. "A Dog's Life" reiterates the deeper notes of what the band can produce. "Past Perfect" and "New Life" advance the intimate and emotional sides through harmony and beautiful discordant background accompaniment.

The final song, "Palace," emulates the accomplishments of every track. Its haunting low falsettos reverberate and it flows pleasantly into the listener. "Present Tense" may be purchased on Amazon or iTunes. More information may be found at wild-beasts.co.uk.

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"Wild Beasts' sounds are based on pop tempos, quick and successive, while the rhythm is ultimately experimental, overtaking and driving."

— Jake Saunders
DAVID MERCER
Associated Press

Illinois opens spring football with wins in mind

Iliuois coach Tim Beckman insists there is no shortage of pressure to take the team to a bowl game next season.

"There's no question about that," Beckman said Monday. "All of them have been very competitive. All of them have shown leadership on and off the field." Beckman said he hopes to have his starting quarterback picked by the end of spring football. For the first time since 2009, it won't be Nathan Scheelhaase, the four-year starter who graduated last year.

"It's a family and we've got our guidelines that we find ourselves a little thin at running back," Beckman said Tuesday. "We've got to be better, we've got to win more games." He was wise to stock up, because Jason Collins spent part of his off season on Route 17 and bringing back a lot of memories from when I was here before," Collins said.

He's more than a little comfortable on the court, even in the limited minutes he gets. Finally finished with his lengthy list of pregame obligations, he was looking forward to helping the Nets in whatever way he could.

"Now that that's all settled, I'll go out there and just try to focus as much as I can on the game," Collins said.

Jason Collins gets second 10-day deal

Jason Collins spent part of his off day Sunday shopping at Costco. He was wise to stock up, because he'll be staying with Brooklyn for at least a little while longer.

The Nets plan to sign Collins to a second 10-day contract, a person with knowledge of the situation said Monday.

Collins signed his original deal on Feb. 23, becoming the NBA's first openly gay player, and it wasn't aware of any deal, leaving those details up to his agent. Coach Jason Kidd said those discussions were between management and Collins' agents, but said his former teammate has been "great, on and off the court.

"He's a good friend of mine and he's a basketball player, but he's a great person and so that's why we wanted him on this team and we felt he could help us win," Kidd said, referring to Collins by the nickname he had during his original stint with the Nets from 2003-08.

The Nets still practice in New Jersey even after moving to Brooklyn before last season, so that's where Collins was Sunday after the Nets got back from their road trip which ended Saturday night in Milwaukee.

"It's kind of funny. Yesterday on my day off I'm driving around Jersey on Route 17 and bringing back a lot of memories from when I was here before," Collins said.

It's kind of funny. Yesterday on my day off I'm driving around Jersey on Route 17 and bringing back a lot of memories from when I was here before." Collins said.

"Over time it will go down, but as far as doing interviews and talking about it, I'm getting comfortable with the microphone or the camera on me," he said.

He's more comfortable on the court, even in the limited minutes he gets. Finally finished with his lengthy list of pregame obligations, he was looking forward to helping the Nets in whatever way he could.

"Now that that's all settled, I'll go out there and just try to focus as much as I can on the game," Collins said.
SIU stumbles to the finish at Samford

TYLER DAVIS
Daily Egyptian

Two weeks removed from its season opening tournament, the SIU men’s golf team ended its second tournament of the season at the bottom of the pack.

University of South Alabama won the Samford Invitational Tournament, posting a total score of 891 during the three rounds. The University of Alabama-Birmingham finished just two strokes behind them and Campbell University rounded out the top three with a score of 896.

SIU finished 15 out of 16 total teams, with a score of 970 for the three rounds and not one Saluki was able to break the top 60 in the field of 89 golfers.

The team had a rough first day in Hoover, Ala., ending Monday with a combined score of 335, 47-over-par. UAB led with a score of 290 for the opening-day.

It was not just one bad score that did the team in. All five golfers failed to break 80 during the first round. Sophomore Drew Novara and junior Steven Douchek led the team, both shooting an 81 and tying for 39th place after day one.

Coach Leroy Newton said the first day was terrible from the beginning.

"Today was a disaster," he said Monday night. "Anything that could go wrong, did go wrong and we didn’t even play well."

Newton said some of the day one struggles were because of the weather the hot city was experiencing.

Newton said forecasts predicted warm and breezy weather, and that held true through the practice rounds. When tournament play started, the temperatures dropped and the wind picked up. He said the team was not prepared for the unexpected conditions.

"That weather changed quite a bit between the practice rounds and the real rounds," Newton said. "It was windy and cold and we were not dressed for it."

Day two brought better play from the team, particularly in the third round. The final 18 holes were the best as every player shot in the 70s.

"I think we shot a 76, 77 and two 79s today, which was a lot better than 87s and 90s," he said. "If the kids would’ve had a couple more days and the weather was better, I think we’d be in the middle of the pack."

Sophomore Ryan Haxel had the best finish for any Saluki in his season debut. He tied for 65th, shooting a 242 overall.

Novara finished just one stroke behind Haxel, and tied for 66th.

Senior Caleb Harms shot a 76 in the final round but it was not good enough to salvage his tournament as Harms ended Tuesday tied for 76th.

Douchek tied for 72nd and junior Wade Thompson finished the tournament in 82nd place.

Newton said he expects his team to bounce back.

"I think they’ll keep grinding away and they’ll want everybody else to know that they’re a lot better than how they played this weekend," he said. "And I believe we will show them that."

Newton said the adversity the team faced during the tournament would be good for them moving forward.

"I think it humbled them a little bit and they know they’re not that bad of golfers," he said. "We just took it as a learning experience and I think it’s going to help us in the long run."

The team has a week off and then heads to the Jackson Country Club in Jackson, Tenn., for the University of Tennessee-Martin Grover Page Classic.


Smithpeters is clutch. He has not played like a freshman when it has mattered most this season.

— Tyler Dixon

VanVleet was named the Larry Bird MVC Player of the Year. The top three spots were claimed by Wichita State while SIU Senior Desmar Jackson finished at the All-MVC Second Team. Jackson was also named to the All-Defensive Team and finished second in Defensive Player of the Year voting.

Jackson can be reached at tdixon@dailyegyptian.com, @tdixon_de on Twitter or 536-3311 ext. 256.

GRIMES CONTINUED FROM 12

"We always joke that Kris is our triplet because we look so much alike," she said.

Ashleigh said Grimes is the type of teammate who knows how to keep the mood light amongst the team.

"She is always really encouraging," Ashleigh said. "If you played bad or even if you played well, you know she’s going to make you laugh because she’s pretty goofy. She definitely brings a good vibe to the team."

Grimes and the rest of her team will continue their season at the University of North Florida Intercollegiate tournament Monday and Tuesday.

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**SPORTS**

**Golfer makes new home in Carbondale**

**LEWIS MARIEN · DAILY EGYPTIAN**

Junior golfer, Kris Grimes, practices Thursday at Hickory Ridge Golf Course in Carbondale. Grimes is the first female African-American golfer in SIU history. SIU finished second Saturday in the Murray State Racer Classic in Murray, Ky. Grimes tied for seventh place. The team will compete Monday in the North Florida Intercollegiate at the Jacksonville Country Club in Jacksonville, Fla.

Grimes started playing golf at age 10 while also playing basketball and participating in figure skating at her local ice rink. Grimes said her parents told her and her brother they had to choose one sport.

"You can't get a scholarship for figure skating and I don't have the height for basketball, so golf was her," she said.

Figure skating was Grimes' first passion. Grimes began skating at an ice rink behind the bowling alley her parents played at.

"My mom was really into figure skating," she said. "I started eight for figure skating at three and a half. Did it for twelve years before I stopped. I decided golf was the love of my life." Grimes was born on June 3, 1992 in Compton, Calif., less than two months after the LA riots, which took place in South Central LA, including Grimes' hometown.

Grimes said despite the history of violence, Compton is not as bad as it seems.

"Every city in every state has its areas that are good and areas that are bad," she said. "Unfortunately, in this area I live, we have a combination of both. Things happen down the street and around the corner." Grimes attended Saint Joseph High School, a Catholic all-girls school in nearby Lakewood, Calif.

[Saint Joseph] had a golf program, that was one of the major things," Grimes said. "It was alright. I was the only person I knew from my elementary school to go there, so I had to make new friends and meet new people. It was kind of tough, but it turned out pretty good in the end." The Grimes family found themselves victims to Compton's violence. In 2012, the Grimes family home, in a rural area of Compton was broken into by some of their neighbors.

"I think it's a great responsibility and a great honor at the same time," she said. Grimes is from a family of eight kids, and is the youngest girl in her family. Since many of Grimes' siblings are older, they've begun to have children of their own.

"I'm a great aunt, my nieces and nephews have their children too," she said. Grimes' large family got a bit bigger when she came to SIU. Seniors Ashleigh and Cassie Rushing adopted Grimes as her honorary third twin.

Please see GRIMES · 11

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**The madness of March is back in the MVC**

**SARAH GARDNER · DAILY EGYPTIAN**

Senior guard Desmar Jackson goes up for a slam dunk Nov. 2 at SIU Arena. Jackson earned runner-up Defensive Player of the Year honors for the Missouri Valley Conference and was named to the All-MVC Second Team.

SIU plays Friday for the first time since 2009, when the game will not be easy. The Salukis take on the Panthers of the University of Northern Iowa. Which team will show up for SIU? On Jan. 14, the Salukis squarked out a win against the Panthers 68-66.

The game in Cedar Falls, Iowa was a different story. The Salukis were outmatched, and it showed. They were 4 of 15 from the 3-point line while the Panthers were 10 of 25. UNI is a tough team to play because they have several good players. Junior Seth Tuttle is their leader. When he has the ball he can do whatever he wants with it.

Coach Barry Hinson said he has watched game tape of every basket Tuttle has made this season.

"He can go right, he can go left, he can catch it, he doesn't have to put it on the floor," Hinson said. "He can throw it in, he can take the clock to send the game. He has the ball he can do whatever he wants with it.

Tyler Smithpeters is clutch. He has not played like a turnover. If O'Brian has a similar stat line, the Salukis will struggle. Hinson said he wants to average a double digit points. He has 20 points to play well in the MVC.

**BEYOND THE ARC**

**WITH TYLER DIXON**

The best time of the year for a basketball fan is finally upon us: March Madness. After almost four months of basketball, it is time for the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament. SIU did not start the season off the best way, but being 7-5 in its last 10 games gives the team momentum in the tournament.

The Salukis had wins over Indiana State University, the University of Evansville and the Shockers of Wichita State University closely for 38 minutes. If the Salukis can click at the right time, they could surprise teams and fans this weekend.

"I was playing at College of the Canyons at the time. I just played really well at a tournament," I medaled, and my Dad asked me if I wanted to play in the NBA if it was over," Grimes said. "My dad said we really have to drive fast, because Aaron [Grimes] just said the house got broken into. We were pretty terrified to hear that people we lived near did that, and it just didn't feel like a home anymore."

Grimes comes from a family with a rich history. Her grandfather, Herman L. Grimes, is the inventor of the folding wing aircraft. Herman's invention helped turn the tide in the Pacific Ocean during World War II. Thanks to his innovation, the U.S. Navy was able to carry more planes on their aircraft carriers.

Grimes said her grandfather's accomplishments pushed her to succeed in her own endeavors.

"It makes me feel like I have a purpose to not only be the best person I can be, but uphold my family name at the same time," she said. Grimes wrote some history of her own in September when Grimes became the first African-American women's golfer in SIU history. Grimes said following in her grandfather's footsteps is something she is proud of.

"I'm a great aunt, my nieces and nephews have their children too," she said. Grimes' family got a bit bigger when she came to SIU. Seniors Ashleigh and Cassie Rushing adopted Grimes as her honorary third twin.

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**TONY MCDANIEL · DAILY EGYPTIAN**

One player on the Saluki women's golf team has overcome her fair share of adversity to play with SIU this season.

Junior Kris Grimes is playing in her first season for the Salukis. In that short time, Grimes has turned into one of coach Alexis Mihelich's top players.

"She hits it far and she can make putts so she makes a lot of birdies... Her birdie conversion rate is one of the highest on the team," Mihelich said.

"Statistically, she's my number-three player in scoring average," Mihelich said.

Grimes spent her freshman and sophomore seasons playing for College of the Canyons in Los Angeles. In her two years with the Cougars, Grimes was a two-time All-American, and also the individual state champion in California her freshman year.

Mihelich said Grimes' recruiting process to SIU was unorthodox. Grimes reached out to Mihelich about joining the Salukis.

"Kris sent me an email and I didn't respond to it. Then she sent me another one like, 'Why didn't you respond to my email?'" Mihelich said. "I responded to her and looked up her scores and was kind of like, 'Oh these are pretty good scores.' So I was glad she was so persistent."

Grimes said she made the decision to move beyond the arc with Tyler Dixon.

"I didn't respond to it. Then she said, 'Oh really,' she said. 'I've always wanted to travel outside of California. I like the look of the school and he said she and her brother they had to choose one sport."

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**Please see ARCTIC · 11**